

A Revolution in Plowing
Cost Reduced to a Minimum

Plowing by Sunlight by Day
and Headlight by Night

The Best Manufacturing Co.'s

TRACTION ENGINE



The Monarch of the Field

It will do the Work of 100 Horses

Awarded First Premium at State Fair. Gold Medal Awarded by the State Agricultural Society of Sacramento
Also Gold Medal Awarded by Midwinter Fair

**From 50 to 100 Acres Plowed each day, at half the cost of animal power
A 50-foot harrow is used, with which from 100 to 125 Acres are harrowed
each day, doing the work much better than horses. Two Hundred of
these Engines now in Use. Every one a Success.**

SAN LEANDRO,

CALIFORNIA, U. S. A.

110 Horse-Power Steam Plow

As seen at work in Tehama County, California, pulling sixteen 12-inch plows in dry, red, adobe soil at a speed of 3 miles per hour,
cutting a furrow 16 feet wide.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



110-Horse Power Traction Engine

Plowing and Harrowing, at One Operation, 125 Acres per Day.

STEAM PLOWING



THE following remarks on plowing by mechanical power do not express the views of a theorist on the subject, but are presented as a statement of facts that have fallen under the observation of the designer and manufacturers of the Traction Engine, described in this circular herewith, during twelve successive years.

Almost all those years were devoted by us running these engines, plowing in different parts of the Pacific Coast, upon soils varying in character, from light sandy loam to the hardest and driest adobe and clay; and the territory in which we operated embraced, we might say, all parts of this coast.

That difficulties have been encountered under the diversified conditions will not be a matter of surprise to any reasonable man. In one place the whole country will be found afloat from excessive rains; in another the ground will be so dry and hard that nothing but a pick-ax will penetrate it; in another still, the same will be of such a loose, dry nature that a pair of horses can hardly draw an empty wagon over it; the fourth place, perhaps, will have a soil that is so sticky, when wet, that wheeled vehicles of no kind can run over it; the fifth section will have such steep hills that an engine will slide sidewise when traversing a hillside; in the sixth place the engine will be expected to plow in land full of hidden obstructions, such as rocks or mesquite stumps; in the seventh place the engine will get into the hands of a lazy or incompetent engineer, and so on.

Notwithstanding these things, the fact is that steam plowing is as practicable and profitable under reasonable conditions as steam thrashing, and with properly arranged outfit, on lands in fair plowing condition, the advantage and economy of steam cultivating are such that it can not be longer ignored by those who wish to conduct their farming operations at the greatest profit.

PLOWABLE LANDS

By plowable lands is meant lands which can be plowed by animal power with such plows as are made by our leading plow manufacturers for farming purposes. As a rule such lands, if in tracts of reasonable size, can be advantageously plowed by steam power, but the claim is not made that all ground that can be plowed by animal power can be plowed by steam traction engines, although there are sections where traction engines can be worked successfully and where it is almost an impossibility to plow with animals; namely, the islands in the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. The soil of these islands is a soft sediment or peat formation, which in summer, when dry, will open up in large fissures and become exceedingly dangerous to drive an animal team over; there our traction engines, with their immense wheel-bearing

surface, can work with perfect safety. In using animals, for example, a plow may be run through mud, even small ponds, or it may wind in and out among stumps, or climb precipitous hills, or may operate, after a fashion, among boulders and hidden stumps, or may be made to work in a way in sticky soils, where it has to be cleaned with a scraper every few rods; all such work is not for a steam plow, and one would think that a reasonable man would not attempt to use them under such conditions, but it is a fact that many of our engines have been put at just such work.

Engines have been ordered, also, with the idea that their power is unlimited, and that they will plow, drill, and harrow at the full cut of the plows at one operation in the heaviest of soil; in fact, a purchaser has been known to attach to one 50-horse-power engine, at once, plows cutting twelve feet, followed by a twelve-foot seeder, and behind that fifty feet of harrows and a roller, the whole procession about one hundred feet long, with which he was wallowing along on ground that would mire a horse at every little depression; comment is a waste of time in a case like this.

But while it is admitted that there is plowing that can be done by animals that can not be done by steam power, the fact has been established by the use of our traction engines that there is an important line of plowing that can be done by them that horses can not, or at least do not attempt to, do, and that is what is called dry plowing. Almost any soil that will raise crops can be ripped up deeply and thoroughly, when dry, by these engines if equipped with suitable plows.

It is entirely practicable to plow the black or red adobe soil of California during the dry summer months in the most satisfactory manner, and with a great deal more comfort than during the wet season. This applies also to the black wax lands, so called, of Texas (and we might say in other parts of the United States), with qualifications that plows of a certain kind must be used there, and that there shall be dry spells in which to operate. These, it is believed, occur there regularly each year, to an extent sufficient to warrant the use of steam on some of the large farms.

The elevated plains lying along the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, from Manitoba to Mexico, can also be plowed by steam, even though the rainfall be slight or fails altogether. But it must be thoroughly understood that such plowing requires much more power than what is called ordinary plowing, which means the turning over of a free loam to the depth of four to six inches; consequently the width of cut made by the plows must be correspondingly reduced. It may in some cases be necessary to reduce the cut on dry adobe or black wax lands that have never been plowed as much as one-half from the maximum width that these engines will plow in favorable soils; but where such lands have been cultivated, the reduction of cut need not be more than one-third. A plowing engine is at its best on such lands, because the surface is firm, affording good footing for the wheels, which roll over it easily, and the dry season occurs when the weather is hot and the days are long, all of which is against animals and in favor of the engine.

But plows for this dry plowing must be made suitable for this work, the same in design as the ordinary Gang Plow, but much stronger, more durable, and provided with an automatic power lift to throw the plows in and out of the ground by the power of the engine; such plows are made for use with traction engines by several of the large plow manufacturing concerns in this country

Miry or muddy ground, if the mud is deep, is greatly against steam plowing; patches of wet alkali or any other soapy soils are troublesome things to encounter when pulling a load with a traction engine; there is, however, a vast area in the United States that could not be better adapted for steam plowing if it had been graded and rolled for the purpose, and where an engine will trot right along easily and quietly all day long with its full complement of plows.

Among the states thus naturally prepared, is the greater part of California, parts of Oregon, Washington, Utah, Nevada, and Idaho on the Pacific slope; North and South Dakota, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Texas, Indian Territory, Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, and many of the southern states, all of whom are sending inquiries showing that steam plowing also is contemplated in those sections, and the prediction is ventured that, in the near future, steam plowing will be as common as the thrashing machine engines are now. On this coast, however, the large wheat growers are fast adopting steam plows, and it is a very common sight, at this early day, to see steam plows at work as you pass through the country.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



One Hundred and Ten Horse-Power Traction Engine

Pulling seven 8-foot Randalls, plowing and seeding strip thirty feet wide. Crew consists of three men; viz.--Engineer, Fireman, and Water Hauler

On the opposite page is shown one of our 50 horse-power plowing engines, with plows attached to the rear of a tender, which is in the shape of a two-wheeled cart attached to the pull bar of the engine by a short tongue, thereby insuring perfect center draft, whether pulling straight ahead or turning corners of a land. The plows, in turn, are attached to the axle of this tender as shown; the tender is also utilized for carrying a supply of fuel, as well as a platform for the fireman to stand upon when firing.

Any system of gang plows may be used, most suitable to the land to be plowed. We do not recommend a platform system of plows, owing to the fact that in most any field to be plowed the ground is more or less undulating and hilly, and the consequence is that some of the plows will be out of the ground while others will be in up to the beam; the result is that half of the field is not plowed as it should be. But with the separate gang system, each gang adjusts itself to the condition of the ground, the same as when plowed with teams, thereby being a perfectly plowed field. In our many years' experience in steam plowing, we have studied it from every point, and expended a large amount of money experimenting for the best system; and we feel that we are capable of advising our friends the best system to use for steam plowing.

By this system, also, each plow can be independently adjusted as to width of cut, or can be thrown out of the ground while moving, to clear it of brush and trash. Three men are required to handle the outfit; *i. e.*, engineer, fireman, and a man to haul water and fuel for the engine.

NUMBER OF PLOWS HAULED AND EXPENSE OF PLOWING PER ACRE

In the northern section of California the soil is very heavy, being composed mostly of adobe and clay; in such soil our 110 horse-power traction engine will pull from twelve to sixteen plows, cutting six to eight inches deep, engine traveling three miles per hour and plowing from thirty-five to forty acres per day, at an expense of from 65 cents to 70 cents per acre plowed. In the middle section, from Sacramento and Stockton south to the southern line of this state, the soil is more of a sandy loam nature; on such soil our engine will pull from thirty to fifty or more plows, traveling at a three-mile speed per hour, and plowing from fifty to one hundred acres per day, at an expense of about 25 cents to 50 cents per acre plowed. It will be seen that in the lighter soils, where a larger number of plows can be pulled, the cost of plowing is very materially reduced.

By actual work in the fields with our traction engines for the past eighteen years, it has been fully demonstrated that agricultural operations, such as plowing, harrowing, seeding, and harvesting, can be performed very expeditiously and

economically when intelligently and energetically handled. These agricultural operations by steam power belong to the wonders of the age, but before long they will be as familiar as the pulling of the great trains by locomotives on railroads. This being a quick as well as a comparatively inexpensive method of doing this work, these two considerations will insure if not compel its adoption, and no grain grower in the near future can compete in the old way with growers who adopt this method.

The following table gives a detailed estimate of expense of running a 110-horse-power plowing engine for ten hours on this coast, using coal, oil, or wood, for fuel. Owing to the different prices of fuel and labor in different sections of the country, it is impossible to give an accurate cost for all sections; however, the following table will serve as an estimate on which to base calculations:—

USING COAL FUEL		USING OIL FUEL		USING WOOD FUEL	
Engineer, per day	\$3 00	Engineer, per day	\$3 00	Engineer, per day	\$3 00
Fireman, " "	2 50	Fireman, " "	2 50	Fireman, " "	2 50
Man to drive water and fuel wagon	1 50	Man to drive water and fuel wagon	1 50	Man to drive water and fuel wagon	1 50
Two horses and wagon	1 00	Two horses and wagon	1 00	Two horses and wagon	1 00
Feed for horses	50	Feed for horses	50	Feed for horses	50
Sharpening plows	2 00	Sharpening plows	2 00	Sharpening plows	2 00
Lubricating oil for engine	50	Lubricating oil for engine	50	Lubricating oil for engine	50
One and one-half tons av'ge steam coal	12 00	7 bbls. fuel oil, @ 95c	6 65	2 cords wood @ \$3.50	7 00
	\$23 50		\$17 65		\$18 00

PLEASE NOTE TESTIMONIALS IN BACK OF CIRCULAR.



110 Horse-power Traction Engine Plowing, Harrowing, and Seeding, at one operation, 50 acres a day

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



110 Horse-Power Traction Engine

Pulling Four 10-Disc "S. R." Disc Plows, Cutting 28 Feet Wide, 4 to 9 Inches Deep.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S

Awarded First Premium at
California State Fair
Gold Medal at Midwinter Fair



110 Horse-Power Traction Engine

As Seen at Work on the Farm of Fred Quint, Esq., Colusa County, California, Pulling Fifty Feet of Harrows. Speed,
Three Miles per Hour, Harrowing 100 to 125 Acres in One Day.

