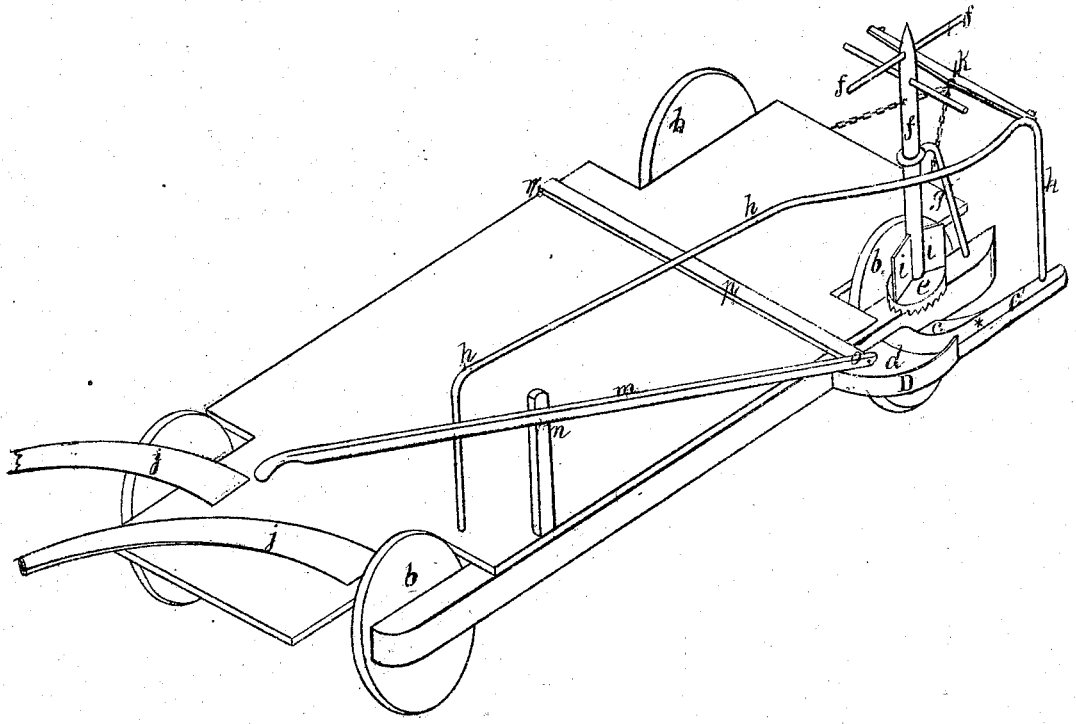
J. Peck.
Corn Harvester.

No. 3721. Patented. Aug. 28. 1844



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB PECK, OF OAKLAND, TENNESSEE.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORN AND CANE CUTTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **3,721**, dated August 28, 1844.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB PECK, of Oakland, county of Jefferson, and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and useful machine and implement for cutting corn and gathering the same with ear and fodder, sugar-cane, hemp, millet, &c., called the "Corn and Sugar-Cane Cutter;" and I do hereby declare the following a full and exact description of my said invention, as by these my specifications, the drawing accompanying and making part of the same, and references thereto will show—

First, an oblong frame, composed of two parallel bars lengthwise, with connecting cross-pieces and stays, supported and run on four small wheels, and so narrow as to pass between the rows of corn, cane, &c. As represented in the drawings by the letters *a a b b*, &c., the wheels may all be set inside of the parallel bars, or all but the right-hand front wheel outside of the frame, as shown in the drawing by the letters *b b b b*, forming a car.

Second, a knife, represented by the letter *c* in drawing, set and affixed to the right-hand side of the right-hand parallel bars of the frame above described. The knife may be either straight or gently curved, the end of the knife from the frame projecting or extending forward at an angle with the parallel bar, as shown in the drawing at letter *c*, the edge of the knife raised a little higher than the back, and the position of the knife (set to the frame) is to be nearer than the beveled wheels *e e*, hereinafter to be described.

Third, two beveled cog-wheels, (represented in the drawing by the letters *e e*,) one of them attached to and connected with the right-hand side of the right-hand front supporting-wheel, but to run immediately inside of the right-hand parallel bar, said supporting-wheel now described being represented by the letter *b*. This beveled cog-wheel is turned by the supporting-wheel in the motion forward, and runs vertically, (the other runs horizontally,) is connected by its cogs or teeth with the other, above described, and driven by it. This last is placed on the right-hand parallel bar of the frame of the car and runs horizontally.

