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W. WEBBER.

SUPPLEMENTAL FINGER FOR GUARDS OF CUTTING APPARATUS.

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NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

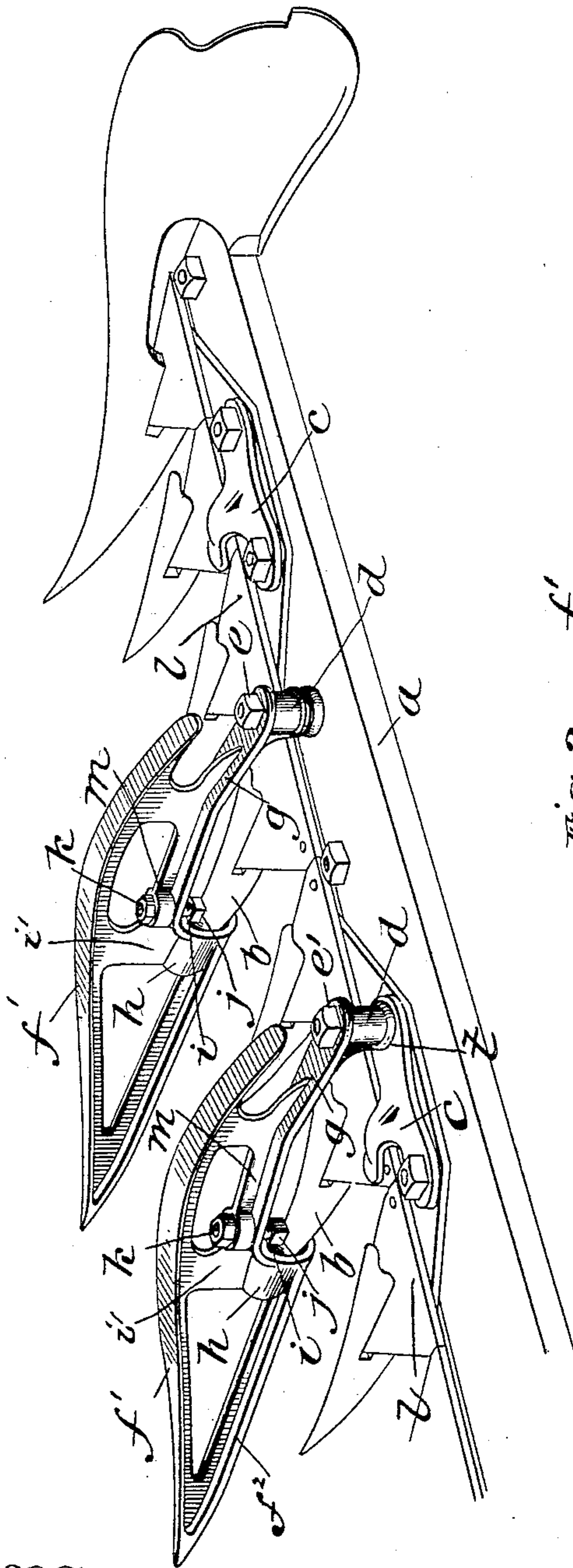
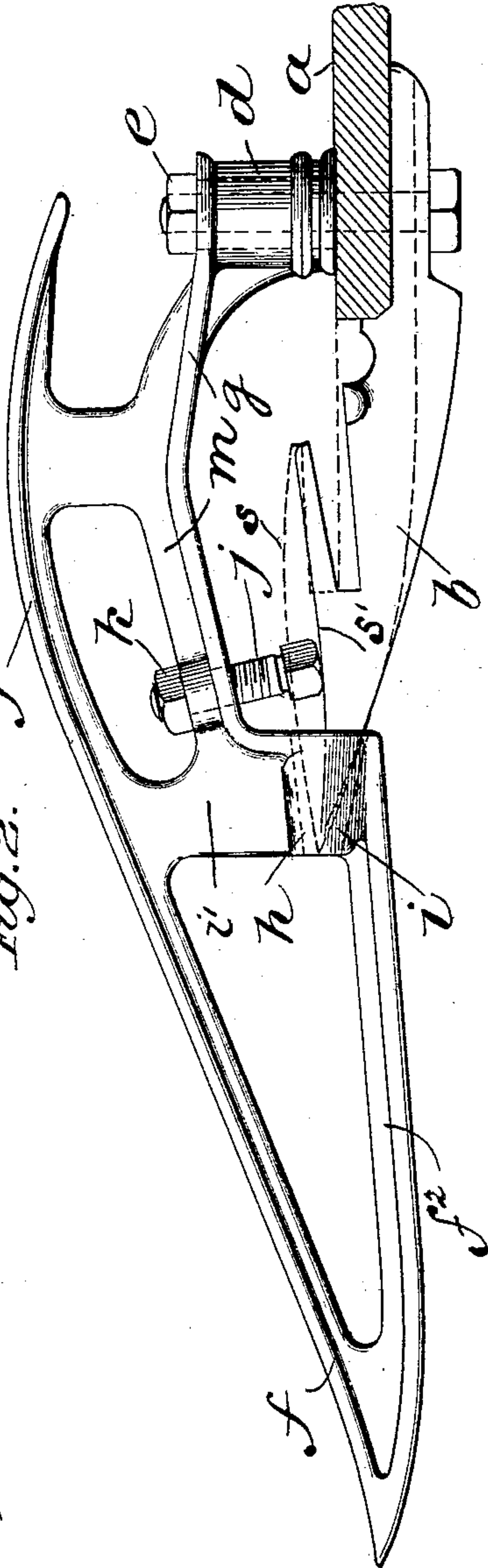


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SUPPLEMENTAL FINGER FOR GUARDS OF CUTTING APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 745,940, dated December 1, 1903.

