

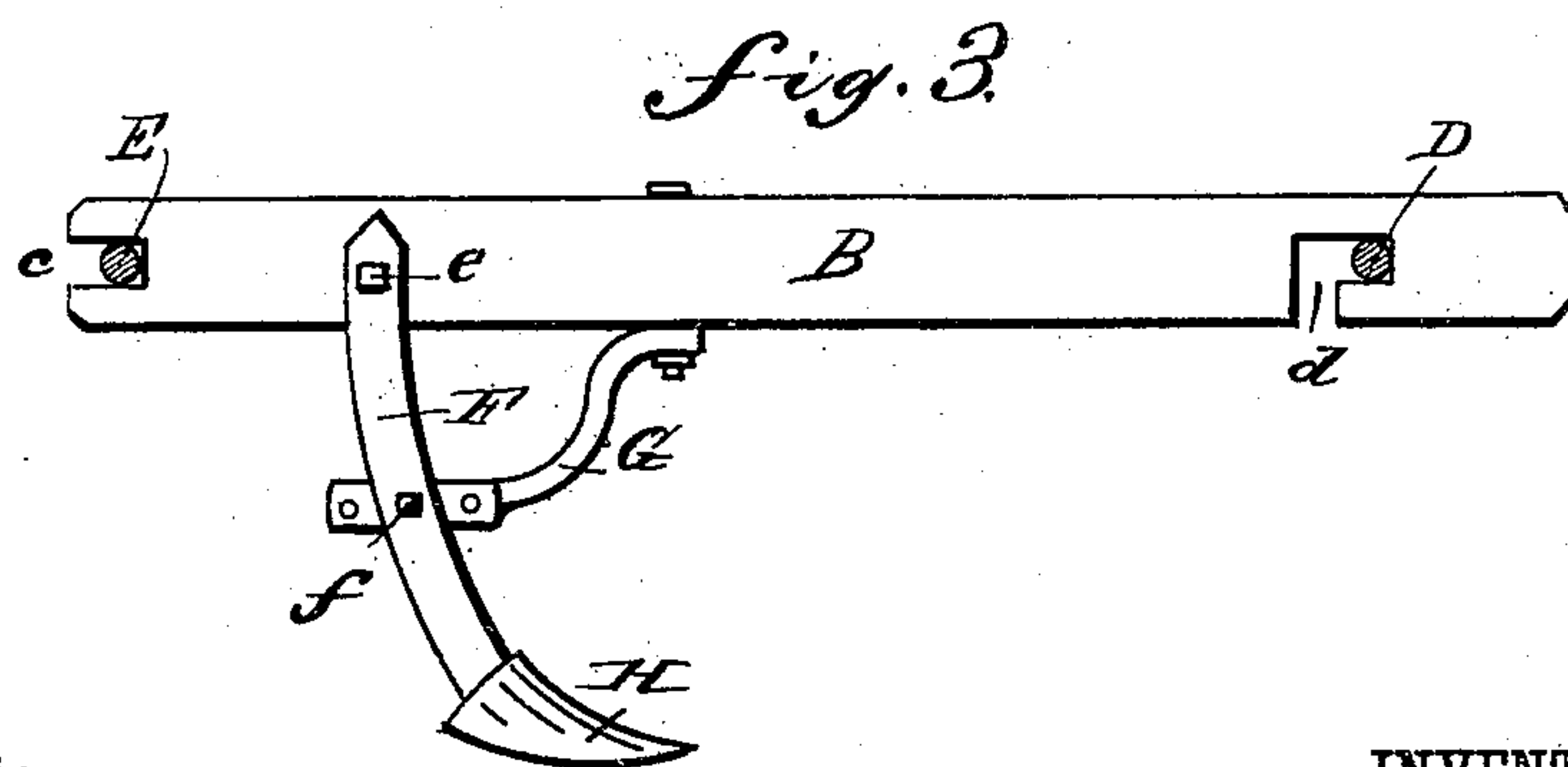