Fourth. Out of the center of the last-mentioned horizontal beveled wheel rises an upright post (represented in the drawing by the letter *f*) to be turned by said wheel, near the upper extremity of which post cross-arms at right angles are fixed, as represented by the letter *f*—these cross-arms at such convenient height as to operate on the substance to be cut; with corn to reach about the ear. (See drawing, letters *f f*.) The upright post mentioned is steadied and kept to its place and position by a stay (represented in drawing by letter *z*) set firmly on or in the front end of the right-hand parallel bar of the frame. From thence it rises and conveys back to the post *f*, where it is made to hug the post by a ring.

Fifth. From the forward or projecting end of the knife, as seen in the drawing at *, a bar extends forward parallel, or nearly so, with the right parallel bar of the frame to near the front end of the car. This bar is represented in the drawing by the character *c*, and forms an opening to receive the row of corn, cane, or other substance to be cut as the car is drawn forward, bringing the knife in contact with the substance.

Sixth. From the forward end of the bar (represented by the character *c*) rises an upright rod, as represented in the drawing by the letters *h h h*, which, at an elevation of about two feet, curves back, passing over the bar *c*, as described, then curving inward at a point back of the table or rest (hereinafter to be described) toward the right-hand parallel bar of the frame, and, extending back over said right-hand bar, curving downward into said bar, is attached to it. (See drawing, letters *h h h*.) This rod described keeps the cut substance from falling out from the frame until thrown back by the revolving action of the cross-arms *f f*, as above described.

Seventh. Immediately under the back of the knife, but in connection with it and the frame of the car, is placed a small table or rest. (Represented in the drawing by the letter *d*.) Around the hindermost part of this table or rest, and attached to it, extending from the frame of the car to the back of the forward part of the knife near the point in the drawing *, is an elevated hoop or flange. (Seen in the drawing by the letter D.) This hoop or flange rises a few inches above the table or rest, and forms the segment of a circle. This table with the hoop receives the cut end of the substance as it drops from the knife C, and is held upright until prostrated by the cross-arms *f f* along the guiding-rod *h h*, the tops being thrown back along the

car, the cut end moved out of the way of the knife by the pinions or small levers *i i*, set to the upright post, which pinions or levers are soon to be described.

Eighth. Two levers or pinions (represented in drawings by letters *i i*) are set to and connected with the lower extremity of the upright post *f* next to the horizontal beveled wheel C—one on each side of said post—and made to revolve with it, forming a sweep at least as great as the periphery of the wheel *e*. These levers or pinions may be five or more inches broad up the post *f* aforesaid, and are designed to assist in removing the cut ends out of the way of the knife.

Ninth, two handles, like those of the plow (represented in the drawing by the letters *j j*)—one to each side of the car behind—by which to govern the car in the operation, stretcher, and single-tree in front for the horse to draw the car forward, set to the part at letter *k* in the drawing.

Tenth, a lever (represented by the letter *m m*, &c., in the drawing) moving upon the fulcrum-point or prop (represented by the letter *n* in drawing) and acting at its extremity or lifting-point, (represented by letter *o* in the drawing,) upon the tilt-bar *p* in the drawing represented, which bar crosses the frame from right to left, is movable at *o* on the right, but stationary by a hinge on the left-hand side of the car, as represented in drawing by the letter *r*. This, lever with its appendages, enables the operator to cast off the load at pleasure. The lever and its rest are placed on the right-hand side of the car, outside of the rod *h h h*, and casts to the left-hand side.

The car when finished has a floor flush with the parallel bars of the frame, but which floor is not shown in the drawing, the better to exhibit the various parts of the machine.

The above-described machine may be constructed with one or two front wheels, the rest of the frame supported on runners or slides. (See drawing, car on runners.) Knives may be placed on both sides, so as to cut two rows at one passage of the machine, when the substance operated upon grows in rows at equal distances apart.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Patent, is—

The knife designated by the letter *c* in the drawings, in combination with the revolving cross-arms, letters *f f*, driven by the beveled cog-wheels, letters *e e*, arranged and constructed as described, and also the arrangement of the knife and revolving cross-arms, in combination with the car *a a* and guiding-rod *h h*, and all as described and seen by the drawings and letters referred to as part of in these specifications, the accompanying drawings, references, and explanations.

In testimony that the above are my specifications I hereunto set my hand.

JACOB PECK.

Attest:

ADAM C. PECK,
M. THORNBURGH.