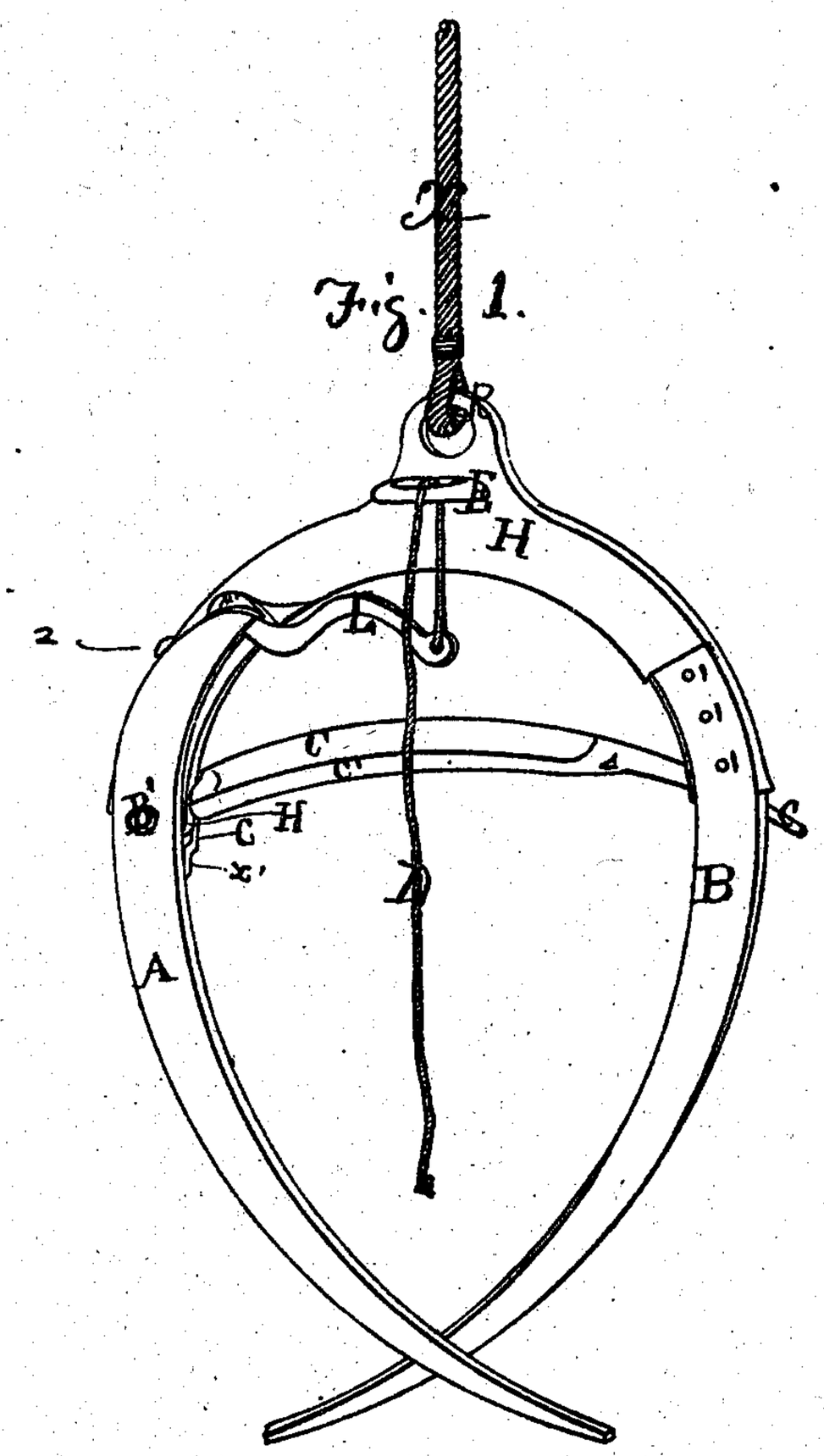
2. Sheets. Sheet 1

J. A. Park.
Hay Fork.

No. 94909. Patented, Sept. 14. 1869.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses
Orange Butler
Wm Northrop

