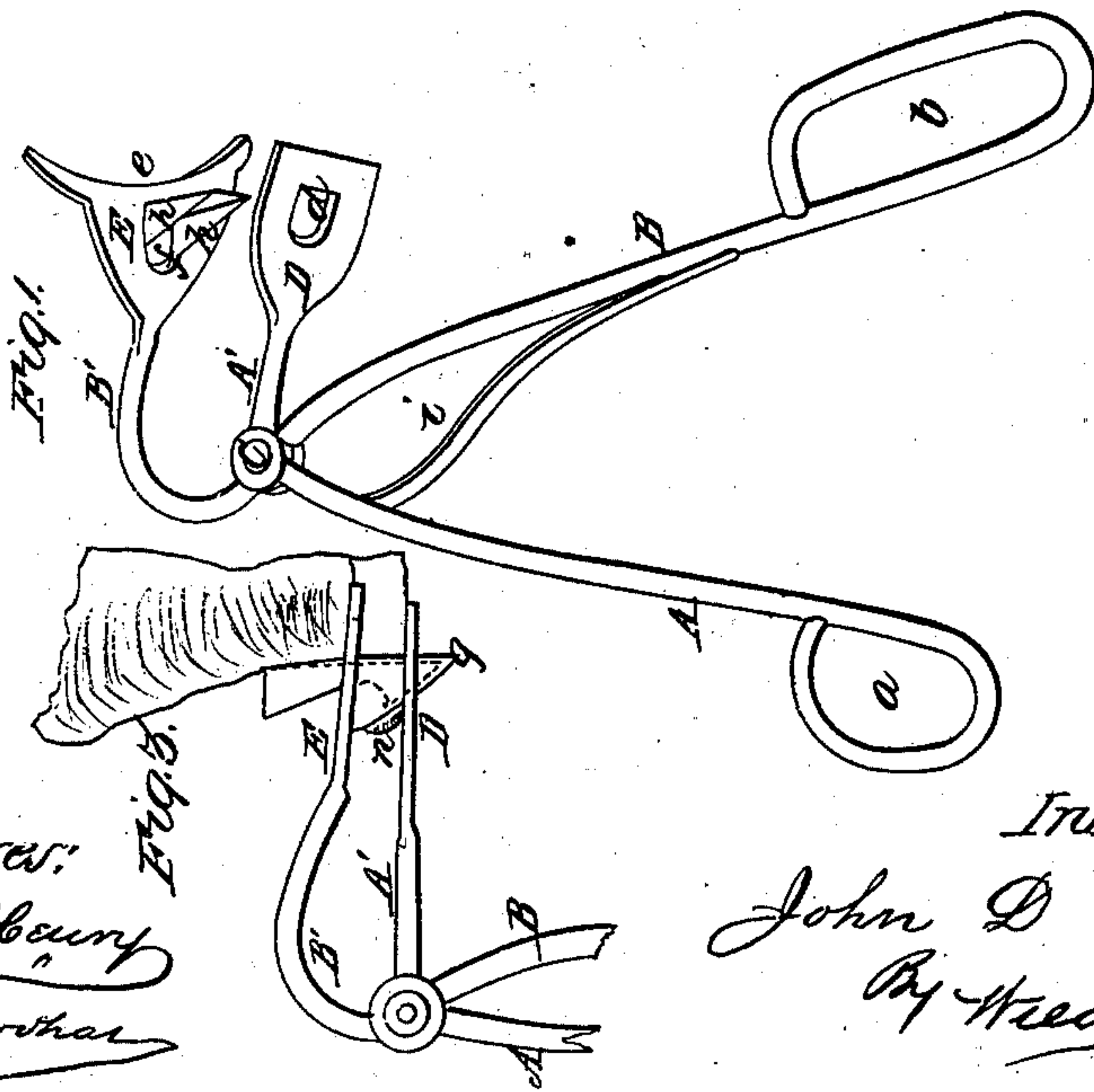
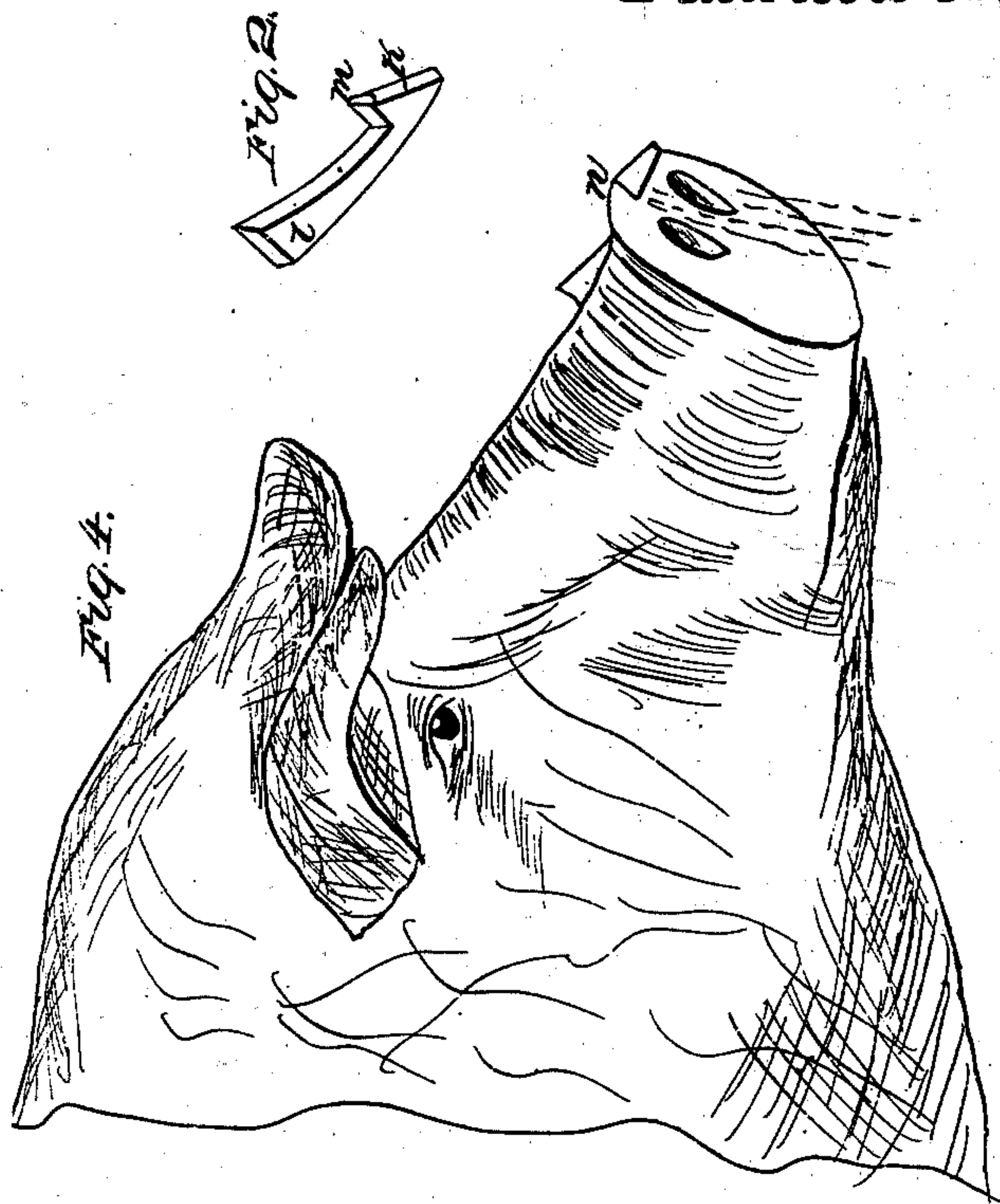


