

M. De GROODT.

Pruning-Shears.

No. 136,820.

Patented March 18, 1873.

Fig. 1.

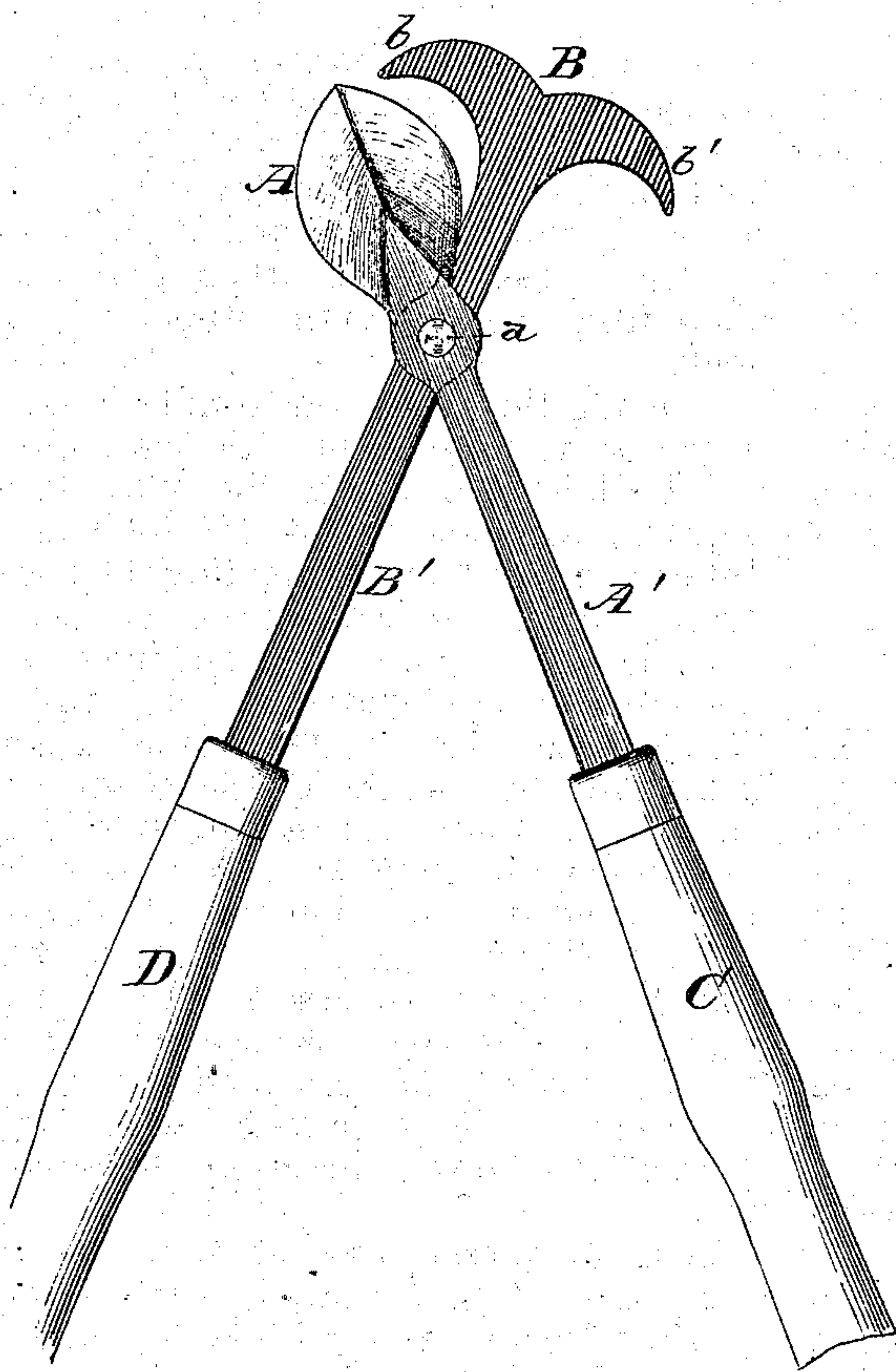
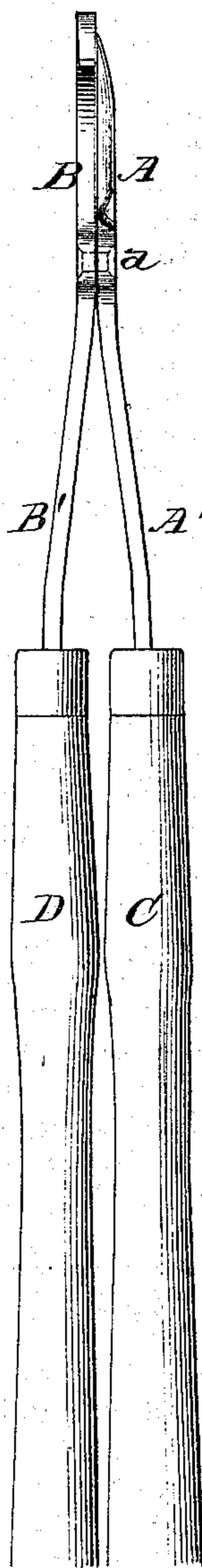


