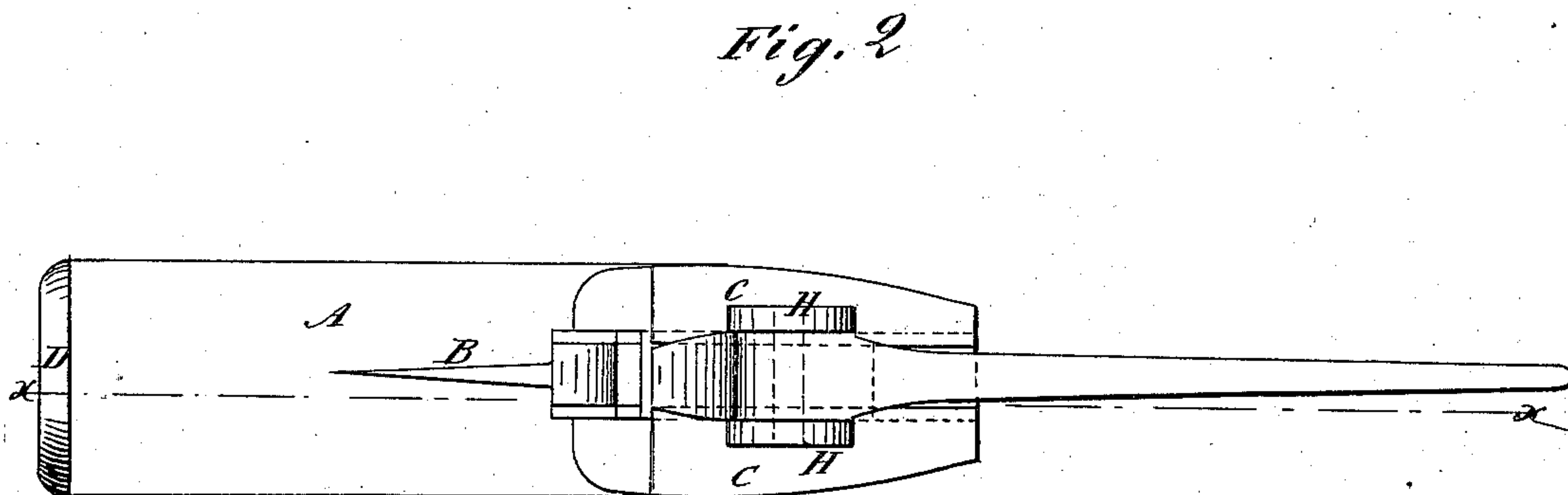
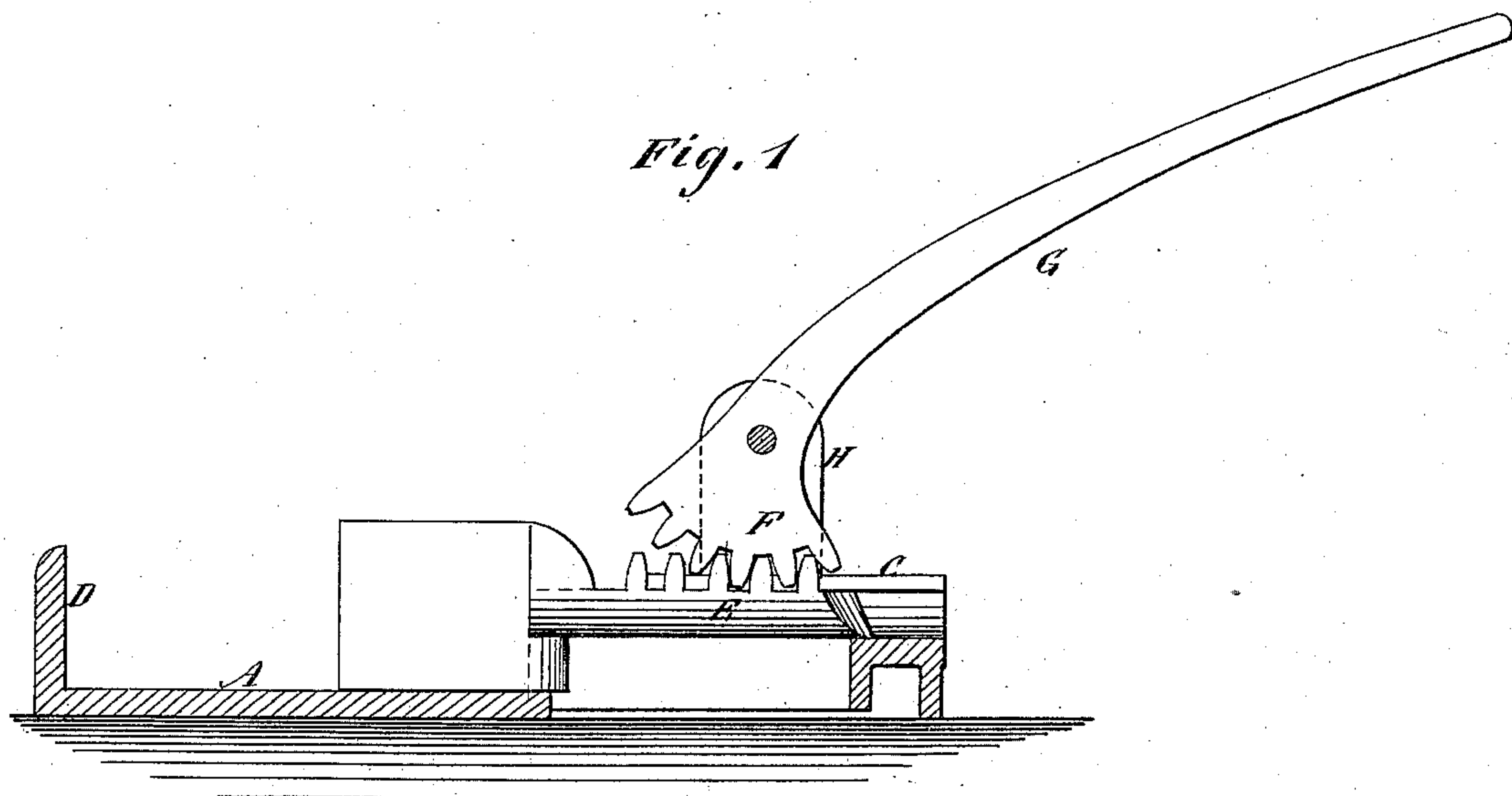


