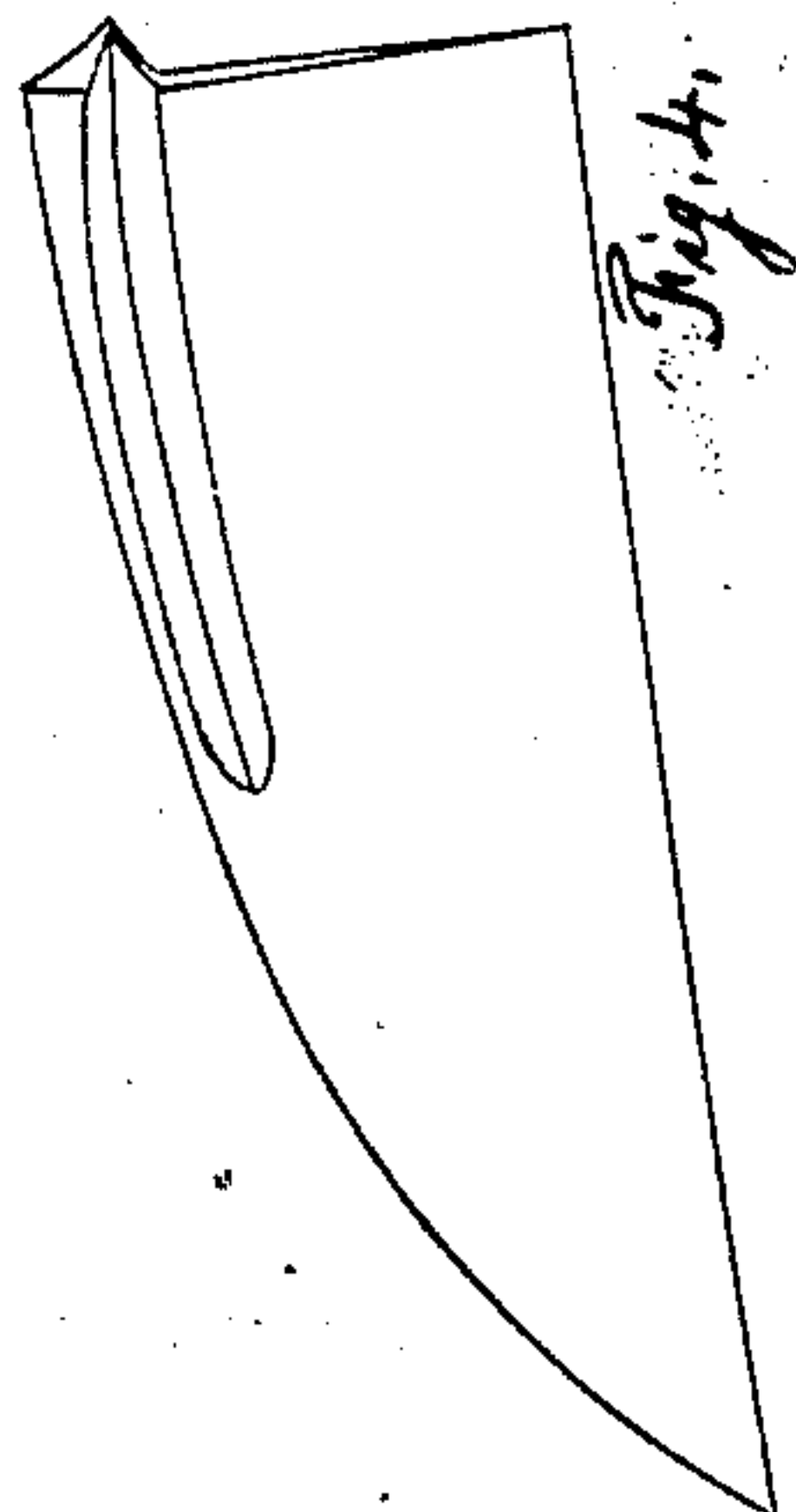
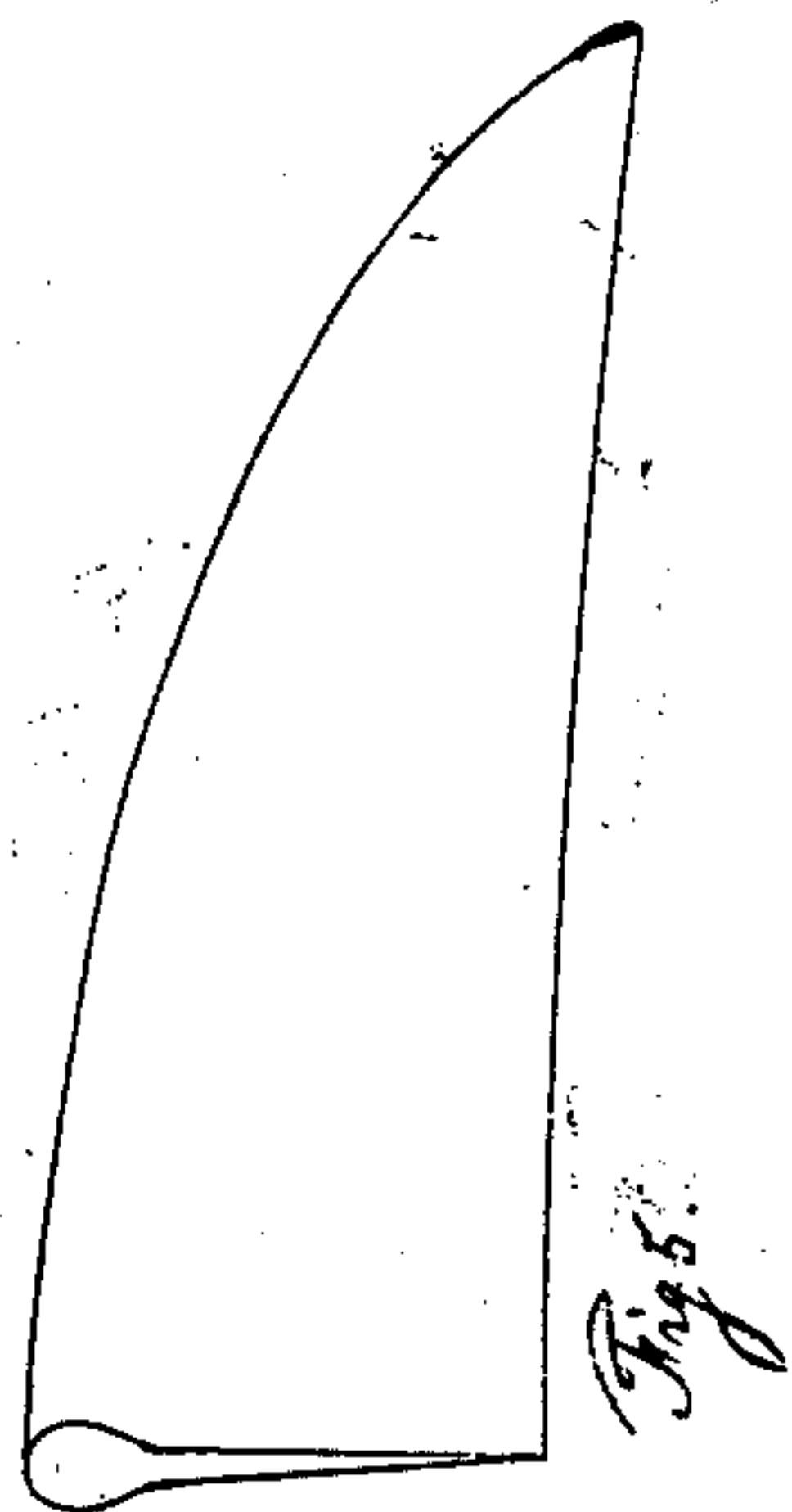
