

No. 810,716.

PATENTED JAN. 23, 1906.

G. E. CHUTE.
ATTACHMENT FOR POTATO DIGGERS.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 27, 1905.

Fig. 1.

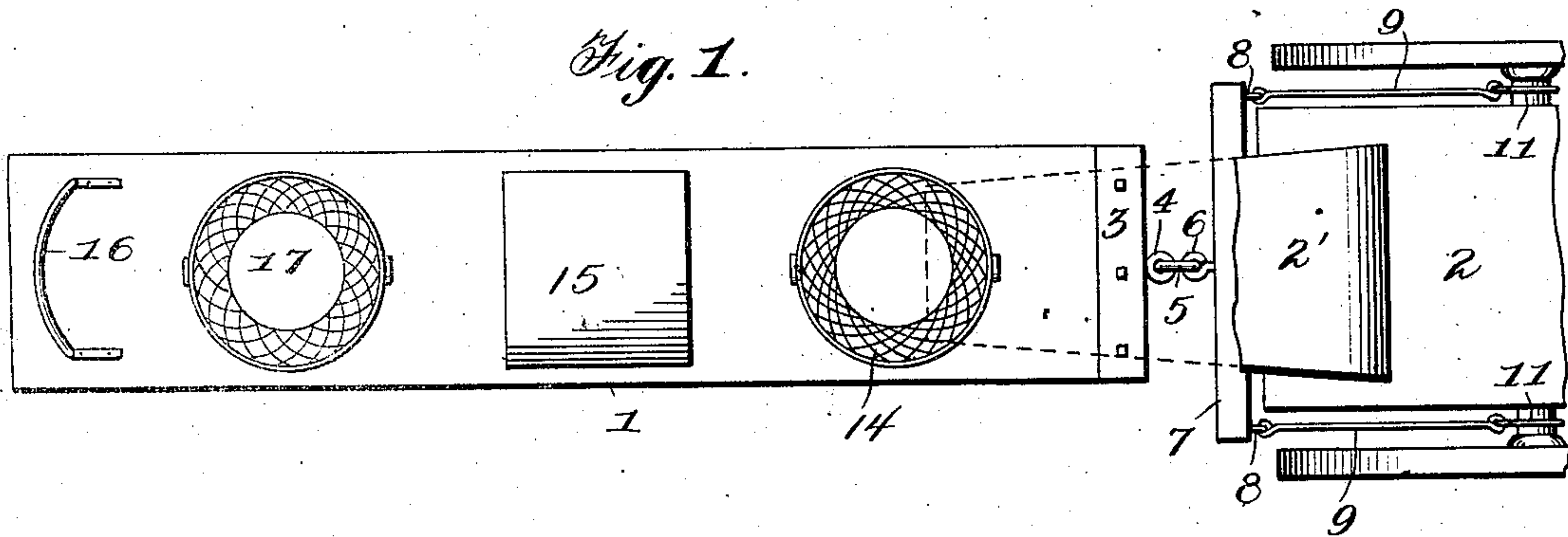


Fig. 2.

