

(No Model.)

H. P. SCHWARTZ.  
AX.

No. 604,943.

Patented May 31, 1898.

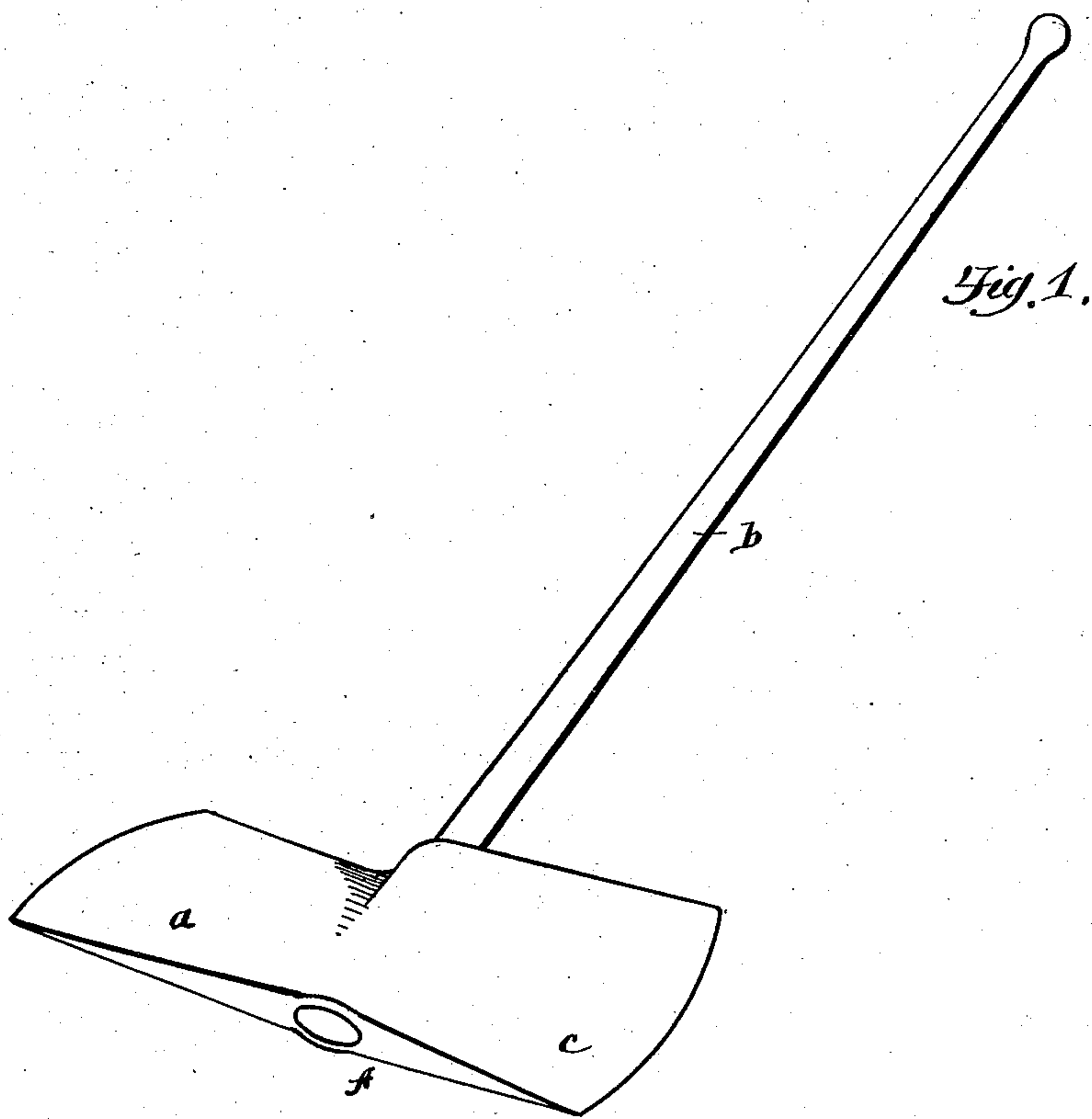


Fig. 1.