W. LATUS.  
Wood-Splitter.

No. 168,649.

Patented Oct. 11, 1875.



WITNESSES:

*C. Neveux*

*A. F. Terry*

INVENTOR:

*William Latus*

BY

*Munn & Co.*

ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM LATUS, OF BROOKLYN, ASSIGNOR TO T. KARUTZ, OF BROOKLYN,  
E. D., NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN WOOD-SPLITTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **168,649**, dated October 11, 1875; application filed  
July 24, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM LATUS, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Wood-Splitters, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists of a bed-piece, on which is a reciprocating splitting-blade, working in guides toward and from a head for holding the pieces of wood to be split, and having cogs on its shank with which a toothed segment of a hand-lever gears for working the blade, the whole forming a light, cheap, and simple contrivance, by which pieces of kindling-wood may be readily split up fine, without noise and damage to the hearth, as in the common way of splitting with a hatchet when lighting a fire.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of my improved wood-splitter, taken on the line *xx* of Fig. 2, and Fig. 2 is a plan view.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is a strong bed-piece of cast-iron or other suitable material, on which is a reciprocating blade, B, arranged in guides or ways C to slide toward and from the head D, for holding the

sticks to be split, and having a toothed shank, E, with which the toothed segment F of a lever, G, gears, for pushing the blade forward into the wood with great force, but without shock or noise; the lever being pivoted to strong standards H rising up from the bed-plate, and suitably contrived for forcing the blade by a down pressure on it, which may be applied without requiring any other means of holding the machine than a floor, or other like rest for it, whereas, if applied in any other direction a special holder would be required.

I am aware that a mortising-knife has been used to operate in connection with a clamping-bed, so as to make holes in posts and analogous articles; but

What I claim is—

A wood-splitter for operation by hand, consisting of a bed having head D and guides C, a knife, B, having racked shank E, and a lever, G, having a toothed arc end, F, all constructed and arranged as shown and described.

W. LATUS.

Witnesses:

T. B. MOSHER,  
ALEX. F. ROBERTS.