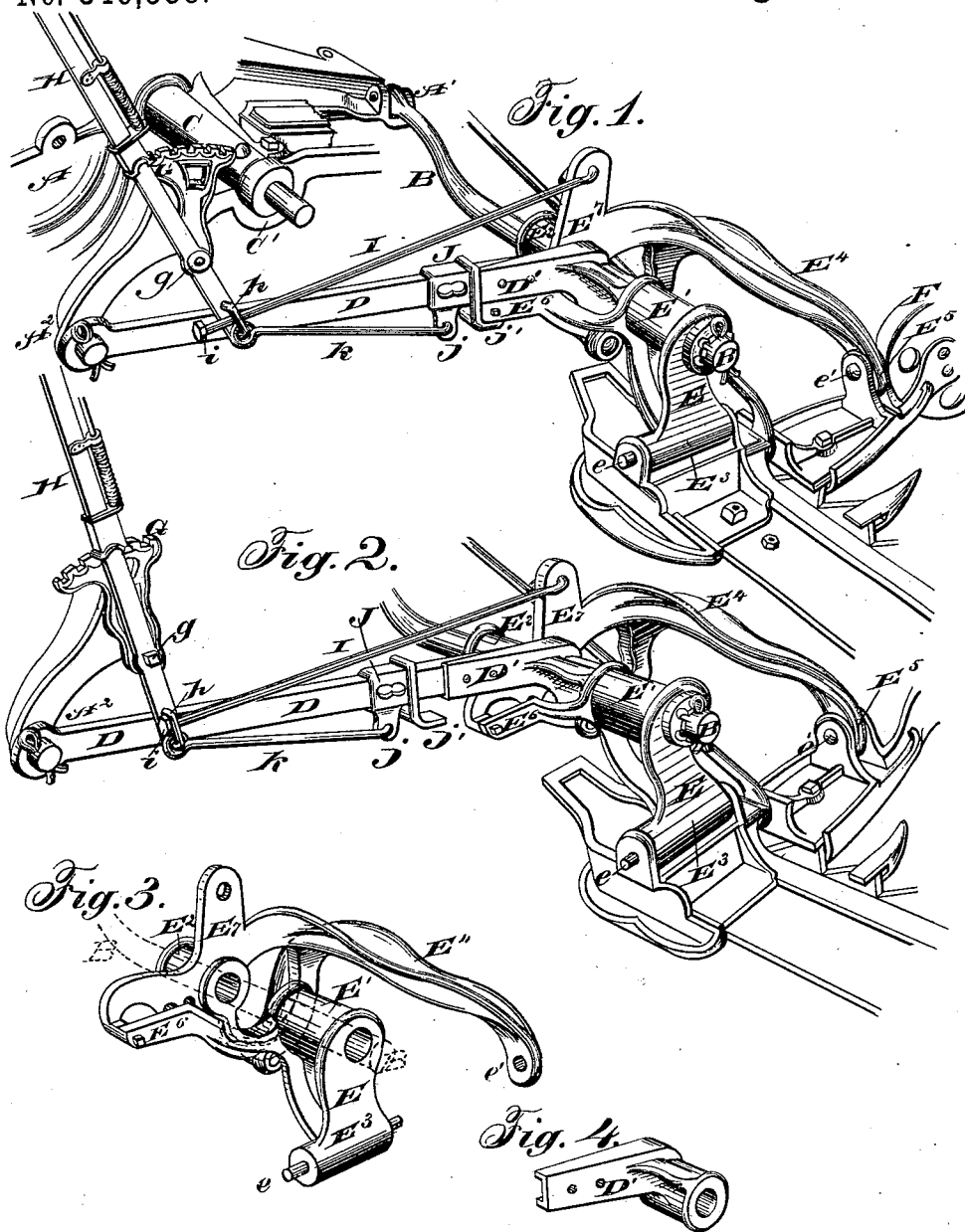


(No Model.)

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MOWER.

No. 346,538.

Patented Aug. 3, 1886.



Witnesses:
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MOWER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ROBERT H. DIXON and GEORGE H. CARVER, of Ravenswood, Cook county, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mowing-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to that class of mowers in which the cutting apparatus is adapted to rock or roll automatically in order to conform to the surface of the ground; and the improvement has reference to means, under the control of the attendant, whereby the cutting apparatus may be locked to prevent its rocking action or set free at will.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of such parts of a mower of ordinary construction as are necessary to an understanding of our invention, with our improvements applied thereto, the cutter being locked against the rolling motion. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same parts. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the casting to which the main shoe is attached. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the sleeve by which the push-bar is connected to the transverse brace for carrying the cutting mechanism.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A, in its various powers, represents the main gear-frame.

