

T. W. BALLEW & C. A. FULLER.  
Harvester Guard-Finger.

No. 208,141.

Patented Sept. 17, 1878.

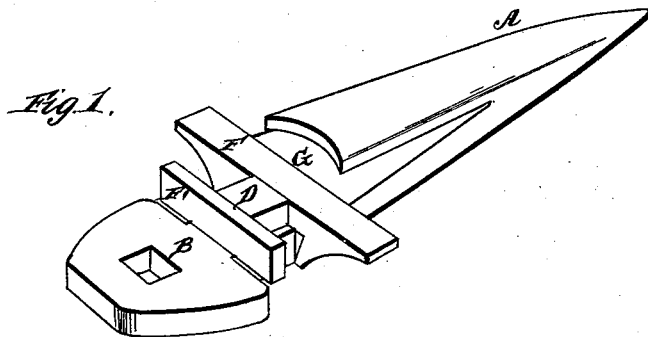


Fig. 2.

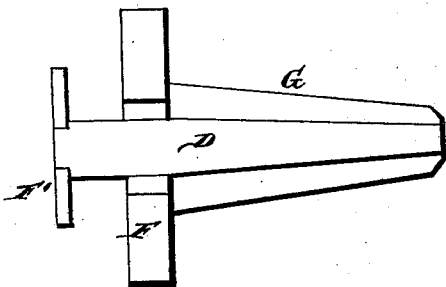


Fig. 3.

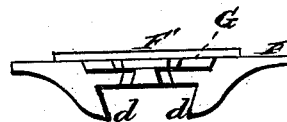
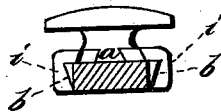


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN HARVESTER GUARD-FINGERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **208,141**, dated September 17, 1878; application filed August 10, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, THOMAS W. BALLEW and CHARLES A. FULLER, of Princeton, in the county of Mercer and State of Missouri, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Cutter-Bars; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a perspective of our cutter-bar. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 are detail views of the same.

The nature of our invention relates to cutter-bars for reapers and mowers; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of the guard with removable ledger-plate and the means for holding the same in position, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

The annexed drawing, to which reference is made, fully illustrates our invention.

A represents the guard or finger for the cutter-bar of a reaper or mower. This guard is made in the usual form, with a horizontal slot for the passage of the reciprocating cutter. The under part of the guard is, in its upper side, formed with a tapering groove or recess, *a*, and the shank B of the guard has its upper face flush with the bottom of the groove, said shank terminating in the head C, which is to be bolted to the guard-bar or finger-bar of the machine. The side edges of the shank B are formed, next to the guard, with inclines *b b*, so as to make that portion of the shank dovetailed. D represents a slide-bar, the forward portion of which is tapering to fit in the tapering groove *a* of the guard. The rear portion of the bar D is provided with two parallel cross-bars, F and F', the rear one, F', of which projects above the upper surface of the bar D. The ledger-plate G is secured on top of the forward portion of the bar D, and the upper surface of the ledger-plate is flush with the upper surface of the cross-bar F. On each side of the bar D the cross-bar F is extended

downward to form dovetailed wings *d d*, which are to fit over the dovetailed portion *b* of the shank. The bar D is slid lengthwise into the groove *a* until the wings *d* of the bar F can drop down over the sides of the shank B at the rear portion. The whole is then pushed forward until the dovetails pass over each other and the wings *d* rest against the shoulders *i i* of the guard, when the parts are in proper position. When the guard is now bolted to the guard-bar the rear cross-bar, F', will rest against the same, and thus the bar D and ledger-plate G be locked in place.

The guard is the same for all kinds of machines; but the cross-bars F F' are to be of different lengths for different-sized sections. The end of the slide-bar D is to be of different length, shape, and thickness, according to the size and shape of the knife-back of the machine the guard is to be attached to.

The entire wear is on the parts F F' and ledger-plate G.

The ledger-plate cannot come out until the guard is unbolted from the guard-bar.

The parts D, F F', and G can, when worn out, be replaced at a small cost, which will make the machine cut as well as when new.

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The bar D, with cross-bars F F' and the ledger-plate G attached thereto, in combination with the guard A, having the groove or recess *a*, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. The dovetail *d*, formed on the under side of the cross-bar F, in combination with the dovetailed portion *b* of the shank B, as herein set forth.

In testimony that we claim the above we have hereunto subscribed our names in the presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS WINFIELD BALLEW.  
CHARLES A. FULLER.

Witnesses:  
M. F. ROBINSON,  
SQUIRE BALLEW.