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
A. Ruppert.
W. Bradford

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Inventor.
Edw. Gibb
his Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MYRON DE GROODT, OF EATON, ASSIGNOR TO THERON S. DE GROODT AND LAFAYETTE DE GROODT, OF PRATT'S HOLLOW, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN PRUNING-SHEARS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 136,820, dated March 18, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MYRON DE GROODT, of the town of Eaton, in the county of Madison and State of New York, have invented a certain Improvement in Pruning-Shears, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of pruning-shears composed, in the main, of a two-edged blade and two supporting-hooks in conjunction with either of which the blade may shear. The most experienced horticulturists assert that to properly prune a tree the limbs should be cut from the under side and that the blade should pass through them upon the outer side of the hook resting upon the stump, because in this way the end of the stump will not be slivered, and will consequently be left in a better condition to heal over. My improvement consists in so constructing pruning-shears of the character described that the operator may cut off limbs in the manner stated, upon opposite sides of a tree, without shifting his position, on simply reversing the instrument, without changing his hands on the handles, and that in using the shears the hand operating the blade must always be moved toward the hand holding the handle of the supporting-hook, in which way the greatest power can be exerted. To this end the double hook is made of anchor-like form overhanging the blade, and beyond the pivot the respective shanks or tangs are bent away from each other sufficiently to allow the handles to pass each other.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved pruning-shears. Fig. 2 is an edge view thereof.

The same letters of reference are employed in both figures in the designation of identical parts.

A refers to the two-edged blade and B to the double or anchor-like hook, the respective tangs A' and B' of which are pivoted together at *a* by a strong rivet. The blade begins close to the fulcrum or pivot, but the flukes *b* and *b'* of the hook are some distance above the same, so that when the shears are opened and the hook

is held in a vertical position the fluke, at the time acting with the blade, will hang directly over the cutting-edge thereof. The tangs are bent in the manner clearly shown in Fig. 2, throwing the handles C and D apart so that they may pass by each other in turning the blade from one side to the other of the double hook.

In using the shears the handle C connected to the blade is grasped with the right hand, and hook-handle D with the left. In applying the instrument to cut off a limb one of the flukes is hooked over it, holding the hook-handle in about a vertical position and so that it shall be nearest to the trunk of the tree, while the handle C is elevated to open the shears the required distance. On moving the handle C toward the handle D the blade will cut through the limb from the under side, and in an upward direction, with the hook bearing against the stump. To cut off a limb upon the opposite side of the tree in the same way it is only necessary to reverse the shears by moving the handles past each other without changing the hands. The other edge of the blade will then act in conjunction with the other fluke of the hook in precisely the same manner.

Thus the operator may stand in one position and prune a tree, as stated, nearly all around.

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

Pruning-shears composed of a two-edged blade, A, and an overhanging double or anchor-like hook, B *b b'*, the respective tangs A' and B' of which are bent, throwing the handles out of line so that they can move past each other, all substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

MYRON DE GROODT.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM C. GARDINER,
HARVEY L. HOPKINS.