

SEIBERLING'S
EXCELSIOR
SELF-RAKING OR DROPPING
REAPER AND MOWER,



MANUFACTURED BY
WYANDTS PUTMAN & CO.,
MILTON,

FREASE'S STORE P. O. STARK CO., O.

For Sale by *A. H. Sprague* Agent.

At *Milton*

CANTON, OHIO,
HARTZELL & BRISBIN, PRINTERS,
1865.



REAPER READY FOR OPERATION.

SEIBERLING'S Self-Raking or Dropping Reaper and Mower.

In presenting to the farming community the merits peculiar to our MR. SEIBERLING'S invention, the "EXCELSIOR" SELF RAKING OR DROPPING REAPER AND MOWER, we might be content with a mere brief description of its mechanical construction, but its PECULIAR FITNESS to the present times, the great blessing it has proved itself to be during the War, above all others, as a labor saving machine induces us to believe it will not be out of place to suggest a few ideas to thinking minds which they may improve to their own, and the good of others.

All great and pressing wants—absolute needs—always have been and ever will be supplied. "Ask and it shall be given" is not an idle promise, but a loving Father gladly supplies all good desires.

For unnumbered centuries this Continent, with all its vast Agricultural resources, both of soil and climate—with all its great deposits of mineral wealth, and as a whole, comprising "every good and perfect gift," was a sealed book to the people of the Old World, but when population began to crowd upon supplies, and despotic Governments to put chains upon the mind of man as well as upon the heel, then it was that Columbus was made the instrument of answering the groaning prayers of the oppressed of the Old World, and showed them the new Continent where self-government might seek and find for ALL.

that mental, moral and physical growth to which we have attained.

Our great rivers, which like immense arteries were the only source of commercial circulation, could not be navigated by sail craft, and commerce had as its vehicles the "dug-out," "raft" and "flat-boat." But our growth under the "Stars and Stripes," soon made a more speedy mode of transportation necessary, and Fulton with his steamboat astonished the flat-boat "old-hunkers" by running up stream ten times faster than they could down.

And when our settlements were spread from ocean to ocean, and it took weeks to visit extreme points, our good Father gave us through other Prophets of the "good time coming," the iron horse, and instead of the mail by coach, through Morse, he gave us the lightning as a swift and obedient servant to do our will.

Farmers will remember that when sperm oil and candles became too high in price for general use, the "Prairie Whale," by the wits of a scientific chemist, gave us the Lard oil and Stearine candle, answering admirably all needs till the war began to make it scarce and costly, when again supply answered necessity, and from the bowels of the earth "Petroleum" runs in almost rivers, giving a better and cheaper light than ever before blessed the cottage home.

The older States of the Union were all heavily timbered and many generations were necessary to make ready the farms for modern implements, but at last the time came and with it the settlements upon the vast, beautiful and fertile Prairies, the great gardens of the Continent and the world. When the farmers began to put in wheat by the hundreds and thousands of acres, "sickles" and "cradles" could not save the harvest, and then began the efforts of the Husseys and McCormicks, for an easier, cheaper and more speedy way of harvesting. Old foggy farmers shook their heads, but the Ketchums, Mannys, Kirbys, Woods, Balls, Aultmans, Russells, and many others, put such brain and muscle to the work as to perfect machines seemingly to ones heart's desire; yet in spite of the great variety of good machines, great efforts were made for years, to produce one that could be operated by ONE MAN who could drive his team and deposit the grain AT WILL, in a neat gavel upon the ground. "Self Rakes" were made of untold varieties, but were too heavy, com-

plicated, cumbrous and costly for practical use. So the farmer worked on with the old machines, carrying in addition to a heavy platform, two men, the one to drive and the other (riding in all imaginable postures—face first, back first, sidewise, standing up, sitting down, strapped to a post, sitting astride a wooden seat, or in other words “riding on a rail,” and only lacking “tar and feathers” to complete his torment,) to “rake off.” And after all, this second man, the best in the field as long as he lasted, could only deliver the grain to the binders in a very slovenly manner. But when the war began, and half the harvest hands had “gone to the front” to try a tilt with the great harvester death, this want of an improved machine grew to be an absolute necessity. Women with husbands in the army or in patriot graves, were often left to till the farm and harvest the crops, while the husband and father was absent, that his hardships and danger might purchase our ease and peace.

In 1859, John F. Seiberling, son of a farmer in Wayne Co. O., got out his first “experimental Dropper,” and in 1860 he made a more perfect machine, and in 1861 it was practically complete, and during that and the next following year many machines were made, and wherever used gave such universal satisfaction that notwithstanding large numbers were made in 1863, the demand was far beyond the possibility of supply.