DESCRIPTION OF THE "DANIEL BEST" TRACTION ENGINE

Boiler

The boiler is a modification of the vertical and horizontal type combined. The main part of the body is upright, 4 feet in diameter; thickness of shell $\frac{3}{8}$ "; crown sheet $\frac{7}{16}$ " and has 158 2-inch flues, each 5 feet long, situated in the upright part. The fire-box or furnace is horizontal, dimensions as follows: Length inside $73\frac{3}{8}$ "; width inside 44"; height inside 36". Outside shell $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick; inside shell $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick. All stay-bolted every 4 inches in the best possible manner; 2-inch water space on all sides and back; 4 to 6 inches water space between lower crown sheet and top shell of furnace. All seams are double riveted in the most perfect manner. For washing out, the boiler has 9 hand-holes, 3 at the top and 2 at the bottom of water leg, front of fire-box, and 2 in the rear of fire-box of boiler, and 2 over crown or tube sheet on either side of the upright part of boiler, and 2 plugs at each front corner for washing out water legs. Furnace has one fire door in center, which is flanged, 14 inches inside diameter. The entire boiler is of steel, 60,000 tensile strength, tested at 200 lbs. per square inch, and has 480 square feet of heating surface.

Engine and Frame

Attached to the boiler are steel bed-plates 6 x 1 inch, which form the main frame for all the machinery. To these are attached duplex or Twin Engines, 9-inch bore, and 9-inch stroke, geared to the main inner cogged periphery of the two large drive or carrying wheels. The cylinders, main shaft box, cross head guides, and steam chest, are in two parts and are bored at one sitting in the lathe, thus insuring perfect alignment in working parts. The valves used are the well-known improved balance spring packed piston valves. Cross heads are fitted with brass take-up shoes, both on top and bottom, which can be adjusted from one screw. The brass boxes on the crank pins are our patented oil well boxes, carrying a good supply of oil, thus insuring lubrication at all times.

Engine has also a band or fly wheel 52 inches in diameter, with 8-inch face, to belt from when running as a stationary Engine, which also acts as a balance wheel.

Engine is well braced from boiler to bed-plates with angle iron braces 5 x $\frac{3}{8}$ inches running from top of boiler to center line of lead wheel frame, and with lateral vertical braces from main angle iron braces to side bars. All material used in construction of Engine is of steel and iron throughout, except the cab, which is of Oregon pine.

Axles

The drive wheel or carrying axle is forged from the best open hearth steel, 5 inches in diameter at shoulder and tapering spindle. The axle passes under and sustains the boiler and is linked to the wrought iron bed-plates on frame, being independent of the boiler. Pulling strain of load is direct on the axle, thus eliminating all strain on the boiler. All gearing is of open hearth steel, 5 gears, pinions, and the steel segments on the inside rim of the drive wheels constitute the entire number for transmitting the power.

Crank Shaft

Crank or main shaft is forged in one solid piece, best machinery steel, size $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, finished.

Our Improved Reverse Mechanism

This improved reversing gear has practically solved the problem of a variable eccentric between bearings on the shaft. This discovery is quite notable in its character, and considering the important result achieved, it is remarkably simple and ingenious. It affords means of governing the throw of the valve at pleasure, or adjusting them to suit the demand. The following is a detailed description of its construction:—

The eccentric is formed of a disc having a slotted opening large enough to admit of the shaft and have considerable transverse movement thereon.

The disc is provided with 2 parallel guide flanges that engage with corresponding flanges on a fixed disc secured to the shaft by a set screw.

To the hub of this fixed disc is pivoted an angle arm, one limb of which passes through an opening in the fixed disc and extends to a disc collar that is splined to move longitudinally on the shaft. A strap or arm from this disc collar connects with a slide rod parallel with the shaft. This slide rod carries an adjustable collar with stud from which extends a connecting rod, leading to the crank arm of a rock shaft, which may be actuated in any suitable manner.

When the eccentric is to be shifted, the movement of the rock-shaft causes the slide rod to shift the disc collar slightly along the shaft; the angle arm being connected by a lug to this arm causes it to move on its pivot, and by its other branch connecting with the eccentric disc moves it upon the guideways, and alters its relation to the shaft center, either greater or less, according to the direction, the movement being positive.

It will be understood that the disc carrying the shifting eccentric turns with the shaft, the sliding collar disc being provided with a strap similar to an eccentric strap. This is one of the most notable improvements lately made in Steam Engine fittings, it being the most simple and durable reverse gear now in use.

Drive or Carrying Wheels

The diameter of drive or carrying wheels is 8 feet, width of tires for Farm Engine 40" to 60" in width by $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ inch thick. Spokes are round and one inch in diameter, and are of the best American refined iron. Hubs cast iron and babbitted with A 1 metal.

Diameter of lead wheel 5 feet; width of tire 15 to 20 inches. Spokes round, $\frac{7}{8}$ inch in diameter, of best American refined iron. Hub cast iron and is keyed on the shaft. Both carrying and lead wheels are made after the same style as the bicycle wheel, and can be adjusted by the nuts on end of spokes, screwing up or down as required to either throw the rim in or out, as may be desired.

Boiler Feed Pump

The Engine is provided with a pump, also an injector for supplying the boiler with water, which enters the boiler at almost a boiling heat, the water being heated by means of the exhaust steam through heaters attached to back of each of the cylinders of the duplex Engines.

Lubricators

The method of lubricating the Engine cylinders is by means of forced oil feed, Powell Patent, the best in use and very effective. All bearings and working parts are amply supplied with means of lubrication with machinery oil, and in addition to this, grease cups are provided for all bearings and eccentrics, thus insuring best method and convenience for lubricating all working parts.

Water Tank

Dimensions of water supply tank on Engine is as follows:—

Diameter 44 inches; length 96 inches; is made of steel, sides No. 12 and heads No. 10, riveted and caulked in the best possible manner. Capacity of tank 900 gallons, a sufficient amount to run 8 to 9 miles, working engine up to capacity.



WE wish to call the attention of our friends who contemplate purchasing a Combined Harvester the coming season to the fact that we are still in the lead in the way of improvements in harvesting machines, and to that which our farmer friends have rightfully named the "KING OF THE FIELD," after watching its work the past nineteen years, we are still adding valuable improvements, a few of which are as follows:—

We have replaced the 54-inch jack pulley with a 36-inch pulley, thus increasing the distance from the ground so that the lower edge of the jack pulley will not extend below the main timbers of the harvester.

The cylinder pulley used this year is 9 inches in diameter instead of the 5-inch formerly used. The speed of the cylinder is increased fifty revolutions and is made up by a three-to-one internal gear on main shaft; the driving wheel pinions are increased in size two teeth, and are $4\frac{3}{8}$ -inch face, thus increasing the wear, and altogether making a much stronger driving machine than before. All gears are made from cut gear patterns.

The grain elevator, return elevator, and both conveyers, are ten inches higher from the ground. The straw carrier is two feet longer than in last year's machine; have also added three pickers at head of grain carrier.

Frame

In the frame we have succeeded in getting a combination of lightness, adaptability and strength, and with our simple system of gearing it is easily from six to eight horses lighter draft and yet retaining as great strength as the heaviest horse-power made; and the gearing is so compactly arranged that should the frame weave because of the unevenness of the ground, it is almost impossible to get it out of line, and the chances of cutting the shafting and boxes is reduced to a minimum.

Improved Drive Wheels

The drive wheels are 5 feet in diameter; we furnish any width of tires from 18-inch, or 20-inch, or 22-inch according to the condition of the soil over which the machine is to operate. These wheels are made of open hearth steel, and after the style of the bicycle or suspension wheel; the spokes can be tightened when necessary to avoid loose tires. The gear segments are set 3 inches higher from the ground, and the flange is 7 inches from the ground, which prevents the sand getting into the wheel on soft land.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



New Model Standard Horse-Power Combined Harvester

This Cut Represents our Latest Style Standard Level-Land Machine.

Runaways

Our machine runs so smoothly and noiselessly that runaways are a rare thing with us, but to avoid an accident of this kind, our harvester is provided with a very ingenious and effective brake, so arranged that should the team become frightened, the levers are in easy command of either driver, headerman, separator man, or sack sewer, or all together, if necessary. The brake straps for this year's machine will be 6 inches in width instead of 4-inch formerly used.

Header

We have a number of improvements in our header; it is driven independently from the grain wheel of separator, and is arranged with a clutch for throwing in and out of gear when turning corners, thus preventing loading up the draper with straw when the motion is down. The lowering and raising device can be quickly and easily managed; the header can be put into position instantly to clear an obstruction in front of sickle or take up down and tangled grain; and it lifts down grain successfully, whether lying to or from the sickle equally well. The header breast is of steel and with our new pattern single guard it is possible to shave the ground the same as with a mowing machine, taking up every straw clean; and the hang of our header enables our machine to cut a neat, clean corner, wasting no grain, as is the case with other harvesters.

The Separator

We wish to call your attention particularly to the separating qualities of our machine. We claim that with our improved long shoe with end shake, straw rake, pickers, beaters, and agitators mechanically and scientifically arranged, together with our system of wind on the shoe, the grain is completely separated from the straw and chaff and is almost perfect in its work; and when thrashing in weedy grain it will not choke and carry the grain over in the straw, and we further claim that no other harvester on the market can in any way compare with it for speed and thoroughness of work, in all kinds and conditions of grain, and will require less team to operate it.

Automatic Governor

Our patent wind governor on the fans governs the blast so that at any speed at which the harvester may be traveling, the wind is automatically regulated and prevents clogging the shoe and carrying the grain over in the straw which often occurs in other makes of harvesters where it is necessary to regulate by hand, and in consequence this part of the operation is very often forgotten or neglected. This saving of grain in a season's run will more than pay harvesting expenses over

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



Standard Level-Land Horse-Power Combined Harvester in the Field

and above any combined harvester that does not have this automatic appliance; too much can not be said in its favor. Every thrasher-man is aware of the importance of having an even blast on the shoe. No other harvester has this improvement. Since the advent of harvesting machinery on this coast, we have been credited with the best grain cleaners and cleaning devices known to the trade. This is admitted by all thrasher-men.

Our Recleaner

Every farmer in this state, and we may say the entire coast, is well acquainted with our celebrated cleaner, and it is not much use for us to enlarge upon its many good qualities here; it is enough to say that all other makes of combined harvesters copy after it; otherwise they would not be able to sell their machines; **this our competitors dare not dispute;** they then call it "Their Patent Cleaner," etc., etc.

There are machines on the market made of poor material and with evident marks of being poorly thrown together to meet an unwise demand for a low-priced machine; our harvester is not intended to meet such competition; its high reputation is too valuable a possession to be put in peril by lowering its standard of excellence in this way; we desire to sell strictly on merit.

Construction

All material used in the construction of our machines is of the best obtainable; and we employ none but the best and most experienced mechanics.

Every part is manufactured under the careful eye of Mr. Daniel Best, our general superintendent, whose many years' experience in manufacturing grain harvesting machinery enables this company to keep far in the lead with improvements in this line, and which is a sufficient guarantee that intending purchasers will get the best machine that honesty, experience, and good material and workmanship, can produce.

