(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

S. F. VOORHEES.

FOLDING PLATFORM FOR HARVESTERS.

No. 385,537. Patented July 3, 1888.

Fig. 1.

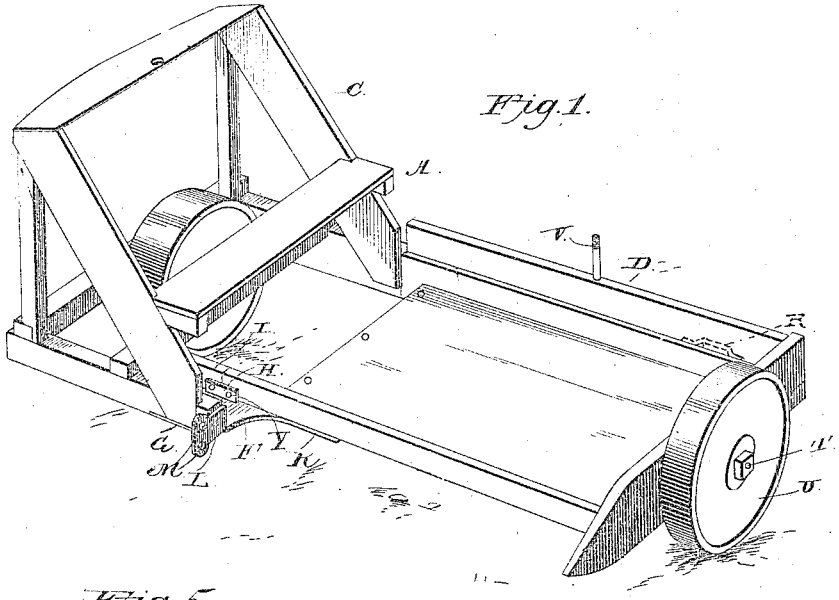


Fig. 5.

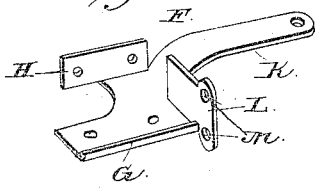
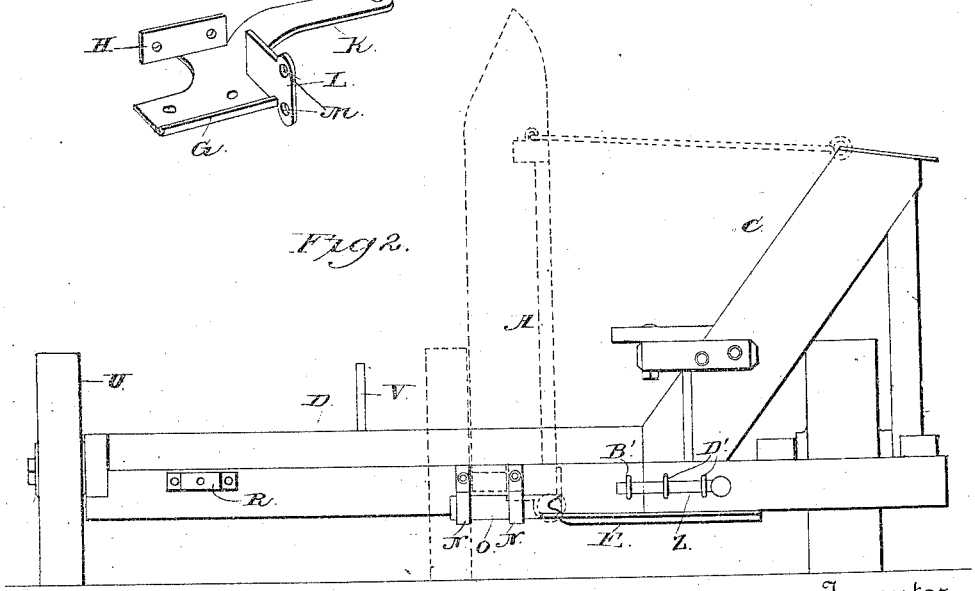


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
M. E. Fowler
E. G. Siggers.

Inventor.
Stephen F. Voorhees.
by Church & Church
his Attorneys

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

S. F. VOORHEES.

FOLDING PLATFORM FOR HARVESTERS.

No. 385,537. Patented July 3, 1888.

Fig. 3.