In 1864, when we had entered upon the fourth year of the war, and nearly all our young and middle aged men were at the front, such was the scarcity of labor that it seemed in the most loyal localities as though the crops would have to return to the ground for want of harvesters; but in the midst of despondency, when our extreme need had come, then it was that the great law was again vindicated, and the desires were answered, for the voice of John Seiberling, like John of old, was heard crying in the wilderness of pressing wants “Excelsior!” “Excelsior!” and when the people saw the “Dropper” in the field with only two horses, driven by a boy, yet doing the work of ordinary machines with three and four horses and two or three men, the people shouted back as it were in echo, “Eureka!” “Eureka!” “It is found!” “It is found!”



REAPER, FOLDED, TRAVELING.

1860, N.Y.

W. H. & C. O. N.Y.

MOWER MOVING OVER OBSTRUCTIONS.



SEIDERLING'S EXCELSIOR SELF RAKING OR DROPPING REAPER, was patented Oct. 15th, 1861.

It is the very essence of simplicity—is perfectly under the control of the driver, and is THE MOST PERFECT LABOR SAVING HARVESTER ever invented, being light, yet strong and durable—complete in the performance of its work, yet simple and without complication, and the driver by a treadle under his foot, with as much ease as though only driving, throws off or drops the grain at pleasure, delivering it in better condition for binding than any hand or self-raker can do, for the simple reason that precisely as the grain is thrown upon the platform by the Reel, so it is delivered, at the moment the platform is dropped into the stubble, the grain is no longer on it, but lays nicely and loosely upon the top of the stubble, while the platform slips out from under it.

Our machine is no longer an untried experiment, but on the contrary is a successful reality, having now been before the public four years, and its sales increased from a few machines in 1860 to thousands in 1864.

It has passed through the severest tests on all kinds of lands, up and down hill—over stones, stumps and ditches—wet and dry cutting, and through tangled and lodged grain and grass, still doing its work well in all situations and conditions, until it is now acknowledged by all, both friends and adversaries, to have more good points than any other Reaper known; and well worthy of its name "Excelsior."

All farmers in the habit of using ordinary reapers, know well that from one to two bushels of grain per acre is scattered upon the ground and lost by the falling grain which lodges upon the bundle while being pushed or raked off the platform, but this wasteful objection is in our Reaper ENTIRELY REMOVED, by the simple though effectual contrivance of a "cut-off-rod," which at the same time and motion of the foot which drops the platform and discharges the accumulated bundle, arrests the falling grain and holds it till by the driver's foot the platform is again raised, when the "cut-off rod" lets go what it has caught, and it falls nicely upon the platform to form a part of the next bundle. This saving we verily believe, is fully equal to the cost of our combined machine, on every one hundred acres of wheat cut by it.

Therefore an important question presents itself to

every farmer in want of a Reaper, "WHICH IS THE CHEAPEST AND MOST ECONOMICAL MACHINE FOR ME TO BUY?" One that saves from one to two bushels of grain per acre from waste while being cut, and from one to two good hands in operating the machine, and the horses from drawing three to four hundred pounds up and down hill, in the hottest days of the year, or a machine that requires two extra hands, and often two extra horses, and then wastes a part of what it cuts?" The wise farmer will say "GIVE ME THE 'EXCELSIOR.'"

The best evidence of the popularity of the "Excelsior" is the fact that it has grown up in the midst of the most extensive, and most deservedly popular Reaper Manufacturing establishments in the United States. Over 12,000 Reapers and Mowers are now annually made in this county, all of deservedly good reputation, yet we believe we are safe in saying that more "Excelsiors" have been sold in this vicinity, within the last year, than of all other kinds.

Lightness of Draught.

The Excelsior has two wheels supporting the frame, which are both drivers, being 36 inches high, thereby giving more power in motion, and running steadier on uneven ground; and having no raker, and no heavy platform (the platform weighing only 20 lbs.) like others, either hand-rakers or self-rakers, lessens the weight on the machine from 200 to 250 lbs., which is evidence enough that the Excelsior is the lightest machine on the team in existence, by one-third to one-half, drawing only from 200 to

300 lbs. draught, which we measure by the mower, which on trial draws only 200 pounds.

Ease of Management.

While other Reapers require the best hand in the field to "rake off," and one to manage the team, the Excelsior is successfully operated by one person, only requiring the skill of a driver, which can as well be done by a boy, or by an aged man, who would, at any other post in the field find his work too laborious for his age.

Superiority as a Raker.

