

(No Model.)

H. WILCOX.
FIRE KINDLER.

No. 363,871.

Patented May 31, 1887.

Fig. 1.

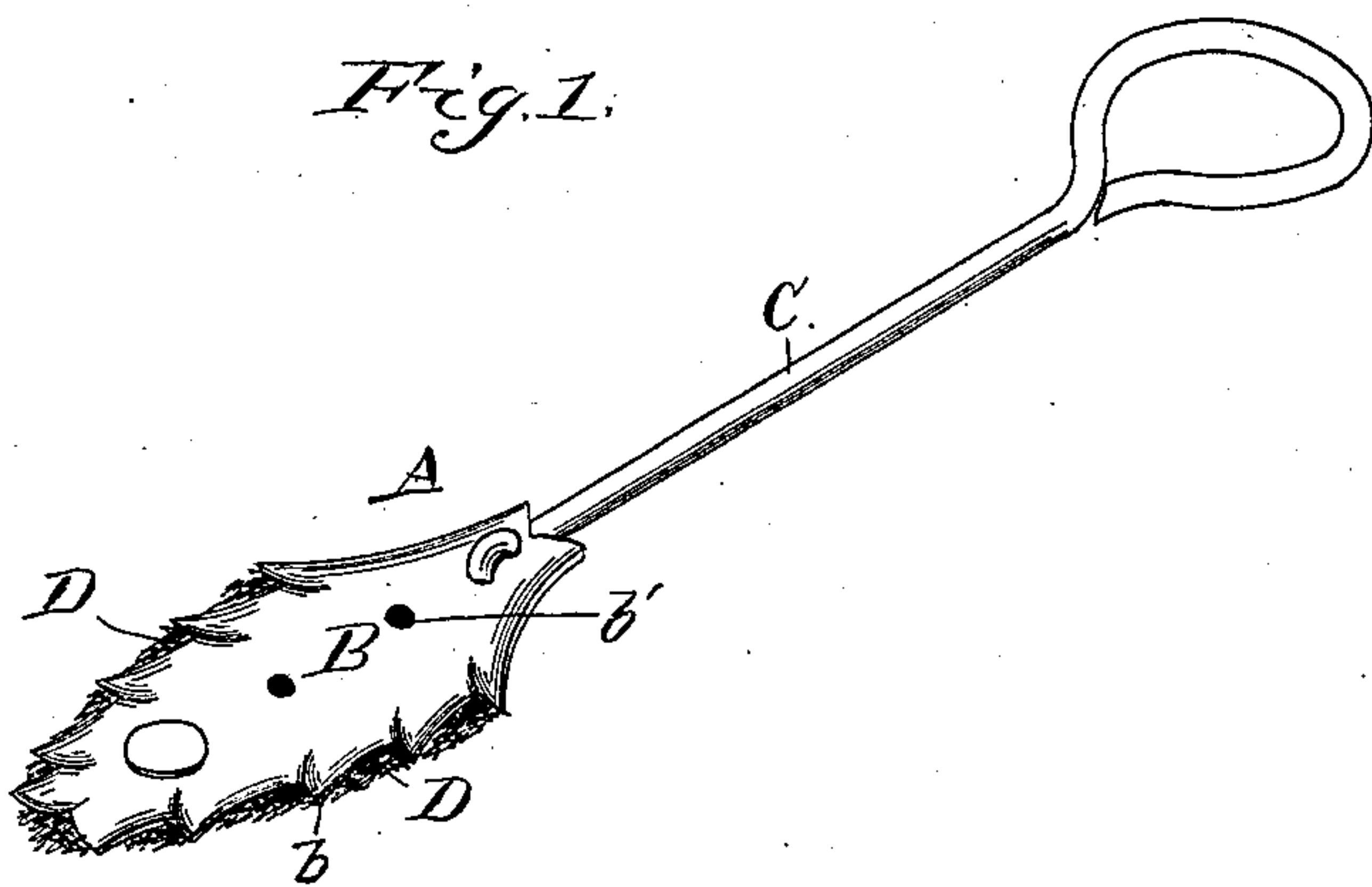


Fig. 2.