We take pleasure in inviting you to call at our works and make a personal inspection of each and every part of our machines before placing your orders. Every machine is warranted to do all we claim for it and to be first-class in every respect.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



Improved Side-Hill Harvester

The Best Manufacturing Company's IMPROVED SIDE-HILL HARVESTER

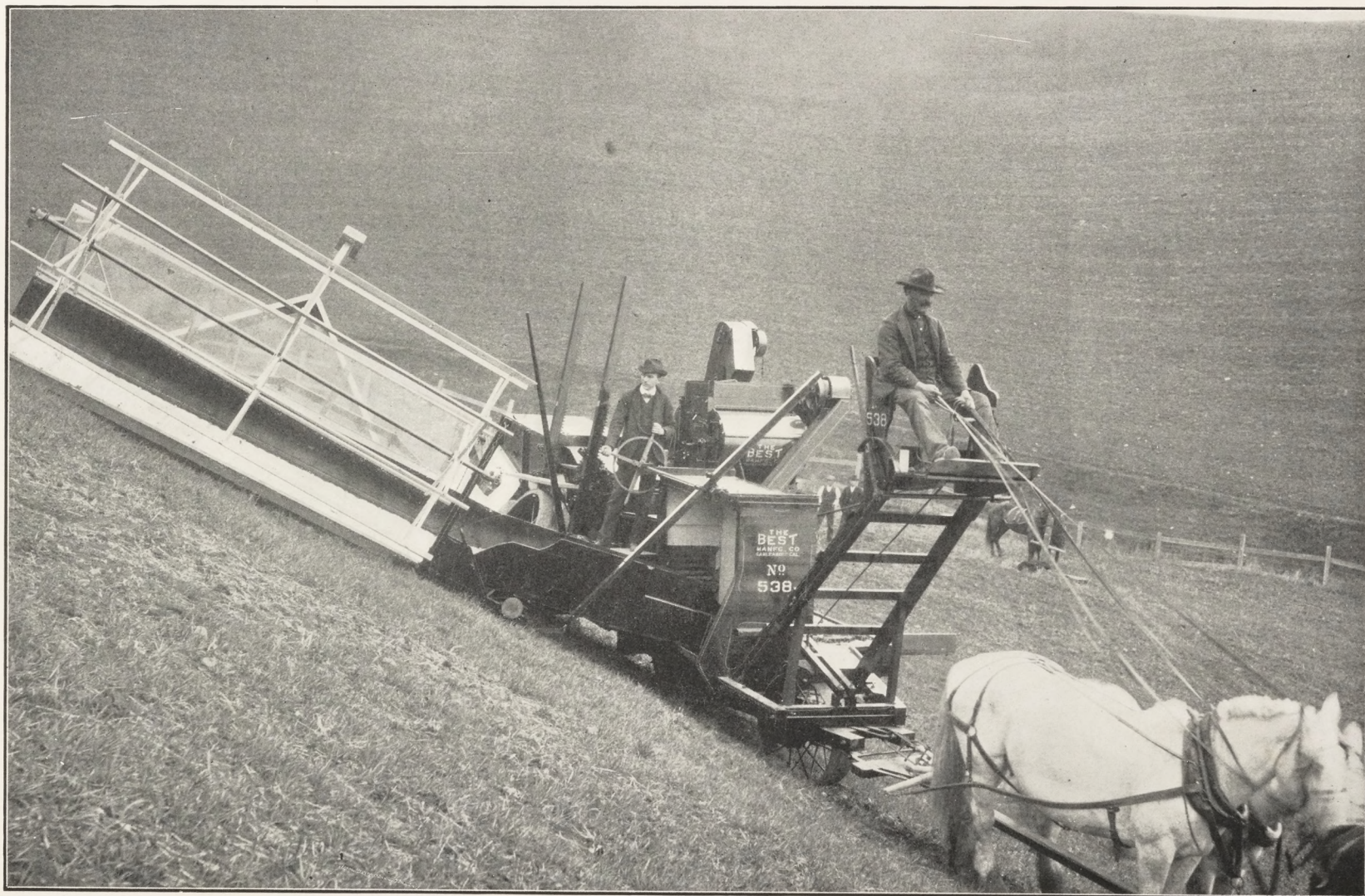


A GAIN we beg to call the attention of the farmers of the Pacific Coast generally, to our Improved Side-Hill Harvester, for hilly and uneven land. After passing through a most thorough test during the seasons of 1902-3-4-5, and, in many cases, under the most unfavorable conditions, and on hills which a few years ago one would scarcely attempt to drive a carriage team over, and in down and tangled grain, with all these unfavorable conditions the purchasers of these machines were more than pleased with the performance of their work, and it is with pleasure and confidence that we are able to offer a Side-Hill Machine that has in every way demonstrated its adaptability for harvesting grain in the best possible manner, on hilly land, and is considered by competent judges in this line of machinery, to be as near perfection as a machine of this class can be made.

Many and varied are the improvements over any other make of a Side-Hill Harvester on this coast, a few of which we desire to call your attention to here; viz., The stability of our main drive wheels, made upon the same plan and identical in construction as are the driving wheels of our Traction Engine, as well as those of our Standard Combined Level-Land Harvester, *i. e.*, transmitting power to the entire working parts of the Harvester through the medium of gear segments placed on the inside periphery of the rim of the wheels, giving tremendous driving power, and with less friction than any other known method of power transmission. The main driving wheel on the sacking side of the separator is placed rigidly between parallel timbers of the separator, while the driving wheel on the grain or header side of the separator is so arranged that it will move either up or down, accommodating itself to whatever declivity the hill may have, thereby allowing the separator to be in a level position under all conditions.

This movement of the grain wheel and the manner of attaching to the separator gives fewer parts by one-half than any other Side-Hill Combined Harvester on the market.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



Baby Junior Side-Hill Combined Harvester
In Operation on Side-Hill on 28 Degree Pitch.

The longitudinal shaft is an entirely new feature for preventing the twisting strain so common to all other makes of Side-Hill Machines, which has always very much impaired their efficiency, inasmuch as the wheels exerted a strain that invariably breaks the frame enclosing the drive wheels, as the tendency is to cut inwardly when the machine is in operation, as the weight must of necessity come on one edge of the tire while cutting on the steepest grades, thereby rendering long delays for repairs and much expense to the farmer. The longitudinal shaft prevents any twisting whatever, either to the separator or header.

There is no lengthening or shortening of chains, as the Harvester passes from one degree of pitch to another, requiring spring tighteners to preserve an even tension, as all parts work together in harmony, whether upon level ground or upon the steepest grades.

The mechanism required to control and allow the separator to be kept in a horizontal position is much more simple and effective than any other device of its kind heretofore used, always working automatically or at the will of the man in charge of the header. The tipping device also has an automatic stop and lock, which will be greatly appreciated.

The feeder, cylinder, grain carrier shoe, and all cleaning devices remain in a level position, allowing the best work to be attained under all conditions equivalent to thrashing upon a dead level.

The degree of pitch obtainable far exceeds anything heretofore thought of in the way of a Side-Hill Machine, and no farmer need have any doubt but that this Harvester can level upon ground practicable to till. The angle obtainable is 20 inches raise in 43½ inches on horizontal, taking the pivoted point in each case, or 28 degrees, or levels upon a hill 7 feet in 12 feet.

For additional security from runaways and descending hills, the lead wheel is provided with a double cinch-strap brake which is controlled by the driver. Separator and all other parts, including the header, are the same in construction and size as our Standard Level-Land Machine, which is fully described elsewhere in this circular.

Our Machine Is Stronger than Any Other

The longitudinal shaft situated on the right-hand side of separator extending from cylinder to front end of straw carrier prevents twisting or warping of the frame of the separator or header so common to all Side-Hill Machines heretofore made. The tendency of the carrying wheels to cut under the vertical line causing an undue strain heretofore, has been obviated by this method of construction.

This machine is intended to run with from eight to ten head of stock less than any other Combined Harvester built; thus the rancher farming from 200 to 800 acres will get what he has long sought: a machine adapted to his wants, and lessening the cost of harvesting his crops in many ways.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



Baby Junior Side-Hill Combined Harvester

In Operation on Side-Hill on 28 Degree Pitch Rear View, Showing Position of Header and Separator.

In carrying out the proportions of the machine we have made many improvements. Every piece has been carefully studied as to its requirements (and what is termed the balancing of each part) so that no undue strain is given to a single shaft, causing extra friction; but a careful, systematic application of mechanics as applied to this class of machinery.

A Perfect Cleaner.

Every farmer on the entire coast is well acquainted with our celebrated recleaner. It is enough to say that all other makes of Combined Harvesters copy after it, but fail in the attempt to equal it in effectiveness and quality of work, and for 1905 is **the only automatic cleaner placed upon a Harvester**. All parts, such as shoes and cheat screen, work automatically with the pitch of the hill, relieving the header and separator man of that constant attention necessary in other makes of Harvesters not having this improvement.

Why The Best Manufacturing Company is in the lead may be easily explained when the public considers its long experience in manufacturing Combined Harvesters, both horse and steam power (the latter of which we own the exclusive patents for, in use to-day on steam-power Combined Harvesters); Grain Cleaners adapted to warehouse and stationary use, as well as for recleaning on Combined Harvesters. Also Traction Engines for plowing, cultivating the land, and for steam freighting purposes. Every one of the above machines has made an enviable record, and is a commercial success, all of which speaks for itself. We date in experience of manufacturing machinery from 1870. We are the pioneers on the Pacific Coast in our line.

Dimensions of Horse-Power Machines are as Follows:

Standard Level-Land Harvester: Separator 40 inches, cylinder 30 inches, with 10 bars. Header either 14, 16, 18 or 20 foot cut.

Baby Junior Level-Land Harvester: Separator 30 inches, cylinder 20 inches. Header either 10 or 12 foot cut.

Junior Side-Hill Harvester: Separator 36 inches, cylinder 26 inches, with 10 bars. Header either 12 or 14 foot cut.

Baby Junior Side-Hill Harvester: Separator 30 inches, cylinder 21 inches, with 10 bars. Header either 10 or 12 foot cut.

Widths of tires to suit different conditions of soil.

Baby Junior Side-Hill Harvester has 20-inch tire on main wheel and 12-inch tire on header wheel. This Infant Junior is in every respect as complete a machine as the larger one, and requires less team, and fills a long-felt want of the small farmer for a small Combined Harvester to meet his requirements.

A thorough test of the merits of these machines in the past three years has convinced the farmer and expert harvester men that to-day we are unquestionably in the lead in this special class, due to their light draft, superior thrashing and cleaning capacity, combined with simplicity, strength and durability.

To the Farmers of California, Oregon and Washington

We wish to present for your consideration twenty-seven reasons why our Improved Side-Hill Harvesters are superior to any others on the market

1st. Our Junior and Baby Junior Side-Hill Harvesters will level on a steeper hill, have less machinery, are more simple in their construction, hence get better results in the field than any other make.

2d. The frame of our machine as we now make it is practically the same as our 1904 model, with the exception that we have improved its rigidity with trusses and braces, resulting in a frame that is almost as rigid as one solid piece of timber, and practically eliminates any chance of the machine getting out of alignment. The separator has greater capacity for separating grain, and is provided with a Jackson Feeder with improved malleable iron attachments for holding the feeder sticks; the feeder is arranged so that the grain feeds straight to the cylinder.

3d. When the motion of the separator stops, the motion of the fan keeps up as long as the cylinder runs, thus preventing the shoe loading up with grain when turning corners to take another cut.

