G. W. DEAN.

Ash-Sifting Shovels.

No. 134,647. Patented Jan. 7, 1873.

Fig. 1.

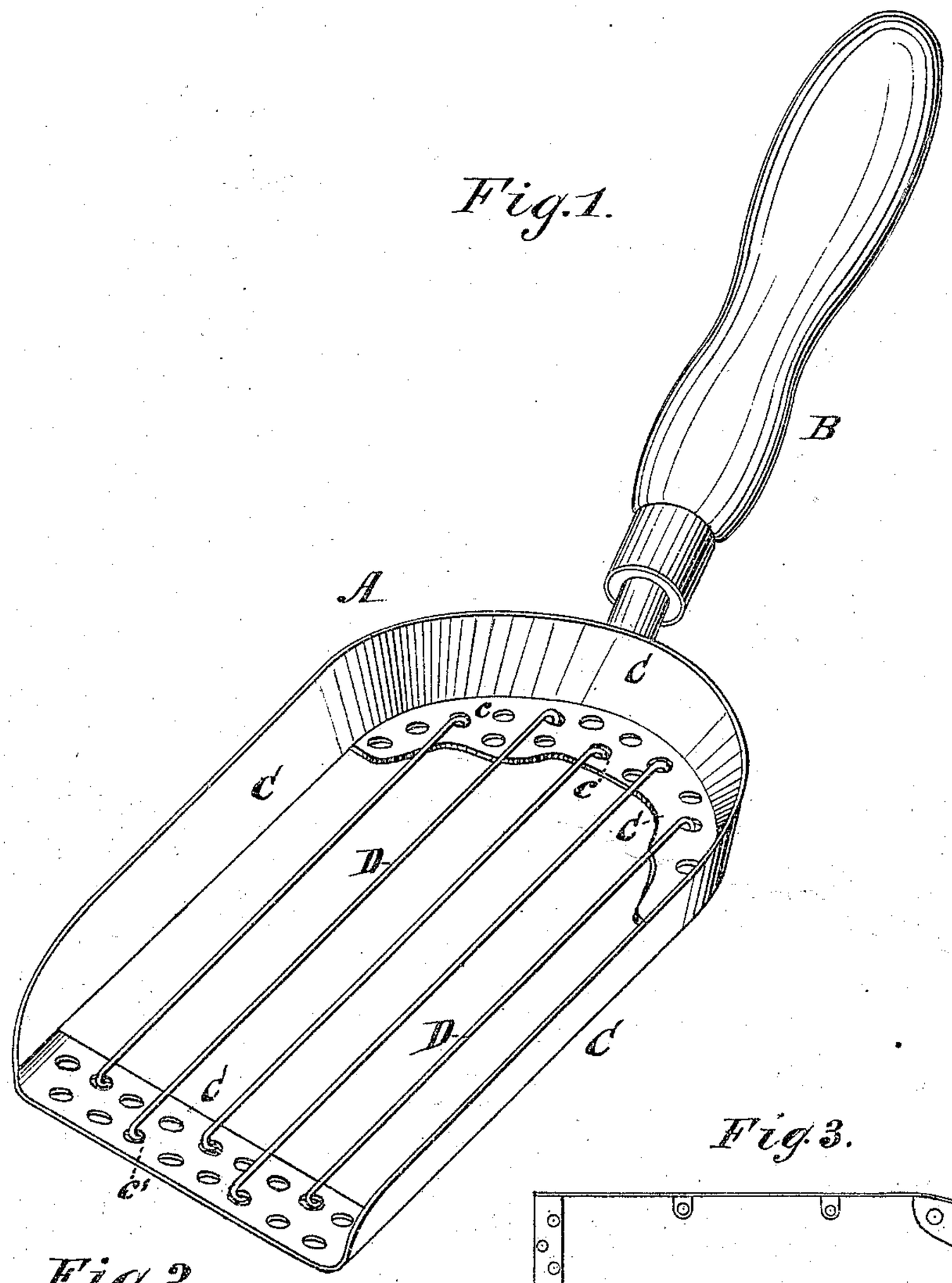


Fig. 2.