Every farmer at all acquainted with hand-raking machines, knows full well the intolerable labor it is to "rake off." To do it in a manner so as to leave the grain in a condition fit to bind, requires a sleight-of-hand which can only be acquired by considerable practice and perseverance. Few men are able to endure the continual wrenchings of the body which hand-raking subjects them to. This intolerable labor is all done by the driver of the Excelsior with scarcely any labor, by a treadle under his foot.

With this improvement, which we can attach to nearly all other reapers, the public will at once admit that the DROPPING ATTACHMENT to a Reaper is one of the greatest labor-savers ever invented for the benefit of mankind.

Supposing harvest to continue through the time of fifteen days, the labor of a hand-raker, with his board added, cannot be reckoned at less than \$2.25 per day, (making \$33.75,) besides the saving of one hand in binding, (the grain being laid so much better,) at \$1.50 per day, the saving of the team, \$4.75, making in fifteen days the nice sum of \$61.00; this is all clear saving over all other Reapers in use.

This saving alone will pay for a new machine in less than three years, without taking into consideration the labor saved on the team.

The Driver's Seat.

The seat of the Excelsior is set on elliptic steel springs, on movable slides, which may be moved either forward or backward, in order to balance the tongue on the horses necks by the weight of the driver, being as easy

to ride on as a sulky, and not liable to throw the driver off.

Position of the Driver.

The admirable position of the driver is such that he can at a glance see the whole machine, the cutter, reel &c., being in front of the driving wheels, making the machine perfectly safe for the driver should he be thrown from his seat, which has, in many machines, caused serious accidents.

Facility of Raising and Lowering the Cutter Bar, Reel &c., while in Motion.

By a new and beautiful arrangement, the cutter-bar, reel, &c., can be easily raised and lowered at pleasure, by the driver, with the lever at his side, so that the driver can at any time, while in motion, lower the cutter-bar to the ground or raise it high enough to cut stubble fifteen inches high, which can be done by no other two wheeled machine, which is secured to the *Excelsior* by Letters Patent.

Having no Side Draught.

The machine is perfectly balanced, having no side draught whatever, which is easily seen, having no heavy grain platform, or hand-raker, adding weight on the side, although the reaper cuts a swath six feet wide.

Can throw Cutting Apparatus out of Gear.

By an ingenious device, the driver can throw the cutting apparatus instantly out of gear, if necessary, with his foot, which is directly under his seat.

Portability.

This device is something "new under the sun," being so constructed, that the reel, cutter-bar, and all the reaping attachment, can be folded together to the side of the machine and transported through gates and bars, and from place to place, with as much ease and safety as a cart, and taking up but little more room, simply by displacing the Pitman from the Sickle by the Coupling Pin, and taking the chain from the pulley, which change can be made, ready for folding, in less than two minutes.

This feature alone is worthy of consideration by all who intend to purchase a first-class reaper.

Flexibility of Cutter Bar.

This being a two-wheeled machine, it has a flexible joint to the cutter-bar, which adjusts itself to the unevenness of the surface, so that the machine may be in a dead furrow with one wheel, and the other wheel up, or the machine may be on one side of a ridge and the cutter on the other, yet it will do its work as well as if on a level surface.

Speed of Driving.

The machine is so geared that the slowest walk of a team will operate it with ease, without choking or clogging in any kind of grain or grass.

Strength and Reliability.

When in the midst of harvest, and hurry to get grain off, with binders in the field, but little time can be wasted in tinkering at a broken or disordered machine; the farmer at such a time desires a machine on which he can always rely.

By having an EXCELSIOR SELF RAKING OR DROPPING REAPER, he can feel assured, if properly managed and taken care of, to avoid these tinkering. The raking attachment, unlike all other self-raking reapers, is simple, light, yet strong and durable enough to last as long as any other part of the machine, without any liability of breaking.

The material in the entire machine is selected with much care and expense; in view of the greatest strength and durability. The workmanlike manner in which every part of the machine is got up, is not excelled by any similar establishment in the country.

As a Combined Reaper and Mower.

The EXCELSIOR is a perfect machine in itself, either as a Reaper, with its Reaping Attachments, or as a Mower with its Mowing Attachments; and it is but the work of a moment to change it from a Reaper to a Mower, simply by displacing two pins and a bolt, which will disconnect

the entire Reaping Attachment, then by bolting on the Mower Bar, it is ready to mow. The whole change can be made in less than ten minutes.

Tangled Grain can not Catch on Reel Arm.

This is a new feature, which in all reapers is a perplexing annoyance—the tangled grain catching in the reel arm—which is done away with in the EXCELSIOR.

