

(No Model.)

A. B. NICHOLS.  
PRUNING IMPLEMENT.

No. 455,600.

Patented July 7, 1891.

Fig. 1.

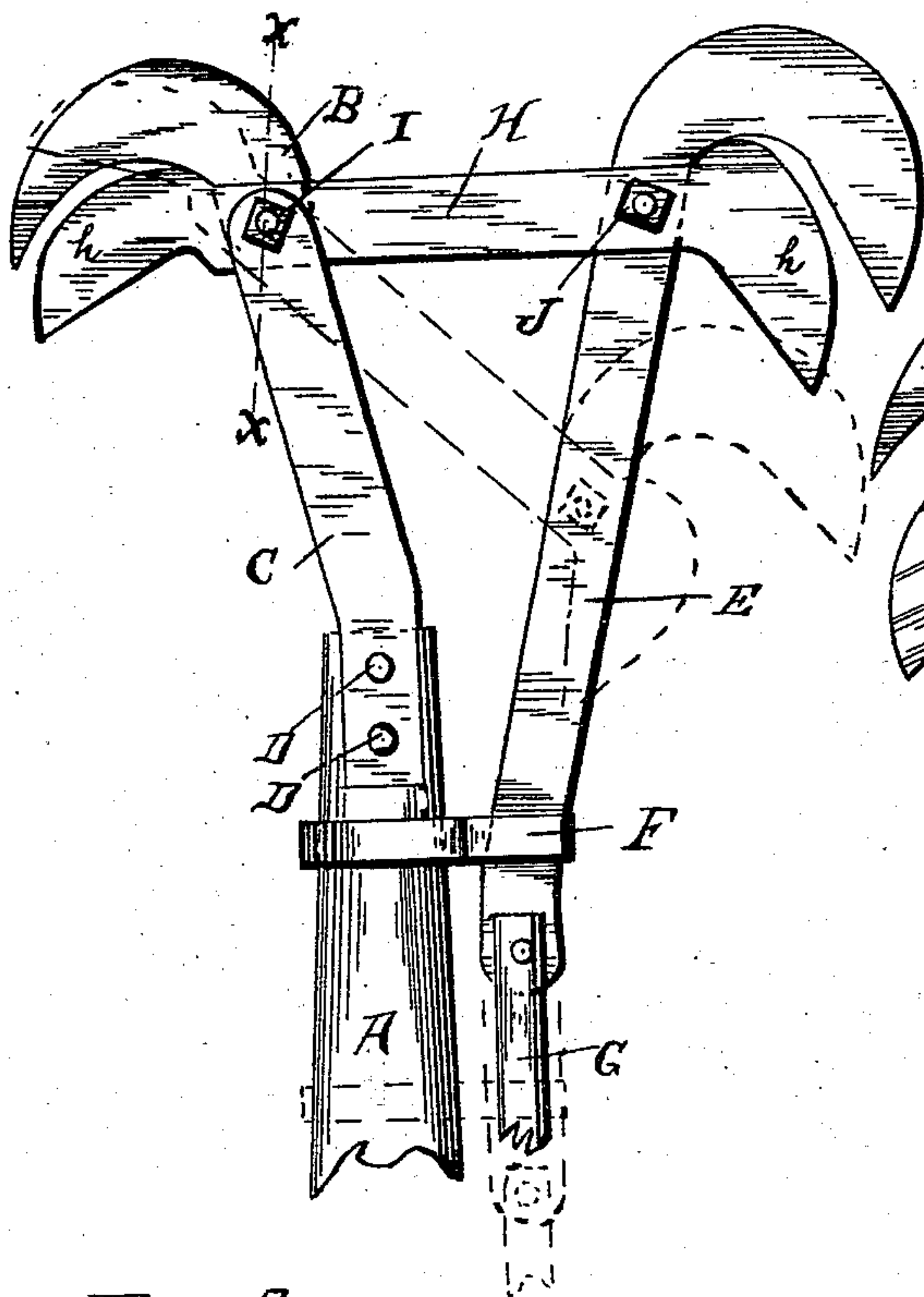


Fig. 2.