Application filed October 20, 1902. Serial No. 127,991. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WEBBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Supplemental Fingers for the Guards of Cutting Apparatus; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The object of the invention is to provide a supplemental finger that is attachable to the finger-bars of mowers and reapers having the usual guards when the machines are to be used in harvesting peas, beans, or any other crop where the tangled or matted condition of the vines or stalks is liable to clog the action of the cutters.

The particular object of the invention is to make such fingers readily attachable to or detachable from finger-bars having differently-constructed guards, so that the fingers will be interchangeable from one machine to another; and the invention consists in the construction hereinafter illustrated and described whereby the fingers are adapted to fit over and be secured to the front ends of guards of various shapes and sizes.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a finger-bar looking diagonally forward from the rear, showing a couple of these supplemental fingers in position; and Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the finger-bar, showing one of the fingers in side elevation.

Referring to the views, *a* denotes an ordinary finger-bar; *b*, the guards; *l*, the cutters, and *c* the clips by means of which the cutters are held down in working contact with the guards. These parts may be of any desired construction and arrangement, as the invention is adapted to all sorts of cutting apparatus that employ guards.

The supplemental finger is indicated at *f*. It is preferably constructed as illustrated in the drawings, where it will be seen that it extends considerably in front of the guards and has an arched or upwardly-curving top part *f'* and a rearward extension or tailpiece

g. It also has a vertical web *i'* about midway of its length and a horizontal web *m*, which extends rearward from the vertical web to the point where it is to be secured to the finger-bar, where it has a tubular boss *d*. The lower part *f''* of the finger extends straight back from the point to the vertical web *i'*, where it joins a hollow boss *h*, which is provided with a horizontal recess or opening *i*. This opening is designed to receive the point of the guard where the finger is in position, and in order to secure it in place it is only necessary to slip it over the guard and secure the tailpiece *g* to the finger-bar by passing a bolt *e* through the boss *a* and the bar, as best shown in Fig. 2. There may be any number of these fingers, and they may be attached to the finger-bar at the points where the sickle-clips are located or nearer together, as desired. When attached at points where the clips come, it will be found convenient to set the boss *d* on one corner of the clip, as indicated at *f* in Fig. 1, thus utilizing the bolt *e'* as the means of fastening the finger, the clip, the wear-plate, and the guard.

It is well understood that the guards of mowers and reapers vary in size and shape, some conditions requiring the point of the guard to have a rather full outline having a convex upper surface, as indicated by the dotted line *s* in Fig. 2, and others requiring a comparatively slender point with a flat or concave upper surface, as denoted by the full lines *s'* in the same figure. In order to adapt the supplemental finger *f* for attachment to any of these different sizes and shapes of guards, I provide for locking the point of the guard in the recess of the finger without regard to the fit of the guard in the recess. In the present instance this is effected by means of a set-screw *j*, which is seated in a tapped hole in the horizontal web *m* near where it joins the vertical web *i'*, so that the screw depends vertically with its head standing across the mouth of the opening *i*, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, thereby, in effect, adjusting the size of the opening by obstructing it more or less, according to the adjustment of the screw. The opening is made in practice large enough to accommodate guards of the largest size, and when the

smaller sizes of guards are employed the only thing necessary to insure the fit of the finger is to adjust the screw *j* so that it will project farther across the mouth of the opening.

5 It may then be locked in position by means of the jam-nut *k*.

The construction and manner of using the improved finger being as thus described, it is to be noted that not only does the set-screw
10 *j* provide, in effect, for adjusting the size of the opening which receives the point of the guard, but it also provides for actually locking the point of the guard in the opening without regard to the fit—that is to say, no
15 matter how much smaller than the opening the point may be it can always be tightly secured in the opening, so as to hold the finger perfectly rigid.

Having thus described my invention, what
20 I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A supplemental stalk-lifting finger for attachment to the finger-bars of mowers, reapers, and the like, having the usual guards,
25 said finger having a recess or opening to receive the point of the guard, and an adjustable set-screw projecting across the mouth of said opening or recess so as to adapt the same to receive guards of different sizes.

2. A supplemental stalk-lifting finger for
30 attachment to the finger-bars of mowers, reapers, and the like, having the usual guards, said finger having a boss *h* provided with a recess or opening *i* to receive the point of the guard, an adjustable set-screw *j* projecting
35 across the mouth of the opening or recess so as to contact with the guard and lock the same in the opening or recess, and a nut *k* for locking the screw against turning.

3. In a cutting apparatus for mowers, reapers, and the like, the combination with the finger-bar and one or more of the guards, of a supplemental stalk-lifting finger *f*, having the lower part *f*² terminating in a recess or
40 opening *i* to receive the point of the guard, a set-screw *j* to secure the guard in the recess, a tailpiece *g* extending rearward over the finger-bar and by means of which the finger may be secured to the upper side of the bar, and
45 a guard or arched top piece extending from the point of the finger upward and rearward over the tailpiece.
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In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM WEBBER.

Witnesses:

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