A. W. FLANDERS.
Scythe-Fastening.

No. 207,409. Patented Aug. 27, 1878.

Fig. 1.

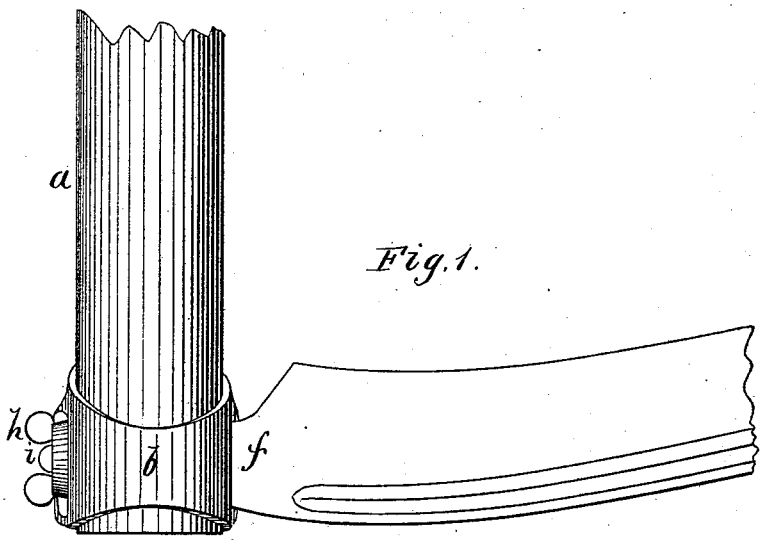


Fig. 2.

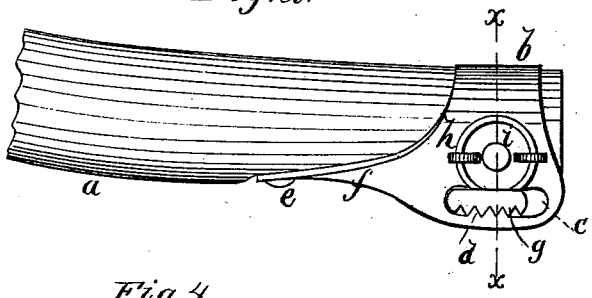


Fig. 3.

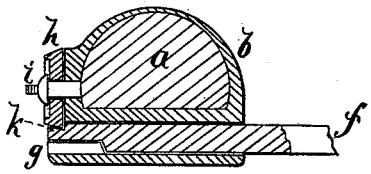


Fig. 4.

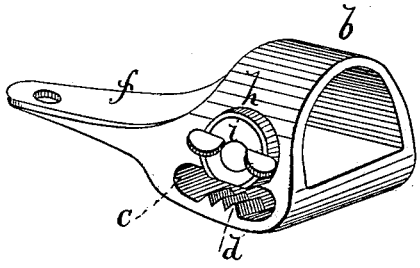


Fig. 5.

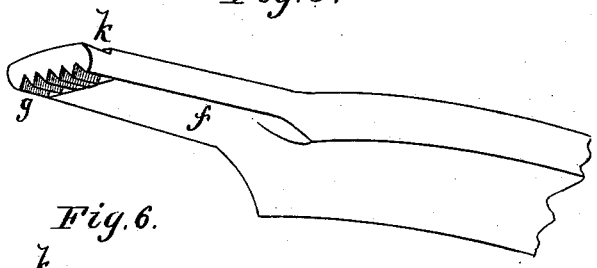
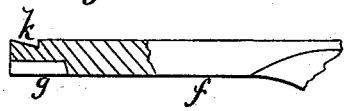


Fig. 6.



WITNESSES:
Henry N. Miller
C. Sedgwick

INVENTOR:
A. W. Flanders
BY Munn & Co
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT W. FLANDERS, OF NORTH GRANTHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SCYTHE-FASTENINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **207,409**, dated August 27, 1878; application filed July 5, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT WELLINGTON FLANDERS, of North Grantham, in the county of Sullivan and State of New Hampshire, have invented a new and Improved Scythe-Fastening, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to furnish a means for fastening a scythe to the snath which will not require the use of a wrench in fastening the scythe or removing it, and will make a firm and reliable connection; also, to construct the fastening in such form that it may be attached to the snath without requiring the snath to be bored or mortised.

