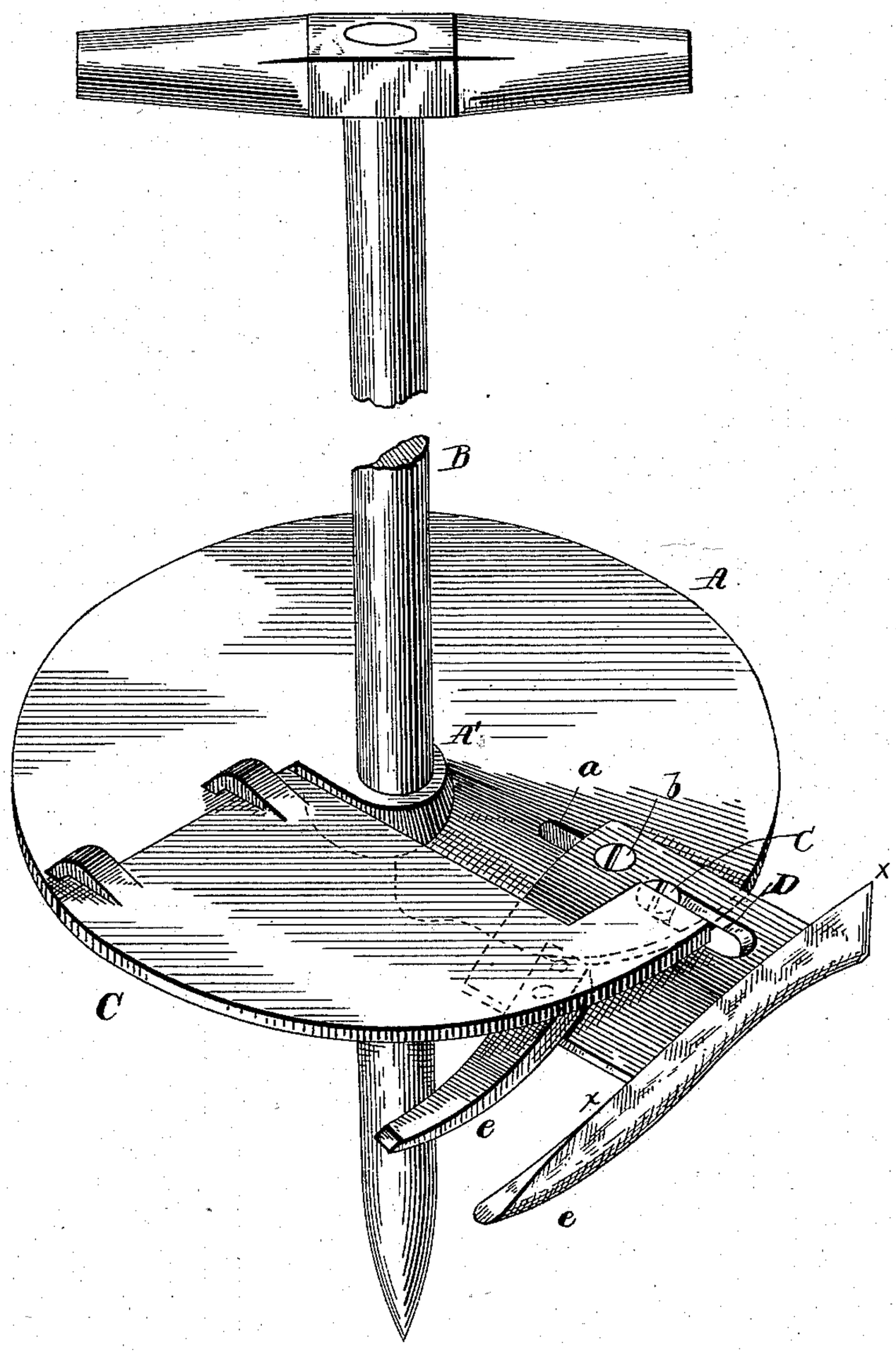
(No Model.)

S. S. & J. G. SHERMAN.

EARTH AUGER.

No. 295,444. Patented Mar. 18, 1884.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL S. SHERMAN AND JEREMIAH G. SHERMAN, OF WEST McHENRY, ILLINOIS.

EARTH-AUGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 295,444, dated March 18, 1884.

Application filed December 27, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, SAMUEL S. SHERMAN and JEREMIAH G. SHERMAN, citizens of the United States, residing at West McHenry, in the county of McHenry and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Earth-Augers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

Our invention relates to earth-augers; and the object we have in view is to provide an adjustable cutting-plate with suitable tines to work with a lifting-plate and adjustable valve, as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

In the accompanying figure, which is a perspective of our invention, A represents a metallic plate which has an annular-shaped periphery, and very nearly the diameter of the hole in the ground which it is intended to enter. A portion of this plate is cut away, and the opening thus made is covered with a hinged valve, C. The valve C is hinged at one end to the plate A, and opens upward, its outer edge being of the curvature of the plate. A′ represents the hub of the plate A, and a handle, B, pointed at its lower end, passes through this hub and is secured in it. A portion of plate A beneath the point or free end of the valve is turned downward at a slight inclination and has a cutting-edge.

D represents a plate with a cutting-edge, which is adjustably bolted to the plate A. This plate D has a downward inclination, and is provided with two tines, *e e*, the ends of which are so formed that they will cut the earth as the tool is rotated. The upper edge of the outer tine is sharpened, as seen, from *x* to *x*, for the purpose of cutting roots or such other obstructions.

The plates A and D are both provided with slots—one marked *a* and the other *c*. Bolts provided with heads and burrs pass through both plates and serve to secure them together, and at the same time these bolts and slots adapt the plate D to plate A in such manner that said plate D may be adjusted toward or from the center of plate A for the purpose of regulating the size of the hole to be cut, as will be readily understood.

In use the tool is rotated by means of the handle B. The earth is cut by the tines *e e*, and passes up the inclined portion of plates A and D, the valve C lifting to allow it to pass upward. The earth thus lifted is deposited on plate A, and of course may be removed from the hole being cut by simply lifting out the tool.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The adjustable plate D, provided with tines *e e*, in combination with the plate A and its handle, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The adjustable plate D, in combination with the plate A and its valve C, constructed substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL S. SHERMAN.
JEREMIAH G. SHERMAN.

Witnesses:
F. L. CALKINS,
JAKOB B. ADAMS.