

CENTRAL CHAMPION HARVESTING MACHINES



MANUFACTURED BY

CHAMPION MACHINE CO.

SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

BRANCH HOUSES

CINCINNATI, O. 19 & 21 WEST SIXTH ST.

ST. LOUIS Mo. 15 & 17 SOUTH SECOND ST.

THE CHAMPION

Centennial Harvesting Machine

THE STANDARD MACHINE OF THE WORLD.

Over 200,000 now in Use.

40,000 BUILT FOR THE HARVEST OF 1876.

The record made by the Champion, from its earliest manufacture to the present, has been unprecedented, and this is particularly true in the triumphant campaign during the past harvest, wherein it was clearly and thoroughly demonstrated, by *practical tests in the field*, that the Champion is the only machine made that will cut and save successfully and economically all the various crops produced by the farmer.

The strongest expressions of approval, from the highest authority in agricultural interests, have been made in favor of the Champion, and the most emphatic endorsements have been received from the farmers as to the superior merits of the machine over all others.

The sweeping triumphs achieved by the Champion during the past few years have placed it at the head and made it the

“BOSS OF THE HARVEST FIELD.”

Send for the Illustrated Champion.

SELECTION

OF A

Harvesting Machine.

To the farmer who has carefully prepared the ground, selected and sowed the seed, and watched with anxiety the progress of the crop to maturity, the selection and purchase of a Reaping or Mowing Machine with which it is to be harvested is of the most vital importance.

Every farmer who has succeeded in raising a crop to maturity must realize the importance of harvesting and saving it in the best possible manner; and hence the selection of machinery to accomplish the work in the best and most economical way should be regarded by the farmer as a matter of great importance, and have his most careful attention.

THE FIRST COST OF THE MACHINE

Is a matter of minor consideration, when compared with the value of the crops to be saved by the machine, and the additional expenses that may be incurred (to say nothing of loss of crops) by attempting to use an inferior or unreliable machine, that will not save successfully all of the various crops raised by the farmer.

The secret of the success of the farmer depends, to a very great extent, upon the harvesting of his crops at the proper time, and saving the entire crop in the

most economical way. The labor employed in harvesting is expensive, and should be economized by the use of reliable machinery, which will enable the farmer to harvest his crops without unnecessary expenses caused by vexatious delays. Hence we submit that the farmer cannot afford to use an inferior Reaper or Mower, even at a material difference in price.

The price of any article of merchandise is regulated by the cost of production, and its actual value to the purchaser. From the time the Champion was first put upon the market, it has been the constant aim of the manufacturers to produce a machine first-class in every respect, and one that would commend itself to the farming community.

We do not wish it understood that we claim to offer our machine for the fewest dollars, or even on as long credit as can be obtained from manufacturers determined to push their inferior machines, of which they have an over-supply ; or from agents anxious to realize their commissions and work off the accumulation of old stock. It would be very difficult, indeed, to ascertain how low some of these inferior machines could be bought ; and it would be equally as difficult to determine at how low a price they might with any degree of certainty be regarded as cheap. To this class of competition we offer no rivalry. We propose in the future, as we have in the past, to keep the Champion up to the highest standard, and to the farmer who is willing to pay a fair price in cash, or on fair terms of credit, for a first-class implement, we offer the Champion as the

CHEAPEST MACHINE IN THE MARKET,

Even with a difference of a few dollars in the selling

price over many of its competitors. An inspection of the machine, workmanship employed, material used, and the amount of service in grass and grain cutting of which it is capable of rendering, will substantiate

THE SUPERIORITY OF THE CHAMPION MACHINE

Over all other machines in the market. We submit that the important features to be considered by the farmer in the selection of a Reaper and Mower may be summed up as follows :

Material, workmanship, simplicity and durability of construction.

Lightness of draft, lightness of weight, combined with the necessary strength, endurance of power to accomplish the work.

Convenience of handling, and adaptation to all the various work required by the farmer.

Durability of the machine and convenience and economy of repairs.

And, finally, a machine that combines all the features necessary to harvest successfully all the various crops raised by the farmer, even under the most unfavorable circumstances.

In points of material, workmanship and finish,

THE CHAMPION HAS NO RIVAL.

