

Pulling up.—When most of the pods have matured, they will be pulled up, in dry weather, either by hand or mechanically.

Although the first process is much less expeditious than the second, it however has the advantage of reducing to their minimum the losses occasioned by shelling.

Hand pulling.—It consists in pulling one by one the bean plants and to gather them up, as the work is proceeding, in bunches which are left one after another in the field, where the pods will finish to ripen.

When they have thus been exposed to the sun during one day, they will be turned so as to dry up in an even manner, and they will next be collected in stacks 18 to 24 inches high. As soon as leaves are dry enough they will be taken into a dry and well ventilated room.

During these various operations, we must avoid shaking the pods too sud-

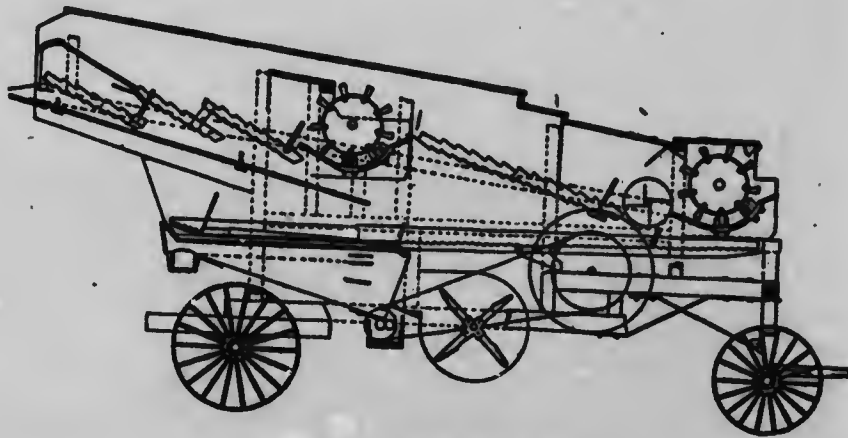


FIG. 8.—Bean thrasher (1).

denly, so as to prevent the loss of too much seed. Great losses would be avoided if care was taken to cover with a cloth the bottom of the wagon used in hauling the crop.

Mechanical pulling.—Figure 7 shows a bean harvester. This instrument can hardly be replaced if large crops are to be harvested economically. It consists in the very solid frame work of an ordinary cultivator, mounted on two wheels and fitted with two opposite knives adjusted in the shape of a V. Levers are provided in order to incline or bring them closer at will to cut off the roots of the beans on two rows at a time. These knives are themselves provided with rakes used in bringing back and distributing in a single windrow the leaves from the two rows

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