Inventor
J. A. Park

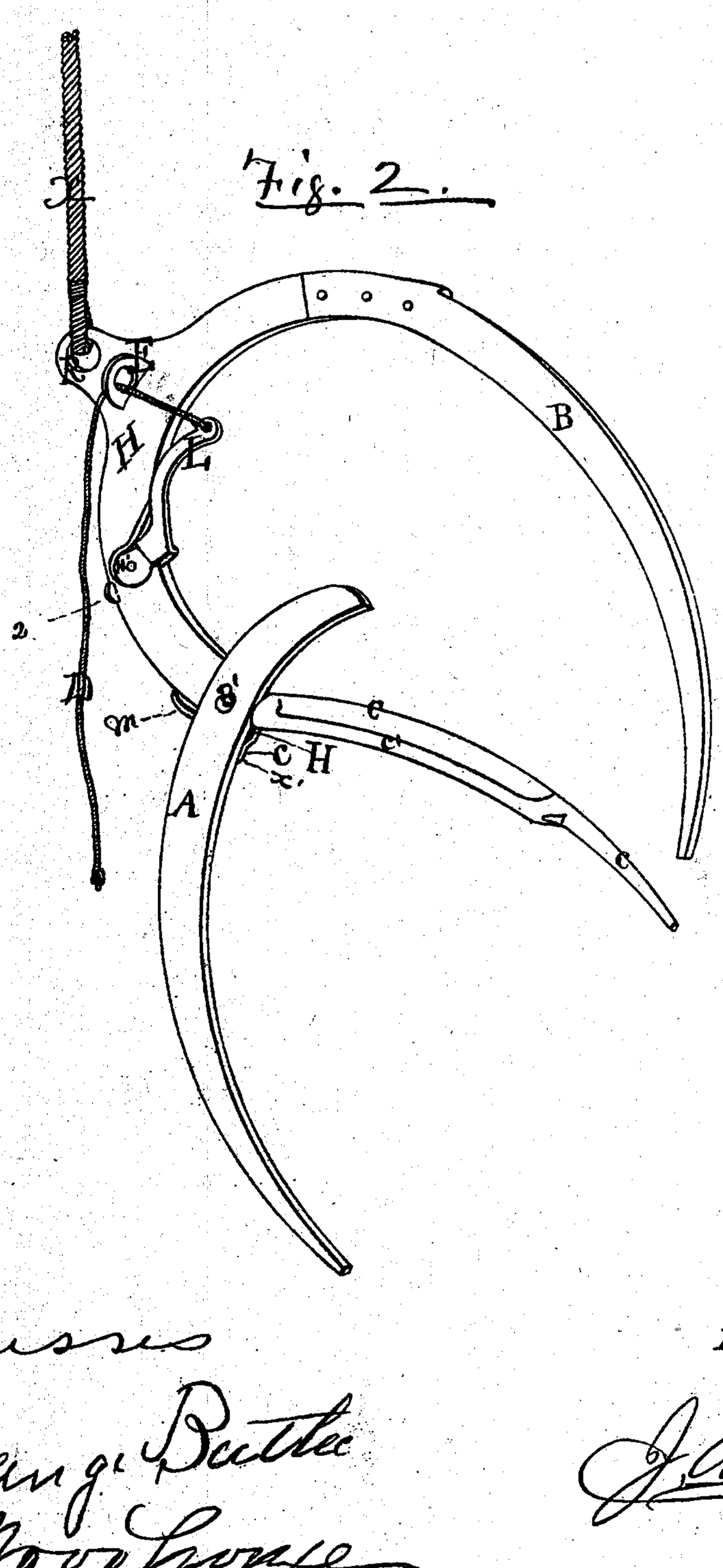
2 Sheets Sheet 2

J. A. Park.

Hay Fork.

No. 94,909. Patented. Sept. 14. 1869.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses

Orange Battee

Wm Woodhouse

Inventor.

J. A. Park

United States Patent Office.

J. A. PARK, OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND WILLIAM WOODHOUSE, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 94,909, dated September 14, 1869.

HORSE HAY-FORK.

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

Be it known that I, J. A. PARK, of Lansing, Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse Hay-Forks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Like letters indicate like parts.

This invention has for its object to improve the fork for which a patent was granted to J. A. PARK and WILLIAM WOODHOUSE, bearing date the 13th day of April, 1869.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents the fork closed, and in its position when in the hay.

Figure 2 represents the fork open, and in its position when ready to be inserted in the hay.

The prong A is inserted as far as the shield C, upon which the operator may stand to press and bind down the hay with his whole weight.

The prong B describes the arc of a circle, having its joint, B′, as its centre; thus it is very easily inserted after the first prong is in, and the hay is thereby very tightly bound when the fork is closed.

Fig. 1 of the drawings shows the prongs crossed near their points, which allows the hay to be taken up from the floor or wagon comparatively clean, as the ends, so far as they cross by each other, can be run under it nearly horizontally in opposite directions.

If the hay is not of sufficient depth to allow the fork to be filled full to the shield, a small amount can be taken up with facility.

H, in the drawings, is a cast or malleable-iron head, to which the prong B is riveted rigidly.

The head is provided with a ring, R, for the hoisting-rope X, and with an ear, E, which is drilled through and rimmed out to form a smooth rounded surface, over which the dumping-rope D may be pulled, without causing undue friction when unlocking the fork.

The head H′ of the lever L is secured loosely, by a rivet or its equivalent, in a recess in the head H, which recess is so formed as to allow the lever to be raised by the trip-cord D sufficiently high to unlock the fork, while, at the same time, the said lever cannot drop down further than is necessary.

The depth of the recess corresponds to the thickness of the head H′ of the catch or lever L.

The stops 2 and M on the head, prevent the fork from being opened and closed further than is necessary.

The shield C is secured to the prong A by rivets, rigidly, below the joint B′; and the shield is offsetted from the prong, for the purpose of admitting the head H between the two parts, to thereby make a more secure joint.

A bolt, B′, passes through all three parts, and can be screwed up tight; however, it may be left loose enough to allow the fork to be easily opened.

The shield C reaches slightly beyond the opposite prong B of the fork, and is provided with an additional rail, *c′*, to widen it, as shown in the drawings, or the shield may be provided with extra parallel prongs, one on each or either side.

I disclaim in this specification the general shape of the head H, and providing it with the stop 2 and ear E, except placing the latter below the hoisting-ring. I also disclaim the relative position and shape of the prongs, and the manner in which they are inserted, as I believe these things to be all covered by the patent hereinbefore alluded to; but

What I do claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. Providing the fork with a shield, C, secured to one side of it, when constructed and made to operate substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination and arrangement of the shield C, prongs B and B′, lever L, and the ear or socket E, when all constructed substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

J. A. PARK.

Witnesses:

WM. WOODHOUSE,

ORANG BUTLER.