The main frame of the machine is made of the very best quality of wrought iron, and is strongly riveted together and well braced, and upon it the shafting and boxing are firmly bolted, making it very superior to a wooden or cast-iron frame—the former is liable to warp and decay, and the latter to constant breakages, which are very expensive in cost of repairs and loss of time.

In this connection, we refer to a case in point, in which a farmer had been inveigled into buying a ma-

chine with *pot metal frame*, which had been adopted as an improvement on the old wooden frame. After breaking two main frames in one year, he hauled the fragments of the machine to town, dumped them into the scrap pile at one cent per pound, bought a new wrought-iron frame Champion from our agent ; says “the pot metal frame BUCKED fifty dollars out of his pocket, and no more BUCK for him.” Numerous other farmers, no doubt, have had similar experience.

Of the two hundred thousand wrought-iron frame Champions now in use, we have yet to learn of a single case where a frame has been broken or damaged so as to render it unfit for use. Hence we have a right to claim that the Champion is built upon a solid foundation, and all of the parts throughout are made with the same reference to strength and durability.

THE SHAFTING

is of cold rolled iron, giving great stiffness and strength with the least possible weight. The journals are case-hardened to prevent unnecessary wear. The shoes, boxings and nearly all of the parts usually made of common cast-iron, are made of

MALLEABLE IRON.

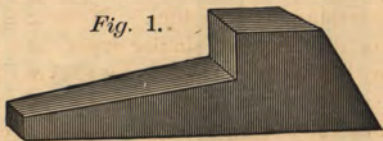
In fact, with the exception of the gearing, cast-iron has been almost discarded, very materially reducing weight and draft of the machine and at the same time greatly increasing the strength of all of the parts.

The adoption of malleable-iron in place of the ordinary grey-iron, used by other manufacturers, necessarily increases the cost of production, but is a great saving to the farmer in the economy of repairs, and avoiding vexatious delays caused by the breaking of cast-iron parts used in other machines.

THE CUTTING APPARATUS

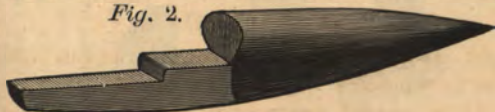
Is admitted to be the most perfect arrangement in use, both in material and construction. The cutter bars are made of steel and cold rolled iron. The guards are formed from solid pieces of metal that are first cut into blanks as shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 1.



and then rolled solid, without a slot and without a weld, as shown in Fig. 2,

Fig. 2.



after which the slot is sawed out of the solid metal as represented in Fig. 3.

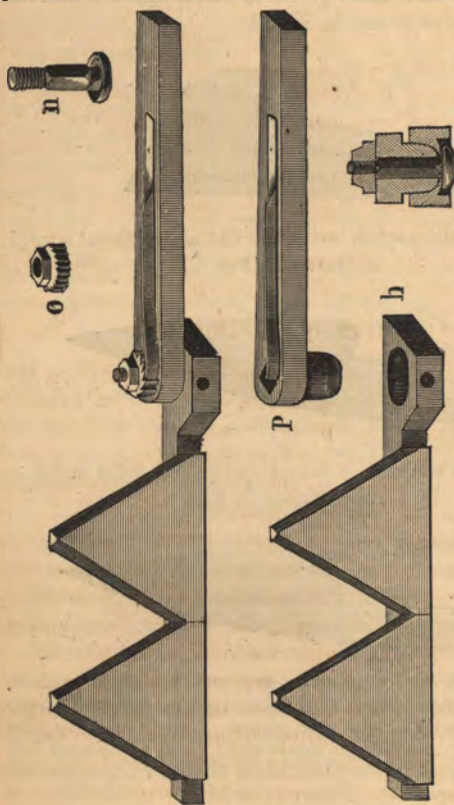
Fig. 3.



They are then ground and tempered, leaving a perfect, smooth-cutting edge, and securing the greatest possible uniformity in size and shape. In tempering, the entire outer surface is made hard, and the center left soft and tough, thus making a Guard-Finger perfect in every respect.