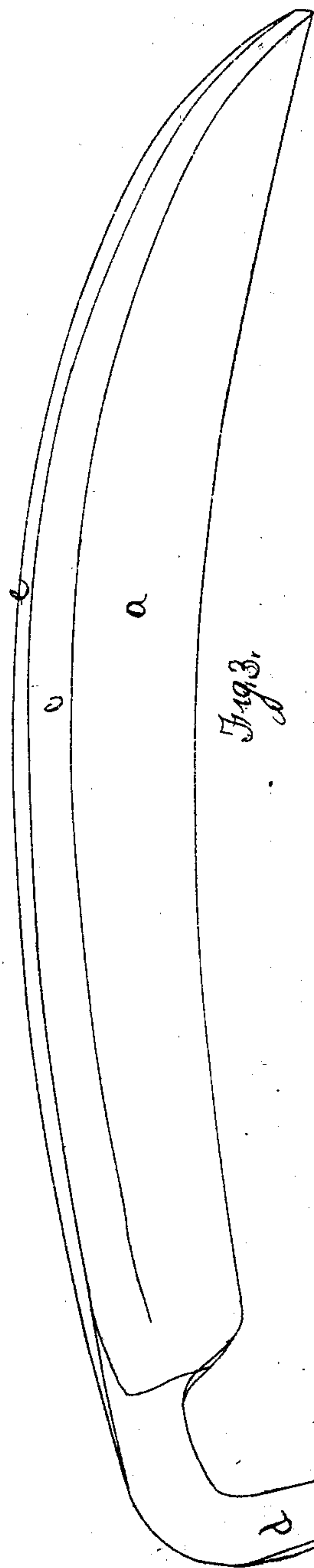