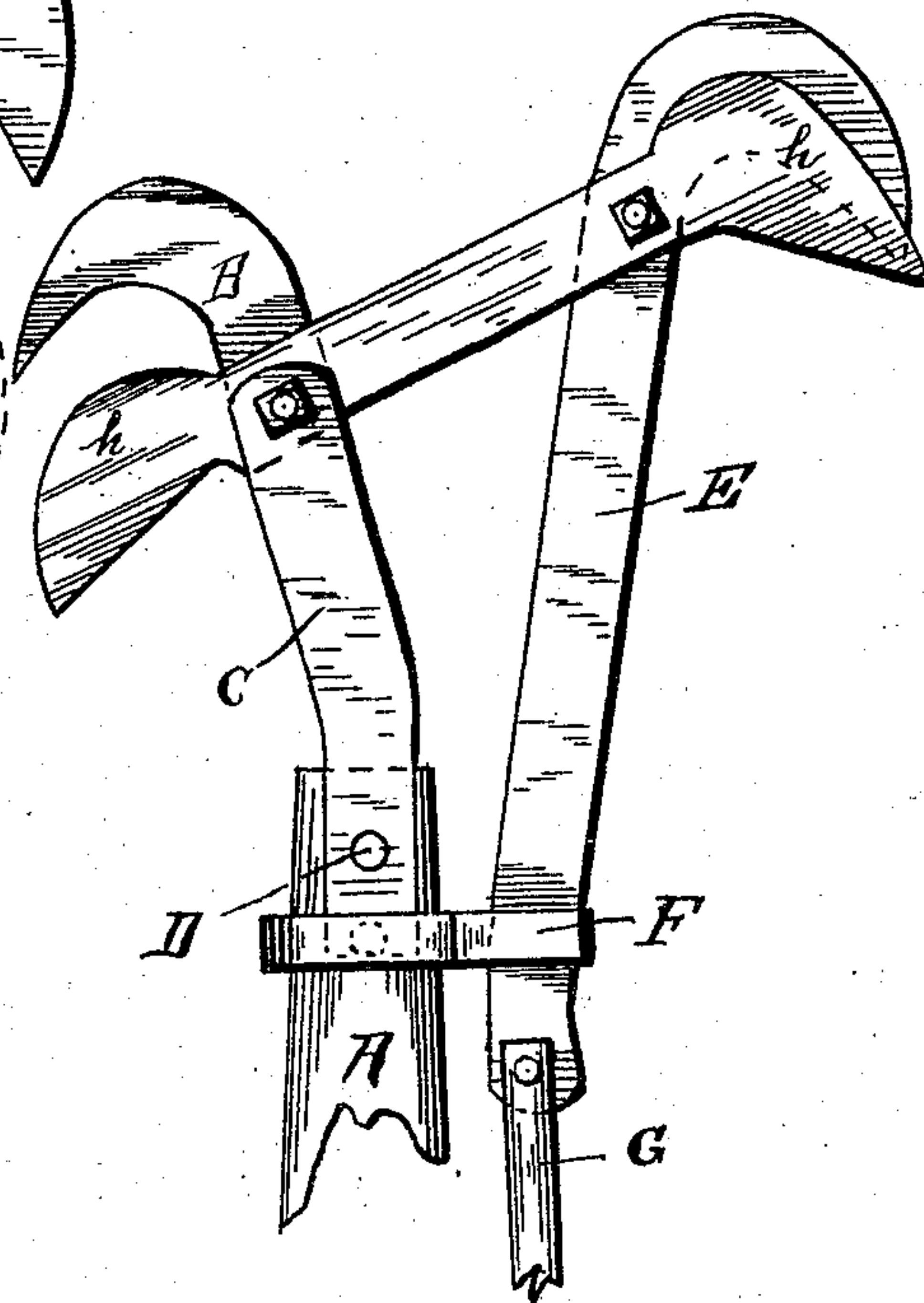
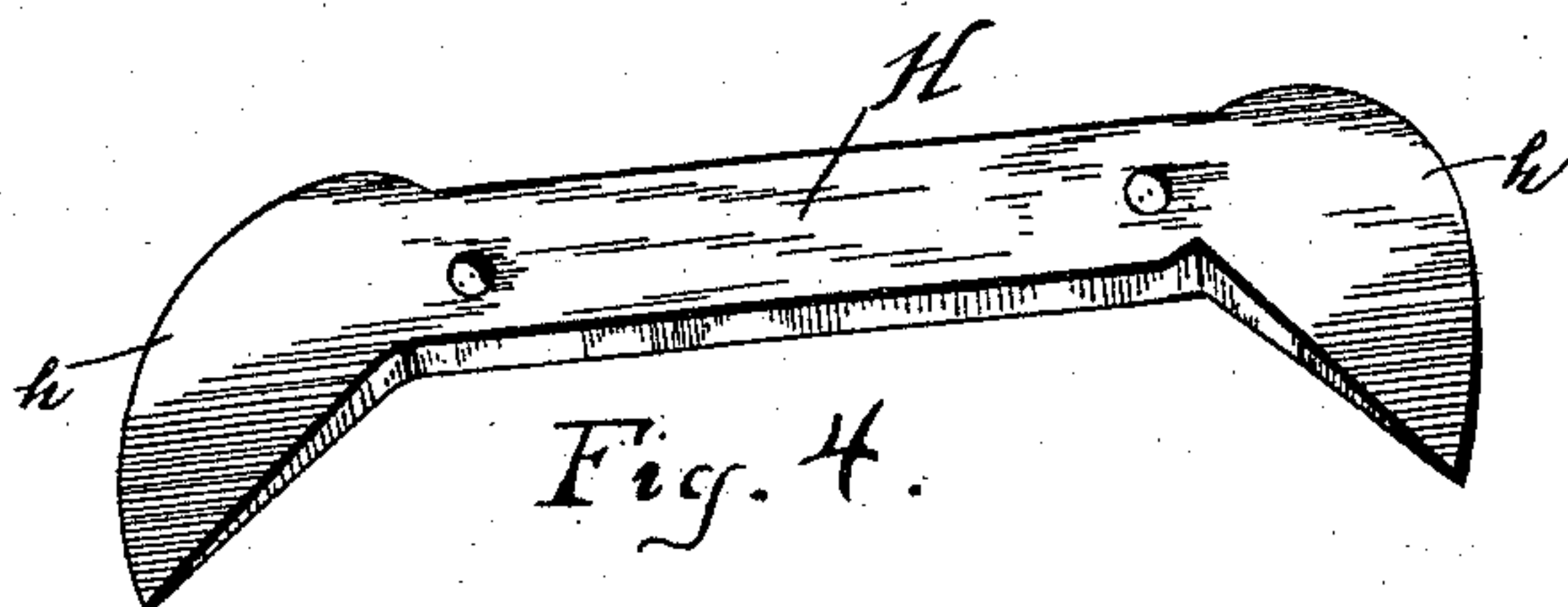