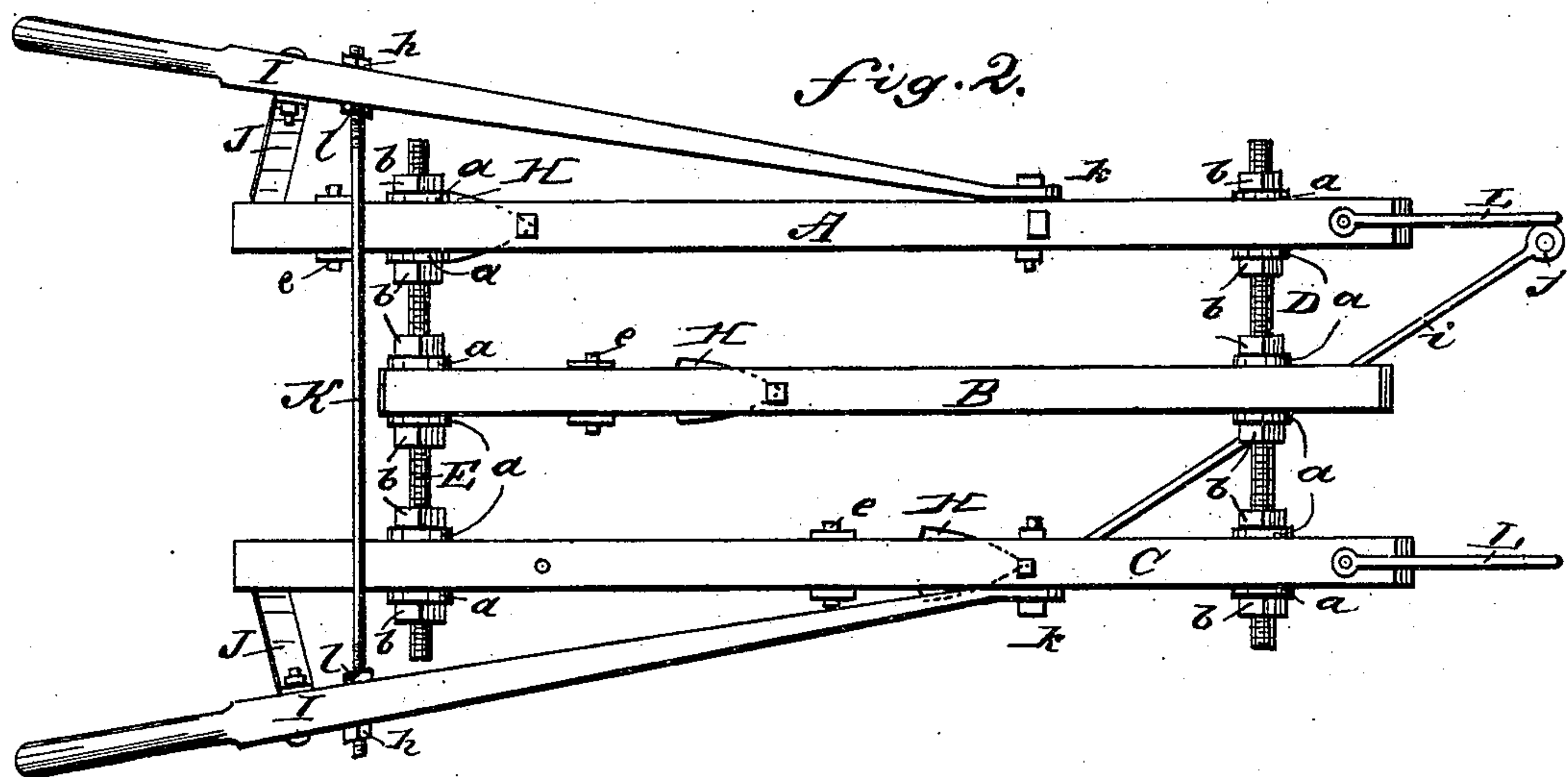