4th. The grain carrier is shorter than in any other machine on the market, and is above the main sills of the machine. The cylinder is raised twenty-four inches, and is set back near the center of the separator, thereby getting the weight more in the center; this advantage the other makes of Side-Hill Harvesters do not have, as their cylinder is about one-half way between the lead and driving wheels, which allows the machine to spring vertically, twisting the frame, thus causing the cylinder teeth to strike the concave teeth. The long shaft which runs the tipping device, runs lengthwise of the machine, and is attached to the main frame with bearing direct over the cylinder and the other bearing on main frame at rear of separator, hence the twisting strain is on the shaft instead of on the frame of the Harvester, as is the case in

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



Junior Side-Hill Harvester

Working on Side-Hill, 28 Degree Pitch.

other makes of Harvesters. Every farmer who has had experience with Side-Hill Harvesters will readily see and appreciate the advantages of our Harvester in this respect.

5th. No dust comes from the cylinder into the feeder house of our separator, as is the case with all other makes, which is so disagreeable to men on the Harvester when at work.

6th. The working strain comes on the center of our Harvester, which is the foundation, hence reducing the friction in bearings and not so liable to get out of line and cut out; the result is that we require at least 8 to 10 less horses in the team.

7th. Our Harvester is driven by the latest and most improved system of internal gears, taking the power from an inner cogged periphery of the two main wheels, giving tremendous leverage driving power. The cylinder is driven with internal gear and chain, and is geared three times from the internal gear to cylinder shaft, thus doing away with the long shaft used in other Harvesters for this purpose, and which is so expensive to replace with new, and doing away with a belt drive, reduces the friction at least 20 per cent, making a great saving in horse flesh.

8th. When our Harvester is on a hillside of twenty-eight degrees, the separator will be as level as when on level ground. No other makes of Side-Hill Harvesters are capable of doing this. We claim fewer parts in the tipping device than in any other swing frame machine on the market, hence less weight for a team to pull.

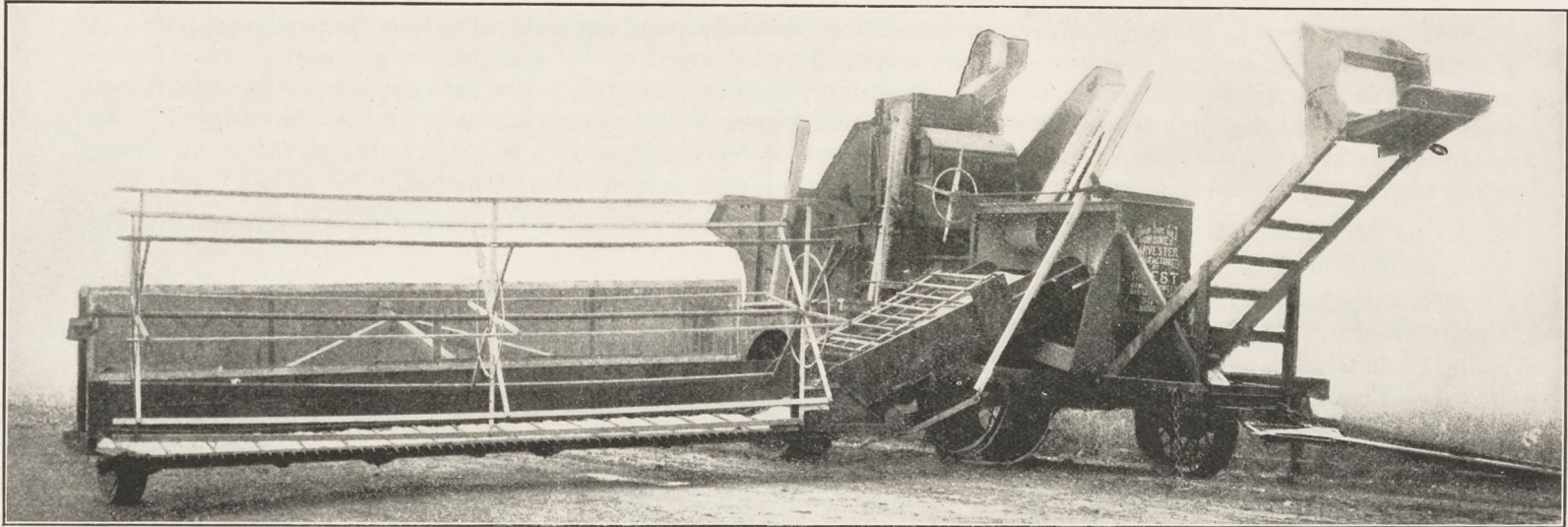
9th. The recleaner is automatic and self-adjusting at all times, and needs no attention, and for the season of 1905 **is situated in center of the separator of the Side-Hill Machines and is housed in to prevent the dust and chaff from blowing out which is returned to the separator and goes out with the straw.** It also has two long auger conveyors, one for the grain, and one for the cheat and other foul seed, and with our improved end-shake riddles, you can depend upon the grain going into the sack clean. Our recleaners, however, are so well known that they need no further mention here.

10th. The main wheel of our Harvester will not slip and plow along when there is an extra heavy feed in the cylinder, as other Harvesters do, as we have more weight on this wheel where it should be. Width of wheel is greater, hence giving greater bearing surface, keeping the Harvester on top of the ground instead of consuming its power plowing through it.

11th. The feeder is driven direct from the beater and separator fan shafts, and when turning corners the motion of the fan keeps up, and, together with the automatic wind governor on the fan, prevents the grain from clogging on the shoe, and going over on the ground and wasting.

We wish especially to call your attention to this automatic wind governor on the fan, which effectively governs the blast on the shoe when the separator is at either a low or high speed. No other grain separator possesses this valuable improvement. Every thrashing man knows the value of a regular blast of wind on a separator shoe. We are safe in

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.



Our Latest Improved Junior Side-Hill Combined Harvester on Level Land
Showing Top Draper in Header Spout, and Recleaner Situated in Center of the Separator.

saying that it will save one bushel per acre in a twenty-bushel-per-acre crop, over any other Harvester that does not have an automatic wind governor on the fan.

12th. When the Harvester is tipped to its limit and the header up the hill, the sack dump is only about 15 inches higher than it would be on level ground, hence in dumping the sacked grain there is no danger of bursting the sacks.

13th. The driver has control of the brake on the main wheel and can dead-lock the machine at once in case of an accident; he also controls the brake on the lead wheel. Brakes are so conveniently arranged that either the header man, sack sewer, or separator man can reach them in an arm's length.

14th. The leveling device is so conveniently arranged that the header man, whose position is over the cylinder, can look after it as well, and it is also provided with a safety device so arranged that there will be no possible chance for the machine to tip over, without lifting the header bodily from the ground; **and the worm gear tipping device is journaled between two solid cast-iron boxes, entirely eliminating any possibility of an accident, and we have provided an ingenious safety lock connected with the worm gear which forms a dead-lock in the leveling device at all times, when the machine is being operated.** Only three men are required to operate our Harvester.

15th. The header is the most simple of its kind ever made for Combined Harvesters; the lightest and still the strongest of them all.

The sickle bar is so arranged that when cutting short or down grain it is almost level and will pick up lodged and tangled grain and cut as close to the ground as a mowing machine, and can get grain where a mower or reaper can not, and is absolutely free of side draft.

16th. The header cart for moving the header is the header itself, simply using an extra wheel; is easily adjusted and swung into place, hitched to, and the team pulling can move at a trot if desired.

17th. The design of the wheels used under the machine is the same as used on our celebrated Traction Engine, and is known as a suspension wheel; the strongest and most durable wheel in use for the purpose. The strength of the cogged segments in these wheels will stand the strain of fifty horse-power; hence there is no fear of breakages. There are no long, heavy drive chains to look after, or slack to take up, as chains must be kept tight, or they will ride the sprockets and jump off; also when a chain wears and gets old it gets too long for the sprocket it works on, and must be kept tight, and when it is in this condition it creates tremendous friction and runs hard, and where a chain must hug close to the bottom of the tooth, the chain will cut the sprocket in a short time, hence a great expense for replacing chains and sprockets. It is a well-known fact that where it is necessary to run a chain tight, it is the hardest running belt of any kind, but when there is not much power required for driving, the chain is a simple device and answers the purpose. If the farmer will investigate he will find that all Eastern manufacturers have experimented with chains for heavy driving power for years,

and in every case have absolutely discarded chain drive for the gear system; hence if you contemplate purchasing a Harvester, investigate closely before placing your order for a machine. Do not be deceived, but get an up-to-date machine.

18th. The elevators on our machine are so high from the ground that they never strike and break the ends off; and the lower ends of the elevators are so situated that in case they should choke up at any time, they can be opened up in half a moment, and the separator man can get at them easily.

19th. There is no complaint about this machine not being able to beard the barley well. It is often the case with all other makes of machines of this class, that they are unable to beard barley well; hence they have trouble saving it, carrying a large amount over in the straw. This trouble with them may be attributed to the fact that they have not sufficient driving power on their cylinder. The next reason is that the cylinder teeth and concave teeth are not close enough together. We do not have this trouble in our machine, which will beard barley and save it as well, where others fail.

20th. No wooden dowels in the "Best" Harvester, but every post in the frame of the separator has a strap bolted to the post, and the bolt drawn down through the frame, instead of a wooden pin which will break off and allow the frame to become loose, come apart, and allow the machine to go to pieces, which is the case where wooden dowels are used for that purpose instead of iron bolts.

21st. The separator, as well as the cleaner shoes, has an end shake. Every farmer understands the advantage that end-shake riddles have over the side shake, and a particular point to which we wish to call the attention of intending purchasers is that no cleaner, where the wind blast can not get out freely, can do good work, but all such machines are compelled to use large-mesh wire screens on the riddles, which allow the grain, fowl seeds and chaff to fall through into the sack. All such cleaners are poor imitators of ours.

22d. The main wheel in the separator stands perpendicular at all times on the steepest hills of twenty-eight degrees. No other machine will level as much as this, and the edge of the wheel cuts down and gives the wheel a footing on the side-hill, thus preventing the Harvester from slipping down hill; and it will run where an ordinary header will not. The grain wheel is provided with grousers and also assists in holding the machine from slipping down hill.

23d. The separator will level as much one way as the other, and will cut and thrash as well with the header down hill as it will with it up hill, and has as much power one way as the other; the leveling device works very rapidly, and is operated by either the header man or the separator man, by means of a small lever, which can be operated with the thumb and finger. The header is so perfectly balanced that it can be operated by a twelve-year-old boy, if necessary.

24th. The header guards are riveted to a steel plate and will not break, come loose, or fall out. We guarantee our header to cut as close to the ground as can be done by any other machine of the kind in the world.

25th. The straw carrier is three feet longer than formerly, and the straw carrier sticks are round instead of square, giving less chance for the thrashed grain to remain on them and go over the shoe. It is also provided with an agitation should it be required in heavy grain, and also has two pickers situated directly over the straw carrier, which throw the straw up against the top of the separator, which shakes the grain out and saves it; also the straw carrier is not flat, but runs at an angle. The shoe is so arranged that it can be given almost any kind of a shake, and with the wind board in the throat of the separator, the wind can be handled and thrown to any part of the riddles. It is almost impossible to waste any grain with this shoe, when it is properly adjusted.