J. D. Kirkpatrick,

Nose Ring,

Nº 77,891.

Patented May 12, 1868.



Witnesses:
Jacob J. Henry
Louis Mottet

Inventor:
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United States Patent Office.

JOHN D. KIRKPATRICK, OF URBANA, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 77,891, dated May 12, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN PREVENTING HOGS FROM ROOTING.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN D. KIRKPATRICK, of Urbana, in the county of Champaign, and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Preventing Hogs from Rooting; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and correct description of the same, sufficient for any one acquainted with hog-raising to fully understand and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which make part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved instrument for cutting the snout of the hog and inserting the plug.

Figure 2 is a similar view of the plug itself.

Figure 3 is a view of the manner of using the instrument and inserting the plug; and

Figure 4 shows the manner in which the plug remains in the snout of the hog.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures.

Metallic plugs and rings have been used to prevent hogs from rooting, by inserting them in the snout, but the wound made in inserting the same heals very slowly, or never heals at all, on account of the corrosive quality of the metal, which keeps the wound in a festering condition, and the animal in constant and very unnecessary pain.

My improved plug will allow the wound to close and heal, retaining the plug solidly, and not hurting the animal, at the same time effectually preventing his rooting, as hereinafter described.

In fig. 1, my improved instrument is shown for cutting the snout of the hog. A and B are two bent handles, crossing each other at C, which forms the fulcrum. Their bent parts A' B' are parallel to each other, when the handle-parts A B are extended from each other, as shown in the figure. At the end of A' is a plate, D, of any suitable form, and provided with an opening, *d*, which is square at its bottom. At the end of the part B' is another plate, E, having its lower end *e* bent to fit on or correspond with the upper part of the hog's snout. In this plate E is an opening, *f*, a little narrower than the opening *d* in the plate D. On the inner side of the plate E, flush with the lower side of the opening *f*, is the knife *g*, having blunt sides *h* extending upward flush with the opening *f*, and sloping downward from the opening to the edge of the knife *g*. The knife and sides just fit to pass through the opening *d* in the plate D.

In fig. 2, my improved plug is shown. It consists of a triangular point, *k*, and a shank, *l*, gradually decreasing in height, so as to form of the part *m* of the point *k* a projection. It is made of any kind of hard wood which may be found suitable for the purpose. Hickory, white oak, and dog-wood are the best kinds of wood for this purpose.

In fig. 3, the method of using my instrument and of inserting my improved plug are shown. *n* may represent the ring of the hog's nose. By placing my instrument over the hog's nose, as shown in the figure, and pressing together the handles A B, the knife *g* is forced through the ring *n* of the nose, the sides *h* raising the flesh, so as to allow the plug to be passed through the opening *f* over the knife *g* and into the cut of the ring *n* of the nose. By withdrawing the knife *g*, on expanding the handles A B, the cut flesh contracts over the small part of the shank *l* against the projection *m* of the point *k*, which projects in front of the ring *n* of the nose. After two or three weeks, the wound will be entirely healed, firmly enclosing the plug.

When the animal, having such a plug inserted in this way, attempts to root, the plug acts as a lever, and twists its nose, and thus prevents it from rooting without subjecting it to a continuous and unnecessary pain, as my improved plug will hardly be felt by the animal unless it tries to root.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The within-described instrument, consisting of the handles A A' B B', and the plates or parts D E, having the openings *d f*, and the cutter *g*, provided with inclined side-pieces *h h*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

To the above, I have signed my name, this 8th day of April, 1868.

JOHN D. KIRKPATRICK.

Witnesses:

CHAS. D. SMITH,

JACOB F. HENRY.