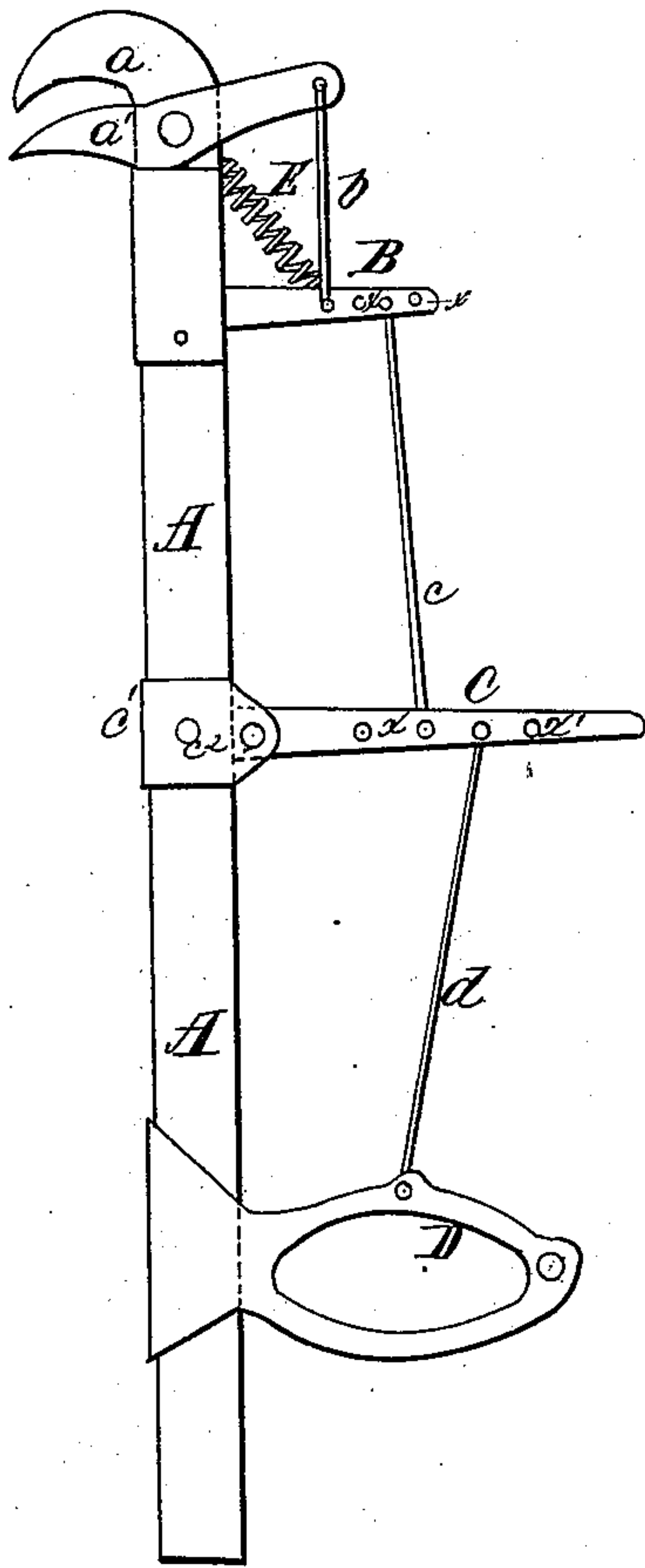


B. M. Parks,

Pruning Implement,

No. 82,868,

Patented Oct. 6, 1868.



Witnesses.

Geo. P. Herthel Jr.

Geo. W. Herbert

Inventor.

B. M. Parks by his attys

M. Randolph & Co.

United States Patent Office.

BENJAMIN M. PARKS, OF ST. LOUIS, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, A. C. ROBINSON, AND WILLIAM SEYMOUR, OF LOUISIANA, MISSOURI.

Letters Patent No. 82,868, dated October 6, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN PRUNING-HOOKS.

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, BENJAMIN M. PARKS, of St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis, and State of Missouri, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Pruning-Hooks ; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and clear description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention relates to an improved form of pruning-hook, to be operated by a person standing on the ground, and consists of a straight pole, having a pair of pruning-shears attached to its upper end, and operated by a peculiar arrangement of levers, connecting-rods, and springs, the general construction and operation of the parts being such that the apparatus may be operated by one or both hands, as occasion may require.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my improved pruning-hook, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

The accompanying drawings represent a side elevation of the improved pruning-hook.

The rod A has a hooked knife, *a*, attached to its upper end, and by the side of this hooked knife, and attached to it by means of a pivot-joint, is a convex knife-blade, *a'*, the two operating together shearwise, much in the same manner as other improved pruning-hooks. The back end of the knife *a'* extends behind the rod A one or two inches, (more or less,) and is connected with the adjustable lever B by means of the connecting-rod *b*, and the outer end of the lever B is connected with the adjustable lever C by means of the connecting-rod *c*, and the rod *d* connects this latter lever with the hand-slide D, which may be used when it is desirable to use only one hand to operate the machine. The levers B and C have numerous holes, *x x'*, into which the rods *b c d* may be hooked, so as to regulate the apparatus in any desired manner that may be required for cutting different-sized branches. The lever B has its fulcrum securely fixed in the top end of the pole, but the fulcrum of the lever C is provided in the adjustable band *e'*, which may be moved up or down on the rod A to suit any of the adjustments of the rods *b c d*, that may become necessary, and the said band *e'* may be secured to the rod A, in any required position, by means of the set-screw *e*². The hand-slide D is arranged to slide up and down on the rod A, and is to be used when only one hand is to be employed in the pruning operation. This slide-piece may, however, be entirely dispensed with when the operator desires to use both hands, in which case he will grasp with one hand the lower end of the rod A, and with the other hand the outer end of the lever C. A spring, E, is placed on top of or under the lever B, in such a position as to hold the shears *a a'* partially in the opened position.

I do in nowise claim the specific devices here named as my invention ; but

What I do claim, is—

The hand-slide D, when operating by the rods *d* and *c*, the lever C, rod *b*, lever B, the lower knife *a'*, against the pressure of the spring E, and arranged in combination with the rod A, and the hook-knife *a*, substantially as herein set forth.

BENJ. M. PARKS.

Witnesses:

M. RANDOLPH,

GEO. P. HERTHEL, Jr.