26th. The screens in the machine do not load up with grain when the machine is going up hill, they simply adjust themselves to the hill automatically. No other make of Combined Harvester has this improvement.

27th. Our machines are built of the best material and are of unexcelled workmanship. All our mechanics have had years of experience building Combined Harvesters, and are under the special supervision of our Mr. Daniel Best, well known as the most successful builder of grain harvesting machinery on this coast; always up-to-date; leads and never follows.

SPECIAL NOTICE

All of our latest improved Side-Hill Harvesters have a top draper in the header spout to insure positive feed.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING COMPANY,

San Leandro, Calif.

The Best Manufacturing Co.'s Steam Harvester

We wish to call attention to our latest improved celebrated Steam Harvester, a cut of which is shown on pages 30, 31 and 32. We make two sizes: 48-inch and 54-inch separators.

These machines have met with unbounded success since their introduction to the farming community, sixteen years ago, and it is admitted by all farmers who have seen it at work in the field and followed its progress during that time, to be the most perfect and capable Harvesting Machine yet introduced, and its great success in the harvest field easily places it at the head of all other Steam Harvesters, and it is pre-eminently superior to anything ever attempted in its line.

The Traction Engine or Motive Power, as will be seen by the illustration on page 31, is independent of the Harvester proper, there being an Auxiliary Engine mounted on the frame of the Harvester to which steam is conveyed through a flexible steam coupling from the boiler of the Traction Engine and which constitutes the driving power for running the cylinder, separator, header, and recleaner, the effect being a steady and uniform motion of all parts at all times and in all conditions of the grain at any speed at which the Harvester may be traveling.

Description and Dimensions of Steam Harvester

Model No. 1.—Separator 48 inches in width, has a double shoe 6 feet long with end shake; cylinder 36 inches long and ten bars, double, steel cylinder shaft 115-16 inches in diameter; recleaner 54 inches with double end-shake shoe, and is situated about center of the separator; carrying wheels diameter 5 feet 4 inches, with tire 20 and 24 inches; header with new pattern steel breast improved single guards extra heavy, 25-foot cut and double drive reel; draper 48 inches wide. Auxiliary engine on separator frame 8-inch cylinder and 7-inch stroke, with improved balance spring, packed piston valve and counter-balanced fly-wheel.

Model No. 2.—Separator 54 inches wide, has double shoe 6 feet long with end shake; cylinder 38 inches long and ten bars, double steel cylinder shaft 115-16 inches in diameter; recleaner 54 inches wide with double end-shake shoe and is situated about the center of the separator; carrying wheels diameter 5 feet 4 inches, width of tire 22 and 24 inches. Header with new pattern steel breast, improved guards, extra heavy; 25-foot cut and double drive reel. Draper 48 inches wide. Auxiliary engine on frame of separator 8-inch cylinder and 7-inch stroke, with improved balanced spring packed piston valve and counter-balanced fly-wheel.

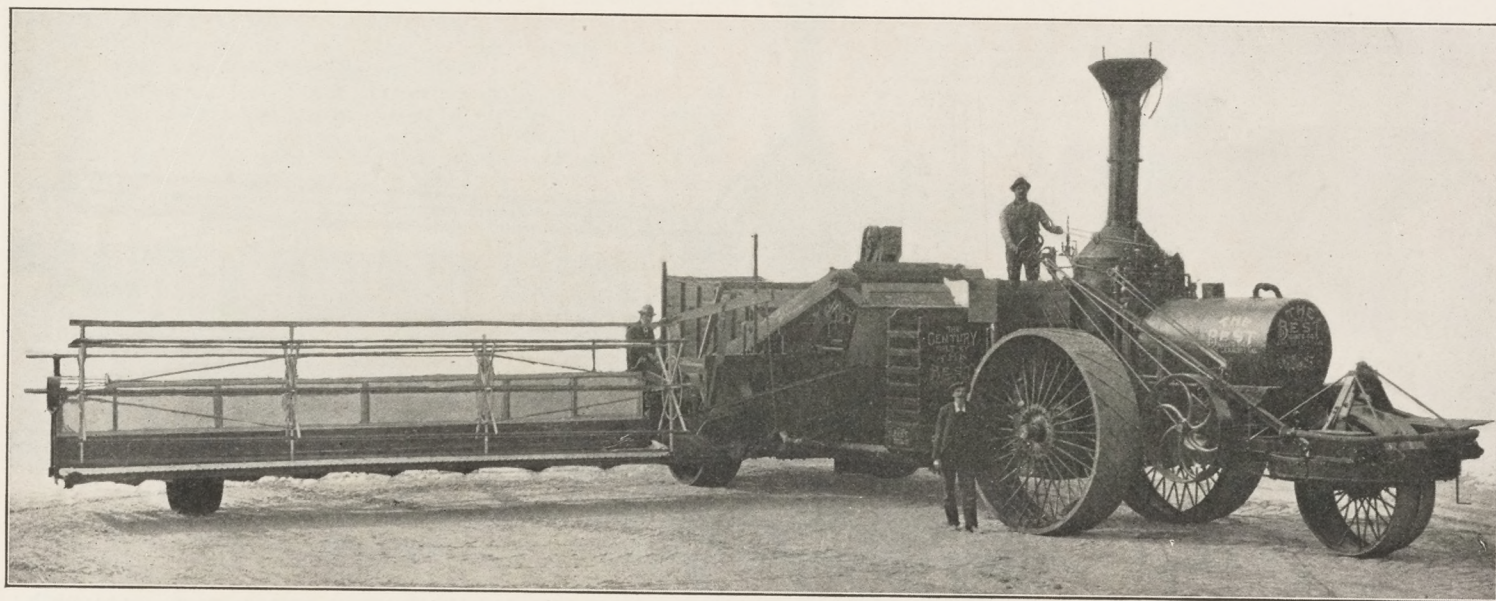
THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



New Steam Harvester at Work in the Field. Awarded First Premium at California State Fair

54-inch Separator, 38-inch Cylinder, with Wheel Sack Dump on side. Traction Engine 110 Horse-power, size: Cut of sickle 35 feet, and will harvest 100 to 125 acres in one day, at a cost of 50 cents per acre.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



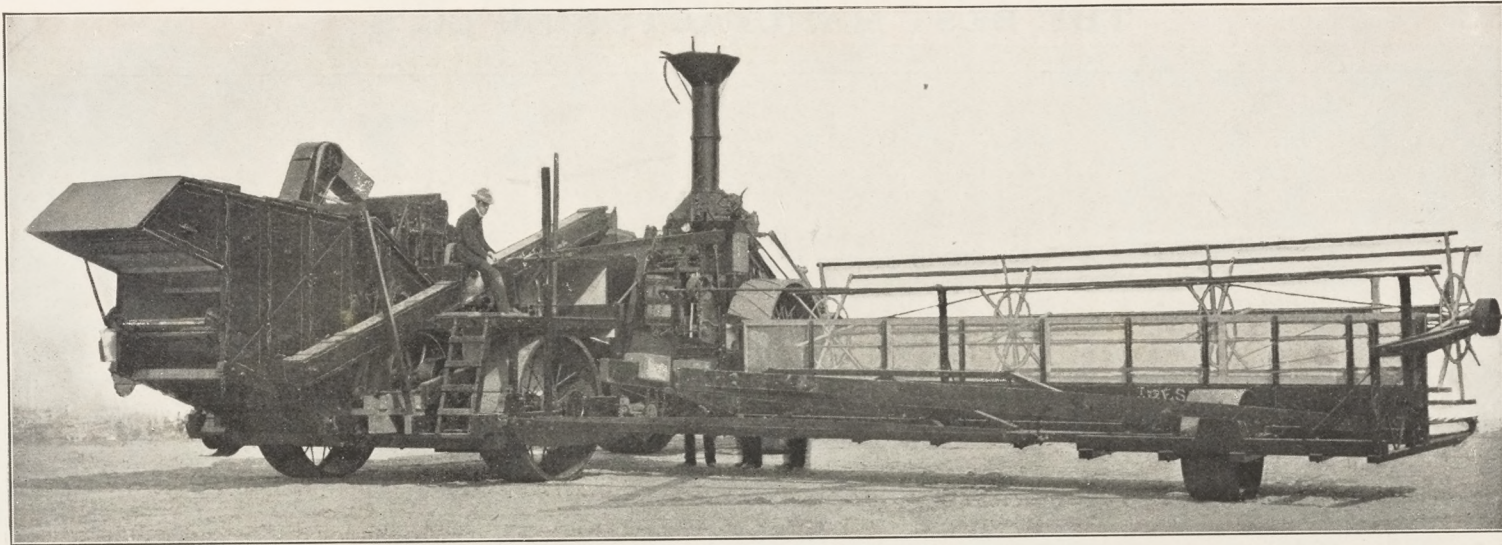
New Improved Steam Combined Harvester, Front View

Header 25-foot cut; Separator, 48 inches; Cylinder, 36 inches. Traction Engine, 110 Horse-power.

Grain can be handled with these machines much cheaper and more satisfactorily than by horse-power combined harvester, owing to the fact that the steam harvester can handle grain in almost any condition whether it is standing, lodged, tangled or overgrown with weeds, saving the grain much better; it matters not how fast or how slow it may be fed into the cylinder, the thrashing, separating, recleaning and saving of the grain is perfect.

This machine, as we will offer it for 1905, will have our new improved double end shake shoe, extra long, with other important improvements in the separating mechanism, making it the best grain saving machine ever offered to the farming community.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



New Improved Steam Combined Harvester, Rear View

Showing Rear End of Separator and Position of Auxiliary Engine on Frame of Harvester.

The capacity of these wonderful machines is almost beyond comprehension to the average man unacquainted with this method of harvesting grain. They will harvest, which means cutting, thrashing, recleaning, and sacking, an average of 1,000 to 1,200 sacks or from 75 to 125 acres of grain in one day at an expense not to exceed 30 to 50 cents per acre actual outlay of cash. We guarantee these machines to do what we claim for them when intelligently and energetically handled. They are a great success, and none have ever been returned from their failure to do the work.

The achievements of our celebrated machine on the soft sediment lands on the islands in the San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers, as well as on the tule land of the Sacramento Valley, put them far in advance of any other make of Steam Harvesters in this country. Please note testimonials in back of this circular from a few of our friends who have been using these machines for a number of years; these speak for themselves.

We will be pleased to be favored with a visit from intending purchasers to inspect our machines while they are under construction and after they are finished, so that you may know what you are buying; we use nothing but the best of material, and employ nothing but skilled mechanics in their construction; our work will bear inspection from the most critical purchaser.

Testimonials

KNIGHTS LANDING.

THE BEST MFG. CO., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: The Steam Harvesting outfit that I purchased from you last season gave me perfect satisfaction in every respect, doing all that you claimed it would do. We ran the machine fifty-two days, and most of the time we were cutting heavy and fallen grain, with considerable weeds. My expense of keeping the machine in repair during the whole season was less than \$20.

We have used the engine for all fall and winter, pulling Randall harrows and plows. While randalling we pulled six of them, cutting 72 feet wide and from 4 to 5 inches deep. In plowing we used 4 of the 5-disk rotary plows, cutting 12 inches to the disk.

I find that I can harvest and put in a crop much cheaper and better with your steam rig than I can with mule teams, and I cheerfully recommend your machine to any one who farms extensively.

