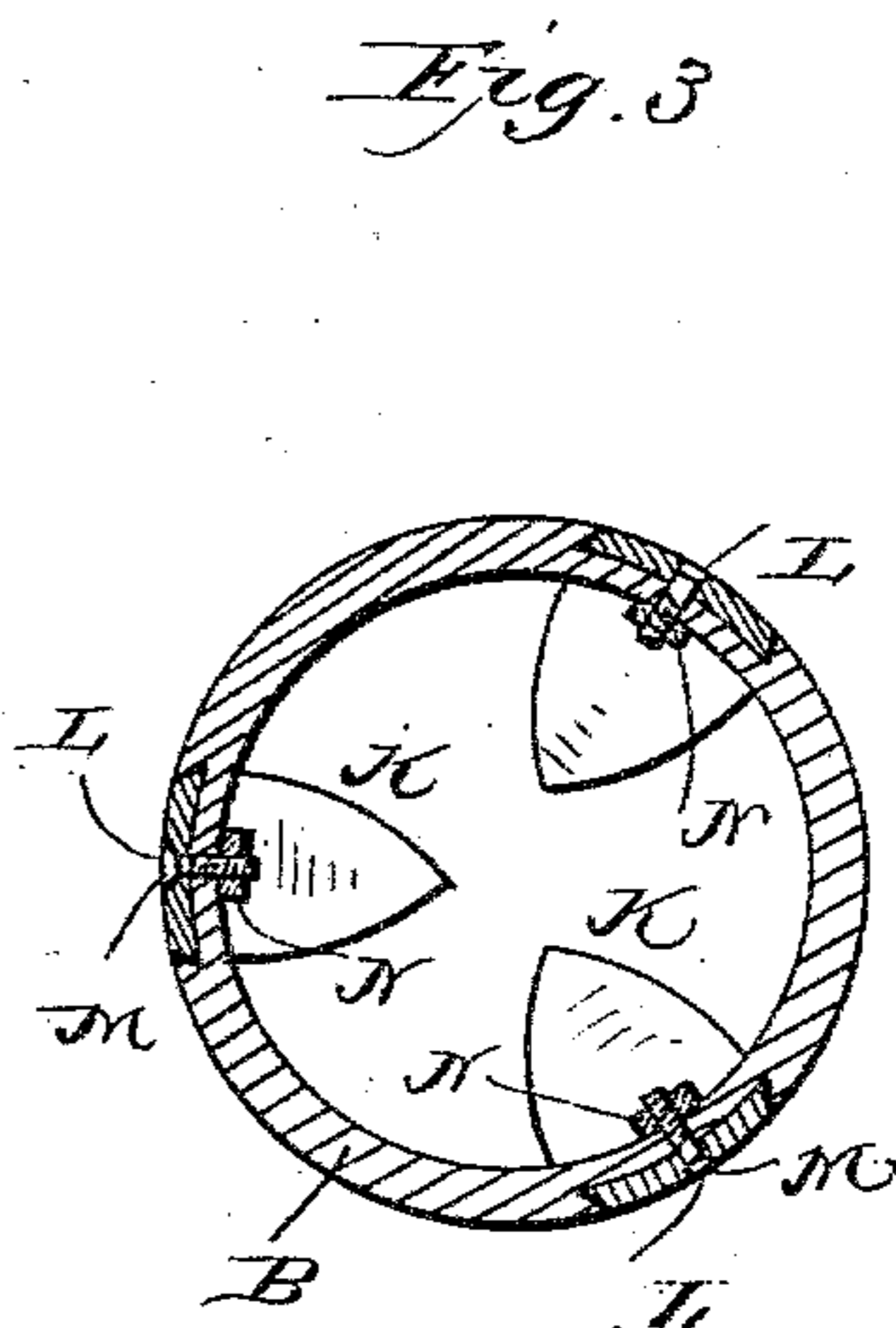
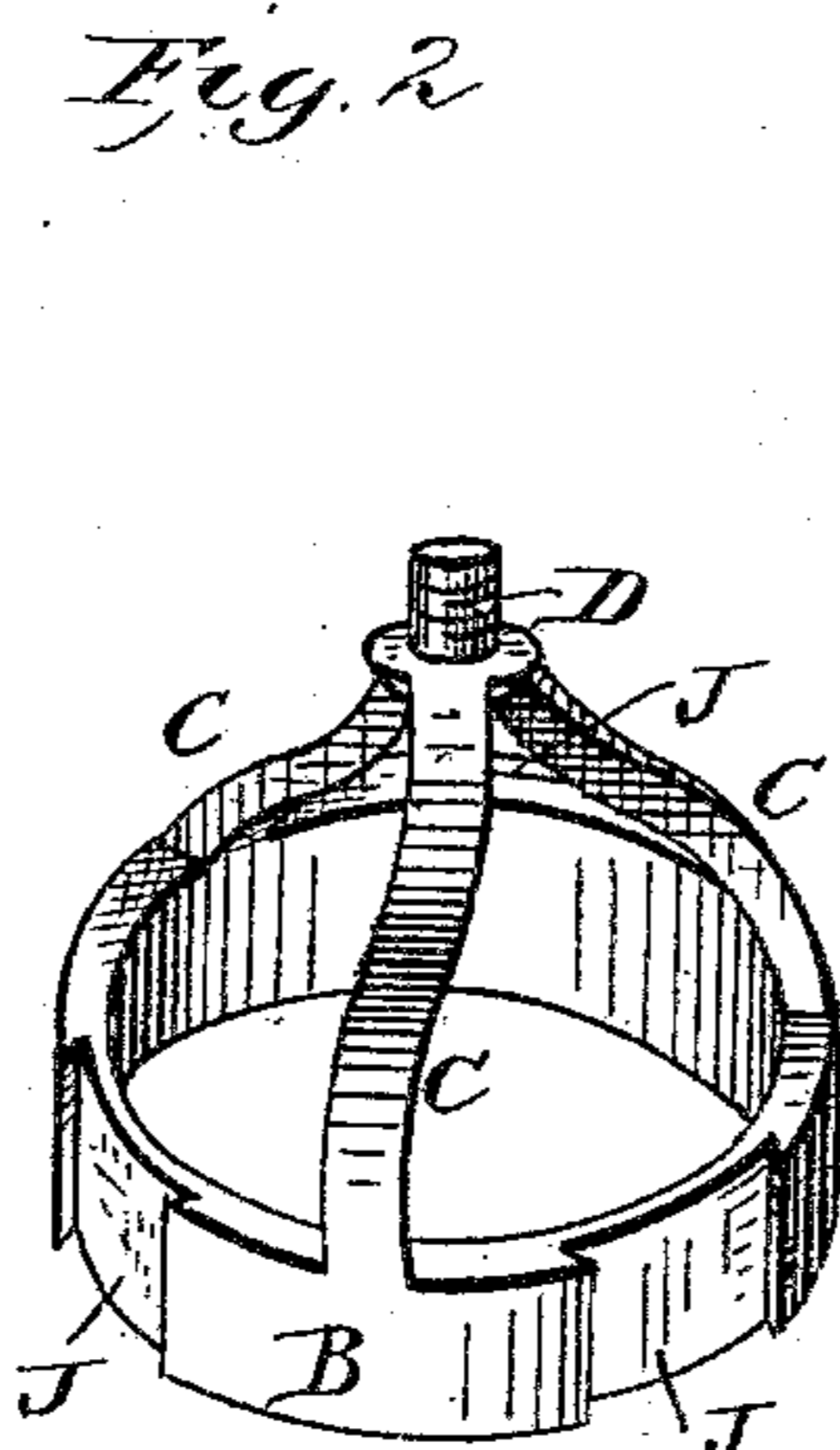
