

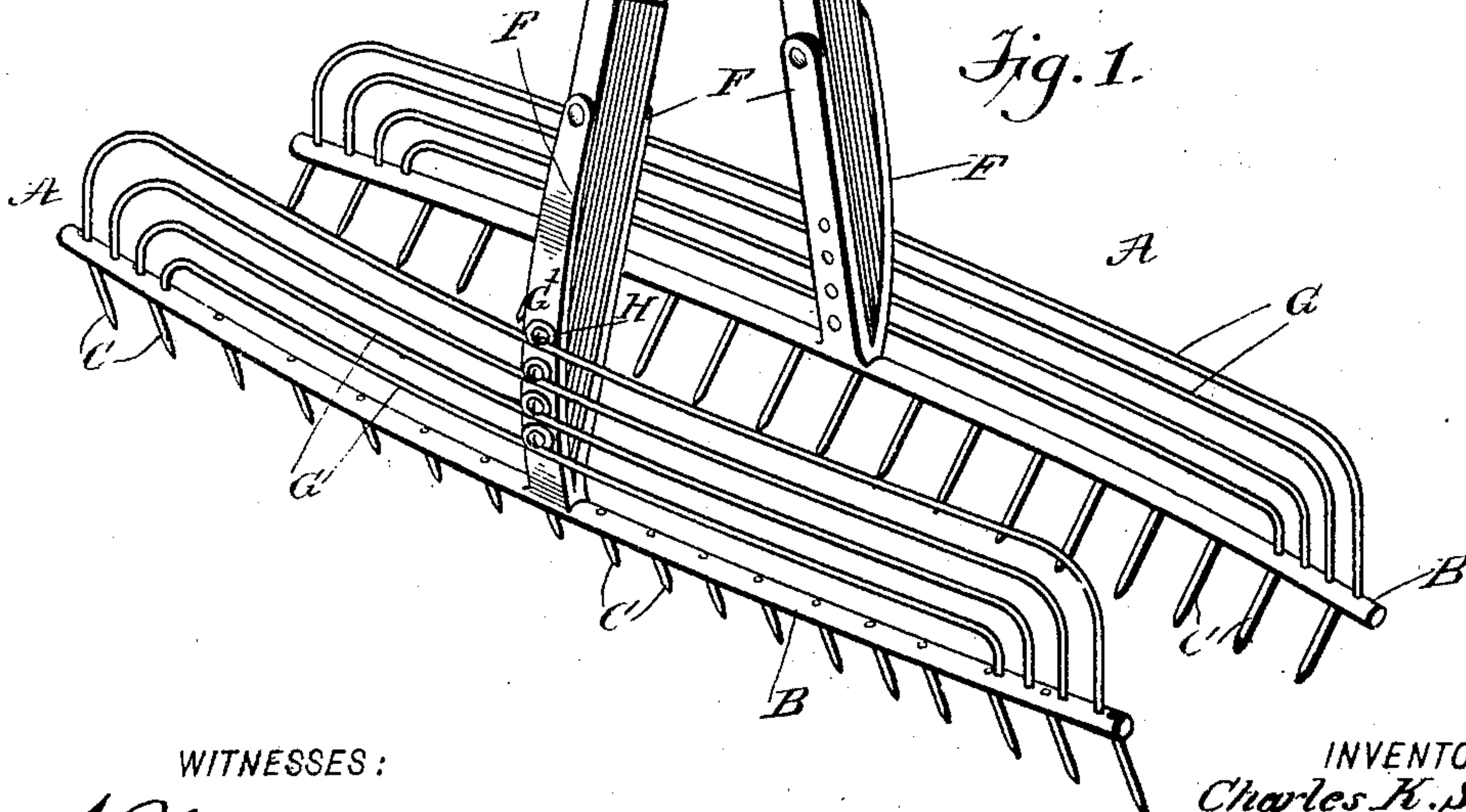
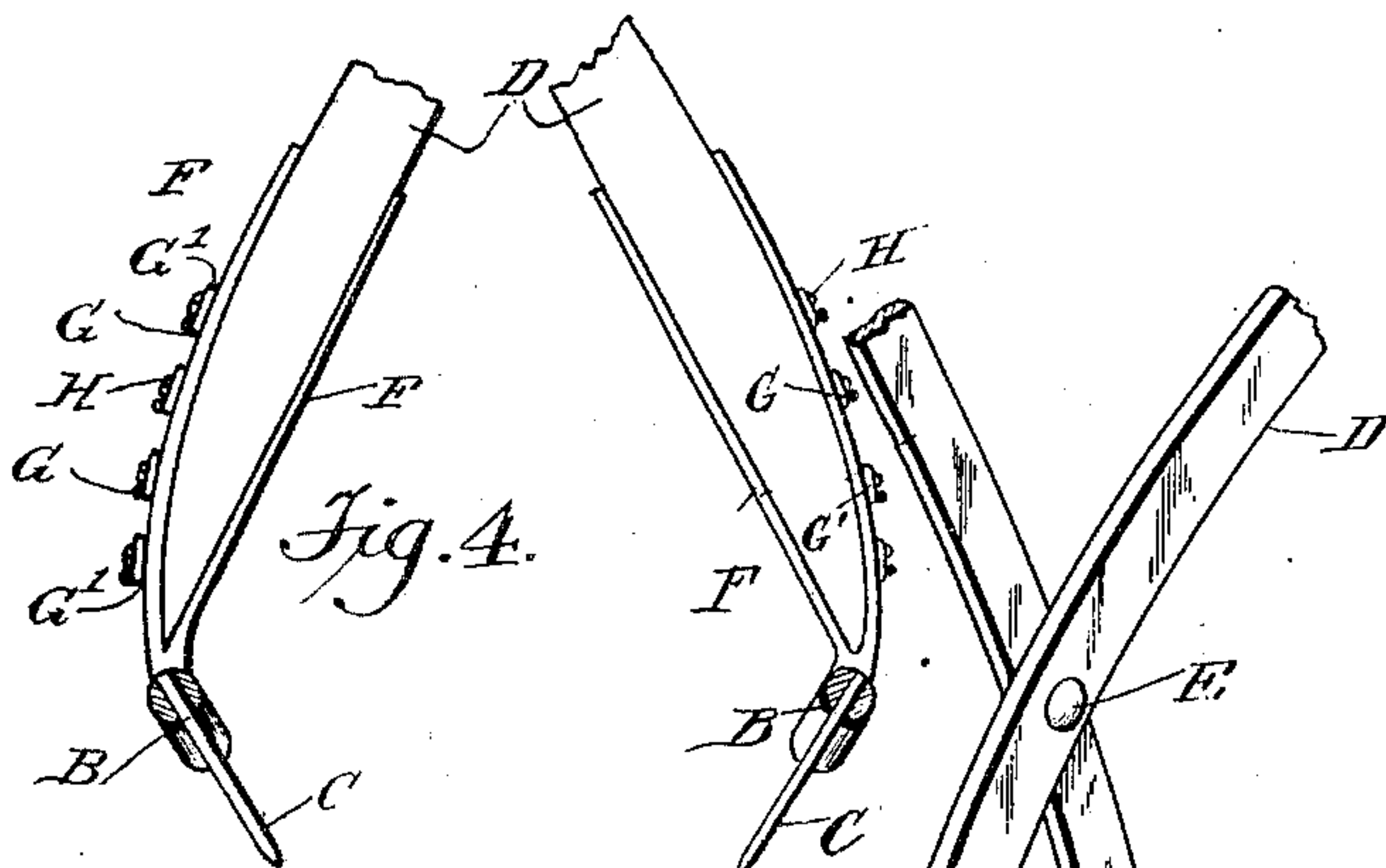