My invention consists in a socket or ring for the end of the snath, formed with a cross-mortise to receive the shank of the scythe. There are teeth on the inside of the mortise, which engage with corresponding teeth on the scythe-shank, to hold the point of the scythe in or out, as desired. The shank of the scythe is formed straight, without a bend or toe, which is usually employed.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is an elevation of a scythe and snath attached together. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the same, looking toward the end of the scythe-shank. Fig. 3 is a cross-section at the line *x x* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the snath-socket detached. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the scythe-shank, and Fig. 6 is a section of the end of a shank.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

a is the snath, and *b* the socket or ring for the end of the snath. The socket *b* is formed of metal, with one side thereof rounding, and the opposite side flattened. At the flat side of the socket *b* is a flat mortise, *c*, through the metal of the socket at right angles to the direction in which the snath enters the socket. *d* are teeth or corrugations upon the inside of the mortise *c*, adjacent to one of the outer ends thereof. The mortise *c* tapers in width, being wider at one side of the socket *b* than at the other, for the purpose hereinafter described, and the teeth *d* are at the widest end of the mortise.

The snath *a* is flattened on one side at the end, and the socket or fastening is secured upon the snath by a screw, *e*, passing into the snath *a* through a hole in a strap, *f*, formed with the socket-ring *b*. (See Fig. 2.)

f is the scythe-shank, which, instead of having a bent end, as usual, is straight, as seen in Fig. 5, and of a size to pass tightly into the narrow end of the mortise *c*. The shank *f* may, however, be slightly tapering in width.

g are teeth or corrugations, formed by grooving the end of the shank *f*. These teeth correspond with the teeth *d* in the mortise *c*, so that when the shank is inserted into the mortise *c* the teeth *d* and *g* will mesh together, as seen in Fig. 2.

The mortise *c* being wider at the end where the teeth *d* and *g* come together, the end of shank *f* may be moved more or less to one side or other as it is inserted, thereby throwing the point of the scythe in or out. The teeth will engage and hold the scythe at the desired place.

To prevent the scythe working out endwise from the mortise *c*, I provide a cam-button, *h*, which turns on a pin, *i*, at the side of the ring *b* adjacent to the mortise *c*, and in such position that when turned on its pin *i* the cam-edge of the button *h* will bear upon the shank *f* upon the side opposite to the teeth *g*, and bind the parts togther. The ring *b* is flattened at the place where the button *h* is attached, so that the end of the shank *f* projects and permits the button *h* to bear upon it.

I have shown the cam-edge of the button *h* beveled to take into the dovetail groove *k* of the shank *f*, thereby preventing end movement of the scythe; but this groove *k* may be dispensed with, and the teeth *d* and *g* tapered instead, so that the cam *h* may lock them together. It is further evident that a wedge might be used in place of the cam-button *h*.

The fastening above described forms a convenient and reliable means for the attachment of a scythe to the snath. It may be made and sold cheaply, and requires no tools to operate it. It also permits the scythes to be constructed in a manner that makes a saving to the manufacturer, for the reason that there is no bent end required upon the shank, and the bending of the ends is a source of considerable loss on account of the cracking and breaking which occur during the bending operation.

I do not limit myself to the shape of the parts as shown and described, as the same may be varied without departing from my invention.

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

1. The socket or ring *b*, provided with a cross-mortise, *c*, and teeth or corrugations *d*, substantially as described, and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination of the cam-button *h* with the socket or ring *b*, having teeth or corrugations *d*, and adapted to receive the toothed or corrugated shank of the scythe, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The scythe formed with a straight shank, provided at its end with teeth or corrugations *g*, substantially as set forth.

ALBERT WELLINGTON FLANDERS.

Witnesses:
NANCIE E. BURPEE,
HIRAM L. BURPEE.