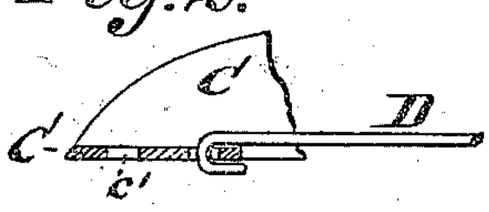
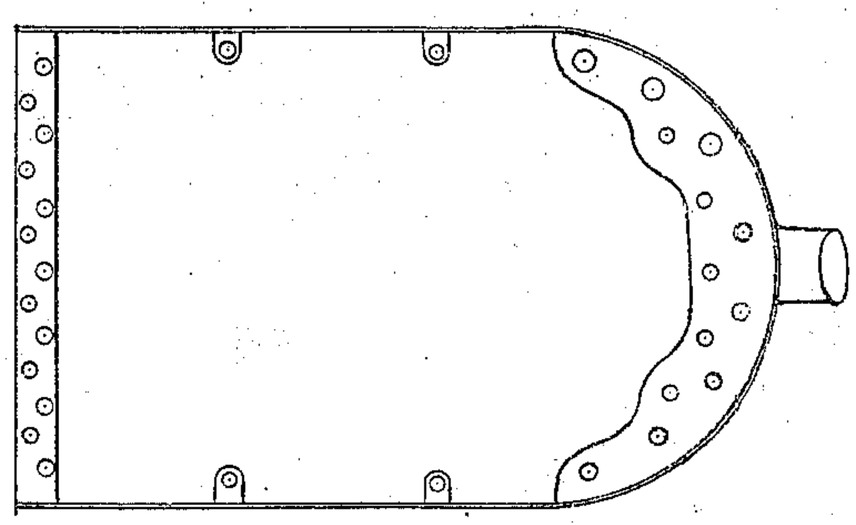


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. DEAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN ASH-SIFTING SHOVELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **134,647**, dated January 7, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. DEAN, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ash-Sifting Shovel; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification.

The invention relates to ash-sifting shovels which have heretofore been provided with sieves cast on the body or provided with wires soldered at their ends to the body. In practice both these methods are very objectionable to the public, because, a sifter being handled carelessly and roughly by servants, one or more of the wires are often broken. When this occurs with a shovel having the cast sieve the article is useless and must be thrown away, while, if the rods have been soldered, the shovel must be taken to a solderer. In the latter case, and on a small article like this, the charge is nearly as much as a new sifter costs. In order to obviate these objections, I make two or more rows of perforations in front and rear of body, and employ flexible wires, whose ends are thrust through these holes, drawn taut, and bent down so as to hold securely. At the same time they may be readily detached when broken and replaced by any ordinary housekeeper.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 is a detail view. Fig. 3 shows, in miniature, a top view of a shovel embodying my invention, and showing how transverse strengthening-bars may be applied to it.

A in the drawing represents an ash-sifter; B, the handle; C, the body; and D, the wires. As usual, the handle may be of wood or other material which is a non-conductor of heat, and the body may be made of cast metal or struck up in the well-known way; but the wires are made of tough flexible metal. The body C is provided with one, two, or more rows of holes, *c*, in the rear, and others, *c'*, near the front edge. These series of perforations not only serve to lighten the shovel, but allow the wires to be adjusted to different distances apart, according to the grade of coal which may be used. The ends of these wires, being simply bent, passed through the holes *c c'*, and again bent down so as to form hooks, they may easily be applied by any person of ordinary dexterity.

If found necessary for strength in large shovels, the body thereof may be provided with one or more transverse bars, upon which the wires will rest.

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

1. A sifting-shovel having flexible wires D with their ends hooked into holes *c c'* of body C, as and for the purpose described.

2. The series of holes *c c'* in body C of shovel to admit of wires being placed therein at different distances apart, according to the grade of coal used.

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