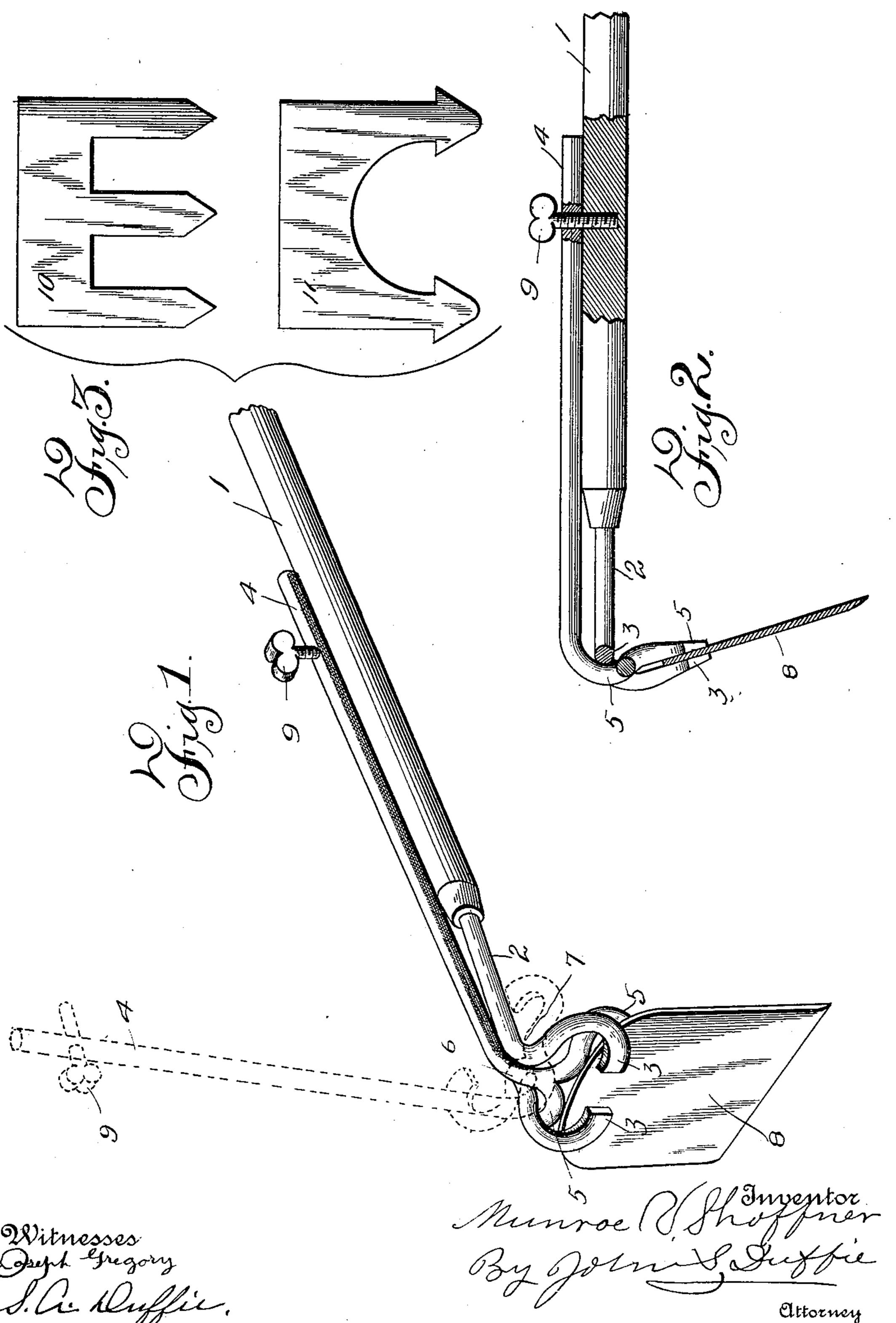
## M. V. SHOFFNER.

HOE.

(Application filed May 15, 1899.)

\*No Model.)



## United States Patent Office.

MUNROE V. SHOFFNER, OF DAMASCUS, ARKANSAS.

## HOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 630,750, dated August 8, 1899.

Application filed May 15, 1899. Serial No. 716,791. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Munroe V. Shoffner, a citizen of the United States, residing at Damascus, in the county of Faulkner and State of Arkansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hoes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is a hoe-handle or a device for holding all manner of blade-tools after the nato ture of hoes, weeders, rakes, and diggers.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device holding a blade. Fig. 2 is a view of Fig. 1, partly in section. Fig. 3 are detailed views.

My invention is described as follows:

1 is the handle.

2 is the shank, having bent part 7 terminating in the two curved feet 3, leaving between the two curves of said feet an open space.

at its front end in two curved feet 5. The lever 4 is put through the opening between the feet 3 in such a manner that its bent part 6 rests against the top side of the bent part 7 of the shank 2, and when pressed down until its rear end comes in contact with the handle its feet 5 are immediately opposite the feet 3. Said feet 3 press against the front face of the blade 8, while the feet 5 press against the rear face of said blade. Said lever 4 is secured to the handle 1 by means of a thumb-screw 9; but it may be secured in any other substan-

tial way. To release the blade from between the feet 3 and 5, I release the lever 4 and throw it up, as indicated by the dotted lines. 35

10 and 11 are other blades that may be used in lieu of blade 8. Other shaped blades or harrows may be substituted, the invention not being in the blade, but in the manner of holding it.

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

1. The combination of the handle 1, shank 2, having the bent part 7 and curved feet 3; 45 with lever 4 having the bent part 6 and curved feet 5; said device adapted to hold between its feet a blade, substantially as shown and described and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination of the handle 1, shank 50 2, having the bent part 7 and curved feet 3, with lever 4, having the bent part 6 and curved feet 5; thumb-screw 9 holding lever 4 to handle 1; said device adapted to hold between its feet a blade and to release the same, substantially as shown and described and for the purposes set forth.

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

MUNROE V. SHOFFNER.

Witnesses:

JNO. W. LITTLE, ANDREW M. TRAMICK.