There are also many other improvements in this machine, in workmanship and improved alterations.

"Second to none as a Mower."

One peculiarity of the EXCELSIOR, is its superiority as a Mower, which in this capacity alone, stands as high, where known as any independent Mower, cutting a swath of four and one-half feet with greater ease and speed than single mowers do, which according to the trial at Canal Fulton, in July, 1861, as indicated by the dynamometer scale, and as reported by the Committee, its draught was only 200 pounds, which certificate can be seen in this pamphlet, with others.

The driver can raise the cutter over obstacles, while in motion, by the lever at his side. In transporting it, the cutter-bar is folded up at the side of the machine, entirely out of the way.

The Cheapest Combined Machine in Use.

The candid farmer who looks at the EXCELSIOR, with all its advantages over others must agree that as a

Combined Reaper and Mower, it is worth fully \$60 more than any other machine in the market.

We will say to all who intend getting a machine, not to buy until you see ours, and consider well its merits as a money and labor-saver, and then judge for yourselves.

We give the following awards of Premiums previous to 1864.

The Excelsior has been before the public but three seasons, and the great demand for it has not stimulated the manufacturers to show, and come into competition in foreign States, but wherever it has come in competition at trials, it has come out the victor, as well, also, as drawing many premiums at Fairs. Among the rest are the following:

At Massillon, O., Oct., 1861, as best Reaping Machine.

At Akron, O., Oct. 3d, 1861, as best Mower, as best Reaper, and as best Reaper and Mower.

At Medina, O., Oct. 12th, 1861, as the best combined Mower and Reaper.

At Seville, O., Sept., 1861, as best Combined Reaper and Mower.

Massillon, O., Oct. 2nd, 1863, First Premium as a Reaper.

New Philadelphia, Oct. 7th, 1863, First Premium as a Reaper.

Seville, O., Oct. 25th, 1863, First Premium as a Combined Reaper and Mower.

We have in many other instances received premiums, but have not space here to enumerate them.

Also, at a trial of Reapers at Akron, Ohio, July 15th, 1862, in competition with the Buckeye, (side delivery,) Buckeye (rear delivery) and Russell's Screw Power Reaper, manufactured at Manlius, N. Y., on which the committee report:

"The Committee, taking into consideration the capacity and economy of operating the several Machines presented, award the prize to the "EXCELSIOR," as embracing these features in the fullest degree."

We, the undersigned, having been appointed a committee at a trial of Mowing Machines, had near Canal Fulton, Ohio, on the 6th day of July, 1861; the machines on trial were SEIBERLING'S COMBINED EXCELSIOR, the Buckeye Combined and Buckeye Junior, and E. Ball's Molly Stark Mower, and we report the same as upo

lows, to wit: As to the work done by each of them, we consider them all equally good, the only difference being in the draught. The draught of the several machines was as follows, to wit: The EXCELSIOR COMBINED, 200 lbs.; Buckeye Combined, 225 lbs.; Buckeye Junior, 175.; E. Ball's Molly Stark, 175 lbs.

JOHN LYTLE,
SAMUEL DULEY,
WM. M. CUNNINGHAM. } Com.

The Buckeye Junior and Molly Stark are simply Mowers.

Premiums of 1864.

Indiana State Fair, Indianapolis, Oct. 3d, 1864, First Premium as a Combined Machine.

Pennsylvania State Fair at Easton, Sept. 27-30, 1864, First Premium as a Reaper.

Michigan State Fair at Kalamazoo, Sept. 20-23, 1864, First Premium as a Reaper.

Illinois State Fair at Decatur, Sept. 12-16, 1864, highest commendation as combined Reaper and Mower.

Summit Co., Ohio, Oct. 5-7, at Akron, First Premium on Mower Jr.

Wayne Co. Ohio, Sept. 23-30, at Wooster, First Premium as combined self Raking and Dropping Machine.

Clark Co. Ohio, at Springfield, First Premium as a combined self Raking and Dropping Machine.

Tuscarawas Co. Ohio, at New Philadelphia, First Premium as Reaper and Mower.

Loraine Co. Ohio, at Elyria, First Premium as a combined Reaper and Mower.

Loraine Co. Ohio, at Elyria, First Premium as a Mower.

Trumbull Co. Ohio, at Warren, First Premium as a Mower.

Lake Co. Ohio, at Painesville, First Premium as a combined Machine.

Black Hawk Co. Iowa, at Waterloo, First Premium as a combined Machine.

Warren Co. New Jersey, at Belyvidere, First Premium as a combined Reaper and Mower.