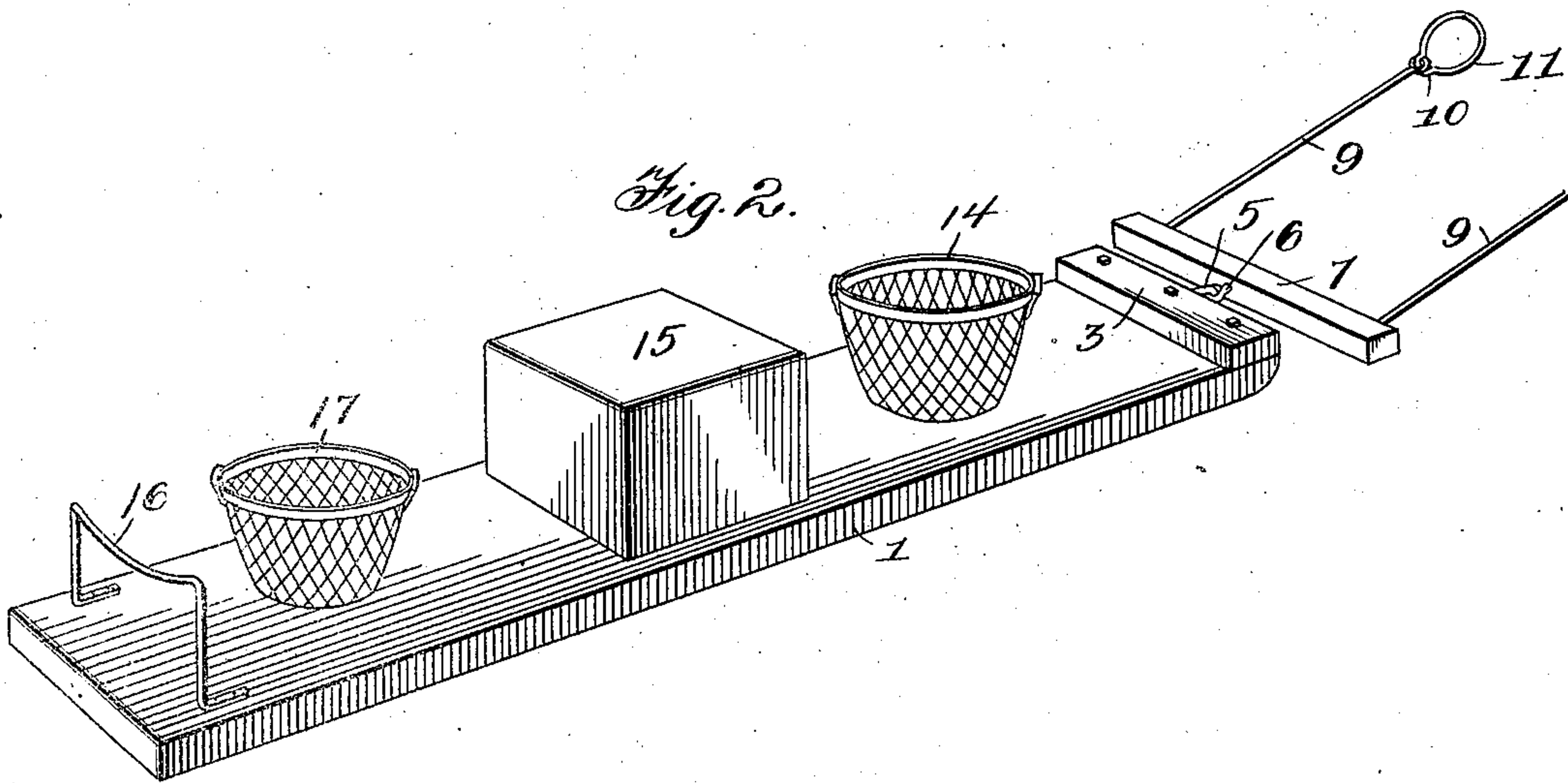


Fig. 3.