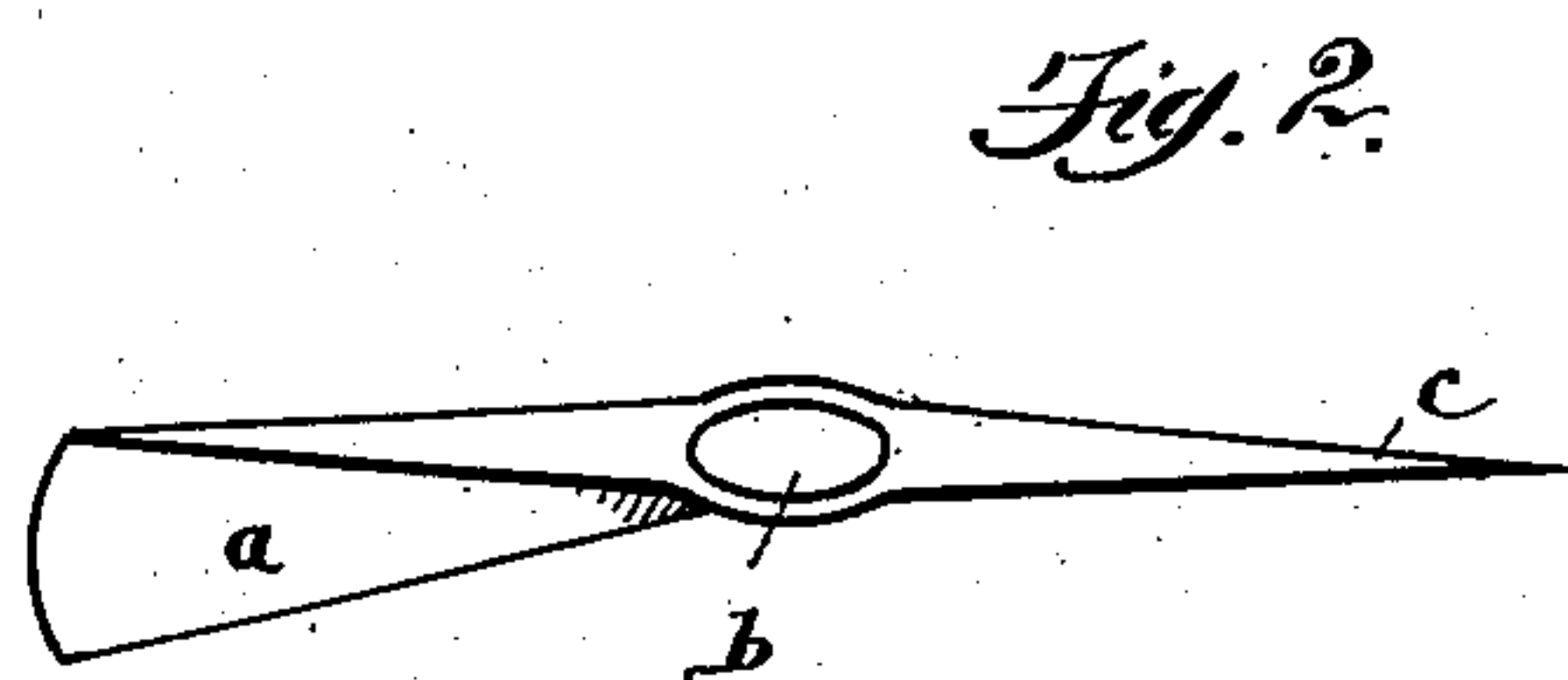


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY P. SCHWARTZ, OF ROLLA, MISSOURI.

AX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 604,943, dated May 31, 1898.

Application filed August 9, 1897. Serial No. 647,523. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY P. SCHWARTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rolla, in the county of Phelps and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Axes; and I do hereby 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, forming a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in axes, and has for its object to provide means whereby the user of what is commonly known as the "double-bitted" ax may sever the tree, leaving a square short stump, without the necessity of bending over in an awkward and uncomfortable position.

The invention consists in the particular construction of the device to be hereinafter described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows my improved ax in perspective, and Fig. 2 shows an end view thereof.

Like letters of reference refer to corresponding parts.

In the double-bitted ax of the common construction the blades are arranged in a plane substantially in line with the axis of the helve, and in its use the operator in cutting trees or like objects standing in a vertical position makes a kerf at an angle to the object being operated upon unless he assumes a position which would render the operation difficult and uncomfortable.

It is the purpose of my invention to obviate this objectionable feature, and I accomplish this by constructing one of the bits *a* of the ax *A* at an angle to the line of the helve *b*, also to the plane of the opposite bit *c*. As the drawings illustrate, the bits are united, having their body portions formed integral

and provided with an eye to receive the helve *b*. The bit *c* and front edge of the bit *a* are arranged in a plane with the helve, while the rear and cutting edges of bit *a* are angularly offset from said plane. The angle of the bit *a* may be arranged for either a right or left handed operator, so that when he stands in substantially an erect position the bit *a* will lie in substantially a horizontal plane when the helve is held at an angle so as to bring the ax into cutting engagement with the stump of the tree near the ground.

It will be apparent to those familiar with these devices that the improved invention offers superior facilities, as the user is enabled not only to sever the tree near the ground in the manner above described, but is also enabled to cut timber in the usual manner with the bit *c*.

It is obvious from the foregoing that this ax may be constructed to suit individuals of varying heights, if desired, and I would have it understood that although I have shown but one form others may be constructed without materially departing from the spirit and scope of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

As a new article of manufacture, a double-bitted ax composed of the bits *a*, and *c* having their body portions united and provided with an eye to receive a helve, said bit *c*, and the front edge of said bit *a*, being arranged in the same plane with the helve and the rear and cutting edges of said bit *a*, offset from said plane substantially as described.

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

HENRY P. SCHWARTZ.

Witnesses:

C. E. ROMINE,  
C. B. MATSON.