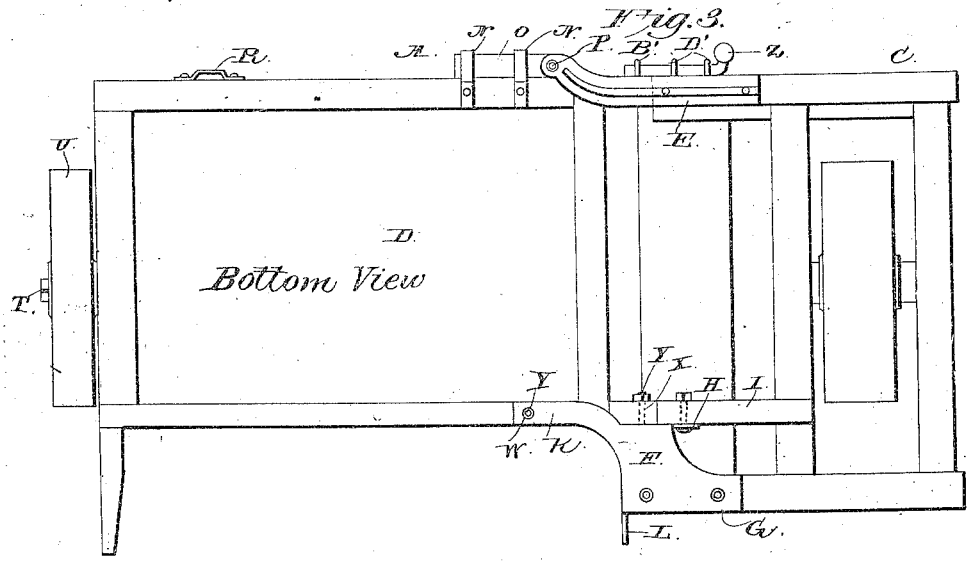
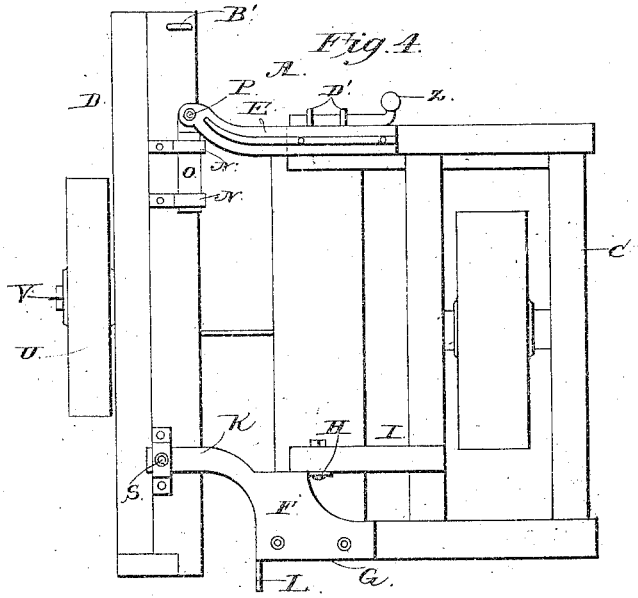


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.
M. E. Fowler.
E. G. Siggers.

Inventor.
Stephen F. Voorhees.
by Crosby & Gregory
his Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN F. VOORHEES, OF ADRIAN, MICHIGAN.

FOLDING PLATFORM FOR HARVESTERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,537, dated July 3, 1888.

Application filed October 17, 1887. Serial No. 252,611. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHEN F. VOORHEES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Adrian, in the county of Lenawee and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding Platforms for Harvesters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in folding platforms for harvesters; and it consists in the peculiar construction and combination of devices that will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

This invention is an improvement on the folding platform for harvesters for which Letters Patent of the United States, No. 370,430, were granted to me September 27, 1887, and the object of my present improvement is to provide a harvester or binder platform with a hinged joint, whereby that portion of the platform carrying the cutting apparatus may be moved to a vertical position and then swung around to one side of that portion of the platform carrying the usual gear-wheels and secured thereto, thus reducing the excessive width of the binder or harvester, and enabling the same to be readily transported along an ordinary country road, over narrow bridges, and through gateways, thus greatly facilitating the transportation of the binder or harvester from one farm to another.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a harvester-platform embodying my improvements, showing the same extended to its full width. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same, showing the platform extended to its full position in solid lines and showing in dotted lines the platform-frame carrying the cutting apparatus folded against the side of the main frame carrying the gear-wheels. Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the same in the position shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a similar view, the platform being shown in the position as in dotted lines in Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the plate F.

A represents the harvester or binder, the minor portions of the machine being omitted, for the reason that they are of the usual construction and form no part of my present improvement.

C represents the main frame, and D represents the platform-frame. The latter has the usual cutting apparatus, and in the main frame is journaled the driving and supporting wheel.

