

S. Sheble,
Fork.

No. 113,212.

Patented Mar. 28. 1871.

Fig. 2.

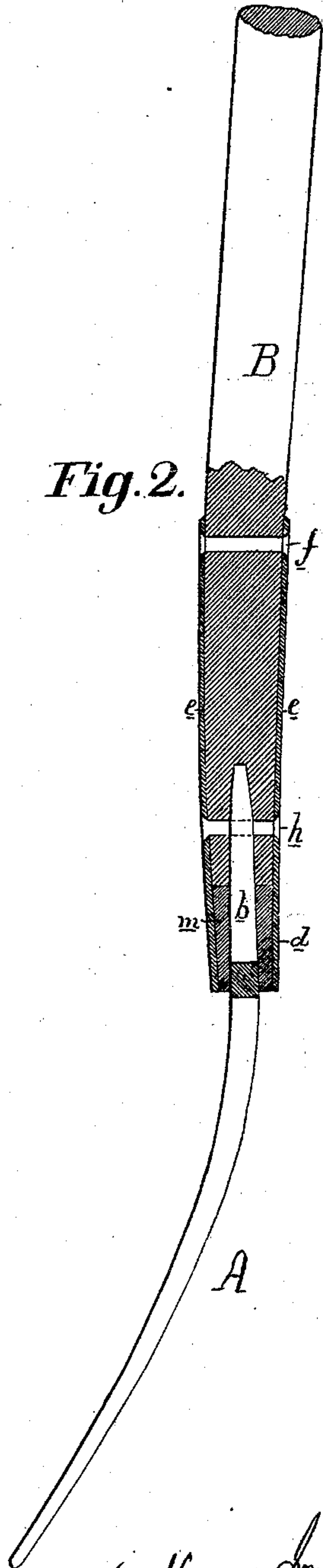
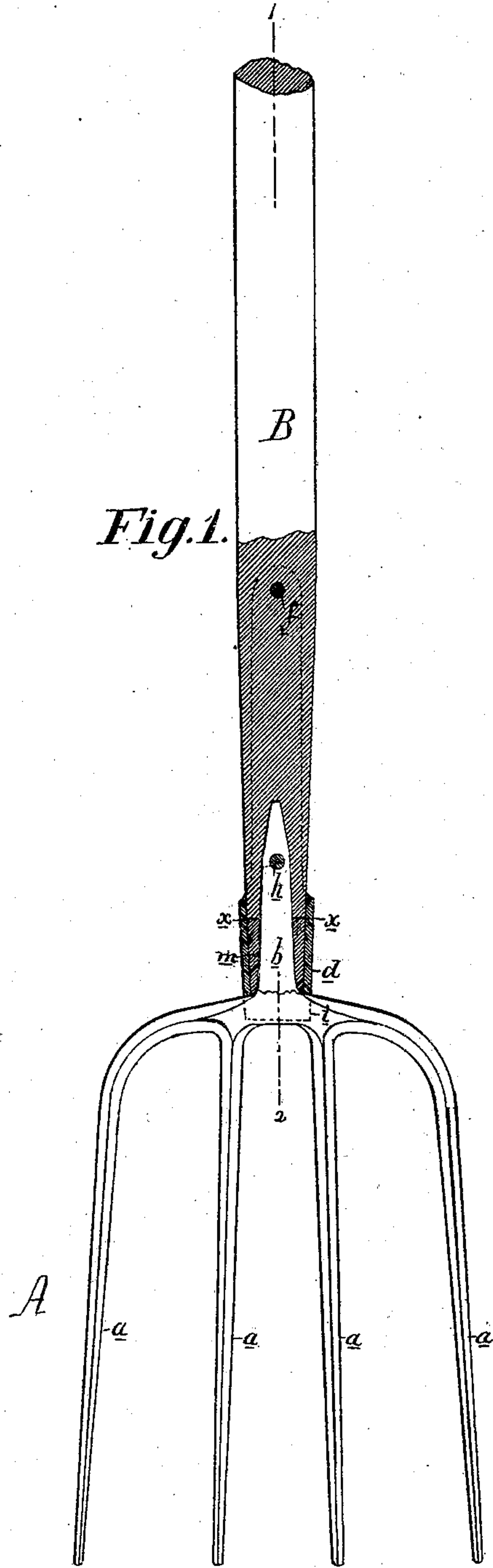


Fig. 1.



WITNESSES {

Harry Smith
Thos. McElvain

Samuel Sheble
by his atty Howson and son.

United States Patent Office.

SAMUEL SHEBLE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 113,212, dated March 28, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN FORKS, HOES, &c.

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

I, SAMUEL SHEBLE, of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Forks, Hoes, &c., of which the following is a specification.

Nature and Object of the Invention.

My invention consists of an improvement, too fully described hereafter to need preliminary explanation, in hay and other forks, hoes, &c., the object of the improvement being the secure attachment of the wooden handle to the metal fork or other implement.

Description of the Accompanying Drawing.

Figure 1 is a front view, partly in section, of a hay or manure-fork secured to its handle in accordance with my invention; and

Figure 2, a section on the line 1-2, fig. 1.

General Description

The fork A differs in no way from those of ordinary construction. It has the usual steel prongs *a a a*, and tang *b*, for attachment to the handle B, which is provided with a ferrule, *d*, having projecting-plates *e e*, one on each side of the said handle, and secured to the same by a rivet, *f*.

In securing a fork to the handle in this class of implements it has been usual to drive the latter entirely through the ferrule *d*, then drive the tang *b* into the wood, and secure it by a rivet, *h*, passed through the plates *e* of the ferrule. This mode of fastening the tang has proved to be more or less insecure, owing, partly, to the yielding property of the wood, but principally to the tendency of the wood to rot where it is in contact with the tang.

To obviate this evil, I prepare the ferrule in the following manner before it is fitted to the handle:

Using a piece of iron of the same shape as the tang, I introduce it into the ferrule in a central position, and closing the ferrule below, pour molten metal or

alloy into it from above until it reaches to about the point indicated by the line *x x*. The alloy which I have used is known as "white metal," the latter being easily fused, but being comparatively hard when cool.

The withdrawal of the iron from the metal leaves an orifice for the reception of the tang, which can be driven to its place and secured by the rivet *h*, the handle being driven into the ferrule as far as the metal, and afterward secured by the rivet *f*.

The ferrule is slotted at the end, so that it will project on each side of and embrace the body *i* of the fork, so that the tang alone will not be subjected to the strains resulting from the use of the fork.

It will be evident, without further description, that the attachment of the fork to the handle is rendered much more secure by the presence of a solid mass of metal contained in the ferrule and surrounding the tang.

It will also be evident that my invention is as applicable to hoes, drags, and similar implements as to hay and manure-forks.

Claim.

I claim—

The combination of the fork A, the prongs of which are permanently united to a tang, the handle B, beyond the lower end of which projects a ferrule, *d*, and a body of metal filling the lower end of the ferrule, and through which the tang is driven prior to being secured to the handle B, as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SAML. SHEBLE.

Witnesses:

CHAS. E. SCHEIDE,
F. B. RICHARDS.