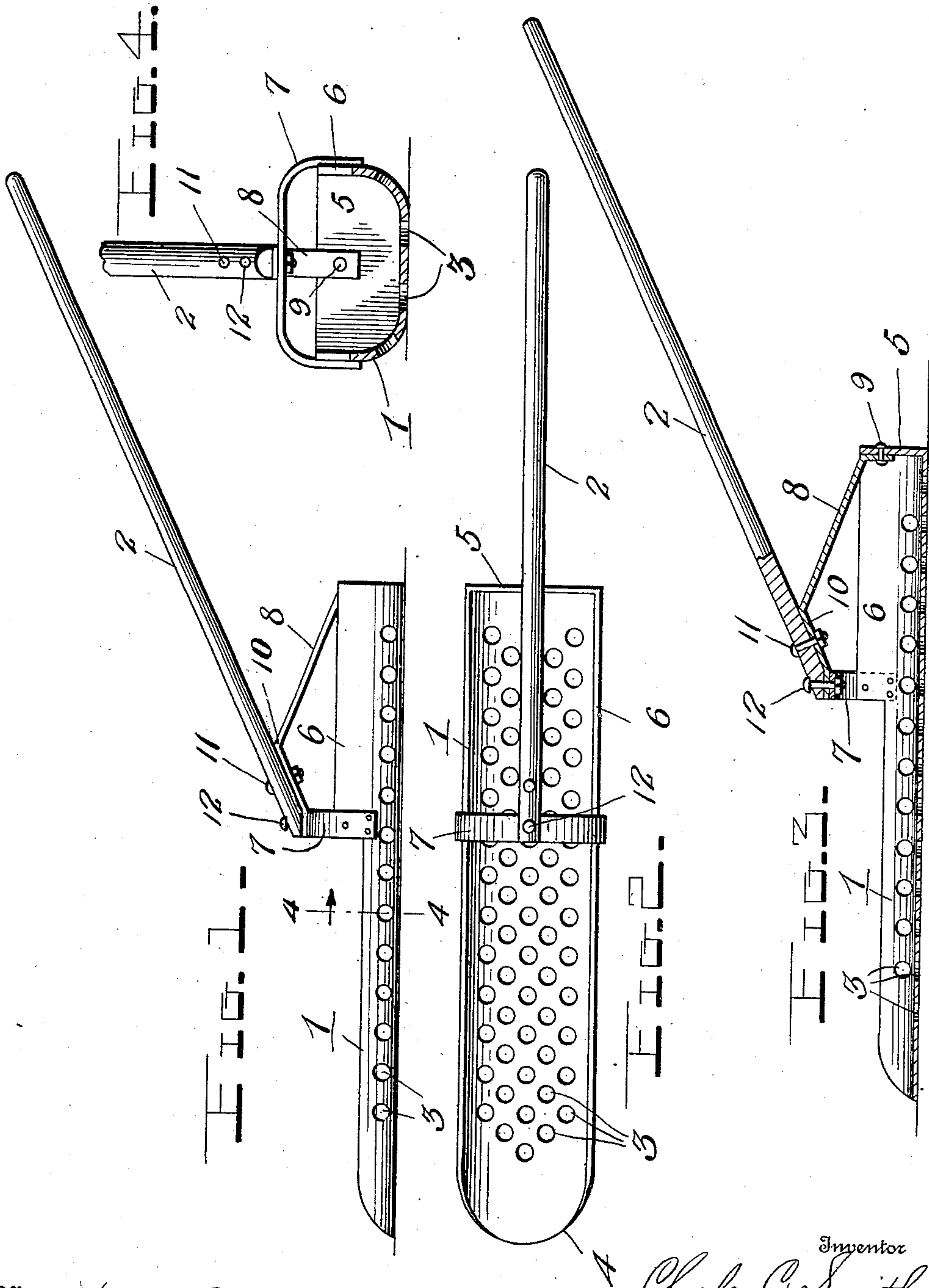


C. C. SMITH.
ONION SET DIGGER.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 24, 1908.

915,233.

Patented Mar. 16, 1909.



Witnessed

Chas. R. Griesbauer.

Maria L. Martin.

By

Watson E. Coleman

Inventor

Charles C. Smith

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES CARSON SMITH, OF BUECHEL, KENTUCKY.

ONION-SET DIGGER.

No. 915,233.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 16, 1909.

Application filed November 24, 1908. Serial No. 464,265.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES CARSON SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Buechel, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Onion-Set Diggers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention is a device for digging and separating or sifting onion sets and consists of the novel features of construction and the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed.

15 The object of the invention is to provide a simple and practical device whereby onion sets or the like may be quickly and effectively dug and the earth separated therefrom, thereby obviating the necessity of picking up and handling each separate set.

20 The above and other objects of the invention are accomplished in its preferred embodiment illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

25 Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved onion set digger and separator; Fig. 2 is a top plan view; Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section; and Fig. 4 is a cross section on the line 4—4 in Fig. 1.

30 The invention comprises a long scoop-like sieve 1 secured at an angle to the lower end of a handle 2 which may be conveniently manipulated by both hands to force the scoop through the earth to dig up the onion sets and to then oscillate it to sift the loose dirt from them. The scoop or sieve 1 is preferably constructed, as illustrated, from a single piece of sheet metal bent transversely into semi-cylindrical or semi-oval form and having its bottom and a portion of its sides formed with apertures or openings 3 of such size that the onion sets will not be permitted to drop therethrough. The forward corners of the body 1 are rounded, as shown at 4, so that the device may be more readily forced through the ground and the rear end of said body is closed by an upright end wall 5 which unites the rear portions 6 of the sides. These rear portions 6 are of greater height than the front portions of the

sides of the body, as will be seen upon reference to Figs. 1 and 3, so that when the device is lifted from the ground and reciprocated to sift the ground or earth from the onion sets there will be little or no liability of the latter being thrown out of the body over its sides or end 5.

The handle 2 is united to the body 1 by means of an arch or inverted U-shaped support 7 uniting the sides of the body intermediate its ends and a longitudinally extending inclined brace 8. The rear end of the latter is bent downwardly and united by a rivet or the like 9 to the center of the end wall 5 and the front end of said brace is bent angularly, as shown at 10, and united to the handle 2 and to the arched support 7 by bolts or similar fastenings 11, 12, as clearly shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings. This construction provides an exceedingly strong and rigid connection between the handle and body and one which also serves to brace the body.

In using the device, the handle 2 is held in both hands and the front end of the scoop and sieve body 1 is forced through the ground beneath the onion sets so that the latter are picked up by the body. The body is then lifted and reciprocated to sift the earth from the sets. The device therefore permits onion sets to be quickly and effectively dug up and separated without the necessity of handling each one and it, consequently, effects a great saving in time and labor.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

1. A device of the character described comprising a sheet metal body bent into substantially semi-cylindrical form and having its front end shaped to provide a scoop, its rear end being closed and its bottom being perforated to provide a sieve, the end wall and the rear portions of the side walls of the body being of greater height than the front portions of said side walls, an arched support between the side walls of the body intermediate its ends, a brace between said arched support and the rear end of the body and an inclined handle secured to the brace and said arched support.

2. A device of the character described comprising a body in the form of a scoop-like sieve and having side walls and an end wall, an arched support uniting the side
5 walls, a brace between the end wall and said arched support and an inclined handle connected to said brace and said arched support.

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

CHARLES CARSON SMITH.

Witnesses:

R. W. COLE,
N. G. AUSTIN.