Lehigh Co. Pa., at Allentown, First Premium as a Reaper.

Northampton Co. Pa., at Nazareth, First Premium as a Reaper.

Northampton Co. Pa., at Nazareth, First Premium as a Mower.

Warranty.

The Excelsior Self-Raking or Dropping Reaper and Mower is warranted to cut, if properly managed, one acre per hour, or ten to twelve acres per day, either Grain or Grass, in a workmanlike manner, with a pair of good horses. The purchaser is allowed to cut five acres of grass, and also five acres of grain, on trial, and in case anything proves defective, due notice must be given to us or our agent, and time allowed to send a person to put it in order. If it does not work after this, and the fault is in the machine, it will be taken back, or that part of it which proves to be defective, and will be replaced, or the money paid for it refunded.

Price.

The great advance in the cost of material and labor being from 100 to 300 per cent, has compelled the manufacturers of farm machinery to increase the price. By a convention of Manufacturers held at Buffalo in December last at which were represented all the leading Reaper establishments of the country, the price of all two wheeled Senior combined Machines was fixed at \$250, and Mowers at \$200, at the place of Manufacture, and the small or Junior Machines at \$225 for the combined, and \$170 for the Mower.

These may at the first glance seem high prices, but even at these figures Reapers and Mowers are relatively cheaper than they ever were before—that is, it will take a less quantity of any farm product than ever before to pay for a machine, as such products now sell at 200 to 500 per cent advance, while Mowers and Reapers bring less than 100 per cent advance.

We therefore hope our farmer friends will accept the necessity that has compelled the advance, the more especially as they are the gainers.

PRICE LIST OF REPAIRS
FOR SEIBERLING'S DROPPING or SELF-RAKING
REAPER AND MOWER,
FOR 1865.

The Castings are numbered as follows and Repairs are
 Invariably Cash.

“Senior” or Large Machine.

Cut-off Rod Pin.....	40
Each Drive Wheel.....	10 00
Large Spur Wheel.....	8 00
Front Hanger.....	1 50
Rear Hanger.....	1 50
Ratchet Wheel.....	2 50
Large Spur-Wheel Pinion.....	1 50
Each Bevel Wheel.....	2 50
Each Bevel Wheel Pinion.....	1 50
Slip Gear.....	1 50
Reel Pulley, lower.....	1 00
Reel Pulley, upper.....	1 00
Reel Hub.....	2 00
Reel Post Support.....	2 00
Tongue Support.....	1 00
Pitman Guard.....	1 50
Chain Pulley Standard.....	2 50
Chain Shieve Socket.....	1 00
Crank Wheel.....	2 00

Reel Support.....	2 50
Double Elbow Support.....	30
Rear Hanger Box.....	80
Each Drive Wheel Box.....	80
Bevel Shaft Box, inside.....	50
Reaper Shoe, outside.....	2 00
Small Lift Pulley.....	40
Large Lift Pulley.....	50
Inside Platform Support.....	50
Outside Platform Support.....	15
Swath Divider Sockets.....	75
Bevel Shaft Box, outside.....	50
Pinion Guard Box.....	75
Side Bar Socket.....	1 25
Mower Shoe, outside.....	1 50
Mower Shoe, inside.....	3 00
Reaper Shoe, inside.....	3 00
Grain Wheel.....	3 00
Grain Wheel Arm.....	1 25
Grain Wheel Arm Connection.....	1 00
Grass Wheel.....	1 75
Tongue Socket.....	70
Small Chain Pulley.....	25
Mower Shoe Arm.....	1 00
Reaper Shoe Arm.....	1 00
Reel Pulley Spring Support.....	25
Seat.....	2 00
Treadle.....	75
Treadle Stool.....	25
Spring Stools, each.....	30
Cut-Off Socket.....	40
Front Hanger Box.....	80
Gear Lever Support.....	30
Ratchet Pawls, with spring, right.....	40
Ratchet Pawls, with spring, left.....	40
Reaping Attachment complete.....	60 00
Cutter Bar, with guards.....	20 60
Bevel Wheel Shaft, with wheel and pinion complete.....	10 00
Set of guards put on.....	10 00
Mower Knife complete.....	9 00
Reaper Knife or Sickle.....	9 00
Reel complete.....	7 00
Crank Shaft complete.....	5 00

Reel Chain.....	4 50
Pitman complete.....	4 00
Pitman Swivel.....	1 75
Pitman Rod.....	1 50
Pitman Wrist.....	1 00
Mower Guards, each.....	75
Reaper Guards, each.....	50
Reaper Sickle Sections, each.....	40
Mower Knife sections, each.....	40
Shaft Nuts, each.....	30
Pitman Boxes, each half.....	20
Spring Keys, each.....	05

Directions

When you order Machines or Repairs be particular to mention the following:

- 1st. Town, County and State to which they are to be shipped.
- 2d. Whether by Freight or Express.
- 3d. Number of Machine for which Repairs are wanted, and in what year the Machine was built. If castings are wanted, give the number on casting.
- 4th. Whether large or small Mower or Reaper.
- 5th. Your Post Office address, Town, County and State.