THE IMPROVED PITMAN CONNECTION

Is made by a conical hook upon the pitman, entering into a corresponding socket in the knife heel, and secured therein by a ratchet-bolt. By this arrangement, the pitman connection to the knife heel may be adjusted so that there is no lost motion in the knife, and much of the noise of the machine is prevented.



The pitman connection to the fly-wheel is made by a hardened steel wrist ball connected to the fly-wheel, with an adjustable composition socket-box on the end of the Pitman, making a universal joint adjustable for taking up the looseness caused by wearing. These improvements among many other valuable ones, are to be found only on the Champion Machines.

THE KNIVES AND SICKLES

Are made of the very best quality of material and in the most perfect manner. Every part of the machine being now manufactured by us in our own factories, of carefully selected material, by skilled workmen, we are enabled to furnish our customers with the MOST PERFECT MADE MACHINE EVER PRODUCED.

This state of perfection in the manufacture of the Champion has been achieved by the expenditure of a vast amount of time and money in the production and purchase of the most perfect machinery and in the employment of skilled labor. The machinery with which the Champion manufactories are equipped is admitted by all to be the most complete and perfect machinery in use, by the use of which a complete

SYSTEM OF DUPLICATION

Is obtained. All of the parts of the Champion Machines are made in duplicate, requiring only to be bolted together and properly adjusted, without any fitting, to make a perfect-working machine. And this arrangement secures to the farmer the convenience and economy of repairs claimed.

It will readily be seen that the farmer using a machine constructed in this way is enabled to remove and replace any part of the machine (while in the field) without the use of any tools, except the monkey wrench furnished with the machine, entirely obviating the loss of time, trouble and expense incurred by farmers using other machines, in taking them to the blacksmith or machine shop to have them repaired.

While it must be apparent to every one that by the use of the superior materials and the perfect system of

manufacture, the **LIGHTEST POSSIBLE DRAFT** is secured, and thus our claim, that the Champion is the lightest draft Machine in the world, is fully sustained.

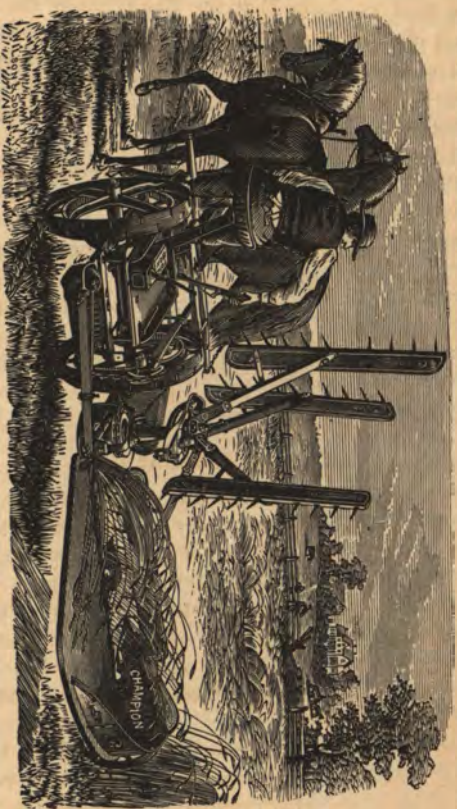
The Champion, being a rear cut, is perfectly balanced, preventing entirely any unnecessary weight upon the horses' necks or side draft, which is so objectionable in all front cut machines. In fact, we frequently hear of cases where horses or mules have been damaged, and in some cases entirely ruined, by the excessive weight sawing upon their necks.

The Champion is not only the best made, most durable, and lightest running machine in the market, but it is also susceptible of being adapted to all of the various kinds of work required by the farmer, every part of the machine being entirely under the control of the operator—may be regulated at will to suit the different conditions of grain and ground by the use of

TILTING ARRANGEMENT.

The height of cut and the position of the Reel or Raker may be instantaneously changed or regulated to suit any kind or condition of grain or grass, enabling the operator (by the use of the tilting lever conveniently arranged) to lower the cutters, point of the divider, and rakes, or reel, so as to take up and cut cleanly the worst *tangled or lodged grain*, or raise the cutters, etc., to cut tall standing grain or pass over obstructions.