Respectfully yours,

B. G. PEART,
Supt. of Fair Ranch.

ALLESANDRO, LOS ANGELES CO., CAL., Nov. 23, 1901.

THE BEST MFG. CO., San Leandro, Cal.—*Gentlemen:* Your Mr. Davis was out here last Friday to see the Traction Engine I purchased of you plowing, and to take some pictures; he asked me to write you a letter of recommendation for the engine. The best letter I can write is a simple statement of facts; we are pulling fifty-five plows, taking a swath forty-one feet wide, at a depth of about four or five inches. We are using 19 tooth pinions, making about thirty miles on an average per day of twelve hours.

We consumed less than three gallons of fuel oil per acre plowed. I enclose clipping from a Riverside paper, showing you what disinterested parties think of it. We pulled our forty-one feet of plows where another make of Traction Engine got stuck pulling their harvester.

THIS IS THE CLIPPING REFERRED TO, and which is embodied in this testimonial:—

MODERN FARMING IN THE PERRIS VALLEY, RIVERSIDE COUNTY.

Herewith is presented the picture of an immense steam plow now in operation upon the ranch of Kerr & Kerr, in the Perris Valley, in Riverside County. Farming is conducted upon a large and economic scale in many portions of Southern California but in no locality has

modern steam machinery been applied with such effectiveness and despatch as upon the 8,000-acre grain ranch of Kerr & Kerr, at Alessandro.

The engine used to draw this machinery has the power of fifty horses. The drive wheels are each eight feet high, and the bearing surface forty-two inches wide. It consumes ten barrels of oil every twelve hours, its operation requiring the services of seven men, including blacksmith, cook, and water haulers. Three men are with the engine to manage it and regulate the plows, running at the rate of three miles an hour. Each time in crossing the field fifty-five furrows are turned, eight inches wide and about four inches deep, covering a breadth of forty feet and six inches. This large machine required eight horses to keep it supplied with water and fuel.

From these figures it will be seen that a territory may be plowed every day in proportion to the force employed and the efficiency of the implements in use. The best record made so far, when all conditions were favorable, is seventy-five acres in four hours and forty minutes. To do this the machine was not slowed down, nor stopped during the run. The "land" was five miles around, giving this great engine a straight-away gait, with but few turns in making the record. In operating this plow to the best advantage a water station is maintained at one corner of the field, from which the engine is supplied as needed. The average capacity of the machine is the plowing of 110 acres per day, and it is no small farm that would justify the use of a plow of this capacity.

The Kerr farm contains 8,000 acres, and should the engine be driven at its regular gait it would require nearly five hours to cross the field at its greatest length. The use of this machine is not an experiment. Last year 6,000 acres were harvested by this labor-saving machine. Could this be used on small grain farms to advantage? Mr. Kerr says it could not. On ranches of over 1,000 acres each it would be an economic proposition, but it would consume too much time and energy in turning this great engine to be successful upon a smaller acreage of land.

For last season a combined harvester was drawn by the engine and averaged over 100 acres of wheat in a day, cutting, thrashing, and sacking the crop in first-class style. It has an average capacity of 2,000 sacks per day, and with it the owner can harvest his increased acreage next summer in a style worthy of a great farmer. One of these great field engines is at work this season near Covina, displacing the work of seventy mules and doing the work in a most satisfactory manner upon a grain farm of 4,000 acres. It will be seen from these figures that Southern California's achievements are great in farming operations, and that agriculture is second only to horticulture in the advancement of the material interests of this portion of the state. The operations in the Perris Valley are the most extensive and interesting of all, the remarkable character of the work attracting the attention of all who are interested in agricultural pursuits. The engine used on the Kerr Ranch is manufactured by Daniel Best, San Leandro, California.

As to the Steam Harvester purchased of you, it is enough to say that I went to the Blue Mine Ranch and cut 295 acres in three days, and made the move from my place, three miles and back. The grain I cut was a portion of a contract that another make of steam harvester could not finish on account of soft ground, it not being able to save the grain.

Very truly yours,

J. THOMAS KERR.

COVINA, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CAL.
THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: It gives us pleasure to say that the Traction Engine we bought of you last November has given entire satisfaction. In fact, it far surpasses our expectations. We have pulled thirty-six eight-inch shares, seven inches deep, through adobe, clay, and sandy soil, with heavy harrow behind each gang plow, besides over two and a half tons of oil, and extras for plows on plow cart. We have averaged a speed of three and a half miles per hour, and under measurement have plowed and harrowed twelve acres per hour. We burn crude oil of eighteen gravity, and find it a success. Believe a lower gravity would be still cheaper. The burner burns up all the oil without any waste, and it is very seldom that any smoke comes out of the smoke-stack, and then only for a few seconds, when stopping or going downhill, when the draft is cut off. We had about five hundred acres of steep, hilly land to put in, and intended to use horses, as we did not believe the engine would climb the hills (which were about twenty per cent), let alone putting thirty-six shares up them. However, we tried the engine, and were very much surprised to see it walk up and down those hills without losing speed.

We consider plowing with traction engine far ahead of using teams. It is much cheaper, and when you stop plowing at night you have not got 80 or 100 head of mules or horses to unharness and feed, besides sick horses to look after. One great trouble with teamsters is that they leave so many dead furrows, but you won't find any behind our rig.

Any further information that we can give will be cheerfully given. We remain respectfully yours,

GRIFFITH BROS.

JAMESON, FRESNO COUNTY, CAL., Nov. 22, 1901.
THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Dear Sirs: I am now running behind the Traction Engine purchased of you four Spalding-Robbins Disk Plows; two of them have twelve disks each, and one has eleven, and another has six, cutting seven inches to each disk and four inches deep. It is land that has been plowed once before.

The engine handles them nicely; the plows are doing good work. It will make the large farmers laugh to see it. It's a grand sight to see this magnificent engine trotting right along at a three-mile gait with these plows, turning up an ordinary farm every day without the least bother or detention. It's a great ad for you and Spalding-Robbins Co. Send up and have a photo taken of the outfit.

Yours truly,

J. G. JAMES.

CHICO, CAL., Dec. 6, 1902.
THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: The Steam Harvesting Rig I purchased from you in 1896 has given me good satisfaction, both when using the engine for plowing and harrowing, and the Steam Harvester in harvesting my grain.

This year I summer-fallowed 1,100 acres of adobe land in 27½ days. I pulled 65 feet of harrows averaging a little over 200 acres per day. I harvested 46 days, averaging 61 acres per day. In 93 days' plowing, harrowing, and harvesting, I used 195 cords of wood. I cheerfully recommend your Traction Engine and Steam Harvester to any one farming extensively, as it is cheaper and more satisfactory than can be done with mule teams.

Yours respectfully,

WM. THOMAS.

SANTA MONICA, CAL., Feb. 27, 1903.
THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: We have received a communication from the Pressed Brick Manufacturing Co., of La Junta, Colo., asking about your engine for road purposes, as they have to haul their clay some 40 miles. Having had different traction engines before purchasing yours, we felt competent to advise them, and answered them that there was but one road engine, which was the Daniel Best; also told them what we had done with ours the past season: To wit, that we had harvested between 3,000 and 4,000 acres of grain along this damp coast, and plowed an equal amount, through all of which the performance of our engine was the most satisfactory.

Should they call upon you, we are satisfied that you will find them to be gentlemen, and we guarantee their reliability.

Yours most respectfully,

SCHEE BROS.

GARDNERVILLE, NEV., Dec. 31, 1902.
MR. J. H. DAVIS, San Leandro, Cal.

Friend Davis: Your letter to hand regarding plows, and will say that plows are in good condition; have run only a few days, and that it would take some \$20 to make them as good as new. A couple of standards are broken, and I believe that to be the greatest damage done to them. Will take cost price less 25 per cent, and 10 per cent more to cover return freight.

In regard to the engine, I will give you something on it later in the day, as I am very busy just now, but will say that she does all that the law requires and is satisfactory to us, and will be kept in use a great part of the year from this on.

Yours very truly,

H. F. DANGBERG LAND & LIVE STOCK CO.

ARCADIA, CAL., March 19, 1903.

THE BEST MFG. CO., San Leandro, Cal.—*Dear Sirs.* In regard to the Traction Engine which I purchased of you last year, I beg to say that it has done a large amount of work the past season, and has proven entirely satisfactory in every way. At the end of the plowing season, it is in good working order, and there is no fault to find with it.

Yours very truly,
E. J. BALDWIN.

WALLA WALLA, WASH., Nov. 11, 1904.

JOHN SMITH Co., City.

Dear Sirs: Yours received in regard to my Harvester and in reply will say that the Best Side-Hill Machine that I bought of you this year has given me excellent satisfaction. I have cut and thrashed twelve hundred acres of grain and made an average of cutting twenty-nine acres a day with twenty-six horses, and as for the leveling device, I consider it perfect, as I cut on the hills that were about 30 degrees pitch, and in no instance has the machine failed to do the work required of it. I find upon the steepest kind of hills that the machine sticks to the hill and does not slip, much better than the machine I formerly used. As for gears, I can not see but what they will last for years, as the gears in my machine are hardly worn any that can be detected. They are easily adjusted and have never given me any trouble whatever. I do not think that any Combined Harvester has been put to more severe test than I have put your machine to this year. A great deal of my grain averaged from fifty to fifty-two bushels per acre, while a great deal of it was lodged and in no one instance did I have to pull out with your machine on account of there being too much straw or grain. Now, I think that I am in a fair position to judge the difference between your machine and others, as I have used the Holt Combined Harvester for five years, and I find that your machine runs from eight to ten horses lighter draft than the Holt machine, and as for the tipping device and the simplicity of the two machines, I do not think there is any comparison. I would not give my machine for any make of Combined Harvester that I know of.

Wishing you great success in the future, and thanking you for past favors, I remain,

Yours respectfully,
W. J. COCHRUM.

LIND, WASH., Dec. 16, 1904.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: Having purchased one of your Junior Side-Hill Harvesters this season, would like to state for the benefit of our fellow farmers, that it gave me good satisfaction in every

way. I had some adjustments to make only from the natural wear of the machine.

I cut 1,300 acres this harvest, some of the land was very rough and hilly, and the wheat averaged from 15 to 50 bushels to the acre, and was taken care of just alike, whether in light or heavy grain.

I cut 275 acres of grain for my neighbor and he was well pleased with the work. The machine averaged from 40 to 50 acres per day and thrashed 800 to 1,000 sacks per day. He said that it was the best and cheapest work that had ever been done on his ranch.

My daily average the season through was 40 acres of good, average grain, cut, thrashed, re-cleaned and sacked. I had the misfortune of getting my machine burned on the eve of finishing thrashing, but I expect to cut my crop next season with a "Best" Junior Side-Hill Machine.

Respectfully yours,

R. Q. TEAGUE.

GRASS VALLEY, ORE., March 21, 1904.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: Your Combined Harvester is certainly the best that came to my observation. It has done my work in every way satisfactorily, and I cheerfully recommend "Best's" Combined Harvester to the farming community generally as being a first-class machine and doing all the manufacturer claims.

Yours truly,

ALEXANDER SCOTT.

WAITSBERG, Sept. 18, 1904.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., Walla Walla, Wash.

