

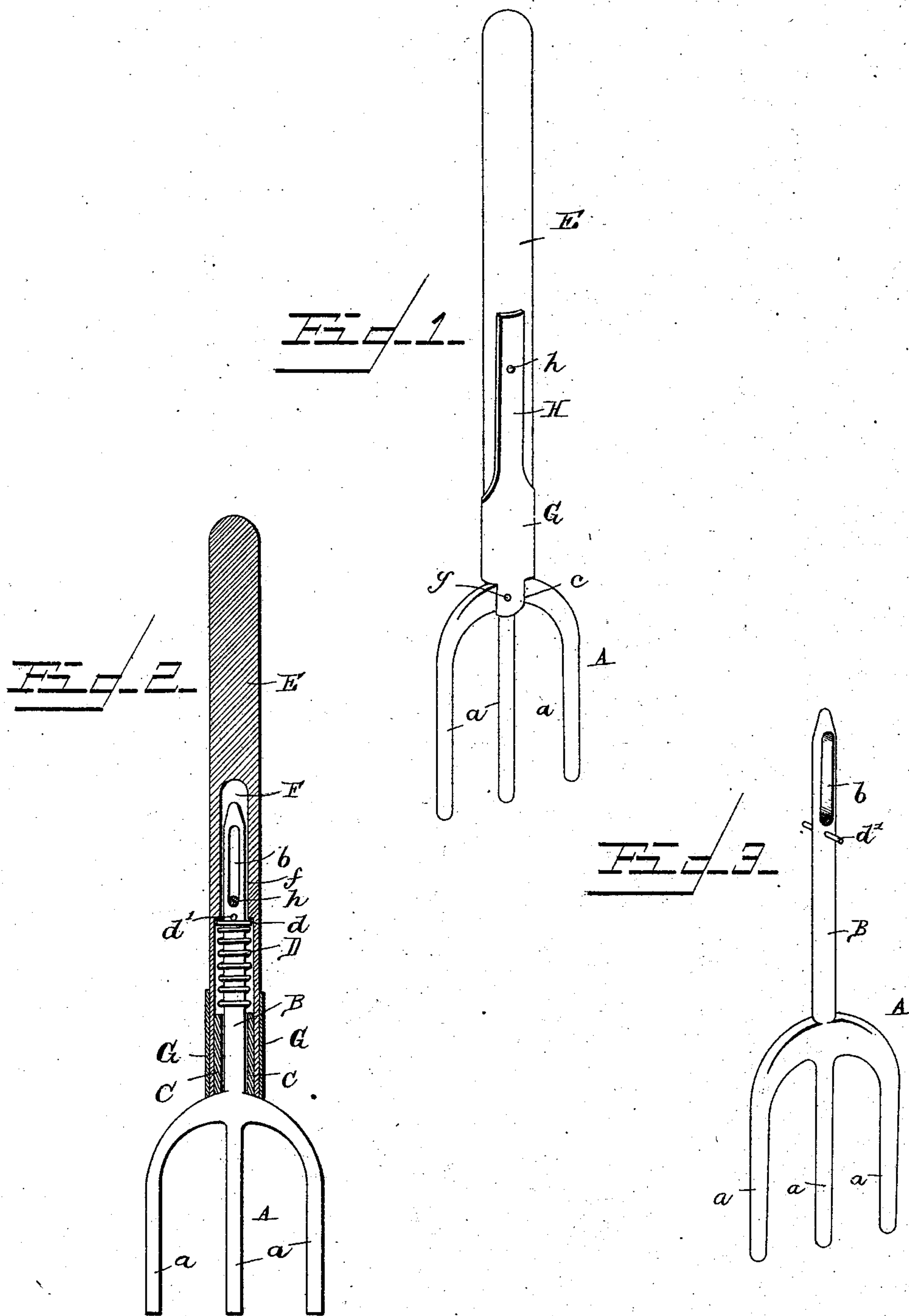
(No Model.)

R. W. GLASGOW.

PITCHFORK.

No. 379,951.

Patented Mar. 27, 1888.



Witnesses,

Henry G. Dieterich
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Inventor.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT WASHINGTON GLASGOW, OF TRANQUILLITY, OHIO.

PITCHFORK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 379,951, dated March 27, 1888.

Application filed November 29, 1887. Serial No. 256,451. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT WASHINGTON GLASGOW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Tranquillity, in the county of Adams and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Pitchforks, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in pitchforks, the main objects being to devise means whereby the load may be more easily discharged therefrom and the arms of the workman relieved from the jar of discharging the load; and it consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claim hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a pitchfork embodying the invention. Fig. 2 represents a central longitudinal section thereof. Fig. 3 represents the fork and parts connected thereto detached.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A designates a fork having any desired number of prongs *a*, and provided with the tang B, in which, near its end, is the long longitudinal slot *b*.

C is a sleeve surrounding the tang, and bifurcated at its lower end, as at *c*, to fit over the shoulder of the fork adjacent to the tang.

D is a strong coiled spring surrounding the tang between the upper end of the sleeve C and a washer or collar, *d*, held in place by a transverse pin, *d'*, that pierces the tang, to the lower side of the slot *b*.

E is a wooden handle or staff provided in one end with a suitable recess, F, to fit snugly upon the sleeve C, the said recess being reduced and prolonged at *f*, for the purpose of permitting the tang to reciprocate freely in and out.

G is a metal sleeve surrounding the handle

and bifurcated at its lower end to correspond with the sleeve C, to which it is secured at said end by pins *g*, securing together the corresponding arms of their bifurcations.

The sleeve G is provided with the opposite arms, H, extending along the handle for a sufficient distance.

h is a pin connecting the arms H of the sleeve G to the handle and passing through the slot *b* of the fork-tang, so that while the fork can reciprocate freely it cannot be separated from the handle without removing said pin. The handle and sleeves are thus bound together by the pins *h* and *g*, the sleeves C being within it and the sleeve G on its outer surface, so that when the fork is drawn outward the coiled spring will be compressed between the upper end of the sleeve C and the collar or washer on the tang. In using the device the fork can by these means adjust itself inward and outward, and when throwing a load off the fork the latter will spring outward with the load and then recede from under the same, thus preventing the arms of the workman from being jarred.

Having described my invention, I claim—

The herein-described pitchfork, consisting of the recessed handle, the sleeve C, secured in the recess therein and bifurcated at *c*, the fork provided with the tang B, having the longitudinal slot *b* and collar or washer *d*, the coiled spring D, the metal sleeve G, surrounding the lower part of the handle, and the pins *g* and *h*, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

ROBERT WASHINGTON GLASGOW.

Witnesses:

FRANK G. BLAIR,
CYRUS RALSTON.