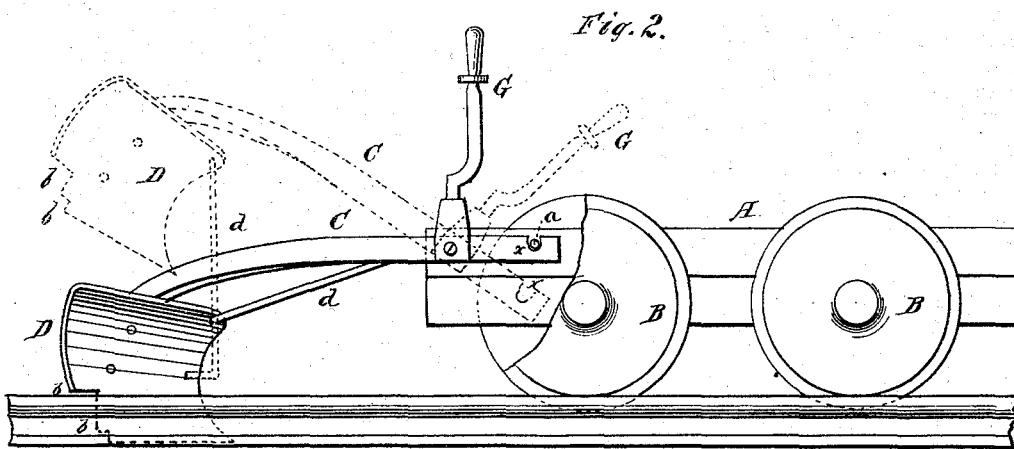
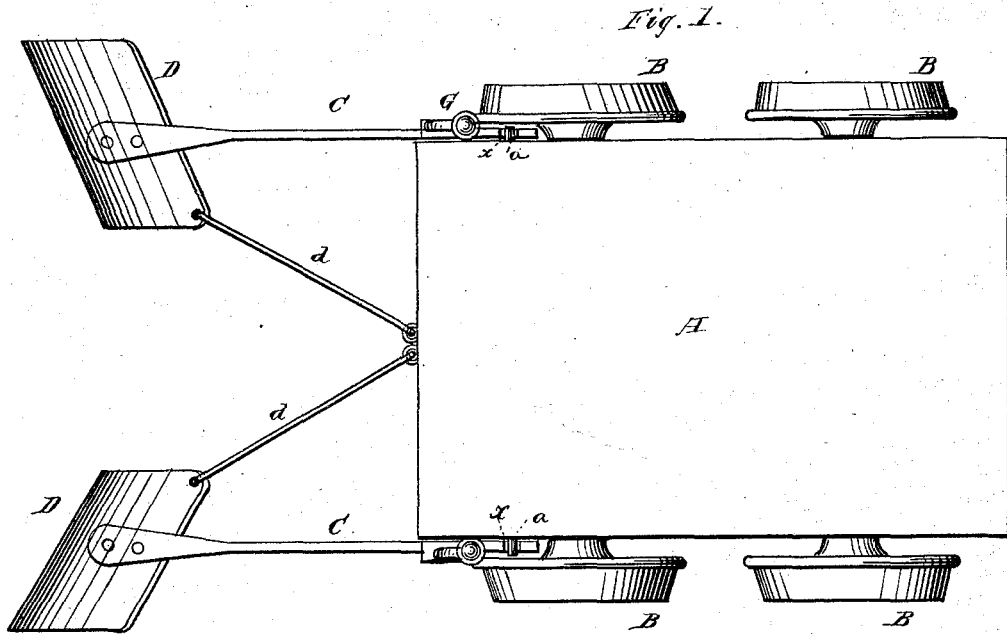


J. W. HODGES.
Track-Clearers.

No. 157,397.

Patented Dec. 1, 1874.



WITNESSES:

P. C. Dieterich
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH W. HODGES, OF GRAND RAPIDS, WISCONSIN.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRACK-CLEARERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **157,397**, dated December 1, 1874; application filed October 28, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH W. HODGES, of Grand Rapids, in the county of Wood and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Snow-Scrapers for Railroad Hand-Cars; 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.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a snow-scraper to be attached to a hand-car for cleaning the top and inner sides of the rails from snow, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a top view of a device embodying my invention, and Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same.

A represents the bed, and B B the wheels, of a hand-car, which may be constructed in any of the known and usual ways. On each side of the bed A, near the rear end, is pivoted a beam, C, the rear end of which is curved somewhat in the shape of an ordinary plow-beam. At the front end, on the upper side or edge of the beam C, is a notch, *x*, to fit around a pin, *a*, in the side of the beam A, to hold the scraper at a certain height and prevent it from settling down any farther. D represents the scraper, made of boiler-iron or other suit-

able material, and having its outer lower corner formed with shoulders *b b*, so as to fit or nearly fit the top and inner side of the rail. To the beam C is attached a lever, G, by means of which the beam is turned on its pivot to raise the scraper up from the track. The upper inner corner of the scraper D is by a rod, *d*, connected with the end of the bed A, as shown. The flanges on car-wheels are generally from two to two and a half inches wide, and by adjusting the scraper, say, about one or one and a half inch from the ties, it will take the snow out sufficiently deep enough to clear the flange of the wheel, thereby preventing the snow from packing and becoming ice, which, after several snow-storms, will become so hard that the wheel will run on the ice instead of the rail, and if there happens to be a low joint the wheel may run off the rail and cause serious loss to life and property.

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

The combination, with a hand-car, A B, of the pivoted beam C with notch *x* and lever G, the pin *a*, scraper D, and connecting-rod *d*, all substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

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

JOSEPH W. HODGES.

Witnesses:

OSCAR TAYLOR,
H. B. HARDIN.