By the use of this device, badly lodged and tangled grain may be taken up and cut clean, which cannot be saved with any other machine. The experience in the field during the past three years has clearly demonstrated that the Champion will cut all kinds of grass and grain, whether wet or dry, heavy or light, stand-



SELF-RAKER OPERATING IN DOWN AND TANGLED GRAIN,
By the use of the Tilting Lever, which is conveniently arranged for the operator.

ing or lodged and tangled, and during the past year thousands of acres of grain were saved with the Champion machines, where other machines had failed, and the farmer had abandoned all hopes of being able to save his crops, and was only enabled to do so by buying a Champion machine. And it is safe to say that more grain and grass was harvested with the Champion machines during the past year, than all other Reapers and Mowers combined. In very many cases where farmers had been induced to buy other machines on account of a little difference in price or terms, they spent a vast amount of time and money in dragging them through the mud, prying them out, and making futile attempts to harvest their crops, but were finally compelled to drag them into the fence corner, or abandon them in the mire, and procure a Champion to save their crops.

The cases mentioned were not isolated, and might be substantiated by numerous documents, but we prefer to refer farmers contemplating the purchase of a Harvesting machine to parties who used the Champion the past season in their vicinity, relying implicitly upon their verdict in its favor.

Having shown clearly and undeniably that the Champion possesses all of the essential features so indispensably necessary in a first-class harvesting machine, and that it is the only machine that fully meets the requirements of the farmer, we earnestly invite all persons, contemplating the purchase of a harvesting machine, to examine the Champion thoroughly, and especially as to material, workmanship and finish, feeling assured that our claims of superiority over all other machines will be fully conceded by every intelligent, practical farmer.



CHAMPION DROPPER.

The Dropping Attachment is quickly put on and taken off, and works to perfection.

THE NEW CHAMPION No. 1

SINGLE WHEEL REAPER.



This is a new machine, designed expressly for harvesting grain and to meet the wants of the extensive farmer. But, unlike most other harvesting machines, it is not only adapted to cutting wheat, but will also cut successfully all the various crops raised by the farmer that is desired to be harvested and gathered into gavels, viz: Wheat, rye, oats, barley, flax, clover seed, Hungarian grass, etc., and will work successfully under all circumstances. In the manufacture of this machine, the same system as to the selection of material, perfect workmanship, system of duplication, etc., is carried out, that are used in the manufacture of all the other styles of Champion machines.

The No. 1 Single Wheel Reaper was manufactured and sold quite extensively during the past year, and was pronounced by all to be the most successful Single Reaper ever produced. It cuts a very wide swath (fully six feet), runs exceedingly light for two horses, moves very steadily over the ground, is very simple, strong and durable.

TO THE FARMER

Contemplating the purchase of a Harvester, we invite special attention to the Champion No. 1. feeling confident that the advantages it possesses will be apparent to the farmer, some of which may be summed up as follow: The cost of the machine is less than an ordin-



The above Cut Represents our New Champion No. 1 Single Reaper (6 feet cut) at Work in the Field.

ary harvester. The width of cut enables it to accomplish more than double the work ; hence, in the use of the machine the farmer would save the price of one harvester and the difference between the price of the Single Reaper and another harvester, viz : Suppose a farmer who raises a large amount of grain desires to harvest at least

FIFTEEN ACRES PER DAY.

He would necessarily have to use two harvesters, which would require six men and two teams to run them, and with which he could not possibly harvest more than fifteen acres per day even under the most favorable circumstances ; while with the use of one Champion Single Reaper he can harvest an average of eighteen acres per day with the same number of men and teams, thus saving to the farmer the price of the extra harvester. at least, securing to him a machine that will work successfully in all kinds of grain, whether light or heavy, lodged or standing, wet or dry, and whether it is desirable to bind up the crop as fast as cut or not ; Besides, we maintain that in the durability of the machine, one Champion will wear out at least two harvesters.

The same tilting arrangement which is used on the Champion No. 4 machines is one of the characteristic features of the

NEW CHAMPION No. 1 SINGLE REAPER.