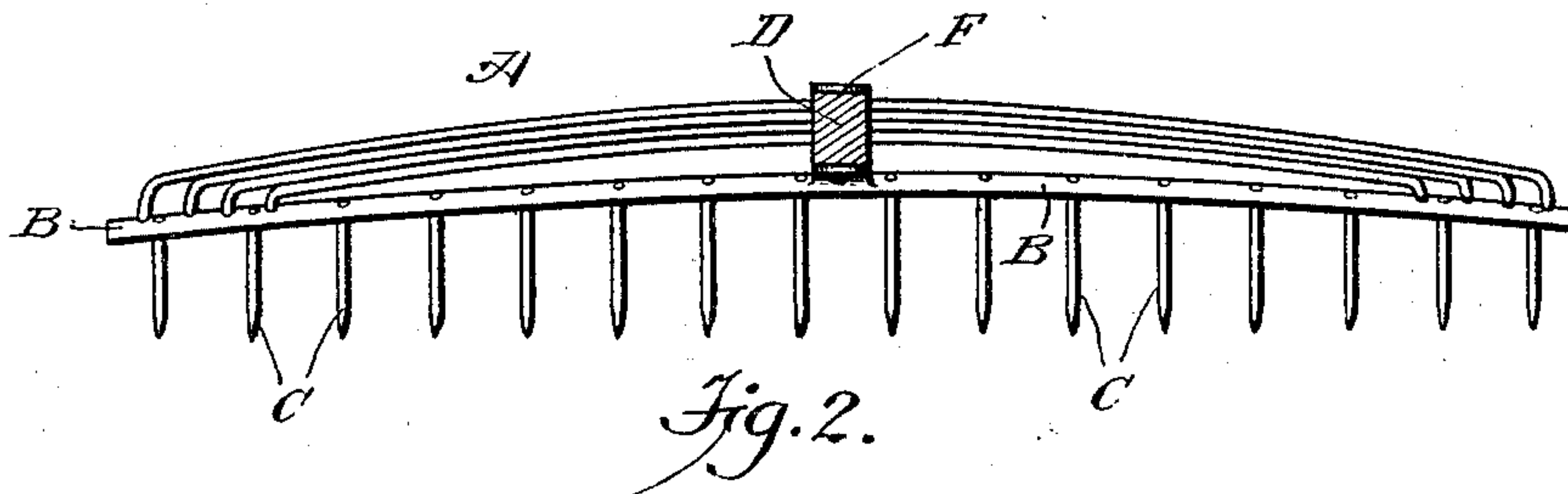
No. 711,351.