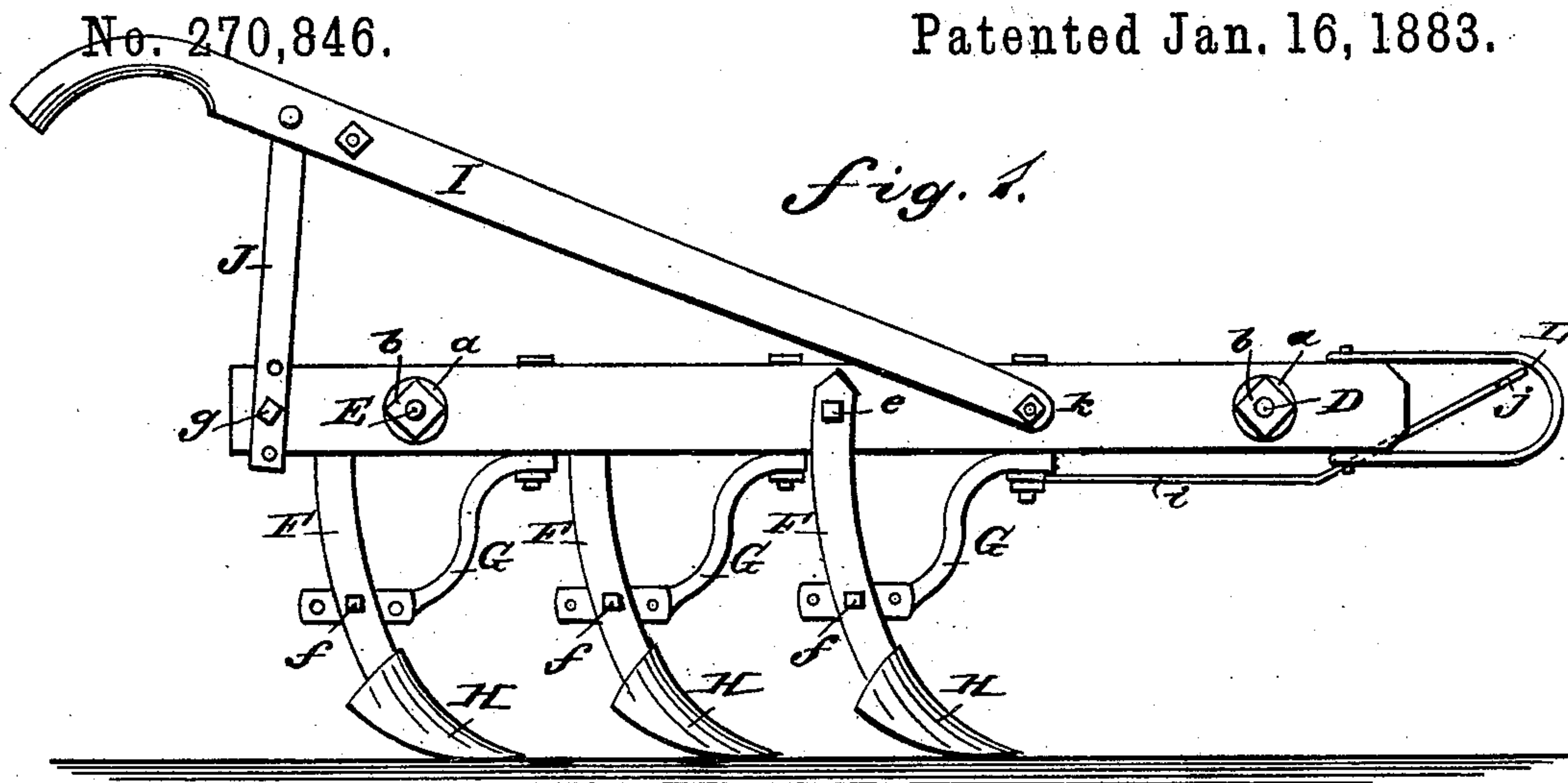
(No Model.)