We are prepared to furnish every variety of harvesting machines necessary to meet the wants of the farmer, viz :

Single Mowers of different width cuts ; Mowers of different width cuts, to which either Self-Raking or Dropping Attachments, or both Self-Raking and Dropping Attachments may be added at any future time. Also Combined Reapers and Mowers, Self-Rakers ; Combined Reapers and Mowers, Droppers, or Combined Reapers and Mowers, with both Self-Raking and Dropping Attachments. Also Single Reapers with Self-Raking Attachment.

Every Champion Machine is sold upon its merits and fully warranted.



CHAMPION SELF-RAKER OPERATING IN STANDING GRAIN,
Is easily controlled and gives universal satisfaction.



CENTENNIAL CHAMPION LIGHT MOWER,
The Prize Machine of the World.

REAR CUT

VS.

FRONT CUT MACHINES.

The advantages of Rear Cut over Front Cut machines have become so apparent to the manufacturers and farmers that it is now frankly admitted by all disinterested judges, that no really perfect working machine can be made, having the cutter bar located in front of and *pushed* by the driving machinery.

The manufacturers of certain front cut machines, having found themselves entirely unable to meet the convicting arguments demonstrating the defects in the working of their front cut machines, sought to distract the attention of the farmer from considering the real merits of the machine by

SETTING UP THE HOWL

that rear cut were more dangerous than front cut machines. But in their efforts to substantiate their assertion, they made a greater failure, if possible, than they did in the attempt to compete with rear cut machines in the field.

After soliciting from all of their agents through circulars, and failing to receive the desired list of casualties, they changed their tactics and assumed the role of newspaper correspondents under the *noms de plume* of "Physician," "Farmer," &c., &c., and even in some

cases they had the audacity to use what purported to be the full name of a farmer, but which proved, upon investigation, to be a mere myth.

Having manufactured the documents designed to be the death warrant of all Rear Cut machines, they inaugurated a system for advertising them. By a lavish expenditure of money, they succeeded in having the documents copied in a *few third-rate country journals with editorial (!) comments*, and finally attempted through the "Advertising Agency of G. P. R. & Co." to have the aforesaid documents inserted in the columns of respectable journals, but in this they made a signal failure. The Agency was willing, but the Publishers couldn't see it.

The intelligent farmers whom the aforesaid manufacturers had taken for fools saw through their little game and refused to be intimidated from buying the machine of their choice by any such blatherdash, and administered to them a fitting rebuke by purchasing Rear Cut Champion Harvesting Machines, with which they harvested all of their crops successfully, while a few isolated farmers, who had been hoodwinked into buying front cut machines, were unable, after making fruitless efforts, to harvest their crops, and were compelled to borrow, hire or buy Champion Machines to finish the work.

While it is difficult to foretell what the next move of the manufacturers of the aforesaid front-bucker will be, it is but just and proper to state that a number of their local and general agents, having become disgusted with the machine and the yellow *backed* literature issued by the manufacturers, have abandoned the field.

While the farmers are familiar with the many advantages of Rear Cut over Front Cut Machines, we venture to call attention to a few of the leading advantages, which may be summed up as follows :

REAR CUT vs. FRONT CUT MACHINES.

Rear Cut Machines do not throw the driver off, the cutter-bar, being behind, hugs the machine closer to the ground when an obstruction is struck, and the driver is not jarred from his seat.

It is also impossible for the inside horse to be caught by the knives or guards in case of the outside horse making a sudden jump forward.

With a rear cut machine the driver sees an obstruction in time to avoid it.

With a rear cut machine the turning at the corner is rendered easy, as the cutter-bar backs off from the grain or grass in turning.

With a rear cut all the additional power required in cutting bad grass is applied directly upon the drive wheels, and increases its cutting capacity.

With a rear cut machine the horses are hitched near the drive wheels, which is the point of resistance on the ground.

In a rear cut machine there is no burdensome weight upon the horses' necks when the machine is at work or the cutter-bar folded.

Front cut machines do throw the driver off; the cutter-bar, being in front, acts as a brake, and throws up the rear end of the machine when an obstruction is struck, which together with the sudden stopping of the machine, is almost sure to pitch the driver off in front. Or by the outside horse moving forward suddenly, the inside horse may be caught in the cutters.

With a front cut machine the driver sees the obstruction after the cutter-bar has struck it and he is being thrown off.