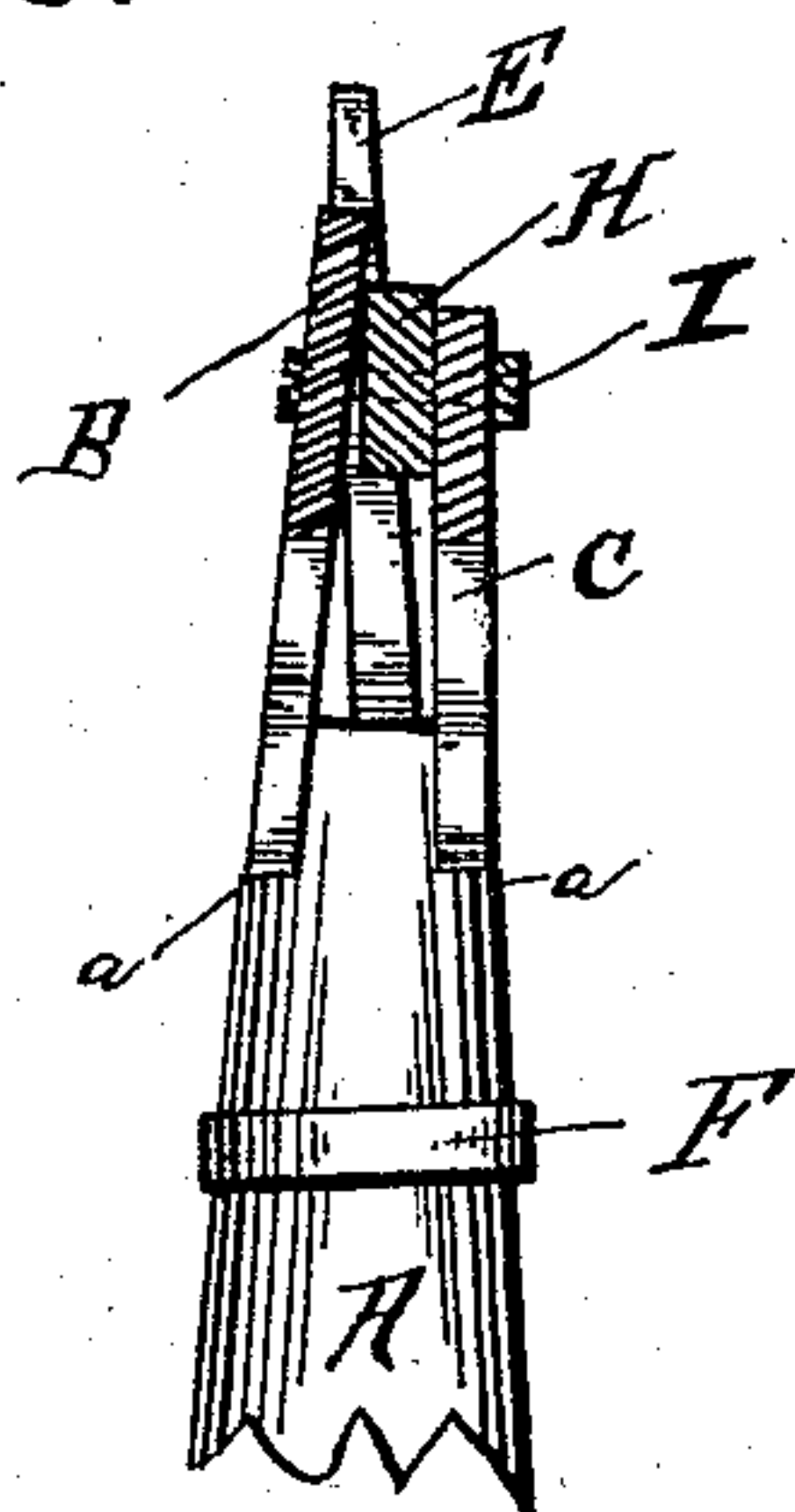