Repairs for Machines will be kept by our Agents.

All orders for Machines or repairs will receive prompt attention, and the usual extras will be furnished with each Machine.

Orders for Repairs to insure prompt attention, must be accompanied by the cash.

Testimonials.

The following are a few of the many testimonials we have received of the merits of the **EXCELSIOR**.

TOLENTON, TUCKERMAN CO., OHIO, FEB. 21, 1885.

Gentlemen:—I have for several years been wanting to buy a combined machine, and as I ever made it a practice to encourage and sustain valuable improvements, and more especially, in farming implements, as I am a farmer, and felt more interested in implements that will save the greatest amount of labor, and perform its work the best, I made it my business to see all the different kinds of machines work, that are spread over the country, but I could not find one to please my aims. I happened to see Mr. Wynne, from Milten, Ohio, at our county fair, in the fall of 1883, who showed me a machine called the **Excelsior**, and after a careful examination and explanation, I concluded to give it a trial. I bought one in the spring of 1884, and ran it through hay and harvest, cutting 150 acres of wheat, oats, barley and rye, and twenty acres of grain, making a total of 200 acres, and found combined in it all the most valuable improvements, and some greatly superior to those found in existence, viz: The mode of dropping the grain off the slatted platform at pleasure, in such perfect order for binding, thereby saving the reaper and from one to two binders. It has no side draft. It is simple, and yet perfect in its construction, and so easily arranged, that a boy or girl that can drive a team can run it effectually. It only requires one span of horses under any circumstances, to perform what would require two span with any other reaper. As a mower it cannot be beat. In short, I can say enough in running the **Excelsior** three years, over and above what any other machine could do, to pay for it. I would say to such as want the best machine going to buy the **Excelsior**. Very respectfully yours,

HENRY LEHN, Jr.

PLYMOUTH, RICHARD CO., O., JANUARY 25, 1885.

Gent:—The reaper, purchased of you last season, the **Excelsior**, has more than fulfilled our most sanguine expectations. We cut about 75 acres of wheat and about 150 acres of grass. We consider it superior to anything we have ever seen, both as a reaper and mower. We used it on all kinds of ground—level and hilly—in standing and lodged grain, and it did the work well. But the great feature is the dropper; doing its work so perfect that all who bound after it are lost in its praise. An ordinary team can reap or mow all day, the draught being light. We most cheerfully recommend it to all who want a first-class machine.

SAMUEL FENNER,
FELIX FENNER,
PETER WRIGHT.

GOUGH TOWNSHIP, TUCKERMAN CO., O., JAN. 8, 1885.

Gent:—This is to certify that we purchased one of Seibert's **Excelsior** Reapers and mowers combined. We cut with it last harvest 175 acres of grain and grass. For lightness of draught and ease in moving from place to place, the nice manner in which it drops the sheaves it cannot be excelled. We cut from twelve to fourteen acres in a day with two ponies, weighing not over eight hundred pounds each. In recommending it to the farming community, we would say it is the very thing they need as a labor saving machine to gather their harvest with, and for durability and adaptation for all the work which it is intended to perform, it has no equal now in use. It will save the labor of two men—the hand reaper and one binder. We therefore most cheerfully recommend it to all sowing or wishing to purchase a machine to do the work well, cheap and in good order.

BENJAMIN KELLER,
JOSIAH WALTON.

CANTON, OHIO, Nov. 16th, 1885.

Dear Sir:—Last harvest my sons purchased one of your **Excelsior** Self-Having or dropping Reaping and Mowing machines, which I think is the best machine I ever saw. Although I am now sixty-three years old and did not intend to do any thing but harvest but carry a little water for the hands, yet when I saw the **Excelsior** go, I thought I might just as well sit on and drive as any body else; so I got on and cut the entire harvest of my three sons, with the greatest ease. Why, it is the best kind of fun to sit on the **Excelsior** and drop off the grain, because it does it so nice, and in such perfect order for binding, that it takes one hand less to bind after it than any other machine. Having worked with a variety of hand-reaping machines, that were called good, I only found the difference when I got on the **Excelsior**—the **Excelsior** running so much easier on the team than any other machine. And the reason of it is, that it has high driving wheels, no rake to sit on, and no heavy platform to drag after, which make it a great deal lighter and of course run easier, than any machine that must have a man to sit on it and struts the wheel and lie out of himself all day to shove off the grain. I am satisfied that the **Excelsior** is just the machine that every farmer who needs a reaper and mower ought to have. I have been a farmer all my life-time and never saw a reaper that was so much of a labor-saving machine as the **Excelsior**.

