

No. 648,570.

Patented May 1, 1900.

S. W. NIX.
STALK CHOPPER ATTACHMENT.

(Application filed Aug. 19, 1899.)

(No Model.)

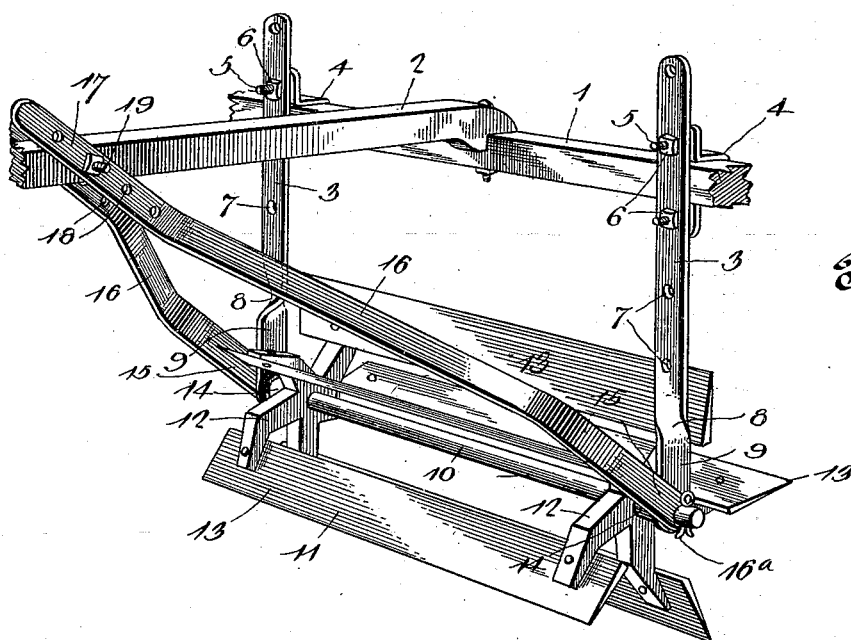


Fig. 1.

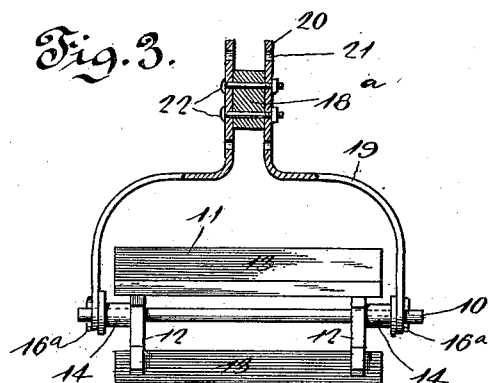


Fig. 3.

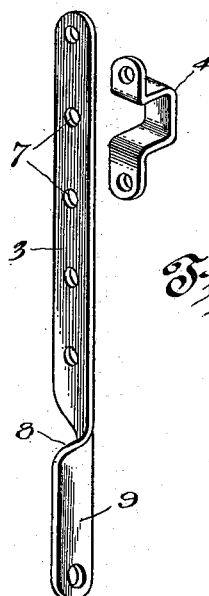


Fig. 2.

Witnesses
J. Frankenhauerwell, By his Attorneys,
Chas. S. Hoyer.

S. W. Nix, Inventor.

CA Snow & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SPENCER W. NIX, OF GREENVILLE, TEXAS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
CHARLES H. BEAUCHAMP, JR., OF DALLAS, TEXAS.

STALK-CHOPPER ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 648,570, dated May 1, 1900.

Application filed August 19, 1899. Serial No. 727,833. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SPENCER W. NIX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greenville, in the county of Hunt and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Stalk-Chopper Attachment, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stalk-chopper attachments for plows, cultivators generally, and wheeled vehicles; and one object of the same is to provide a rotating stalk-chopper adapted to be applied to any device to which it may be fitted and efficiently operate to chop stalks or other growth, adjustable features being present therein to accommodate a varying elevation relatively to the support therefor, the parts being simple and effective in their construction and arrangement, strong and durable, and easily applied in working position.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the subjoined description and be pointed out in the claims, and the preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein corresponding characters of reference are used to indicate similar parts, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a stalk-chopper attachment embodying the features of the invention. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of parts of the improved attachment. Fig. 3 is a sectional end elevation of the improved attachment shown arranged for application to a plow-beam.

