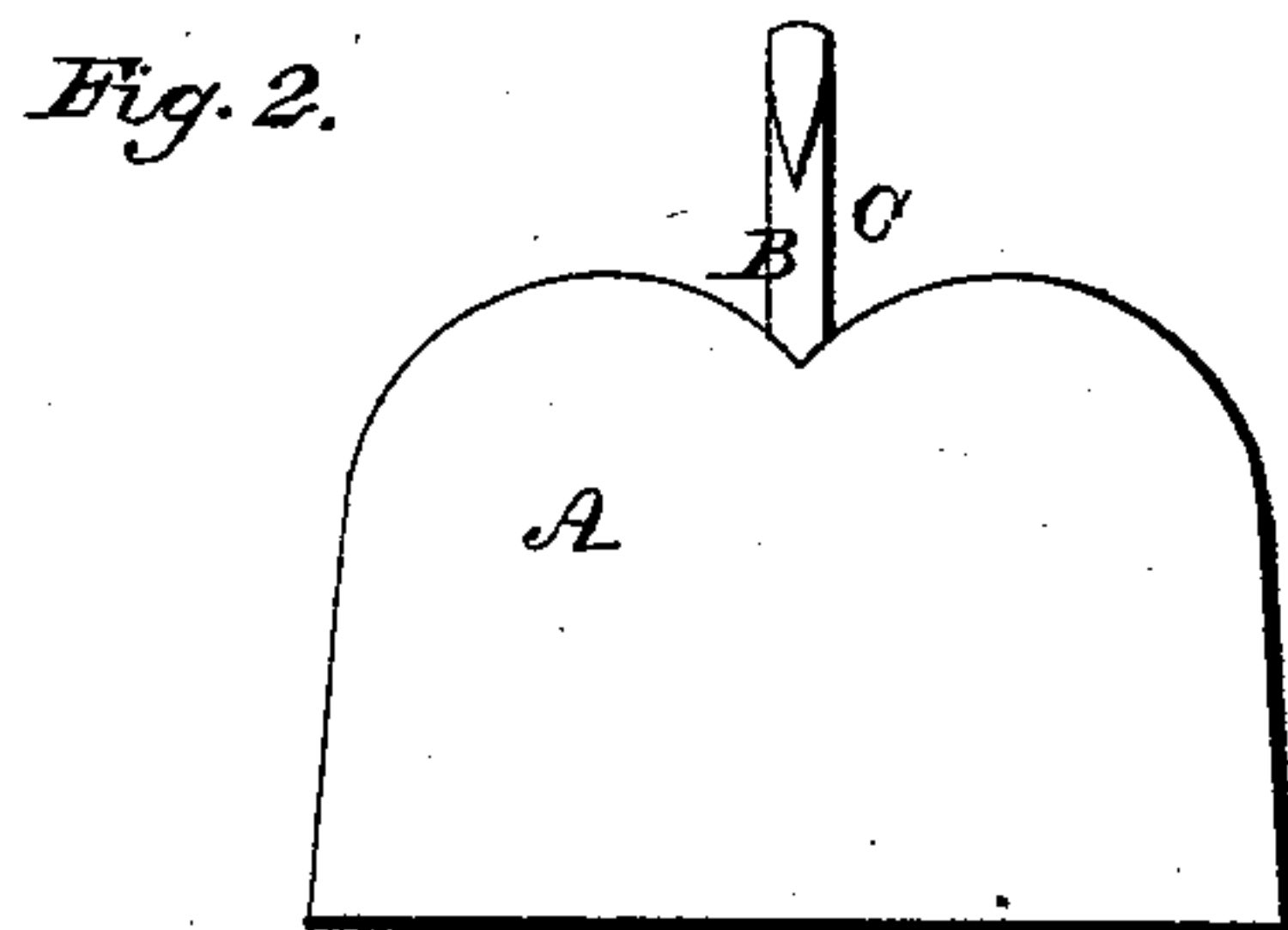
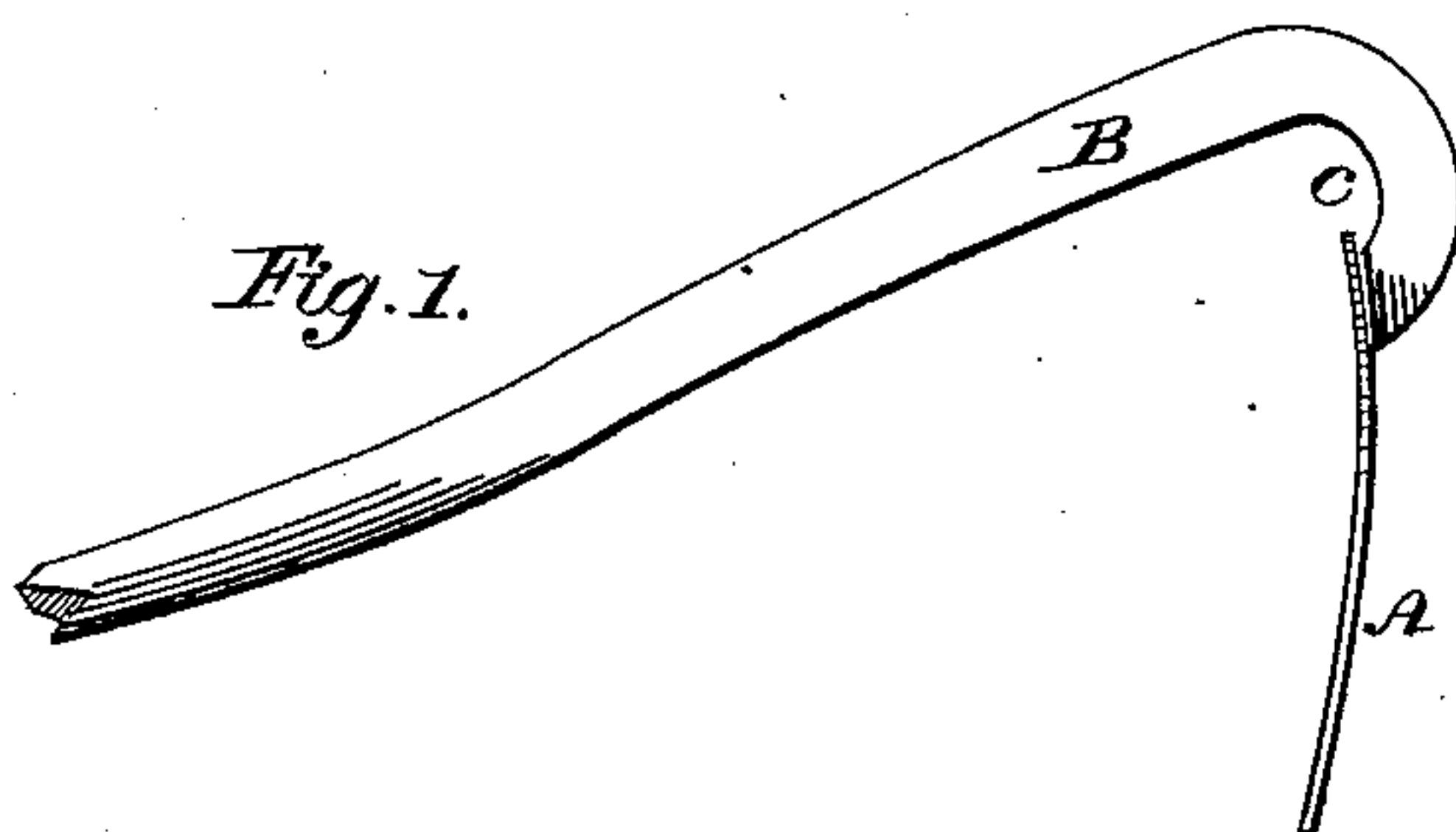