M. McK. RITCH.

PLOW.

No. 270,846.

Patented Jan. 16, 1883.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILTON MCKEE RITCH, OF LAURINBURG, NORTH CAROLINA.

## PLOW.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 270,846, dated January 16, 1883.

Application filed August 24, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MILTON MCK. RITCH, of Laurinburg, in the county of Richmond and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Plow, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in the construction of gang-plows used for the cultivation of corn, &c.

The invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, substantially as hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved plow, and Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the middle beam of the plow.

Referring to the drawings, A, B, and C are the beams of a gang-plow, held in a fixed position relative to each other by means of two horizontal rods, D E, screw-threaded their entire length. On each side of each of the beams are placed washers *a*, and outside of the washers are nuts *b*, that are threaded internally to correspond with the threads on the rods D E. With this construction the beams A B C may be adjusted to and held at any desired distance in relation to each other by moving the nuts *b* backward or forward on the rods D E. The beams A C are of usual length, and are provided at their forward ends with clevises L L, secured to the beams by bolts in the usual manner. The center plow-beam, B, is shorter than the plow-beams A C, and in its rear end is a recess that receives the horizontal rod E. Near the front end of the beam B is a right-angled recess, *d*, extending from the bottom of the beam vertically to the center thereof, and then forward toward the end of the beam, this recess receiving the rod D. The beam may be removed from the main plow by unscrewing the nuts *b* to release it, and carrying it forward until the rod D is in the vertical part of the recess, when it can be lifted from the plow.

Plow-standards F are pivoted to the plow-beams by the bolts *e*, and are adjustably held in any desired position by braces G, rigidly secured at their front ends to the plow-beams,

and having at their rear ends perforations to receive bolts *f*, by which they are secured to the plow-standards F. At the lower ends of the standards F are suitably secured plows H, the said plows being of the ordinary construction.

The handles I are pivoted at their lower ends to the outer sides of the beams A C by bolts *k*, which pass horizontally through the ends of the handles and the beam, and from this point the handles are inclined upward. Standards J are secured at their lower ends by bolts *g* to the rear ends of the beams A C, and are secured at their upper ends to the handles I. The lower ends of the standards J are provided with a series of holes, and the handles I are adjusted up and down by placing the bolts *g* in different holes. The handles are united and held adjustably apart by a rod, K, passing horizontally through the handles, and screw-threaded at its outer ends. Nuts *h*, that are threaded to correspond with the threads of the rod K, are placed on the outer and inner surfaces of the handles I and hold them at any desired distance apart. By this construction the handles are adapted to be adjusted to any position in which it is desired to place the plows.

If the beam B is removed, the plow may be used for cultivating rows of plants, the plows attached to the beams A C passing on each side of the rows. In this case the horse, drawing the plow, is attached to the clevis L on the beam A and walks between the rows.

To strengthen the frame and provide for an equal draft on each of the plow-beams A C, a bracing draft-rod, *i*, is attached at its rear end to the bolt holding the front end of the brace G to the plow-beam C, and passes from this point diagonally across the plow to the outer end of the clevis L, where it is provided with a loop, *j*, by which it is attached to the draft-hook of the whiffletree.

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

1. In a gang-plow, the combination, with the side beams, A C, having standards provided with plows, and nutted rods D E, of the removable short beam B, having the slot *c* in its rear end, and the inverted-L-shaped slot *d*

near its forward end, and having the plow H, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a gang-plow, the combination, with the plow-beams A B C, having the clevises L, of the draft-rod i, arranged obliquely along the under side of said beams, with one end connected to one of the side plow-beams and the other end extended forward to the clevis of

the other side plow-beam, and adapted to be connected to the whiffletree, substantially as 10 and for the purpose set forth.

MILTON McKEE RITCH.

Witnesses:

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