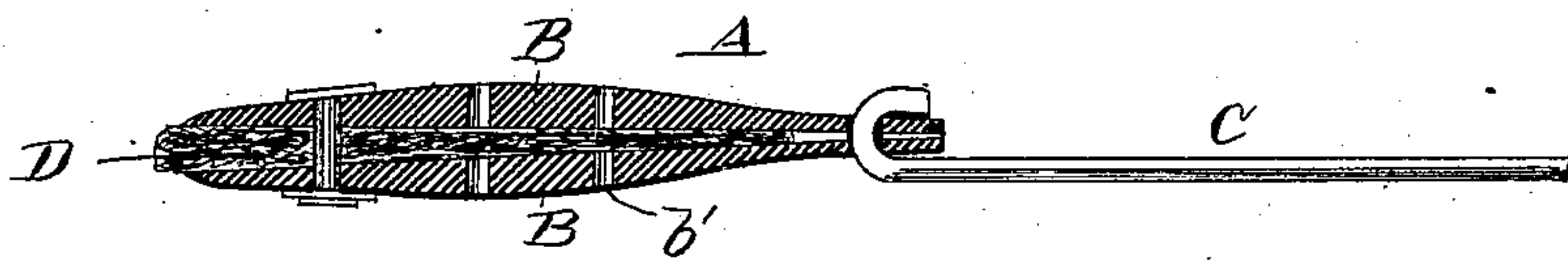
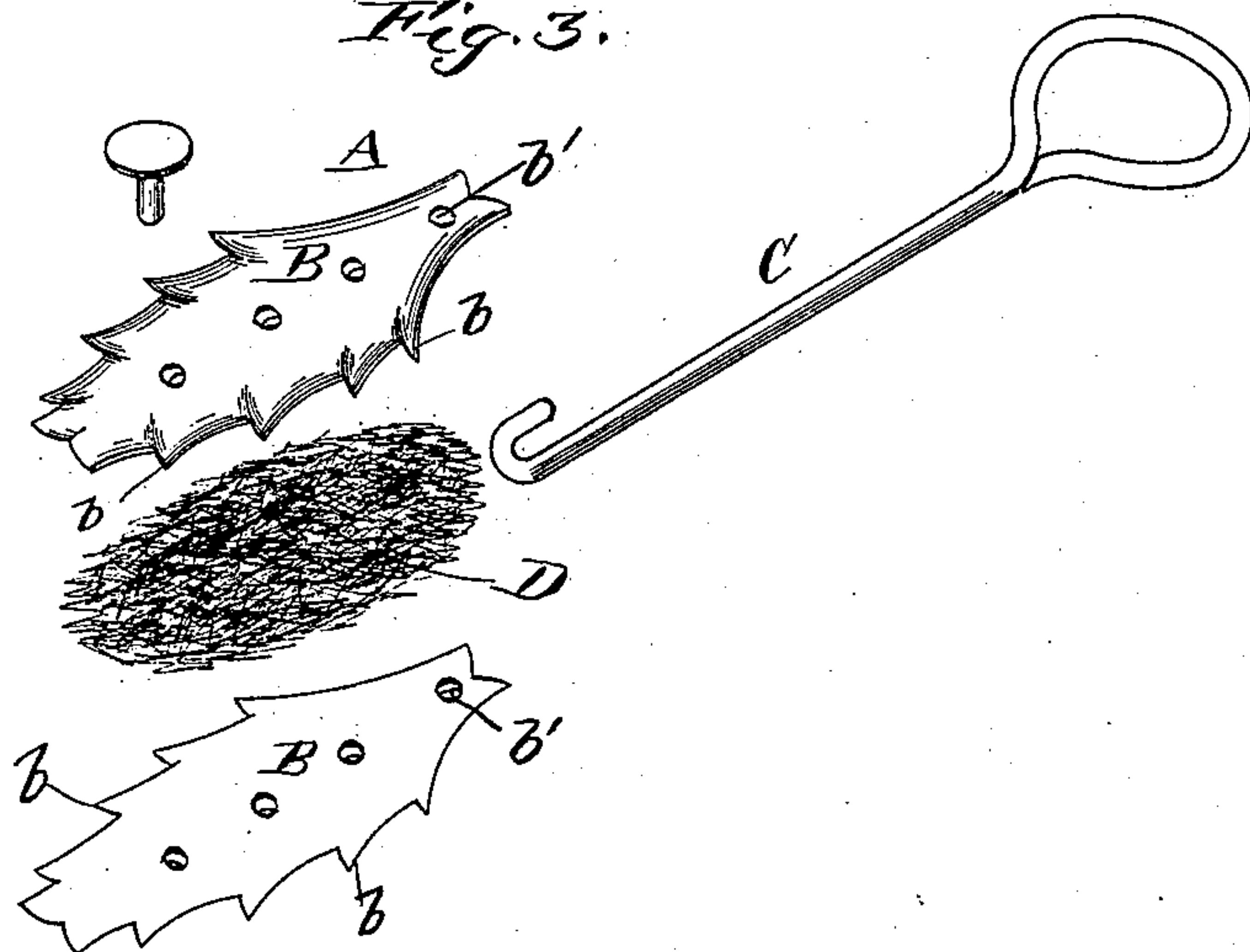


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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HENRY WILCOX, OF MONTAGUE, MICHIGAN.