J. L. FOUNTAIN.

Hoes.

No. 79,462.

Patented June 30, 1868.



WITNESSES:

*J. H. Brunidge.*  
*E. E. Waite.*

INVENTOR:

*J. L. Fountain.*

# United States Patent Office.

J. L. FOUNTAIN, OF NEW MILFORD, ILLINOIS.

*Letters Patent No. 79,462, dated June 30, 1868.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN HOES.

*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, J. L. FOUNTAIN, of New Milford, in the county of Winnebago, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garden-Hoes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and complete description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the hoe,

Figure 2 a front view.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several views.

The nature of this invention consists in providing the blade of the hoe with a sharp-edged shank, so that the dirt will not collect on and about the same, but will drop off, and thus leave the hoe at all times free from dirt.

In the drawing, fig. 2, A represents the blade of the hoe, which is or may be of the ordinary shape and size. B is the shank, which is curved forward and upward above the hoe, the inner side of which is brought to a sharp edge, C, fig. 2. The said edge extends from the upper edge of the hoe, along the under side of the neck of the shank, back to its intersection with the handle.

By thus giving to the shank this sharp cutting-edge, the dirt is unable to lodge in and about the curve of the neck, as the sides, by their flat surfaces and angular direction, will soon become smooth and bright by the abrasion of the dirt upon them, thereby affording no chance for the adhesion and lodgment of the earth.

In the ordinary hoe, the neck of the shank is rounded, thereby presenting a large surface to the dirt, which, as it comes in contact with the same, is not divided and thrown readily off, but accumulates thereon, and more especially if the earth is damp, so that the hoe becomes heavy to handle unless it is frequently cleaned off, all of which is avoided by having the shank of the hoe made with a sharp cutting-edge, in the manner as above said.

What I claim as my improvement, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. Forming the curved shank B, on its inner side or curve, V-shaped or sharp-edged, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The forward-projecting curved shank B, having an acute angle on its inner side C, in combination with the blade, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

J. L. FOUNTAIN.

Witnesses:

C. A. DUNWELL,

L. P. FOUNTAIN.