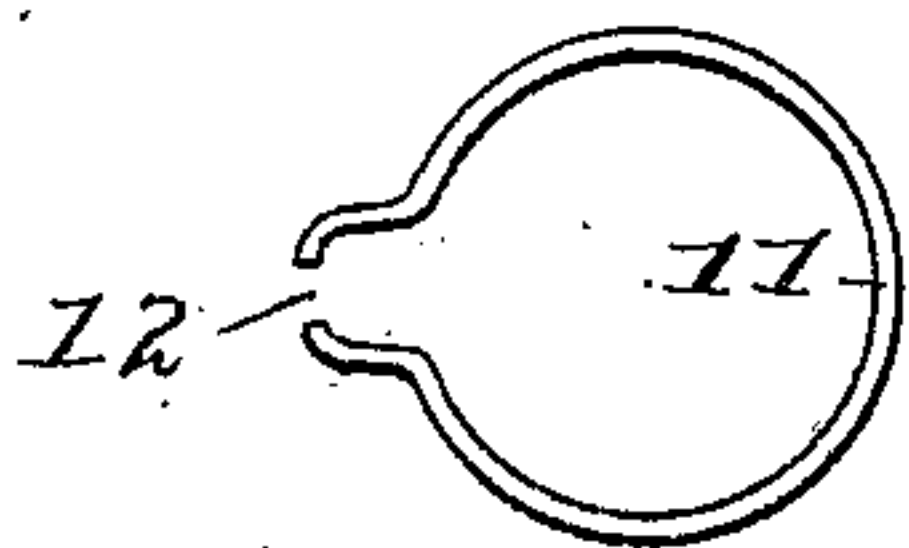
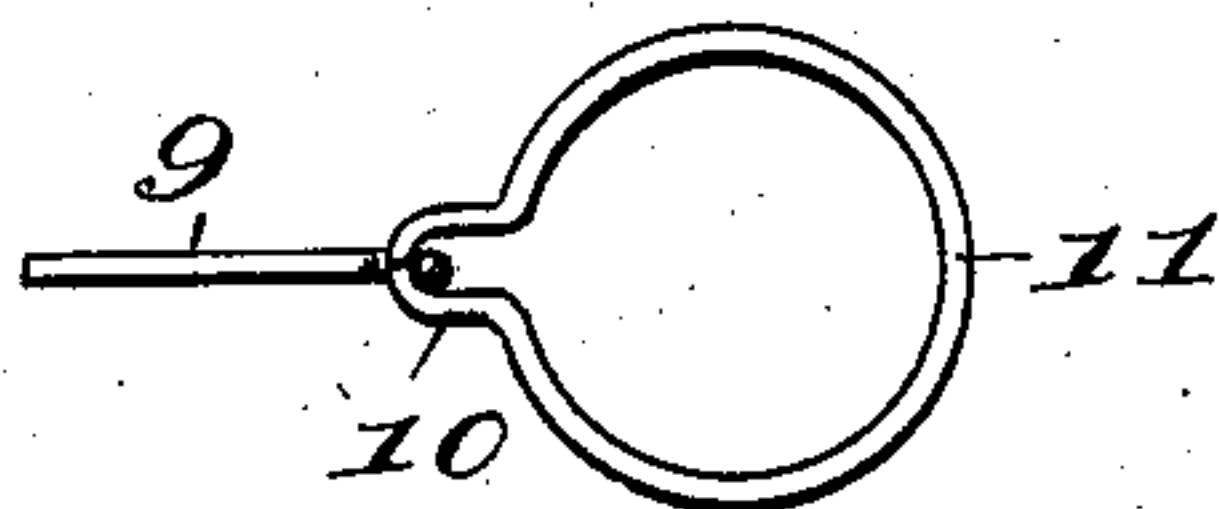


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ATTACHMENT FOR POTATO-DIGGERS.

No. 810,716.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 23, 1906.

Application filed September 27, 1905. Serial No. 280,302.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. CHUTE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Princeton, in the county of Millelacs and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Attachments for Potato-Diggers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention has relation to certain new and useful improvements in attachments for potato-diggers, and has for its object to provide a device which may readily be attached to a potato-digger, principally designed for
15 a potato-digger of the elevator type, whereby an attendant may readily sift or remove all foreign matter delivered with potatoes to the receiving-basket or other receptacle.

20 It is a further object of the present invention to provide a device of this character which will be extremely light, so that the attendant can readily lift the same in order to permit of its being turned at the end of a row when the digger is being turned.

25 It is a further object of the present invention to provide a device of this character in which provision is made for the accommodation of a basket or like receptacle to receive the potatoes from the elevator of the potato-digger, for the accommodation of an attendant,
30 and for the accommodation of one or more empty baskets or receptacles so placed as to be within ready reach of the attendant when desired.

35 A still further object of the present invention is to provide a device of this character with a novel form of attaching or hitching means for securing the same to the potato-digger, said attaching or hitching means being such as to insure the true following of the attachment in the furrow made by the potato-digger and being also of such form as to permit of its ready attachment to various
40 types of potato-diggers without any or at the best with but a slight alteration of the said attaching or hitching means.

45 A still further object is to construct a device which will be light, yet extremely strong and durable and comparatively inexpensive to manufacture.

50 With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more specifically de-

scribed and then particularly pointed out in 55 the claims.

In describing the invention in detail reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this application, and wherein like numerals of reference indicate 60 like parts throughout the several views, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved attachment, conventionally showing a part of a potato-digger with the attachments secured 65 thereto. Fig. 2 is a detached perspective view of the attachment, one of the hitching-rods being partly broken away. Fig. 3 is a detached view of one of the hitching-rings slightly spread apart to show how the same 70 may be enlarged, and Fig. 4 is a plan view of one of these rings and a part of one of the hitching-rods.

The device comprises a sled-like member 1, which is adapted to drag in the same manner 75 as a sled in the furrow made by the potato-digger 2.

I have herein shown the potato-digger in but a conventional form, as my improvement does not relate to the potato-digger *per se*, but only to the attachment to be connected thereto, and hence illustration of any particular type of potato-digger is deemed unnecessary.