FIRE-KINDLER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 363,871, dated May 31, 1887.

Application filed August 14, 1886. Serial No. 210,934. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY WILCOX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Montague, in the county of Muskegon and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fire-Kindlers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in fire-kindlers; and it consists of the peculiar construction and arrangement of the various parts, substantially as hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved fire-kindler which can be used with safety to rapidly kindle or ignite wood or coal, and which can be used for a large number of times without impairing its efficiency or destroying its usefulness in any way, and which shall possess superior advantages over all others that have preceded it in points of strength and simplicity of construction and cheapness of manufacture.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate a fire-kindler embodying my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view thereof. Fig. 2 is a vertical central longitudinal sectional view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the parts detached from each other.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures, A designates the fire-kindler of my invention, which consists of the inclosing-plates B, a handle, C, connected to the plates at one end, and an intermediate non-destructible fire-proof packing, D, all as more fully described.

The plates B are made of metal in a single piece, and oblong or of other desired form; and on their side edges they are provided with a series of protuberances or spurs, *b*, from which tongues of flames are projected when the device is used, so as to provide a multiplicity of separate tongues of flame, from which the fuel will more readily be ignited and thereby kindle the same much quicker. The plates are also provided with perforations *b'*, through which flames escape. These plates are placed one upon the other, with their projecting spurs or protuberances opposite to each other, and between the plates is interposed

a packing, D, of asbestos, which will not be destroyed or affected by the fire. This packing extends beyond the edges of the plates and the spurs thereof, and it is absorbent to take up a quantity of some inflammable substance—as, for instance, coal-oil. The plates are secured together by means of a rivet or screw to clamp the packing in place, and the handle is secured to one end of the plates by passing the bent end thereof through aligned eyes in the plates.

The operation of my invention is as follows: When it is desired to kindle a fire, the device is placed in coal-oil or other inflammable substance, so that the absorbent fire-proof packing will absorb a considerable quantity thereof. The device is now removed and a lighted match or other object applied thereto to ignite the oil, when the device is placed beneath the wood or other fuel which it is designed to ignite. A number of tongues of flame dart from the spurs of the plates and a large sheet of flame is emitted by the device to rapidly kindle a fire.

The device is not injured or affected by the fire, as all of the parts are fire-proof, and it can be used with entire safety. It is very clean and simple, and strong of construction, and can be used a great number of times by inserting it in a vessel filled with inflammable oil or other substance, so that the fire-proof packing will absorb the oil, &c.

I am aware that heretofore fire-kindlers have been constructed of a conoidal metallic perforated case, secured on a rod or handle, and filled with a refractory absorbent holding in its pores an inflammable fluid; and also that fire-kindlers have heretofore been constructed of two semi-elliptical plates perforated or slotted and connected so as to form an elliptical shell, which shell is filled with asbestos or similar material. My device differs from these in employing flat plates having spurs along their edges. These plates clamp the asbestos much more firmly and securely than has been possible heretofore, and secures a better flame for the reason that the asbestos or other filling is compressed, the result of which is a tendency on the part of the oil or other fluid to flow toward the edges of the plates where it is ignited, as hereinbefore stated. The spurs pro-

vided along the edges of the plates divide the flame into a number of smaller tongues, as above mentioned, and my device is consequently more efficient than those devices in which the flame is fed by oil contained in a filling or within a perforated shell.

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

10 1. As a new article of manufacture, a fire-kindler consisting of the plates having protuberances at their edges, an intermediate absorbent packing projecting beyond the edges of the plates, and a handle secured to the plates, substantially as described.

20 2. As a new article of manufacture, a fire-kindler comprising two flat perforated plates having a series of protuberances or spurs along their edges, an intermediate absorbent packing projecting beyond the edges of the plates, and a handle secured to the plates, substantially as described.

25 3. As a new article of manufacture, a fire-kindler comprising the plates having the projecting spurs, an intermediate absorbent pack-

ing projecting beyond the edges of the plates, a rivet or fastening-pin inserted through the plates and the packing, and a handle secured to the plates, substantially as described.

4. The herein-described fire-kindler, comprising the flat plates having transverse openings at one end and a series of teeth or spurs, projecting outwardly from the several sides or edges thereof, a packing or filling of absorbent material, such as asbestos, located between the plates and extending to or beyond the edges of the plates, a rivet or rivets passing through the plates to clamp them together, and upon the packing or filling, and a handle having a hook or eye at one end that passes through the transverse aligned openings in the plates, substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

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

HENRY WILCOX.

Witnesses:

L. N. KEATING,
A. DICKERMAN.