F. C. MERRILL.

Side-Hill Plow-Clevis.

No. 166,935. Patented Aug. 24, 1875.

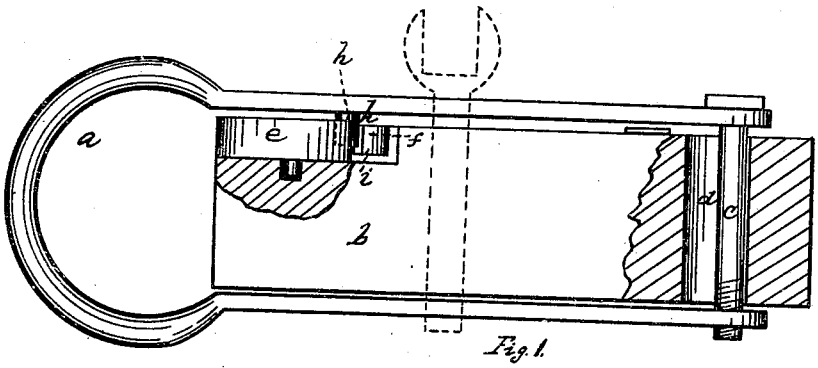

Fig. 1.

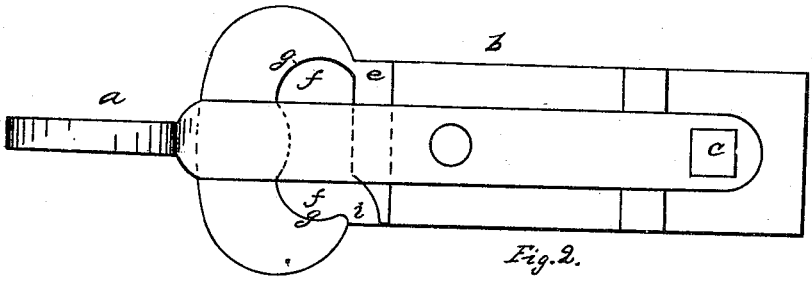

Fig. 2.

Witnesses:
Frank H. Jordan.
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per
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREEMAN C. MERRILL, OF SOUTH PARIS, MAINE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SIDE-HILL-PLOW CLEVISES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **166,935**, dated August 24, 1875; application filed May 31, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREEMAN C. MERRILL, of South Paris, in the county of Oxford and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Side-Hill-Plow Clevises; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a side elevation, parts broken out. Fig. 2 is a top plan.

Same letters show like parts.

The object of my invention is to produce an improved clevis, to be attached to the forward end of the beam of a side-hill plow.

My invention may be thus described: *a* shows the clevis, *b* the beam of the plow. This clevis is attached to the beam by the bolt *c*, which works in the slot *d* in the beam.

The object of this slot is to allow of the backward and forward movement of the clevis. The purpose of this backward and forward movement will be hereinafter described.

e is a metal plate set in the top surface of the end of the plow-beam, as illustrated. *f* is a crescent-shaped slot in this piece, having eyes or recesses *g*. *h* is a projecting piece or stud on the lower surface of the upper plate of the clevis. This stud works in the slot *f* as the clevis is turned from side to side. *i* is an opening in the slot, to allow of the removal of the clevis when desired. The plate *e* is held in place on the end of the beam by screws or bolts.

The particular purpose of having a clevis thus constructed is, that the line of draft may be automatically regulated by the turning of the team at the end of the furrows.

To illustrate the operation of my invention, suppose the first furrow to be made across the foot of a hill, and, as customary, throwing the earth or furrow in the direction of the descent, and suppose that it is desired to have the plow "land" more, or make a wider furrow, the clevis is turned until the stud *h* rests in the recess *g* on the same side of the plow-beam as the mold-board. When the end of the furrow has been reached, and it is desired to turn the team and return across the field, and the position of the mold-board has been changed from one to the other side of the beam, as is customary upon plows of this kind, then the team is turned in such direction, either right or left, as will change the clevis so that its stud *h* will rest in the other recess *g*, and thus still maintain its relative position—that is to say, so as to again place it on the same side of the mold-board.

When it is desired to maintain a narrow furrow, and when the team is to be turned at the end of the furrow, then the cattle are moved in such direction, either to the right or left, as will place the stud *h* in that recess of the plate *e* which is on the opposite side of the mold-board.

It will thus be seen that simply turning the cattle to one or the other side, as may be requisite, determines whether the plow, in making its furrow, shall land heavily or lightly.

It will also be observed that the operation of the clevis under these circumstances is automatic, requiring no change in the position of the clevis save that occasioned by the turning of the team, and in this respect particularly is unlike the movable clevis in common use.

If a direct line of draft only is required, the clevis can be firmly fastened to the center of the beam by means of a bolt, (indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1.)

Instead of the slotted plate being placed upon the plow-beam, it may be fastened to the top of the clevis, and have a curved front edge, in shape like the slot in the plate on the beam. Two studs or cheeks would then be affixed to the sides of the beam, and these work into the recesses of the top plate to hold the clevis to either side. When the plow is turned, the backward movement of the clevis will throw the recesses free of the cheeks, in the same manner as described of the stud in the clevis.

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

1. In combination with the clevis *a*, having the bolt *c* and stud *h*, and the beam *b*, having

the slot *d*, the plate *e*, having the curved slot *f*, the said slots being arranged and constructed as shown and described.

2. In combination with the clevis, made as described, and having the bolt and stud, the slotted plate *e*, having the opening *i*, as and for the purposes set forth.

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

FREEMAN C. MERRILL.

Witnesses:

GEORGE A. WILSON,

W. A. FROTHINGHAM.