Respectfully Yours,

GEORGE MILLER.

WADSWICK Twp., TUSCARA WASONG, OHIO, JAN. 6, 1893.

Gentles:—I purchased one of your Excellior self-raking or dropping machines, which I have given a fair trial, and am so well pleased with it that I wish to recommend it to all farmers in want of a machine, as I consider it the most perfect machine in the country; saving the hardest labor in the field. I can rake off or drop the grain and drive as easy as drive only. I drove and dropped the grain the most of the time with one hand in a sling, it being sore at the time. I can save two hands—one raker and one blinder, and do the work better, and as much as any machine I ever saw, and leave the grain in better condition for blinding than can be done by a hand raker. As a mower the Excellior is second to none. I cut from 8 to 10 acres of grain and from 12 to 15 acres of grain with a span of good horses.

ISAAC ELICKENDECKER.

DARTON, WAYNE CO., OHIO, NOV 9TH, 1892.

Having used both the McCormick and Manny machines, and not being satisfied with either of them, I concluded to try one of your Excellior self-raking or dropping machines. I purchased one last June and cut over 100 acres of grain and grass with it. My boy 12 years old, done the grass cutting, using one span of horses, cutting ten acres per day. In wheat harvest I drove and dropped myself, cutting the last day, sixteen acres. I also cut all my clover-seed with it, it doing its work in good order. I can cheerfully recommend it to all. Brother farmers, for durability, lightness of draught and doing its work well, it has no equal. As a combined machine it will cut more acres with less hands than any other machine in use. I find it does all that a machine can do, with ease to man and beast. Every machine that you sold in this neighborhood, has proved satisfactory. In short, every farmer should have one. Money could not buy mine, if I could not get another one.

A. R. MYLIN.

MELMORE, S-DECA CO., O., DEC 20TH, 1892.

Gentlemen:—I have taken three combined reaping and mowing machines, within the last six years, calculating in each case to purchase if the machine worked satisfactorily. The two first failed to suit me. The last one I took of your agent, Mr. Bechtel, and after using it both as a reaper and mower, I bought it. I have tried it in every way, and am fully satisfied that it has no equal. I therefore take pleasure in saying to farmers in want of a machine, to get an Excellior, as I believe them superior to any other machine now in use. I must confess that I was happily disappointed in the raking or dropping of the grain. I found upon trial that it done its work better than a man can do with a rake; and again, the draught to the team is a great advantage. A common plow team can work all day with it, too.

Respectfully yours,

BENJAMIN BIGLEY.

CANTON, OHIO, NOV. 18TH, 1892.

Gentles:—Last harvest we purchased one of your combined Excellior reapers and mowers, with which we cut about one hundred and fifty acres of grain and grass, and we were so well pleased with it that we consider it our duty to recommend it to the farming community generally. We found no objection to the machine whatever. We used it on hilly and level land, and in light and heavy grain, and on all kinds of ground. The great advantage of the Excellior over all other machines is, that it runs lighter on the team, and saves the hand-raking which has been the hardest and most expensive labor of any hand in the harvest field. The grain is dropped by means of a slide under the driver's feet, in such perfect order, without scattering that it is a pleasure to bind after it. It is so easily managed that any boy or aged man, who can manage the team can operate with perfect ease. The lightness of draught, the simplicity and durability of construction, and its perfect adaptation to the work for which it is intended, recommend it to the favor of every one who needs a reaper or mower. In short, it is the best machine in use.

Yours Respectfully

WM. MILLER,
LEWIS MILLER.

LAWRENCE Twp. Stark Co., January 26, 1893.

Gentlemen:—I have used several reaping and mowing machines. The last before buying yours was the Ball machine, made at Canton. I thought it could not be beat; but, in short there was no able delivery machine with which you can make a decent sheaf to bind. I tried it two harvests, to my team's content, standing astride a stick, and going backward enough to shake the hair off a man's head, and then I could not make a decent sheaf. Last June I bought one of your Excellior machines, and I can say, without fear of contradiction, that it is the best machine in the world. As a mower it can not be beat, for lightness of draught, and ease in moving from place to place; and it will make a man laugh to see how sweetly drops the sheaves, as straight as a rule. Some of my neighbors were prejudiced against your machine, but when they saw it work they all said it was the best machine they had ever seen. All a man needs is to see the machine work.