With a front cut machine, in turning the corner, the cutter-bar pushes forward over the grass, and must be lifted by the driver off the ground, and the machine backed at every corner.

With a front cut all the additional power required in cutting bad grass is applied in pulling the driving wheels up off the ground, and thus destroys its cutting power.

With a front cut machine the horses are hitched far in front of the drive wheels, and thereby increasing the draft of the machine.

In a front cut machine the team is constantly annoyed by excessive weight upon their necks, and when the bar is folded it becomes ruinous to horses.

With a good rear cut machine a practical and successful side delivery Self-Raking Reaping Attachment can be furnished, that will do excellent work in all kinds of grain.

With a front cut machine there is a successful Self-Raking Attachment; all attempts with front cut machines in this direction have proved failures.

In the rear cut machines the horses are sufficiently far from the cutting apparatus for perfect safety, and also the whiffletrees are sufficiently far from the centers to give the reel or rake ample space to bring in the grain in front of the knife, without pulling it down.

In front cut machines the horses are so near the cutters as to be frequently injured in backing the machines, and room sufficient cannot be had between the whiffletrees and knife for the reel to bring in the grain.

We might enumerate many other advantages in favor of Rear Cut Machines, such as lightness of draft, the ease with which the cutter-bar will pass over obstructions and adapt itself to uneven ground, but the foregoing are sufficient to demonstrate clearly the advantages we claim for the Rear Cut Champion over any Front Cut Machine in the market.



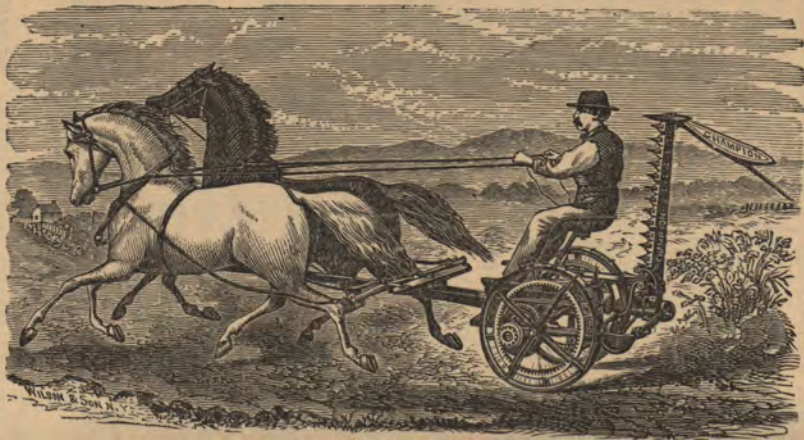
The Centennial Champion Machines.

GLEANINGS FROM THE PRESS.

A MOWER WITH MONEY IN IT.

(From the Cincinnati Trade List.)

We hear of a \$10,000 Mower which will be exhibited at the Centennial by an enthusiastic firm in this State. It is described as a rare beauty, quite resplendent with gold, silver and nickel. The Champion Machine Company of Springfield, are the fabricators, and Mr. H. Miller, of this city, presided over the plating of its bright parts. Nothing more need be said upon the points of its thorough workmanship and perfect finish. Rumor says it will be awarded as a premium to the best operator of a mowing machine at the Centennial.



Champion No. 4 Mower on the Road.

Chimes from the Champion City.

Behind the Scenes in Springfield--Comfort for the Centennial--How the Celebrated Champion Harvester will Appear at the National Exposition--Description of the Wonderful Works in Which the Great Machine for the Farmers is Built.

[Extracts from Special Correspondence of Cincinnati Enquirer.]

SPRINGFIELD, O., April 28, 1876.

Having learned that the Springfield manufacturers were making extensive preparations for exhibiting their goods at the Centennial Exposition, and knowing that they never do any thing by halves, I decided to interview the manufacturers of the celebrated Champion Reaping and Mowing Machines, (who are acknowledged to be the head and front in their line), and, if possible, get a peep at their

Prodigies of Wood and Metal

In advance of the great Centennial Circus, and, accordingly, struck out for the works of the Champion Machine Company, where I was shown a line of No. 4 Champion machines, viz: Self-Raker, Dropper and Single Mower.