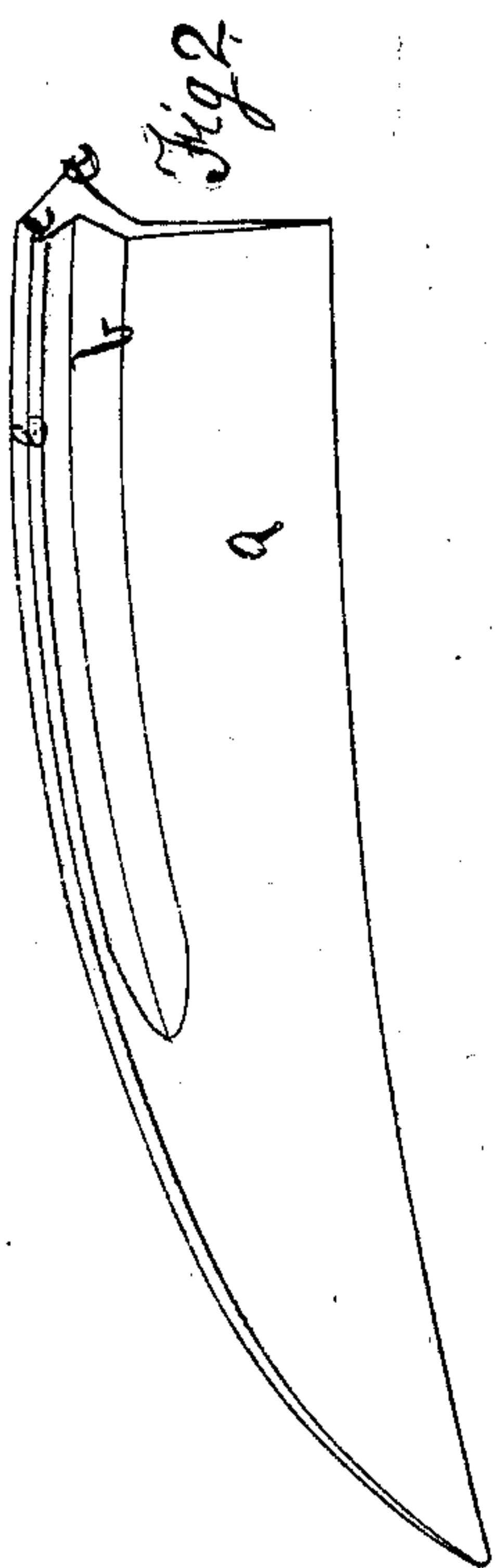
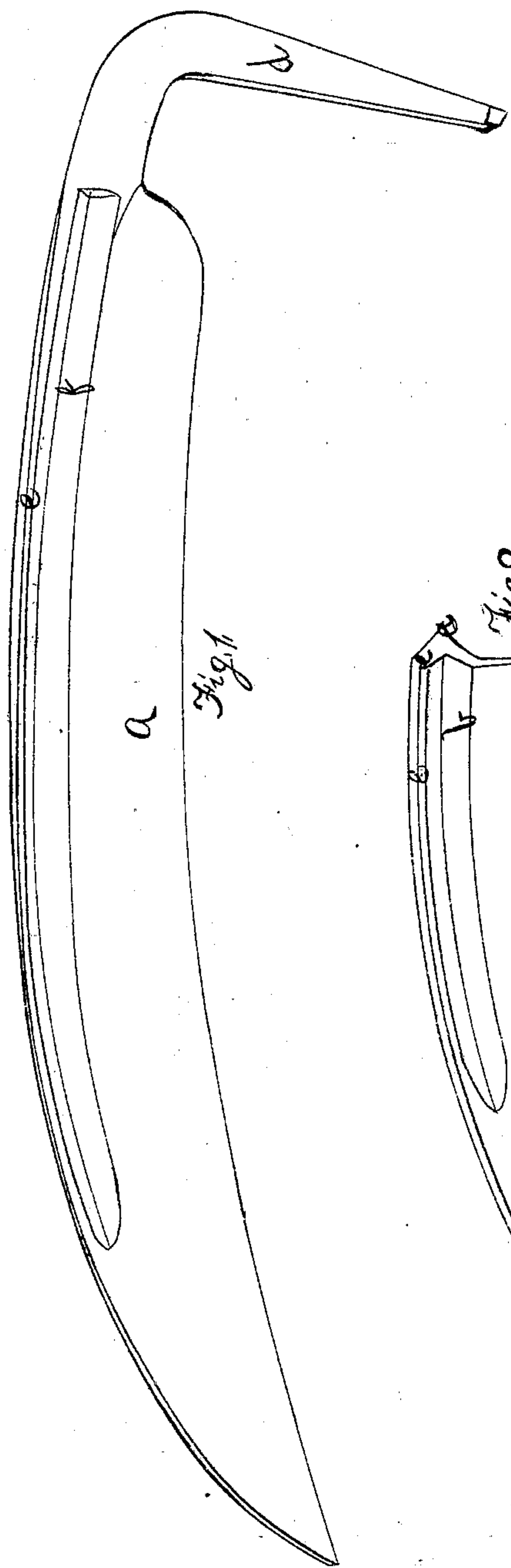


