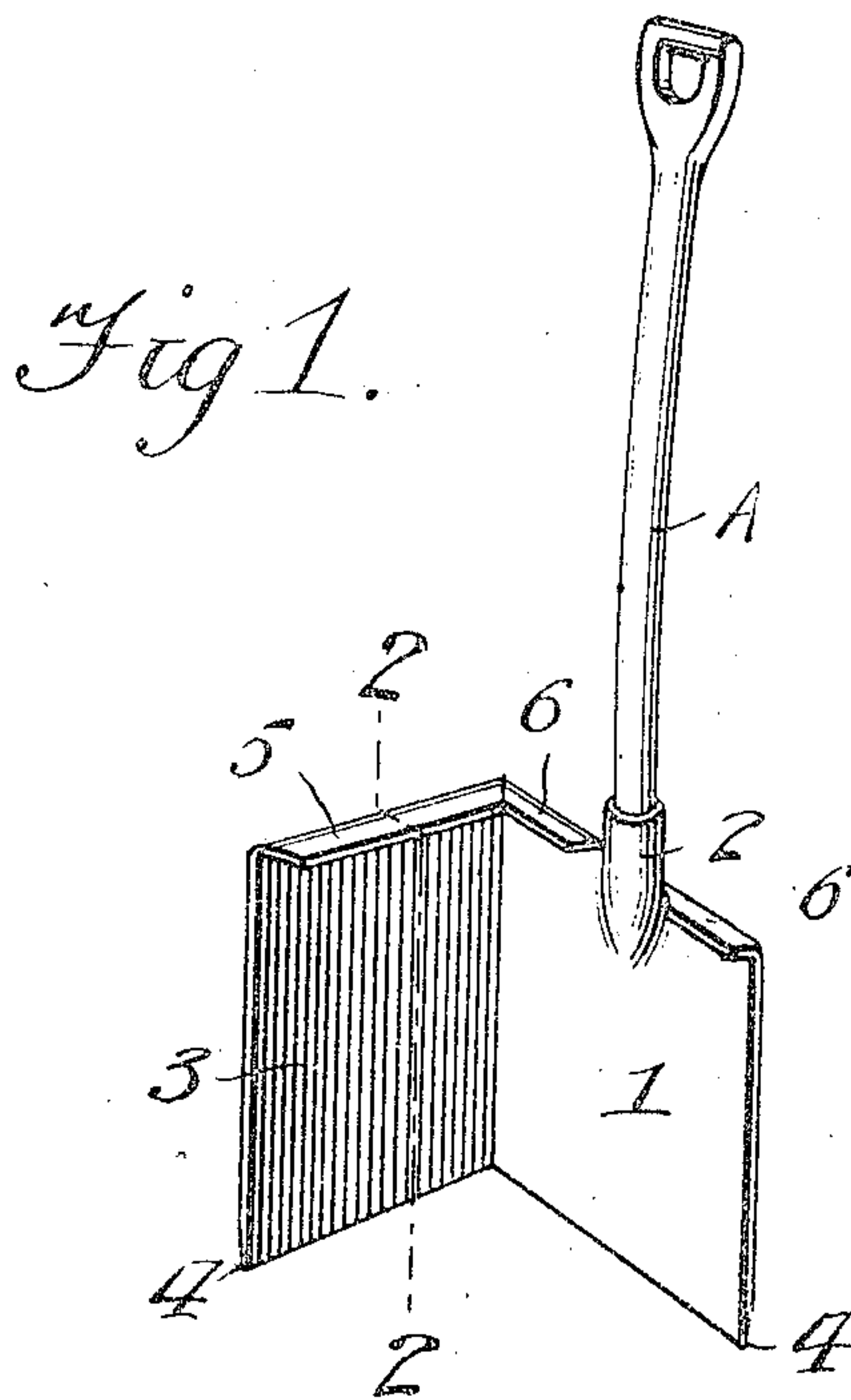


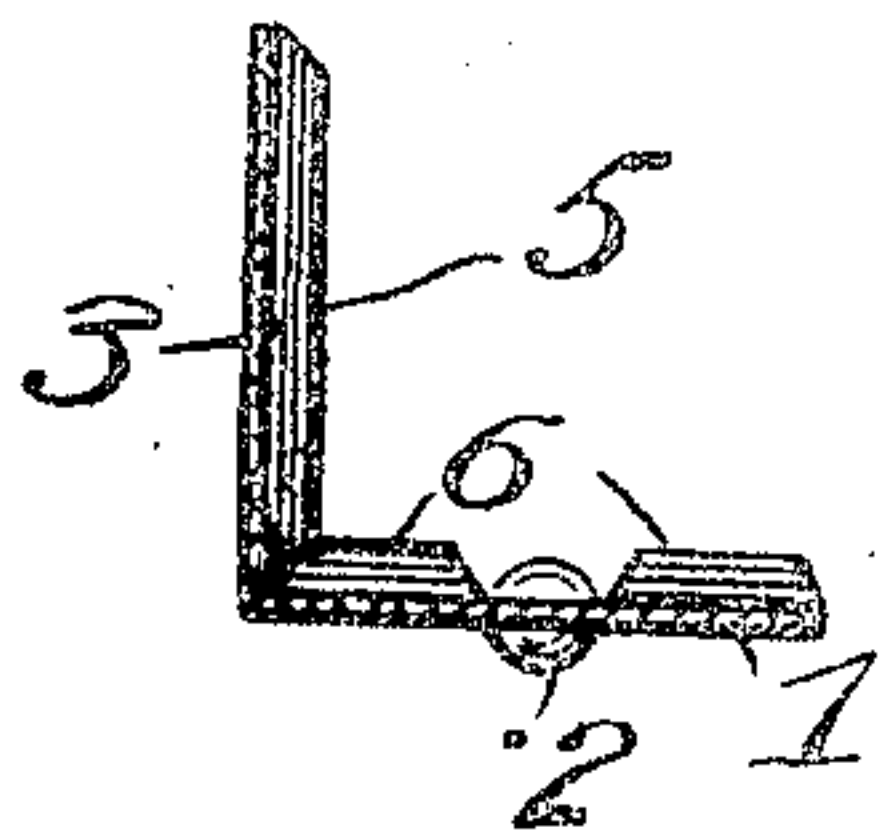
No. 887,009.

PATENTED MAY 5, 1908.