The Self-Raker, which is virtually a sample machine, was manufactured from parts taken from stock without extra finish, the object being to exhibit a machine that would enable visitors at the Exposition to see and examine the material, unpainted, of which their machines are built. The surface of the castings and forgings exhibits the most perfect workmanship, upon which not a file has been used. The wood-work, which is all

of ash and hickory, is as beautiful as one would wish to see. This machine will no doubt attract the universal attention of practical farmers and mechanics.

The No. 4 Dropper

to be exhibited is designated by the manufacturers as the red, white and blue machine, while it is equally well made. The artist (he of the paint brush, I mean) has had an opportunity to show his skill in handling the brush, and right well he has succeeded. This style of machine is the favorite in many localities.

The best efforts of the workmen seem to have been concentrated upon the No. 4 Mower to be exhibited by this Company, of which I hardly know what to say, for, of all the

Superb Specimens

Of agricultural machinery that have come under my vision, it certainly is the most superb. The workmanship throughout is of the highest order. The wrought iron frames and all the wooden parts are painted in carmine, ornamented and striped in gold. The master wheels are snow white, with gold stripes. while nearly all of the metal parts are gold or nickel-plated, producing the most harmonious colors that can possibly be attained. In fact, all of these three machines are as handsome as the face of beauty itself, and like a shapely piece of statuary or a beautiful image, they do not tire the eye. After satisfying my curiosity thus far, I proceeded to the works of

Warder, Mitchell & Co.,

Located at Lagonda. I found the manufacturers busily engaged in finishing their three machines for the Centennial, specially designed for the European trade ;

also three machines for the Italian Exhibition at Rome.

also observed an elegant Self-Raker bearing the inscription "By appointment to His Majesty the King of Sweeden," which, upon inquiry, I found was being manufactured for the Sweden Exposition.

Whiteley, Fassler & Kelly,

The third concern, but in point of fact the first to embark in the manufacture of Champion Machines. They also propose exhibiting three machines at the Centennial, a No. 1 Single-Reaper, a No. 4 Self-Raker (all different style from that made by either of the other firms) and a light mower.

"The best of the wine for the last of the feast." I supposed I had seen the boss machine while admiring the No. 4 Mower at the works of the Champion Machine Company, but the gem of all the agricultural implements ever built in this or any other country is the farmer's favorite or the

Champion Light Mower,

Which will be exhibited by this firm. Every part and particle of the metal parts, including the master or driving-wheels, cutter-bar, guards, &c., were first polished to a matchless degree of uniformity and elegance and then plated, so that all the metal work is as resplendent as gold and silver could make it. In the construction of this matchless piece of mechanism the manufacturers have substituted solid rosewood, which is beautifully inlaid with white holly, for that ordinarily used in the machine. /

[From the Springfield (O.) Transcript.]

THE CENTENNIAL CHAMPION MACHINES.

Glimpse of the Great Harvesters in Holiday Attire.

The finest finished of the three is a No. 4 Mower, a combined machine, which is a fascinating piece of mechanism. The iron work was first smoothly polished, and then most elegantly decorated in tasty colors by the art of the painters. The brace bar, pitman rod, knife, and many other metal parts, are resplendently plated in nickel. The driver's seat, master wheel boxes, the pitman box, caps on master wheel shaft, etc., are gold plated. The main frame, tongue, and all the wooden portions of the machine, shine in the deepest carmine color, handsomely striped and ornamented in gold. The wood is ash and hickory, and most carefully selected. We confess the inability of our pencil to give an appropriate description of the beauty of this machine.

The second machine is a No. 4 Combined Dropper and Mower. There is no plating about it excepting the knife; but it has been handsomely finished throughout. The main frame, tongue, tool box, divider and butt board are in vermillion, the foot board in carmine, and the wheels are in lilac, all striped in blue and gilt, with no plating.

[From the Chicago Tribune.]

In the implements of agriculture Ohio is by far the largest exhibitor, New York and Illinois being second. There are some superb specimens of manufacturing, noticeable among which is

The Famous Champion Family.

They make the largest display, and present one magnificent machine, built entirely of gold and silver metal and rosewood inlaid with holly. This superb example of mechanical genius cost over \$7,000.