Patented Oct. 14, 1902.

C. K. & W. T. SHAW.
OYSTER TONGS.

(Application filed Mar. 25, 1902.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

A. R. Appleman
Wm. G. Foster

INVENTORS
Charles H. Shaw
William T. Shaw
BY *Maun*
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES K. SHAW AND WILLIAM T. SHAW, OF BELLPORT, NEW YORK.

OYSTER-TONGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 711,351, dated October 14, 1902.

Application filed March 25, 1902. Serial No. 99,897. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES K. SHAW and WILLIAM T. SHAW, citizens of the United States, and residents of Bellport, in the county of Suffolk and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Oyster-Tongs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide new and improved oyster-tongs which are simple and durable in construction and arranged for loosening, gathering, and securely holding the oysters without requiring undue physical exertion on the part of the operator when dredging for oysters, the construction permitting convenient and quick repair of any one of the parts.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, as will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal inside view of one of the jaws, the handle being shown in section. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the tooth-bar and a tooth inserted therein; and Fig. 4 is a cross-section of the improvement.

The jaws A of the oyster-tongs are alike in construction, and each consists, essentially, of a solid metal tooth-bar B, in which are inserted the spaced teeth C for loosening the oysters in the oyster-bed when the device is used—that is, when the operator works the jaws toward each other by manipulating the crossed handles D in the usual manner, the said handles being connected with each other by a pivot E and secured at their lower ends between the prongs of forks F, integrally secured to the tooth-bars B at or near the middle thereof.

Each of the jaws is provided with a grate formed by grate-rods G, spaced apart and extending longitudinally and approximately parallel with the tooth-bar B, the inwardly-curved and spaced ends of the said grate-rods being secured to the tooth-bar B at the points

at the ends thereof, as plainly illustrated in the drawings.