The gear-wheels usually employed to transmit the power from the driving-wheel to the various portions of the machine are also journaled in the main frame C, but are not shown in the accompanying drawings, for the reason that they form no part of my invention. On the rear side of the main frame C is secured an arm, E, the outer end of which projects beyond the grain side of the said frame, the said arm E being arranged in a horizontal position and secured to the under side of the rear beam of frame C. On the under side of the front grain corner of frame C is secured a flat plate, F, which is of the form shown, is provided at its front edge with a vertical flange, G, that bears against the front side of the front beam of frame C, and has at its inner corner at its rear side a vertical flange-plate, H, which is secured to the front side of a short transverse bar, I, that forms a part of the frame C, the said flange-plate projecting a considerable distance beyond the grain-side end of the said bar.

K represents a horizontal flat arm, which is formed with the plate F and projects beyond the grain side of frame C. At the front grain corner of the plate F is formed a vertical plate, L, which bears against the grain-side end of the front beam of frame C, projects forward beyond the said beam, and is provided with a series of openings, M, for the attachment of a whiffletree, the said vertical plate L thereby forming a clevis.

On the rear side of the platform-frame B, near the inner end thereof, is secured a pair of curved strap-keepers, N.

O represents a hinged swivel-rod, which is journaled in the said strap-keepers N, is arranged on the rear inner side of the platform-frame B, and has its inner end connected to the outer end of the arm E by means of a pivotal bolt, P. On the rear side of the said platform-frame B, near the outer or grain end thereof, is secured a loop or keeper, R, which is adapted to receive the projecting end of the arm K of plate F when the platform-frame is arranged in a vertical position on the grain side of the frame C. The said loop or keeper and the said arm K are provided each with an opening, which openings are adapted to align

with each other when the platform frame is in position, before described, and a bolt or pin, S, is then inserted in the said aligned openings and serves to secure the platform-frame firmly in place.

From the outer side of the platform-frame D projects a spindle, T, on which a supporting-wheel, U, is journaled when the platform-frame is in its horizontal position extended from the grain side of frame C. From the upper side of the platform-frame, at the center of the rear edge thereof, projects a spindle, V, which is similar to the spindle T, and which is in a horizontal position when the platform-frame is in the vertical position before described, on the grain side of the frame side C. When the platform-frame is thus arranged, the wheel U is taken from the spindle T and is journaled on the spindle V, as shown, thus enabling the machine to be readily drawn along a narrow country road.

When the platform-frame is in its horizontal position extended from the grain-side of the frame C, its front inner corner bears against the grain-side end of the short bar I, bears against the rear side of the flange-plate H, and is supported upon the upper side of the horizontal arm K. The said inner corner of the said platform-frame is provided, further, with openings W and X, which, when the platform-frame is in this position, align or register with corresponding openings in the plate H and in the arm K, and bolts or pins Y are inserted in the said registering-openings and serve to secure the inner front corner of the platform-frame very securely to the plate at the front grain-side corner of frame C.

In order to still further strengthen the connection between the platform-frame and the frame C, I provide a bolt, Z, on the rear side of frame C, which bolt slides in suitable keepers, D′ D′, and is adapted to engage a keeper, B′, on the rear corner of the platform-frame, as shown in Fig. 2.

The operation of my invention will be very readily understood from the foregoing description.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination of the frame C, the arm E on the under rear side thereof and projecting from the grain side of said frame, the platform-frame D, having suitable keepers, N, on its rear side at the stubble corner of the platform, and the hinged swiveled rod O, journaled in the said keepers and pivoted at one end to the outer end of the arm E, whereby the platform-frame may be turned up backward to a vertical position on the hinge-arm O and then have its grain end swung forward, so that the bottom of the platform shall stand up to the grain side of the frame C, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the frame C, having the projecting arm E on its grain side and provided at its front grain corner with the plate F, having the flange-plate H and the horizontal arm K, and the platform-frame having the hinge swivel-rod O journaled to its rear side and pivoted at one end to the outer end of arm E, whereby the platform-frame may be turned up backward to a vertical position on the hinge-arm O and then have its grain end swung forward, so that the bottom of the platform shall stand up to the grain side of the frame C, the inner front corner of the said platform-frame being adapted to bear against the flange-plate H and upon the arm K, and means, substantially as set forth, to secure the said inner corner of the platform-frame to the said flange-plate and arm, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the frame C, having the projecting arm E on its rear grain corner and the projecting arm K at its front grain corner, the platform-frame having the hinge-rod O on its rear side near its inner end, the keepers N, securing said hinge-rod in place, the pivotal bolt connecting the inner ends of the said rod to the outer end of arm E, and the loop R on the rear side of the platform-frame, near the outer end thereof, the said loop R being adapted to receive the outer end of arm K when the platform-frame is swung to a vertical position on the grain side of frame C, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

STEPHEN F. VOORHEES.

Witnesses:

IRVING H. FINCH,

WALTER S. WESTERMAN.