Gentlemen: As for the machine I bought of you this year, it has given me the best of satisfaction. I have tried the machine on all kinds of ground and on some of the steepest hills that I know of, and it has not failed to do the work any place that I have tried it, and as for the leveling device, it is perfect, as I have cut on hills that were all of 30 per cent, and the machine has never slipped. You know that the Holt Company wrote me letters telling me that the Best Machine would not level up and that it would tip over, and I felt a little doubtful and paid particular attention to the tipping device, until I was thoroughly satisfied with it, and the machine is the best grain saver that I have ever seen. I have put my grain in the sack for the same price that it would have cost me to head and stack it in the old way, and I am satisfied that I have saved more wheat, and it will not cost me \$20 to put my machine in the field next year, and if the Holt Company had put their machine in on the contest

that you offered to, you certainly would have beaten them, as I have seen their machines running and I will put my machine against their machine any place, and as for the Houser Haines, I tried one in 1902, and it was a miserable failure. I think that I have the best machine in the world. You will sell a number of machines in this country next year.

Thanking you for past favors I am,
Yours truly,

L. G. BRADEN.

PAHA, WASH., Dec. 19, 1904.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: I would just like to make a statement regarding the machine I purchased of you last season. After examining several makes of Harvesters, I finally decided to try your machine, and can say that I was more than pleased with the results. After cutting a thousand acres of grain on land considered rough, my stock was in as good shape as when I commenced, and I finished in good season. The expense of the season was no more than heading would have been, and I consider it much better, always being up with my work. I will just say that your machine is as light running and as durable as any on the market, in my judgment.

Yours truly,

CHAS. H. JOHNSON.

PENDLETON, ORE., March 3, 1904.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., Walla Walla, Wash.

Gentlemen: Your letter received in relation to the Steam Harvester that I bought of you in 1902. I will say that it has given me perfect satisfaction in every respect. It is all any one could expect of a machine. I cleared with the machine in harvesting in 1902, \$2,970, and in 1903 I cleared \$2,900, and I am satisfied with this. Of course, as you know, I have an old machine which you claim is sixteen years old, and I have thrashed as high as 1,720 sacks of wheat with it in a day, but I wish now that I had one of your new machines.

Thanking you for past favors, I remain,

Yours truly
(Signed) D. J. NEBERGALL.

DAVENPORT, WASH., March 9, 1904.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., Walla Walla, Wash.

Gentlemen: The Junior Harvester I bought of your agents at this place last year proved to be all you claimed for it, as it cut all the grain and cleaned it well, and the draft was ex-

ceedingly light. It was easier work for the horses than pulling a gang plow.

With best wishes, I am,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) GEO. L. THOMAS.

P. S. I worked 26 horses on the Harvester and 6 horses on a 2-bottom plow.

PAHA, WASH., Dec. 27, 1904.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: It gives me great pleasure in stating that your "Baby Junior" Combined Harvester and Thrasher, purchased by me this summer, has proven entirely satisfactory in every respect. We cut over 1,000 acres of grain on rough, rolling land this season, using twenty-six head of horses. The stock came out in very good condition; in fact, as good as when they were first hitched to the machine. The repairs on the machine amounted to practically nothing. Will further state that the work on a side-hill was fully as good as on the level.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

CHAS. H. JOHNSON.

POMEROY, WASH., Sept. 28, 1904.

MR. J. H. DAVIS, Agt. for The Best Mfg. Co.,

Walla Walla, Wash.

Dear Sir: The Junior Side-Hill Harvester I purchased of you, gives me good satisfaction. It stays up on steep side-hills, and runs light with 26 horses. My machine is a 16-foot cut.

Yours truly,

E. D. SMITH.

WALLA WALLA, WASH., Nov. 11, 1904.

This is to certify that I bought of the Best Manufacturing Co., of San Leandro, California, one Baby Junior Side-Hill Harvester with a 16-foot cut Header, and used it on my farm in Franklin County, for harvesting one crop, and our ground was new and soft, and ran it successfully with 24 head of small horses, and it worked nicely on the side-hills.

MRS. N. E. KOONTZ.

POMEROY, WASH.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Dear Sirs: Find enclosed draft in full payment for the Combined Harvester purchased of you this season. I am well pleased with my machine. My stock came off in fine condition after a run of 20 days, having cut 500 acres and thrashed 7,000

sacks of grain. I consider I have taken care of my crop with one-half the usual expense. I have not paid out anything on the machine this season and the side-hill device is all that you could ask for. Wishing you success, I remain,

Yours respectfully,
T. B. McKEIMAN.

DIXON, CAL.

DANIEL BEST, ESQ., San Leandro, Cal.

Dear Sir: Your Combined Harvester is certainly the best that came to my observation. It has done my work in every way satisfactorily, and I cheerfully recommend Best's Combined Harvester to the farming community generally as being a first-class machine, and doing all the manufacturer claims.

Yours truly,
WM. McCANN.

CUNNINGHAM, WASH., Jan. 14, 1905.

MR. DANIEL BEST, San Leandro, Cal.

Dear Sir: I purchased one of your 16-foot Standard Machines in 1902 and have cut reasonably large crops each harvest, cutting the second year nearly 1,000 acres, done in good season and stock in good order.

Our repair bill for three seasons has not been \$100, and the machine is in good trim for next year. The machine can not be beat for light draft, durability and good cleaning and the repairing is next to nothing, being made to stand the wear, and having no complicated parts to get out of order.

Yours very truly,
HAYDEN BROS.

MOORE'S STATION, CAL.

DANIEL BEST,

Dear Sir: I have used one of your Combined Harvesters this season, and it gave good satisfaction. As far as thrashing or cleaning, it can not be beaten by a stationary machine. The header is perfection, and, take the machine all in all, I think it would pay any farmer who wishes to purchase a Harvester to investigate the working of your machine before purchasing any other.

Very respectfully,
A. SWEETSTER.
BRENTWOOD, CAL.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: In answer to your letter asking for a testimonial, would say that the Harvester purchased of you we gave a thorough test, both in down and in standing grain, and found it

to be all you claimed for it, and more; and your Grain Cleaner can not be excelled.

WALLACE BROS.
COLUSA, CAL.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: I have just finished harvesting; did very well; averaged almost 80 acres per day for the season. Best day's work, 1,224 bags barley, started at 10 o'clock a. m. Best day's harvesting wheat, 1,067 bags. Averaged over 1,000 bags straight on barley. Had bad water and poor coal

Yours truly,
L. G. MANOR.

SAN JACINTO, CAL.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that we have used one of Daniel Best's largest size, 24-foot cut Combined Harvesters. The machine has proved a great success, and we consider it equal, if not superior, to any other Combined Harvester manufactured.

Millers pay us the compliment of having the best thrashed and cleanest grain that comes to their mills. I take great pleasure in recommending to any one desirous of purchasing a Combined Harvester, the Best Machine.

HERMIT LAND COMPANY.

E. L. Mayberry, General Manager.

SANTA ANA, CAL.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Dear Sirs: In answer to yours of the 16th just received, the Side-Hill Machines are doing nicely here. Rolf & Johnson and King Bros. are doing good work and are well pleased. With the exception of a few breakages, they have had no trouble. Mr. Wakeham was in this morning, and said he never saw a machine doing nicer work than his is doing; will be done in about two weeks, and Mr. Shevlin says he never saw a lighter running machine.

Yours truly
WM. F. LUTZ Co.

HATTON, WASH.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., Walla Walla, Wash.

Gentlemen: Replying to your letter of inquiry in regard to the Standard Harvester I bought of you, will say that it gave the best of satisfaction. I have used it for plowing and harvesting with success; made an average of 75 acres per day the past season. I would recommend it to any one having use for such an outfit.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) S. L. THOMAS.

FLETCHER, WASH.
THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.
Dear Sir: The Combined Harvester purchased of you this season gave perfect satisfaction. We cut 1,500 acres in 31 days.
Yours truly,
BENJ. G. BERRY.

POMEROY, WASH., Oct. 5, 1904.
THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., Walla Walla, Wash.
Gentlemen: Replying to yours as to how I like my Harvester I purchased of you this season, I can say I am well pleased with the machine. It does all you claim for it. From my observation I would not change it for any other make of harvester. I cut 700 acres in 25 days, and I consider that I have harvested my crop very cheaply, much cheaper than I could have harvested it by the old way of heading and thrashing.
Yours truly,
WALTER GAMMON.

DIXON, CAL.
DANIEL BEST, San Leandro, Cal.
Dear Sir: The Combined Harvester we bought of you last season did our work to our entire satisfaction; in fact the machine does far better work than we expected, hence, we cheerfully recommend the Best Combined Harvester to the farming community.
Yours truly,
FRANK ZIMMERMAN,
Foreman M. S. Curry's Ranch.

CHICO, CAL.
THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.
Gentlemen: The Traction Engine and Steam Harvester I purchased from you in 1897 has proven very satisfactory to me. I am sure it is ahead of any method I ever saw in the field harvesting to save grain. I have used my engine plowing with good results, and for harrowing rough summer-fallow it can not be beat, for good work done at less cost than mule power.
I cheerfully recommend your Traction Engine and Steam Harvester to any one farming extensively.
Very respectfully,
ELBERT SHINN.

BUTTE CITY, CAL.
DANIEL BEST, San Leandro, Cal.
Dear Sir: We have used the Combined Harvester we got from you about ten days, and it has given perfect satisfaction.
Enclosed please find check in full of our indebtedness.
Thanks for past favors.
OLDHAM BROS.

DUNNIGAN, CAL., July 20, 1904.
THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.
Dear Sir: Replying to yours of the 16th, would say we are still in the hills. The machine is running perfectly. Have had numbers of visitors and they all say the Harvester meets all requirements.

It is a Baby Junior, 12-foot cut. The ground we are now on runs from one-half pitch (30 degrees) to level. Have been on hills where the machine safely passed the leveling capacity.
On account of so much up-hill pulling we are working twenty-four head of stock.

Respectfully,
A. W. COOK.
GRAINLAND, CAL.
MR. BEST,
Dear Sir: So far as giving you a testimonial, I am willing to give that. I am satisfied that it is the best machine that I have ever seen, having seen three other makes of combined harvesters. It is the lightest in draft, will take full cut of grain that will make 40 bushels to the acre, thrash and clean well. I cut 760 acres in 34 days, at a cost of \$374 for labor.
Respectfully yours,
E. J. CARTWRIGHT.

YUBA CITY, CAL.
DANIEL BEST, San Leandro, Cal.
Dear Sir: I have just put my harvester away in good order for the season, after a very successful run of thirty days, cutting a little over 900 acres of grain. The machine has worked to a charm, and I am satisfied. I have more than saved the price of it this season, by adopting your improved method of harvesting. My work stock are all in fine condition, each animal having filled his place in the team every day of the harvest, working with comparative ease; and really there is no farm work I had rather my teams would do, right along every day, than haul your Combined Harvester. In the early part of harvest, when I heard of the low price at which most of the leading harvesters were being forced on the market, I naturally felt perhaps I had missed it by agreeing to pay your price, providing the machine did what you claimed for it; and right in the midst of the season I visited nearly all the leading harvesters in the field, and spent from one hour to half a day with each, and in only one instance did I find a machine that was doing as good work as yours under the same conditions, and they were using at least one-third more power than I was and making frequent stops to favor their teams, for fear of overheating them, while we found no day in the season too hot to run right along and do a fair day's work. Enclosed please find check for \$1,700, which

I enclose with pleasure, feeling that I have value received for every cent of it. I tell my friends to buy the Best Harvester, even if they do pay a little more than other manufacturers are forced to sell for. They will save it again when they sell their perfectly cleaned grain and again in the amount of grain saved per acre, and the satisfaction of using a machine that is so perfectly adapted to the requirements of the work, safe and as easy to manage as the ordinary farm machinery. Wishing you success in your valuable enterprise I remain,

Yours truly,

B. F. WALTON.

LIND, WASH.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Dear Sir: As to your request, will say that we made the last run of 600 acres in 13 days and had the best of luck. I left Mr. Berry and Russell highly pleased. They have broken all records of Combined Harvesters on the flat.