Each tooth-bar B is curved in two directions—that is, outwardly and upwardly—and the teeth C extend from the tooth-bar B in the same plane in which the bar is curved upwardly, as will be readily understood by reference to Fig. 3, and the teeth C of each tooth-bar increase in length from the end teeth toward the middle ones, the points of the teeth standing in a straight line. (See Fig. 2.) By curving the bar B outwardly and the grate-rods G in the same direction a more basket-like form is given to the head of the oyster-tongs, so as to readily accommodate the oysters loosened and gathered by the jaws. By having the tooth-bars B curved upwardly and the teeth arranged as described it is evident that the teeth are longest at the middle of each jaw and are consequently more effective in loosening the oysters without danger of the outer shorter teeth becoming embedded too far in the oyster-bed to require strong physical exertion on the part of the operator to work the jaws into a closed position.

By having the jaws arranged as described it requires comparatively little power or exertion on the part of the operator to manipulate the jaws to loosen and gather up the oysters in the jaws.

As shown in Fig. 1, the middle portions of the grate-rods G are formed into eyes G', engaged by bolts or rivets H extending transversely through the prongs F of the shanks and through the lower ends of the handles D, so as to secure the parts mentioned firmly together.

The teeth C are driven into spaced diametrical apertures in the bars B, so that the teeth are securely held in each solid bar B by frictional contact between the teeth and the walls of the apertures. Now this construction permits of readily removing an unbroken or injured tooth from the bar and replacing it with a new one without requiring the aid of a skilled mechanic.

Oyster-tongs constructed in the manner shown and described are exceedingly durable and strong and are not liable to lose their shape when used, as is so frequently the case with oyster-tongs as heretofore constructed.

Having thus described our invention, we

claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. Oyster-tongs having jaws, and handles pivotally connected with each other and secured to the jaws, to open and close the latter, each jaw comprising a tooth-bar curved upwardly and teeth inserted in the said bar, extending approximately in the plane in which the bar is curved upwardly, as set forth.
2. Oyster-tongs having jaws, and handles pivotally connected with each other and secured to the jaws, to open and close the latter, each jaw comprising a tooth-bar curved upwardly and teeth inserted in the said bar, and extending approximately in the plane in which the bar is curved upwardly, the teeth increasing in length from the ends of the jaw to the middle thereof, as set forth.
3. Oyster-tongs having jaws, and handles pivotally connected with each other and secured to the jaws, to open and close the latter, each jaw comprising a tooth-bar curved upwardly and teeth inserted in the said bar, and extending approximately in the plane in which the bar is curved upwardly, the teeth increasing in length from the ends of the jaw to the middle thereof, and the points of the teeth lying in an approximately straight line, extending from the point of one end tooth to the point of the other end tooth, as set forth.
4. Oyster-tongs having a jaw, comprising an outwardly-curved toothed bar, and correspondingly-curved grate-rods, spaced apart and extending approximately parallel to the toothed bar, the ends of the rods being curved downwardly and secured to the said toothed bar at different points from the ends thereof, as set forth.

5. Oyster-tongs having a jaw, comprising an outwardly-curved toothed bar, a shank extending integral from the middle thereof for receiving the handle, and correspondingly-curved grate-rods, spaced apart and extending approximately parallel to the said bar, the ends of the grate-rods being curved downwardly and secured to the bar at different points from the ends of the said bar, the middle portions of the rods being secured to the said integral shank, as set forth.

6. Oyster-tongs having a jaw, comprising a tooth-bar, extending longitudinally and curved outwardly and upwardly, a shank integral with the middle of the bar to receive the handle, teeth inserted in the bar and extending in the plane in which the bar is curved upwardly, longitudinal grate-rods spaced apart and having their downwardly-curved ends secured in the bar at different points from the ends thereof, each of the grate-bars being formed at its middle with an eye, and means engaging the said eye and the shank, to secure the grate-rods to the shank, as set forth.

7. Oyster-tongs having each of its jaws formed of an upwardly-curved bar, and teeth secured in said bar and increasing in length from the ends of the bar to the middle thereof, as set forth.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES K. SHAW.
WILLIAM T. SHAW.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH M. SHAW, Jr.,
CHARLES W. WALLING.