The sled-like member 1 in practice is made 85 generally out of a hard-wood plank, usually of about two inches in thickness and of a sufficient width to follow in the furrow made by the potato-digger, a width of approximately eighteen inches being generally sufficient 90 and a length of approximately six feet being sufficient to give the desired accommodations for the attendant and for the receptacles in which the potatoes from the digger are received. The sled member 1 is preferably 95 beveled or nosed at its front end, as shown at 2, and on the upper face thereof at said front end is a cross-piece 3, which may be bolted or otherwise firmly affixed to the member. In said cross-piece central of its length is affixed 100 an eyelet 4, a link 5 connecting said eyelet with a similar eyelet 6, which is carried by an evenner-bar 7, central of the length of said bar.

The evenner-bar 7 is of considerably greater length than the width of the sled member 1, 105 so that its ends extend some distance beyond each side of said sled member, and this evenner-bar carries near each end an eyelet 8

to which eyelets are attached one end of the hitching-rods 9. The other ends of these hitching-rods connect with necks 10 of rings 11, which rings are adapted to be engaged with the axle of the potato-digger, or with the wheel-boxes, or at any other point that may be found most desirable or convenient. In practice I have generally attached these rings to the wheel-boxes, and to make such attachment the wheels are removed and the rings placed over the boxes and the wheel again placed on the axle. To permit of the engagement of the rings with the wheel-boxes, the necks 10 are generally split, as shown at 12, so as to provide for the spreading of the rings, and after they have been engaged with the wheel-boxes the split necks may be closed up, so as to be engaged with the eyelets or the inner ends of the hitching-rods 9, and it will be observed that these eyelets may be inserted into the necks before the closing of the latter, thus not necessitating the opening of the eyelets in the hitching-rods to make the connection.

The device in practice is so constructed that the forward portion thereof will be under the rear end of the digger, whereby the potatoes delivered from the elevator 2' of said digger will be into a basket or like receptacle 14, which rests on the sled member 1. Suitably positioned on this sled member 1 is a seat 15, which may be of any desired form and may be fastened rigidly or simply set loose on the sled member, and I have generally used a loose seat and in the form of a box, as shown, as an inverted box will serve to remain more securely in the position in which it has been placed on the sled member than any seat which had merely four supporting-legs engaging with the sled member. Near the rear end of the sled member I secure a fender 16, the top cross-bar of which is generally curved rearwardly in order to form a guard for an empty basket or receptacle 17, and this fender also serves as a handle by which the attendant can lift the rear end of the attachment to facilitate the turning of the same at the end of a row. Sufficient space is provided between the seat 15 and the fender for one or more empty baskets or receptacles.

With the above description it is believed the construction of the device will be entirely clear, and it will be observed that the device may be attached to any elevator-digger with

at the best a few minor changes in the hitching or attaching means. In operation the attendant sits on the box, and as the potatoes are delivered from the elevator 2' into the basket 14 the attendant picks out all foreign matter which the digger does not sift out, and when the basket 14 is filled the attendant is in position to reach the empty basket 17, which he slides into place under the discharge end of the elevator as he slides the filled basket off onto the ground. The filled basket is dumped onto a pile or into a wagon, as the case requires, and left in position where on the return trip of the digger, he may reach it without leaving his seat.

In the practice of the invention it will of course be evident that alterations may be made in minor details as may be required according to the particular type of potato-digger to which the attachment is to be connected, and I therefore do not wish to confine myself to the specific construction shown, as the invention resides, broadly, in the provision of a sled-like member and in means for connecting the same at a suitable point with a potato-digger.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. An attachment for potato-diggers, comprising a plank adapted to drag on the ground and having a cross-piece secured to the upper face thereof at the forward end of the plank, an evener-bar hitched centrally between its ends to said cross-piece, a pair of hitching-rods attached to said evener-bar, one near each end, and hitching-rings connected to the other ends of said hitching-rods.

2. An attachment for potato-diggers, comprising a sled-like member in the form of a plank adapted to drag on the ground, a guard-fender supported thereby adjacent the rear end of the plank, an evener-bar pivoted centrally of its length to the forward end of the plank, a pair of hitching-rods having their one end pivotally attached to the evener-bar, and means carried by the other end of said rods for attaching them to a vehicle.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE E. CHUTE.

Witnesses:

CHAS. A. DICKEY,
IRA G. STANLEY.