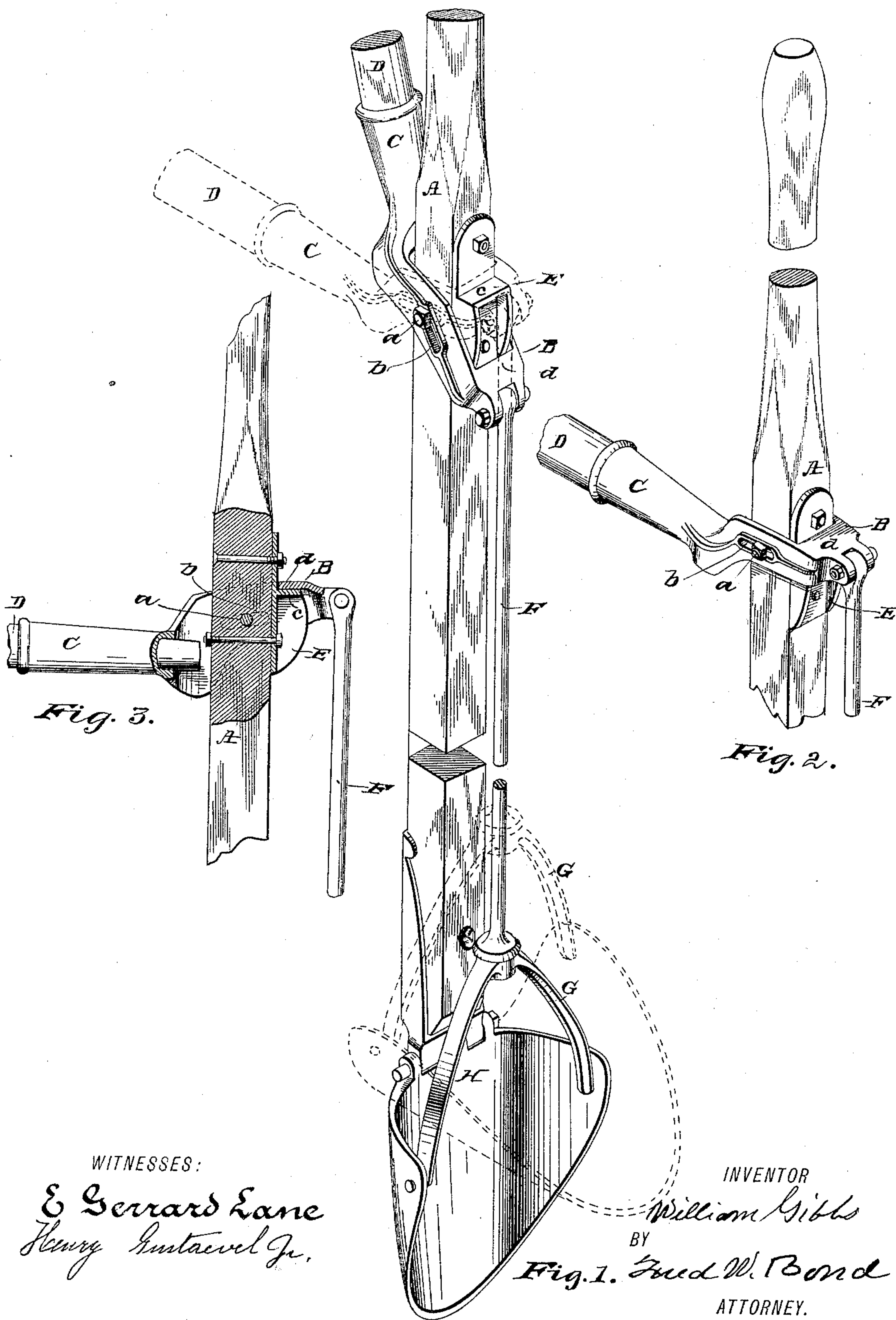


(No Model.)

W. GIBBS.
DIGGER.

No. 462,043.