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AXTIL BRIGGS NICHOLS, OF CRAB ORCHARD, NEBRASKA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ANDREW M. WILLIAMSON, OF SAME PLACE.

## PRUNING IMPLEMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 455,600, dated July 7, 1891.

Application filed March 30, 1891. Serial No. 386,934. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AXTIL BRIGGS NICHOLS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Crab Orchard, in the county of Johnson and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pruning-Machines; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention has relation to pruning-machines.

The object especially had in view is to provide a convenient arrangement for gaging the cutters, whereby either large or small limbs may be severed.

A further object is to provide a pruner which will enable the cutting of contiguous limbs with but very slight change in the position of the implement.

The invention consists in the improved construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter more fully set forth and described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my device in its normal position, the dotted lines indicating one position the parts assume when adjusted. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the device adjusted to another position. Fig. 3 is a vertical section on the line *x x*, Fig. 1; and Fig. 4 is a detail view.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings, the letter A indicates the handle of the device, the upper end being cut away or reduced so as to form two shoulders *a a*. These shoulders support the lower ends of two arms B and C, secured thereto by means of transverse bolts D. The upper end of arm B, it will be observed, is bent or turned over into hook form.

The letter E indicates a movable arm, its upper end being bent over similarly to arm B. Near the lower end of arm E is formed or provided a sleeve or collar F, which encircles handle A and constitutes a guide for the arm

in its movement. The extremity of the movable arm has secured thereto an operating-bar G, by means of which said arm may be manipulated.

The letter H indicates a double cutting-blade, (shown clearly in Fig. 4,) the cutting-edges *h h* at the opposite ends thereof being of convex form. This cutting-blade works on a double pivot, one end being pivoted upon a transverse bolt I, passing through the same and through the upper ends of the arms B and C, and the other end pivoted upon a bolt J, extending from arm E.

The above being the construction of my improved device, its operation is as follows: When it is desired to sever a limb—for instance upon the right of Fig. 1—the movable arm E, by means of the operating-bar G, is moved downwardly. This necessarily throws the pivoted end *h* on the left of the double cutting-blade H upwardly, as indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 1, and the end *h* on the right downwardly. In this way the space between the under curved surface of arm E and the convex cutting-edge *h* adjacent is regulated so as to be adjusted to different thicknesses of limbs. When it is desired to cut a limb on the left, the parts are adjusted in the manner clearly illustrated in Fig. 2.

By providing the double cutting-jaws a convenient arrangement results, inasmuch as branches or limbs on the right and left both may be cut without turning the implement and with but the necessity of changing its position slightly.

It will be seen that my device is very simple in arrangement, efficient in operation, and can be gaged to cut either large or small limbs with perfect ease, allowing a man to remain standing on the ground.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

In a pruning implement, the combination of a handle having its upper end cut away or reduced upon opposite sides, forming shoulders, arms, one of which is hooked at its upper end, having the reduced end of the handle passing therebetween, so as to maintain them a uniform distance apart, the lower ends

of said arms seated upon the shoulders, transverse bolts passing through the arms and reduced end of the handle, a sliding arm having its upper end hooked, a guide-loop projecting laterally from its lower end and encircling the handle, an operating-rod attached to said sliding arm, and a double cutting-blade having one end passing between the upper ends of the stationary arms and free to move therebetween upon a transverse bolt

and its opposite end pivoted upon a bolt extending from the upper end of the sliding arm, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

AXTIL BRIGGS NICHOLS.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. BARLET,  
PHILO WALBRIDGE.