Transcribed Excerpts from Baker's Plowing Machine Advertisement, 1862

A NEW ERA IN PLOWING!

A Great Saving of Time and Power,

BAKER'S PATENT DOUBLE PLOWING MACHINE

Perhaps no better way can be devised to show the superiority of this Machine over the common plow, than by giving the operations of each, leaving the farmer to arrive at his own conclusions

The common plow is nothing more or less than a wedge, which, after splitting the ground, wedges the furrow over, consequently there must be as much pressure and friction, or loss of power on the land-side and bottom of the furrow as it takes to turn the furrow over. As proof of this every farmer knows that the land-side of his plow wears out sooner than the mould-board; that the Share wears more on the under than on the upper side, and thus wears dull. To compensate for this, it is necessary to have a clevis with notches so as to raise the whiffletrees or chain.

In this machine, the pressure on the bottom of the furrow is relieved by the large wheels, while the pressure or friction against the land-side is done away with, there being no land-side to produce it, so that the power lost on the bottom and land-side of the common plow is here mostly saved and applied to turning the second furrow. Every farmer understands the difference between drawing a log on the ground or when suspended on wheels; the same principle holds good here.

In the common plow, the wear being both on the upper and under side of the share, it wears dull. In this machine, the wear coming on the upper side only, it wears to an edge — thus is self-sharpening, and will last more than twice as long as shares on the common plow. In using the common plow, the plowman pulls back and bears down on the handles more or less, adding friction on the bottom of the plow, thus producing a greater draft on the team than is required to carry him when properly mounted on wheels.

In the common plow, in splitting the ground, the downward pressure on the share forms a crust or hard packed surface at the bottom of the furrow, which prevents an excess of water from settling away readily, and also moisture from ascending in case of drought.

This machine leaves the soil at the bottom of the furrow in its natural state, thus readily permitting the roots of the grain to descend, as well as freedom of moisture and circulation of air.

It is believed that in a field of fifty acres, this advantage alone in the value of the crop, will fully pay for the machine itself in a single year, over plowing the same field with the common plow.

The machine is so constructed that the furrows can be graded to any depth or width, and regulated to work any variety of soil, there being a compensating slide to meet the different kind of soils and weight of drivers.
The plows enter and leave the furrows at pleasure, the driver simply touching springs with his feet. Any boy, or an aged, or infirm person, who cannot follow the plow, can work this machine as effectually as a strong man.

The machine in every part is made in the most substantial and durable manner.

The shares and mould-boards are of cast steel, which is far superior to cast iron in any soil.
This Machine is arranged to receive a sub-soil plow, or corn plows and cultivator, by which it becomes an implement of almost continued use throughout the season of cultivation ...

Sub-soil Plows, Cultivators and Corn Plows, to work in this Machine furnished to order at any time.

Note. — Mould Boards, Shares, or any part of the Machine can be duplicated without the return of the Machine.

Any infringement on this patent will be most rigidly prosecuted.

New Market, Oct. 28, 1861.
H. H. Baker —Dear Sir—I heard of your Patent Plowing Machine a few months since and did not think very favorably of it, but it has been used on my farm this fall, to quite a considerable extent, which has caused me to think otherwise. I find it adapted to all varieties of soil and conditions of surface in ordinary fields. It is easily managed, as the work is as well done by my son eleven years of age as by myself. The plows enter the furrows and leave them at the pleasure of the driver, as he only has to touch a spring with his foot while sitting on his seat. The shares are self-sharpening, as no friction of any account comes on the under side, of them, therefore they wear to an edge. It does its work well both in sward and fallow ground. I regard the machine as one worthy the attention of all farmers. Yours truly, Martin Dunn ...

New Market, N. J., Dec. 31, 1861.
Having witnessed the operation of H. H. Baker's new Patented Ploughing Machine, we are of the opinion that it will save a farmer at least two dollars per day over ploughing the same land with the common plow; while at the same time we think it leaves the field in a better state for grain, by not forming a hard pressed surface at the bottom of the furrows.
EBENEZER TINGLEY, ISAAC CLAWSON, WESLEY ADAMS,
EZRA LOWELL, JOHN POPE, J. RANDOLPH GILES.

... Plainfield, N. J., Dec. 4, 1861.
I have witnessed the operation of H. H. Baker's new Patent Double Ploughing Machine, upon both sward ground and ploughed ground. Its furrows were neatly turned, the depth of which were regulated at pleasure. The Plough performed double the work of the single plough, in the same time, and apparently the same strength of team, and left the ground in better condition for cultivation. W. B. MAXSON.

... Piscataway, N. J., Aug. 18, 1862.
Having witnessed the working of H. H. Baker's New Patent Plowing Machine, we are prepared to say that it excels the common Plow in the neatness of its work, the depth and width of the furrows, being regulated at pleasure. The ease with which the machine is managed, and the fact of its performing

double the work of the common Plow in the same time, renders it of great importance to farmers. We think it an important labor-saving machine.

GEORGE DRAKE, SAMUEL B. DAYTON,
H. HETFIELD, JOHN L. TINGLEY ...