S. J. Nelson,
Scythe.

No. 21438.

Patented. Sep. 7. 1858.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

S. D. NELSON, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SCYTHE-BLADES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 21,438, dated September 7, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL D. NELSON, of the city of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Scythe-Blade; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in starting the web of the scythe from one edge of the back, making the back concave on the upper and convexed on the lower side, leaving the heaviest and thickest part of the back on the center and to the outside of the convexed side of the back, thereby making the scythe stiffer, stronger, and preventing its being ground through in the line where it joins the back.

To enable others skilled in the art to make my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the upper side of the scythe, representing the concave of the back. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the scythe, and represents the concave and convex of the back. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the lower side of the scythe, representing the convex of the back. Figs. 4 and 5 are sectional views of scythes which are now in use, and which I here represent for the purpose of showing the difference between those now in use and the improvement made by me.

In the accompanying drawings, *a* is the web of the scythe. *b* is the concave. *c* is the convex, and *e* the outer edge of the back. *d* is the heel of the scythe.

I make the entire scythe of cast-steel and plate the web of the scythe out in the usual way. The part which is to form the back of the scythe is made thin next to the web and to the outer edge of the back, leaving suffi-

cient stock to make the center and outside of the convex of the back the heaviest and thickest part. Having thus prepared the web and the part which is to form the back, I then properly heat the whole mass and place it in a swage and swage it to the desired shape. The heel is then turned and the point is finished in the usual way.

Scythes made on the principle represented in Fig. 5 lack stiffness, being entirely too flexible to make them a desirable scythe, and when constructed on the principle represented in Fig. 4 they have the very objectionable feature of cutting through the back in grinding, thereby rendering the scythe worthless. To obviate these difficulties and objections, I have made the improvement in scythes herein described, and which has the following advantages, viz: It can be made light, thereby saving stock and lessening the cost of the scythe; it can be used either as a grass or cradle scythe; it is strong and inflexible; it is not liable to be cut through in the back by grinding, and it can be manufactured more easily and cheaper than any other scythe now in use.

Having thus described the nature, construction, and advantages of my improvement, what I claim as of my invention is—

Constructing grass or cradle scythes by starting the web of the scythe from one edge of the back, making the back concave on the upper and convexed on the lower side, leaving the heaviest and thickest part of the back on the center and to the outside of the convexed side of the back, thereby making the scythe stiffer and stronger, as herein described and represented.

SAMUEL D. NELSON.

Witnesses:

ALEXANDER HAYS,
G. P. STECK.