Yours truly,

E. E. HAFFER.

DAVISVILLE, YOLO Co., CAL.

MR. DANIEL BEST, San Leandro, Cal.

Dear Sir: In reply to your favor of the 31st. ult., permit me to say that the 13-foot harvester purchased of you last season gave entire satisfaction in every particular. It more than met my expectations. All who saw it work spoke in the highest terms of its grain-saving qualities. The cleaner leaves nothing more to be desired in that direction. The simplicity of the machine is such that we ran it most successfully without any expert assistance save at the start.

Yours truly,

GEO. W. PIERCE, JR.

GRAFTON P. O., YOLO Co., CAL., Feb. 21, 1905.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: Answering yours of recent date, will say that since I have had your Traction Engine and Steam Harvesters, I can plow and harrow the land for about one-half the cost that I could do the same work with teams. The same is true of harvesting, or even better; for instance, when we had two horse harvesters and eight 16-foot headers and stationary thrashers running during the month of July, we harvested, thrashed and put on the river bank about 28,000 sacks of grain and our labor accounts were about \$9,000 and over; and in July, 1899, we had two of your steam outfits and with them we thrashed and put on the river bank about 39,000 sacks of grain and our expense and labor accounts were something like \$3,500. We always have some very heavy and fallen grain when we have a crop, and used to waste more than enough to pay for harvesting by choking down, having to dig out the grain and throw it on the ground. With the

steamer this is all avoided, because you can regulate your speed with the Traction Engine and the motion on the separator is steady and the same, whether you are creeping along in heavy grain or traveling nearly twice the speed of a team in lighter grain.

In plowing we pull four of the S. R. Disc Plows of 5 discs each, making 20 furrows and in ordinary plowing average 40 acres per day to the engine.

Randalling, we pull six 12-foot Randalls, cutting 72 feet.

Harrowing, we pull five 18-foot harrows, covering 90 feet. Our daily expense for above work was as follows: Engineer, \$3.00; fireman, \$1.50; water hauler, \$1.25; oil hauler, \$1.25 (one man hauls the oil for both engines); 6 horses at 75 cents per span, \$2.25; feed for horses at 25c each, \$1.50; board for men, \$2.00; fuel oil for engine, \$5.00 (average \$4.67 per day); lubricating oil for engine, plows, etc., \$1.00. Total per day, \$18.75. Plowing with 8-mule team, at 75 cents per span, \$3.00; feed at 25 cents each, \$2.00; driver \$1.25, board 50 cents; total \$6.75; and 5 acres per day is a very good day's work. The randalling and harrowing on the same basis.

I find the expense of keeping the engine up in good running order to be much less than to keep up the teams, harness, stretchers, etc.

I have tried to give you a fair statement of the comparison of the two ways of farming, and I believe any man that has used one of your steam outfits will bear me out in these figures.

If I could not replace these rigs, I would not take \$20,000 apiece for them.

Yours truly,

(Signed) B. G. PEART, *Supt. Fair Ranch.*

CHICO, CAL.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Dear Sirs: The Steam Harvester and Traction Engine I bought from you in 1896 have given me good satisfaction in plowing, harvesting, and harrowing. This year I summer-fallowed eleven hundred acres of adobe land in twenty-seven and a half days.

I harvested forty-six days, averaging sixty-one acres per day. I pulled sixty-six feet of harrow, averaging a little over two hundred acres per day. In ninety-three days, plowing, harvesting and harrowing, I used one hundred and ninety-five cords of wood.

I will cheerfully recommend your Steam Engine and Harvester to any one farming extensively, as it is cheaper and more satisfactory than can be done with mule teams.

Yours respectfully,

WM. THOMAS.

SUISUN, SOLANO Co., CAL.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: I would just like to make a statement regarding the machine I purchased of you this season. After examining several makes of harvesters, I finally decided to try your machine, and I was more than pleased with the results. After cutting eight hundred and fifty acres of grain on land considered rough (I used twenty-two head of horses to pull my harvester), my stock was in as good shape when I finished as when I commenced, and I finished in good season. The expense of the season was no more than heading would have been, and I consider it much better, always being up with my work. I will just say that your machine is lighter running than any other on the market, in my opinion.

Yours truly,

PETER MORTENSEN.

SNELLING, MERCED Co., CAL., June 12, 1905.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: You ask me how my Baby Junior 16-foot cut, Side-Hill Harvester is working. Replying to same will say, I am well pleased with the work it is doing and if any one had seen the kind of lodged grain we have been cutting in, they would have said it would be impossible to cut and thrash and save the grain with such a small separator and large header, the header taking a full cut all the time on very hilly land and having no trouble whatever with the leveling device, as it worked perfectly. The grain was so badly straw-fallen that I had two swampers, one man standing on the cylinder house with a club beating the straw into the cylinder house, while the other man stood on the header jamming the straw down on the draper so it could be elevated to the cylinder, as the straw we were cutting was fully 6 or 7 feet long, and still the little cylinder thrashed the grain, leaving none in the straw; the separator wasting no grain, the cleaner doing its part perfectly, and all without clogging up. Your competitors told me on several occa-

sions, who were trying to sell me a machine, that your machine was no good and that it would never do my work; that it would tip over and possibly kill me, that the wheels would soon give out and do many other things other than prove satisfactory. Now in all due respect to your competitors I wish to say that they have proven themselves a set of equivocators, as the separator, cleaner, header and leveling device are all doing perfect work. I have had one break down, not from any fault of the machine, but from lack of attention on my part.

I wish to say that your machine has far exceeded what your representative, Mr. J. H. Davis, claimed it would do.

I hand you this day my note in settlement for purchase price of the Harvester, as your machine is working perfectly satisfactorily.

Yours respectfully,

F. S. KELLEY.

MONTPELIER, CAL., June 13, 1905.

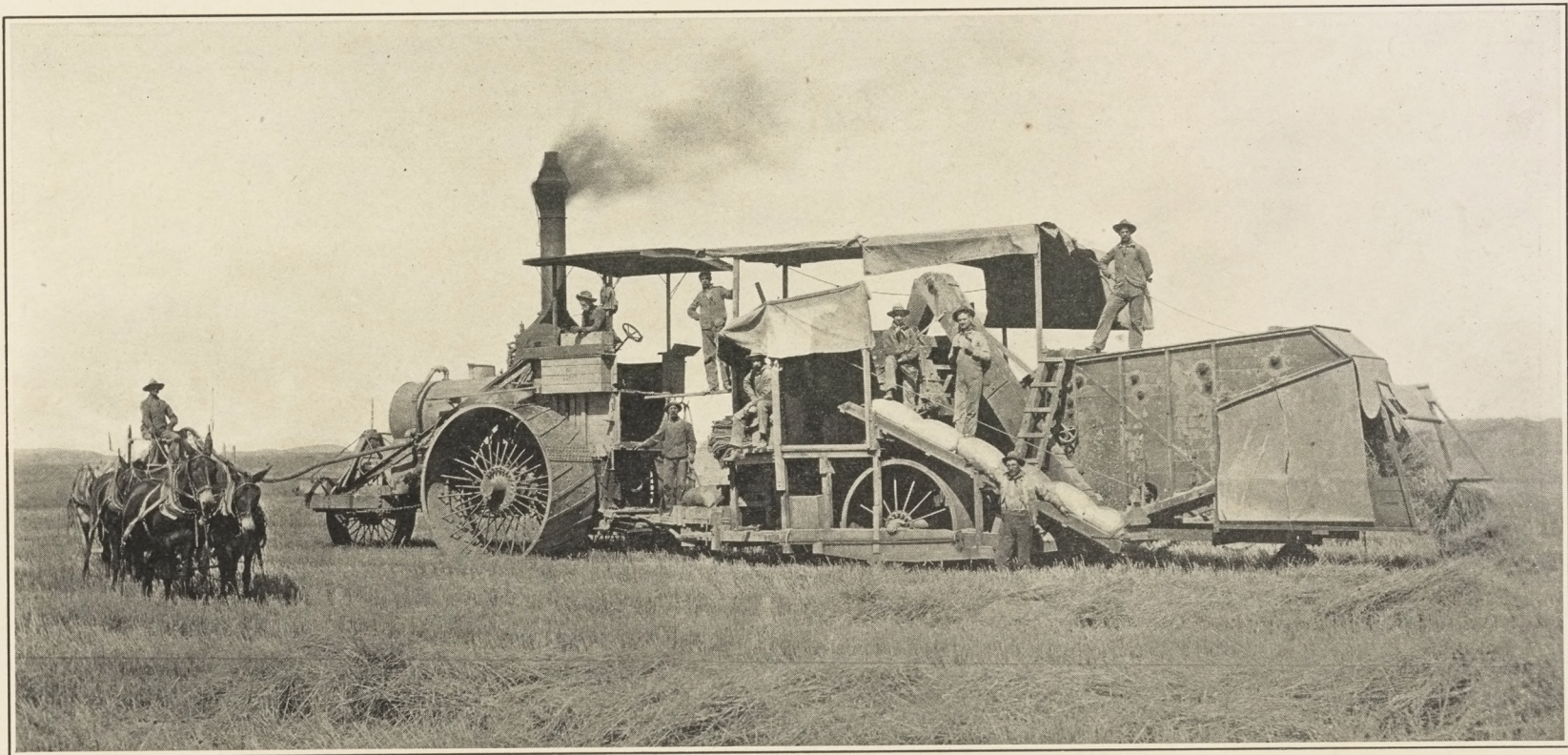
THE BEST MANUFACTURING Co., San Leandro, Cal.

Gentlemen: You ask me how I like my machine and what I have to say for it. Replying to same will say, I have owned a Daniel Houser machine, been part owner in a Holt Harvester and a Haines-Houser machine, and I think I should be in a position to know the different machines, and will say inasmuch as I hand you this day note for payment for the Junior Level-land 18-foot Harvester purchased of you, that is surely a sufficient guarantee that I am well pleased with your machine. I have cut in some of the worst lodged and tangled up barley I ever saw, and she walked right through it without clogging up.

Mr. Kinkaid tried to persuade me into buying another Haines-Houser machine, saying your machine was not equal to his, but since trying your machine, will say I am well pleased and like it better than any machine I have ever used.

Yours very respectfully,

F. M. GOODWELL.



Improved Steam Combined Harvester

At work in the field, and showing sack sewers' platform and sack chute situated over main carrying wheel.

THE BEST MANUFACTURING CO.'S



Steam Combined Harvester

At Work in the Field. Header, 25-Foot Cut. Cutting and thrashing 65 to 100 Acres per Day.