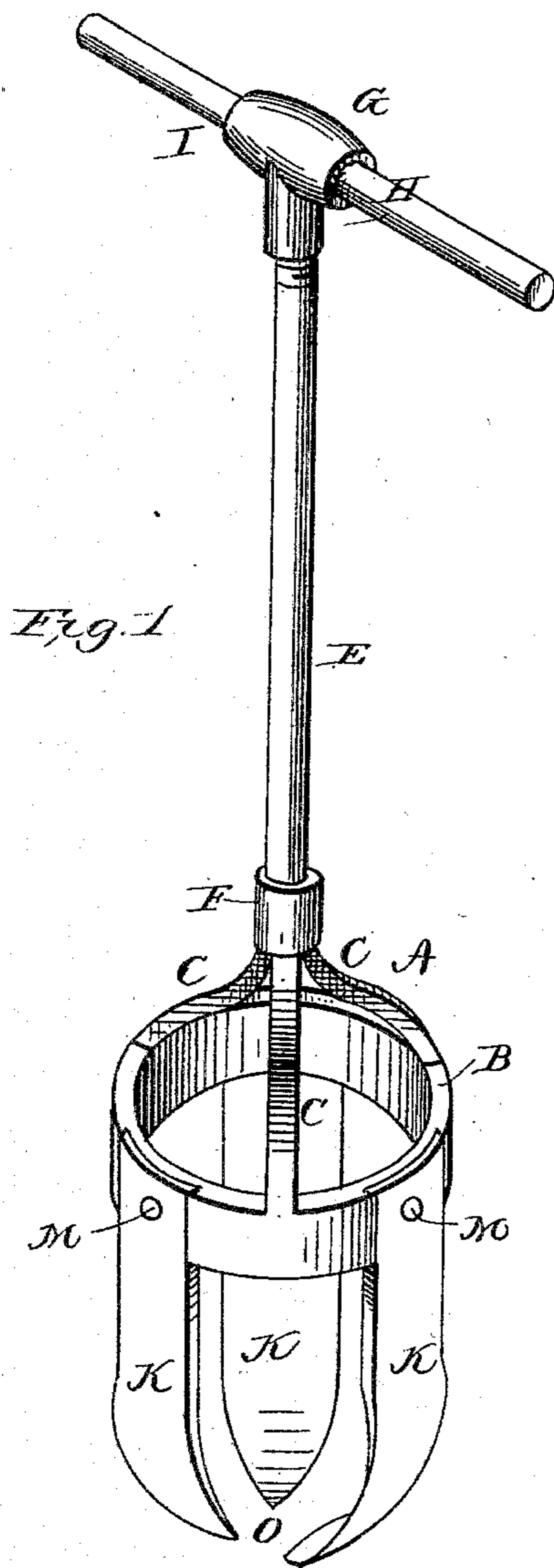