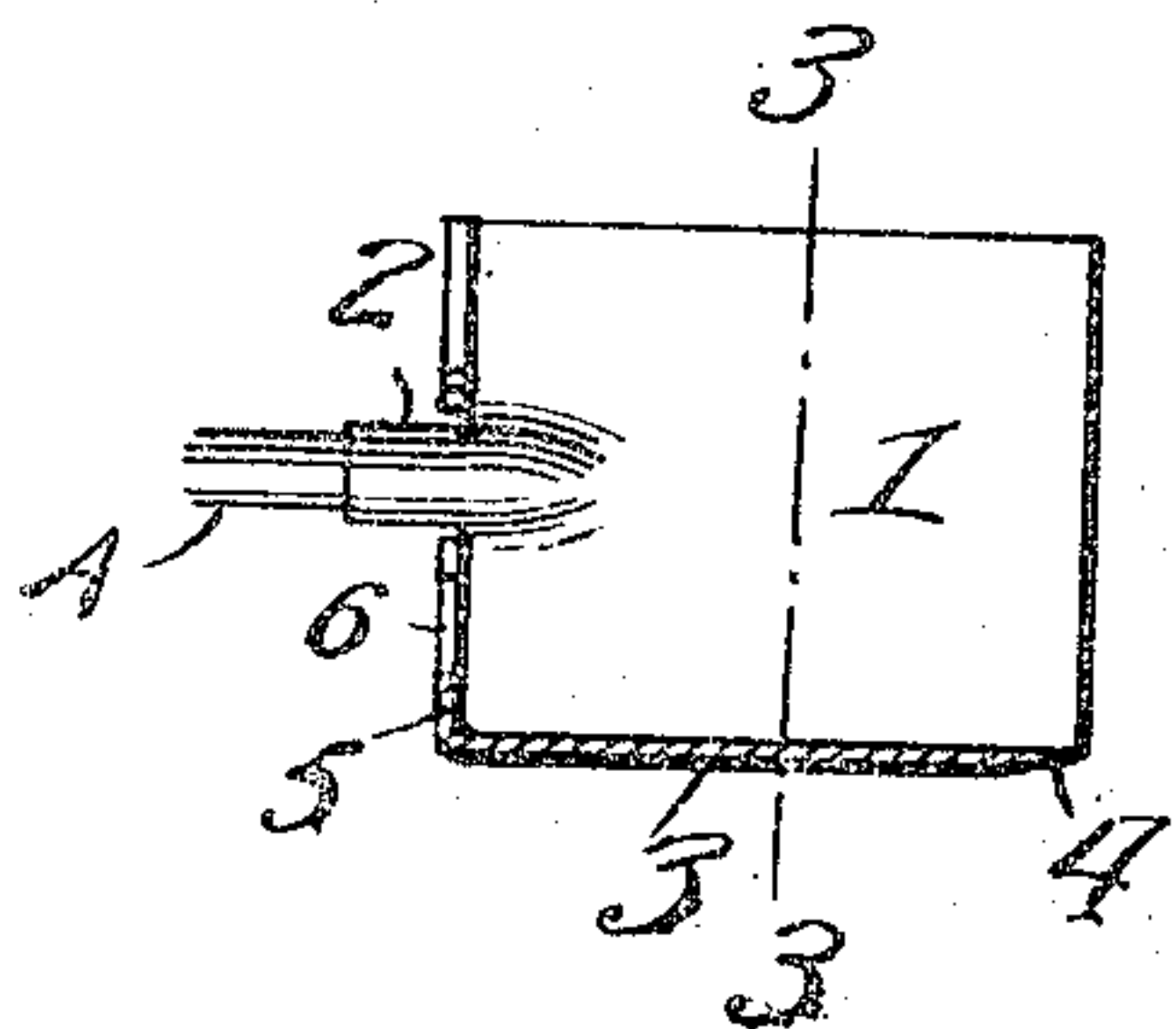
J. A. MUSGROVE, JR.  
SOD CUTTING AND REMOVING DEVICE.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 10, 1908.