The numeral 1 designates a beam or bar which may be the axle-beam of a vehicle or the axle itself or a part of the frame of a cultivator or other device having means in connection therewith for transporting it over the ground. To the said bar 1 a draft-bar 2 is connected and may serve as the tongue of a vehicle or of a cultivator or other device. Depending from the bar 1 are opposite suspending-bars 3, which are vertically adjustable and held by angle-clips 4, surrounding the said beam or bar 1 and connected to the bars 3 by removable bolts 5, preferably secured in position by means of nuts 6 on screw-threaded ends thereof. The suspending-bars 3 have a plurality of openings 7 therein for

accommodating a variation in the elevation of the said bars, and near their lower terminals the suspending-bars have twists 8 therein, which form bearing ends 9 to receive the opposite extremities of an axle 10, on which is rotatably mounted a chopper 11. The said chopper comprises opposite end spiders 12, to which the blades 13 are secured and to hold the said chopper against endwise movement on the axle 10. Space-collars 14 surround the said axle between the outer faces of the said spiders and the inner lower portions of the said suspending-bars. Over the opposite extremities of the axle 10 the rear lower terminals 15 of brace-arms 16 are removably fitted and the parts at this point held in separable relation by means of cotter-pins or analogous devices 16^a. The arms 16 converge from the rear lower ends 15 thereof, which are straight, to adjustable attaching ends 17, which are normally elevated and in advance of the chopper. The attaching ends 17 are also straight and have a plurality of openings 18 therein to receive a retaining-bolt 19, the said attaching ends being applied to the opposite sides of the draft-bar or analogous device 2 and shiftable to compensate for the adjustment of the suspending-bars 3. The arms 16 and the bars 3 are preferably made of strap metal of a strong and durable quality and which can be easily bent to obtain the desired shape, and the operation of the chopper is similar to other devices of a like character and wherein blades roll over a surface on which is a rank growth or stalks that are required to be chopped or cut to facilitate cultivation of the soil or clearing of certain tracts of an undergrowth and prepare such tracts for after treatment.

As previously indicated, the improved chopper attachment is intended for a general application, and at times it may be necessary to elevate the rotating chopper from the ground to clear it from surface contact or when initially applying the same to compensate for various heights of frames.

In Fig. 3 the improved attachment is shown arranged for application to a plow-beam 18^a, the arms 16 being dispensed with in this instance and the suspending-bars 3 replaced by

similar devices 19, having upper straight ends 20, with a plurality of apertures 21 formed therein. The intermediate portions of the said suspending-bars 19 are bent outwardly and then extend downwardly to the axle 10. The upper straight ends 20 are adjustably connected to the beam 18^a by removable bolts 22, and the position of the attachment on the beam is in advance of the plow proper. 10
Aside from the differences noted the construction and arrangement of the device illustrated by Fig. 3 is the same as that shown by Fig. 1.

The improved attachment is very advantageous in its use in view of its ready application and will effectively serve to chop the stalks or other growths over which it travels. To accommodate various applications it may be necessary at times to change the proportions, size, and minor details of construction, and such changes will be made within the scope and without sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

25 1. In a device of the character set forth, the combination of an axle, a chopper rotatably mounted thereon, suspending-bars having intermediate bends to position their lower ends flat against the opposite ends of the axle to receive the latter, the upper parts of the said bars having a plurality of openings therein, a support for the said bars, and fastening de-

vices arranged relatively to the said support and bars.

2. In a device of the character set forth, the combination of a support, a pair of suspending-bars adjustably connected thereto, an axle journaled in the lower terminals of the said bars, a chopper rotatably mounted on said axle, and arms arranged at an angle of inclination and having their rear lower ends connected to the opposite ends of the axle and the front upper extremities adjustably attached to a part of the said support. 35
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3. In a device of the character set forth, the combination of a support, a pair of suspending-bars having a plurality of openings in the upper portions thereof, clips applied to the said support and detachably connected to the suspending-bars, an axle rotatably mounted in the lower terminals of said bars, a chopper rotatably mounted on the said axle, and a pair of arms rearwardly divergent and attached to the axle, the front extremities of the arms being straight and formed with a plurality of openings for adjustable application to a part of the said support. 45
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In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

SPENCER W. NIX.

Witnesses:

C. H. BEAUCHAMP, Sr.,
J. H. PATTERSON.