Patented Oct. 27, 1891.



WITNESSES:

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DIGGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 462,043, dated October 27, 1891.

Application filed April 10, 1891. Serial No. 388,387. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM GIBBS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Canton, in the county of Stark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Diggers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, in which—

Figure 1 is a view showing the digger placed in proper position to be entered into the ground. Fig. 2 is a detached view of the upper part of the handle, showing the lock-lever properly located thereon. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the lock-lever yoke and the locking bracket, showing the lever locked.

The present invention has relation to diggers; and it consists in the different parts and combination of parts hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the handle, which may be of any desired length. To the handle A is pivotally attached the yoke B by means of the clamping-bolt *a* and the elongated slots *b*. The yoke B is provided with the socket C, which is for the purpose of receiving and holding the lever D.

To the handle A is securely attached in any convenient and well-known manner the locking-bracket E, which locking-bracket is located substantially as illustrated in the drawings. The locking-bracket E is provided with the ledge or shoulder *c*, which is for the purpose hereinafter described. The yoke B is provided with the flange or web *d*, which is for the purpose of engaging the ledge or shoulder *c*, as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3. To the yoke B is pivotally attached the connecting-rod F, the opposite end of said connecting-rod being securely attached in any convenient and well-known manner to the bail G, which bail is pivotally attached to the scoop or blade H. The top or upper end of the scoop or blade H is pivotally connected to the bottom or lower end of the handle A.

In use when it is desired to enter the scoop or blade into the ground or other material

the blade is placed or set in the position illustrated in Fig. 1, and after the scoop or blade has been filled the lever D is turned or forced downward until it assumes the position illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3, which in turn brings the scoop or blade substantially at right angles to the handle A, as illustrated by the dotted lines, Fig. 1.

For the purpose of locking the scoop or blade H at right angles to the handle A the ledge or shoulder *c* is provided, which ledge or shoulder engages the flange or web *d* when the lever D is placed at right angles to the handle A. For the purpose of causing the flange or web *d* to automatically engage the shoulder *c* the elongated slots *b* are provided.

It will be understood that after the scoop or blade H has been properly filled with dirt or other material and the same locked at right angles to the handle A its load can be elevated by the handle A. For the purpose of preventing the scoop or blade H from becoming accidentally released after it has been placed at right angles to the handle A the ledge or shoulder *c* is adjusted somewhat higher than the clamping-bolt *a*, as illustrated in Fig. 3.

It will be understood that by providing the elongated slots *b* the yoke B will be permitted to move back and forth on the clamping-bolt *a*, said clamping-bolt being so adjusted that the yoke B will easily move on said clamping-bolt. It will also be understood that when the scoop or blade H has been properly locked, it can be elevated by the handle A independent of the lever D.

For the purpose of providing a bearing-point for the lever D said lever may be extended through the socket C, as illustrated in Fig. 3, and is so adjusted that its end will come in contact with the handle A after the flange or web *d* has been disengaged from the ledge or shoulder *c*.

It will be understood that a projection can be formed either on the handle A or the yoke B and the same object accomplished that is accomplished by extending the lever D through and beyond the socket C.

It will be understood that by extending the lever D through the socket C or providing an extension the flange or web *d* will be drawn over onto the shoulder *c*.

By providing a means for locking the lever

D at right angles to the handle A said lever can be released by the operator and both hands applied to the handle A when it is desired to lift the dirt or material located upon
5 the scoop or blade H.

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

1. The combination of the handle A, the
10 pivoted yoke B, the locking-bracket E, provided with the ledge or shoulder *e*, the flange or web *d*, the lever D, the connecting-rod F, and the scoop or blade H, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the handle A, the
15 pivoted yoke B, the locking-bracket E, provided with the ledge or shoulder *e*, the flange or web *d*, the elongated slots *b*, the lever D, the connecting-rod F, and the scoop or blade H, substantially as and for the purpose speci- 20
fied.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM GIBBS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. GIBBS,

E. A. C. SMITH.