Truly yours,

B. R. PORTER.

TAMA Co., Iowa, Sept. 27, 1892.

Gentlemen:—At the urgent request of your agents, Messrs. C. & W. Strubaker, I was induced to purchase one of your Excellior reapers and mowers, on the 7th of July last. Having a very large harvest, and being anxious to obtain the best machine in use—of this fact, I am now satisfied. I commenced and cut two hundred and forty acres of grain, with

only the labor of one man and one span of horses, averaging twenty acres per day, and dropping the blades in the most perfect order for binding; besides I cut about forty tons of hay. In short, I have found east, west and in the middle States, have used and owned a number of the leading reapers both self-raking and otherwise, and do testify any that I consider the Excelsior decidedly superior in every respect to all others I ever used or saw. It being lighter draught, less complicated, stronger built, and composed of better material than any of the known reapers. As a labor-saver, self-raking machine it has no equal. It drops the grain in such compact order for binding, it takes two less hands to bind after it than any reaper I ever saw. As a mower it has no equal, it performs its work in a superior manner. All who have witnessed the operation of it, pronounce it the most perfect machine on this continent.

ISAAC SMITH,
THE SPARKS J. MERRITT.

MARSHALL, O., Dec. 26, 1862.

Dear Sir:—I am so much pleased with your reaper and mower, that I have seen fit to recommend it to the public. It saves one man's wages every day in use; it is easily managed in every way and requires less labor and attention than any other machine; it chops or chokes less than any other I have ever used. It runs perfectly square and easy for horses, and I feel sorry that I could not have used it forty years ago.

Yours Respectfully,

ADAM HELDENBRAND.

CANAL FULTON, Stark Co. O., Dec. 12, 1862.

Sir:—I do hereby certify that I have used a number of reapers and mowers, and thought they were good; but hearing of the good qualities of the Excelsior, as a reaper and mower, I was induced to take one on trial, and found it superior to any mower I ever saw tried, and far superior as a reaper. It will, in standing grain, cut and drop the grain in better condition for binding than any reaper I ever before saw, and thereby saves one hand for which I always had to pay extra wages; and in lodged grain it will cut it as good as any reaper in the country, and with less hard labor than any other machine now in use. I consider it the best reaper and mower combined ever offered to the public. I would recommend it to all who want an admirable harvester, adapted to all work for which it is designed, and well deserves the name 'Excelsior.'

ABRAHAM HOOPER.

SEIZAY, O., December 22, 1862.

This is to certify that I have used one of your combined machines the past harvest, with good success, as a combined Reaper and Mower it is superior to all others. I worked it with one span of horses through the entire haying and harvesting. It runs so light that two horses can draw it from morning till night, only stopping at noon to feed. One cause of its running so light is the height of the drive wheels, they being three feet high, which is a great deal on rough ground; and in reaping, although it runs a swath six feet wide, it is no heavy draught; the platform weighing but twenty-one pounds, causes no side draught whatever. The driver with a treadle under his foot, delivers the grain in the rear of the reaper, in the best of order for binding as all those who have bound after it will testify. It is truly an Excelsior machine. All the breaks that I have had was one section, costing twenty cents, although I mowed over some very stony and stumpy ground. Any one wishing to purchase a reaper and mower can not do better than to buy one of your self-raking machines.

LEVI HAWK.

FLAKE Twp., Stark County, O., August 19th, 1862.

Dear Sir:—Having purchased one of your self-raking or dropping Reapers and Mowers with which I cut during the last harvest about one hundred and thirty acres of grain and grass, I take pleasure in saying that as a mower it cannot be excelled, and as a reaper I have never seen its equal. It will cut and deliver any kind of grain, on level or hilly ground, in better condition for binding than any other machine I have ever seen, and thereby saves the raking off by hand, which is always the hardest work in the harvest field. The raking or dropping of the grain is done by the driver, without any inconvenience whatever. It is emphatically a two-horse machine, as it purports to be; and for lightness of draft, simplicity and durability of construction, it is superior to any reaper or mower within my knowledge. I take pleasure in recommending it to public notice, because it is just the machine every farmer who needs a harvester ought to have.

Respectfully Yours,

ASB. NEW POSTHUS.



REAPER, FOLDED, TRAVELING.

1854, N.Y.