B represents a bar or brace lying transversely across the front of the main frame and jointed at its outer end to the frame at A', its inner or grain end, which is free to rise and fall, being made of cylindrical form.

E represents a casting of the form most clearly shown in Fig. 3, having as its leading features the two sleeves E' and E'', a depending arm, E³, and a forwardly-extending arm, E⁴. This casting is mounted loosely on the end of the transverse bar or brace B in such manner that it may be rotated or rocked thereon in the direction of the line of travel. The main shoe, to which the finger-bar is attached, as usual, is connected to the arms E³ and E⁴ of the casting E by horizontal pivots e and e', as shown. These pivots permit the outer end of the finger-bar to rise and fall, while the rotary motion of the casting E permits the finger-bar to roll or rock in a forward or backward direction.

D represents the push-bar extending in a fore-and-aft direction. Its rear end is pivoted to the main frame at A², and its forward end is provided with a sleeve, D', which encircles the bar B between the sleeves of the casting E.

H represents a hand-lever pivoted to the main frame, and provided at its lower end with an ear, h, through which there extends loosely the rod I, provided at its rear end with a head, i, and attached at its forward end to the ear E⁷. The hand-lever is provided with a locking-bolt, which engages the stationary notched plate G, to hold the lever in different positions. This locking-bolt will be operated through a rod by an ordinary thumb-latch at the top of the lever, or be otherwise operated, as preferred. When the lower end of the lever is thrown to the rear, it firmly engages the head i, and, drawing the rod I rearward, it tips the guard-fingers and cutting devices upward at the front.

The foregoing parts are of the usual, or of substantially the usual, construction, and are not claimed as of our invention.

In carrying our invention into effect we provide the casting E with a rearwardly-extending arm, E⁶, lying beneath the push-bar D, and serving as a stop to limit the depression of the guard-fingers. On the push-bar D we mount a sliding sleeve, J, having a lip, j', adapted to fit beneath the arm E⁶ and lock the same rigidly in position, as shown in Fig. 1, and thus prevent the rotation of the casting E and the rolling motion of the finger-bar. This slide J we connect by a rod, K, to the hand-lever H, which is thus made to serve the double purpose of lifting the points of the cutters when required, or, on the other hand, of operating the slide to prevent the rolling motion of the cutters. As the rods I and K are operated by the lever at opposite limits of its movement, it will be seen that the action of one in no wise interferes with the action of the other.

We propose to use in connection with the cutting mechanism lifting devices of ordinary construction under the control of the driver.

The location of the bar B is such that when the shoe and attendant parts are lifted the preponderance of weight at the front will cause the arm E to swing upward against the under face of the push-bar D.

It is to be noted as a distinctive feature of

our invention that the devices controlling the cutting mechanism admit of its being set free to roll automatically as it passes over the ground, or of its being locked at will to prevent said rolling motion.

5 We are aware that cutting mechanisms which remain at all times free to roll upon the ground are old, and also that it is old to combine with a finger-bar and shoe a locking-lever
10 by which they may be rocked and secured in different positions, the organization being such, however, that it is impossible to set the parts free.

We prefer to retain the details of construction herein shown; but it is manifest that they
15 may be modified to any extent desired within the range of mechanical skill without departing from the limits of our invention.

While we have described the part E as a
20 casting, it will, of course, be understood that it may be constructed in any suitable manner.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is—

1. In a mowing-machine, a main frame and
25 a cutting mechanism jointed to the frame to rock or roll in a forward and backward direction, as usual, in combination with a locking mechanism under the control of the driver,

whereby the cutting mechanism may be locked to prevent the rolling motion or set free at
30 will to roll in passing over the ground.

2. In combination with the main frame, the transverse brace, and the push-bar jointed thereto, the casting E, carried by said brace and bar, the main shoe provided with the fin-
35 ger-bar and jointed to casting E, and a slide, J, mounted on the push-bar and adapted to lock the casting rigidly thereto.

3. The combination of the main frame, the casting, the brace B, push-bar D, and the
40 main shoe carried by said casting, with the slide J, mounted on the push-bar, and connections, substantially as described, from the lever to the slide and to the casting E.

4. In combination with the rocking casting
45 E, having the main shoe attached, the locking-slide J, the hand-lever, the rod K, connecting the lever with the slide, and the rod I, connecting the lever with the casting E, said rod having a sliding connection at one end, as de-
50 scribed and shown.

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