(No Model.)

W. C. SWITZER.
POST HOLE DIGGER.

No. 274,531.

Patented Mar. 27, 1883.



WITNESSES
F. L. Oursand
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM C. SWITZER, OF COMANCHE, TEXAS.

POST-HOLE DIGGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 274,531, dated March 27, 1883.

Application filed December 2, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. SWITZER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Comanche, in the county of Comanche and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Post-Hole Digger, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to post-hole diggers; and it consists in certain improvements in the construction of the same having for their object to produce a convenient, serviceable, and inexpensive tool, as will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the head detached, and Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view.

The same letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

A represents the head of my improved tool, which consists, mainly, of a ring or circular casting, B, of soft malleable iron, the upper edge of which has three arms, C, formed integrally therewith, and extending inwardly, uniting at the center, so as to form a shank, D.

E is a shaft consisting of an ordinary gas-pipe connected to shank D by a sleeve or coupling, F, and having at its upper end a top or casting, G, formed with an eye, H, in which is fitted the transverse cross-bar or handle I, by which the device is in practice manipulated.

The ring or casting B is provided in its outer surface with a series of, say, three vertical dovetailed recesses or grooves, J, to receive the upper ends of the cutting-blades K, which are secured in place by means of bolts L, the

heads of which, M, are countersunk in and flush with the outer sides of said blades, while the nuts N are tightened upon the inner side of the ring B.

The blades or cutters K, which are segmental in horizontal cross-section, are extended downwardly for a suitable distance, forming a basket, O. The edges of the blades are sharpened, and their lower ends are turned or curved slightly spirally in an inward direction until their points nearly meet.

The operation of my invention will be readily understood. By placing the digger in an upright position upon the ground and giving it, by means of the handle I, a rotary movement, it is caused to dig or bore a hole, the dirt falling into the basket-like receptacle formed by the blades, by which it may be readily lifted out. The construction of the device is simple, and the blades may be readily removed for sharpening.

I claim as my invention—

In a post-hole digger, the combination of the head, consisting of a ring having vertical dovetailed recesses to receive the blades or cutters, and provided with converging arms uniting so as to form a shank, a shaft connected to said shank, a top piece having a transverse opening or eye, and a cross-bar or handle fitted in the latter, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM C. SWITZER.

Witnesses:

MILTON BROWN,
R. H. CARR.