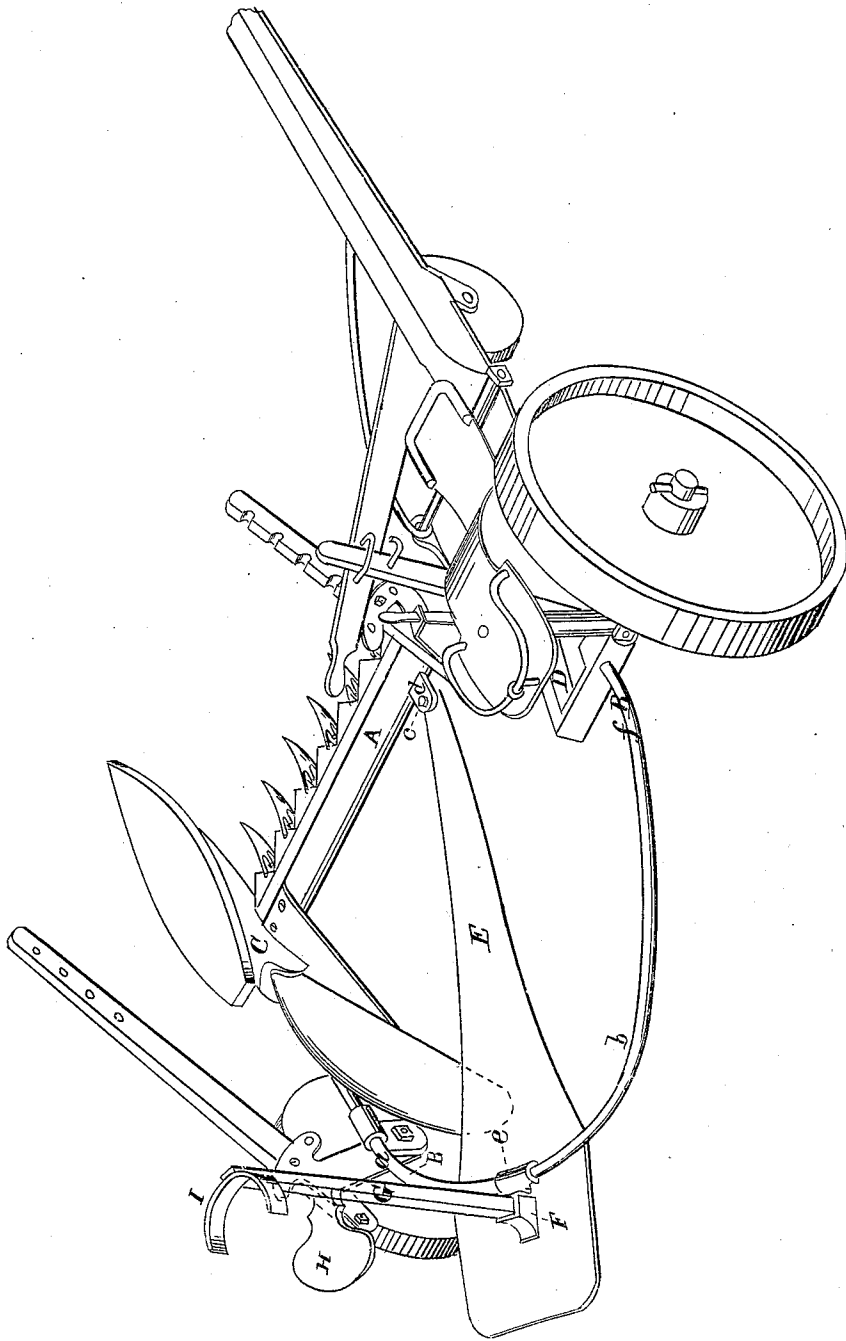


W.A. Wood,
Mower.

No. 16618

Patented Feb. 10. 1857



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER A. WOOD, OF HOOSICK FALLS, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN HARVESTING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 16,618, dated February 10, 1857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER A. WOOD, of Hoosick Falls, in the county of Rensselaer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Harvesting-Machines; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which represents in perspective so much of a reaping-machine as will illustrate the character of my invention.

It is found in practice that a raker's seat or stand which maintains the same relative position with regard to the frame does not answer an equally good purpose in different heights of grain; nor does a fixed position meet the requirements of different operators, as one may desire to stand at a greater or less inclination to the grain on the platform than another, so as to give him the easiest possible position to accomplish his laborious duty.

The nature of my invention consists in so hanging the raker's seat or stand as that it may be adjusted to or from the standing grain, so as to adapt the machine to the quality of the grain or to the ease or comfort of the raker.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same with reference to the drawing.

I propose to make the harvester-frame mainly of iron, of which A represents the front beam or finger-bar, and B the rear end of the frame. These two parts A B are so united to the shoe C at one side of the machine and the frame D, which contains and supports the gearing on the other side of the machine, as to make the whole strong and substantial. The rear part of the frame B is of an irregular form in part, except that portion of it included between the points *a b*, which is an arc of a circle whose center is at *c* on the front beam or finger-bar, A, and the remaining portion is so curved or inclined as to adapt it to the other parts, which are connected to or dependent upon it for support or concert of action.

To the point *c* on the bar A, either by means of the lug or projection *d* or otherwise, is hinged a plate, E, which extends backward and is united to the rear piece, B, by a clasp, *e*, said clasp being tightened or loosened by a nut underneath the plate E. The clasp can be moved on that part of the rear piece, B, which is in the arc of the circle, and held at any point in that arc that may be desired by tightening the nut underneath the plate.

On the plate E, in rear of the bar B, is placed a step, F, in which is firmly set an upright or standard, G, to which the raker's seat or stand H is affixed, as also the breast-support I. As the plate E is moved on its hinged point, so also will the raker's stand be moved to or from the standing grain, and as the plate moves in the arc of a circle the raker with each adjustment changes his position or inclination to the platform, his front always being in a radial line from the point *c*.

The delivery from the platform is anywhere between the points *b f*, and of course changing with the position of the raker, and thus the gavel may be dropped farther from or nearer to the line of draft or path of the horses, as may be desired.

I have thus described only that part of my machine which involves the point of invention, not deeming a detailed description of the other parts of the machine shown in the drawing as necessary in this application.

Having thus fully described the nature and object of my invention, what I claim therein as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

Making the raker's seat or stand adjustable in the arc of a circle on the rear part of the frame, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

WALTER A. WOOD.

Witnesses:

I. RUSSELL PARSONS,
EDWD. KIRKWOOD.