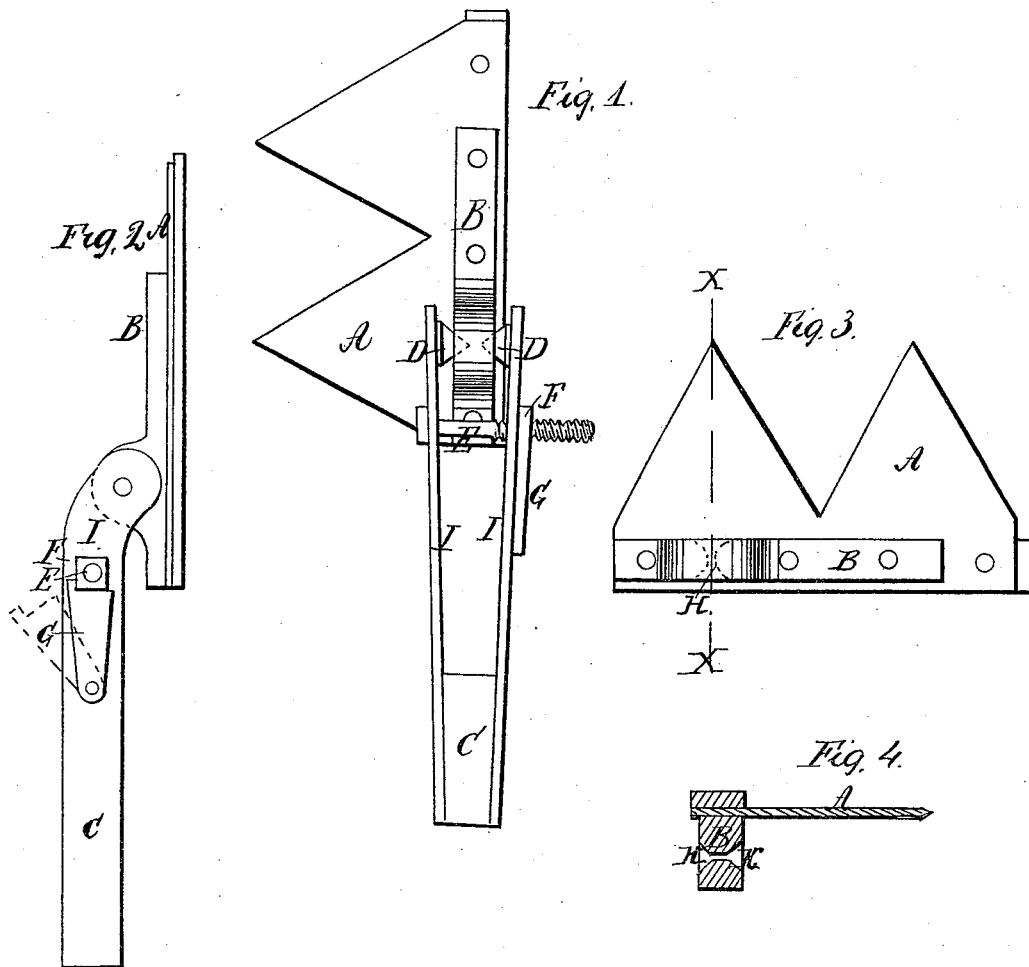


H. S. Dodge,
Pitman Coupling,
No 51,512, Patented Dec. 12, 1865.



Witnesses,
E. A. Holt
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HIRAM S. DODGE, OF LOCKPORT, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO J. W. DOTY.

IMPROVEMENT IN CONNECTING-ROD COUPLINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 51,512, dated December 12, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HIRAM S. DODGE, of the town of Lockport, county of Niagara and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Pitman or Hinge; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention relates to that class that it may be applied to various uses when a connecting-rod or pitman is required, as in reapers and mowers, saw-mills, and other kinds of machinery; also, for hinges that may be applied to gates, doors, and other uses.

Great difficulty has been heretofore encountered by those using machinery when a pitman is required by its getting loose at the point of vibration, at which time there is great danger of serious damage to itself and other parts of the machinery in consequence thereof. It has therefore long been the great desideratum of inventors and those using machinery to devise some means to obviate the difficulty heretofore experienced in consequence of the imperfect means employed in constructing or reducing a revolving or vibratory to a longitudinal motion.

It is believed that by my invention all the difficulties existing in the operation of machinery when a connecting-rod is used is obviated and overcome in a manner as to render it perfect and safe in its operation, it being so constructed, in a cheap and simple manner, so that when it wears by long and severe usage it may be readily tightened.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

Figure 1 is a top-plan view as attached to the cutter-bar of a mower. Fig. 2 is a side plan view of same. Fig. 3 is a plan view of cutters.

Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view taken from the line *x x*.

Letters of like name and kind refer to like parts in each of the figures.

C represents the body of my improved pitman, which may be made of either iron or steel, and is forked at a suitable and convenient distance from where it is designed to connect with the work or resistance.

The arms or straps I are spread to a distance sufficient to admit the bar or whatever it may be applied, whether it be the eye of a hinge or the cutter-bar of a mower, and is secured thereto by means of two conical points, D, made of steel and fitted to the eye in the bar.

The arms or straps I are made so as to allow them to be sprung together, thus bringing the conical points snugly together in their places in the eye H of the strap or bar B, where they are firmly held in their places by means of a screw-bolt, E, and nut F.

G is a latch used to hold the nut on the screw-bolt E in any desired position, so that it may not work loose while the pitman is in operation.

By this cheap and simple device the pitman may safely run with any desired speed without danger of becoming loose and out of order.

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

The connecting-rod coupling composed of the spring jaws or straps I, provided with conical pintles D D, fitting into corresponding sockets H H in the strap or bar B, the adjusting-bolt E and latch G, all constructed and arranged and applied as herein described.

HIRAM S. DODGE.

Witnesses:

SAML. SWARTZ,
E. A. HOLT.