*Fig 3.*



*Fig 2.*



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SOD CUTTING AND REMOVING DEVICE.

No. 887,009.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 5, 1908.

Application filed March 10, 1903. Serial No. 420,235.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES A. MUSGROVE, Jr., a citizen of the United States, residing at Norton, in the county of Wise and State of Virginia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Sod Cutting and Removing Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a sod cutting and removing device in the nature of a spade, whereby the sods can be readily cut in uniform size and shape and with ease and despatch.

The invention has for one of its objects to improve and simplify the construction of devices of this character so as to be comparatively easy and inexpensive to manufacture, convenient to use, and of durable and substantial design.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a sod cutter and remover consisting of a pair of right-angularly disposed blades, the main one of which is provided with a socket for receiving the handle of the implement, while the upper edge of the other or auxiliary blade and a portion of the upper edge of the main blade are formed into inwardly-extending flanges to constitute a foot rest.

With these objects in view and others, as will appear as the description proceeds, the invention comprises the various novel features of construction and arrangement of parts which will be more fully described hereinafter and set forth with particularity in the claims appended hereto.

In the accompanying drawing, which illustrates one of the embodiments of the invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the sod-cutting spade. Fig. 2 is a sectional view on line 2—2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse section on line 3—3, Fig. 2.

Similar reference characters are employed to designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawing, A designates an ordinary spade handle of wood or other suitable construction and secured rigidly to the cutting and removing blades. The main blade 1 is provided with a socket 2 rising from its upper edge into which the lower end of the handle is fitted and rigidly secured, and extending forwardly from the right-hand ver-

tical edge of the main blade and integrally connected with the latter is an auxiliary blade 3, the lower edges of the blades being sharpened as at 4 so as to readily pierce the sod. The blades are of substantially the same dimensions so that perfectly square sods can be cut. The upper edge of the auxiliary blade is bent inwardly into a lateral flange 5, and the upper edge of the blade 1 between the central socket 2 and blade 3 and at the opposite side of the socket is bent forwardly into flanges 6, one of which coöperates with the flange 5 to form a foot rest.

In using the implement for cutting the edges of a piece of sod, the implement is held vertically so that both blades will rest on top of the sod to be cut and the right foot is placed on top of the rest formed by the flanges 5 and 6, and pressure applied equally on both blades so that they will descend to the same depth. The socket 2 serves as a stop against which the heel of the foot bears, while the ball of the foot will rest approximately at the center of the blade 3 so that the pressure will be applied to both blades adjacent the centers thereof. After the blades have been penetrated to the desired depth, the implement is removed and reversed so that the other two sides of the square of sod will be cut, it requiring only two cuts for severing the four sides of the sod. In removing the sod, the main blade 1 is used, the implement being held almost in a horizontal plane in the usual manner so that the blade can be pushed under the sod and sever it from the earth, care being taken to insure uniform thickness. As the sod is removed, one edge thereof slides along the blade 3, the latter blade following in one of the cuts previously made in laying out the squares. The auxiliary blade and foot rest serve to prevent the sod from accidentally dropping off the main blade when the sod is being carried on the implement to the point where the sod is to be laid.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, the advantages of the construction and of the method of operation will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains, and while I have described the principle of operation of the invention, together with the device which I



now consider to be the best embodiment thereof, I desire to have it understood that the device shown is merely illustrative, and that such changes may be made when desired as are within the scope of the claims.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:—

1. In a device of the class described comprising a main blade, an auxiliary blade, a handle attached to the middle of the main blade, and a foot rest formed partly on each blade.

2. A device of the class described comprising a main blade, a forwardly-extending auxiliary blade integrally connected with the main blade and extending at right angles thereto, a handle-receiving socket formed at the upper central part of the main blade, a handle in the socket, and horizontally-ex-

tending flanges at the top edges of the blades to constitute a foot rest.

3. A device of the class described comprising a single piece of metal bent into main and auxiliary blades disposed at an angle to each other, one blade having a portion formed into a handle-receiving socket and provided with a flange extending from the socket to one edge, and the other blade having a flange arranged in the same plane with the other flange to cooperate therewith for forming a foot rest, and a handle secured in the said socket.

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

JAMES A. MUSGROVE, JR.

Witnesses:

OSCAR W. RHODENHISER,  
R. T. CRABTREE.