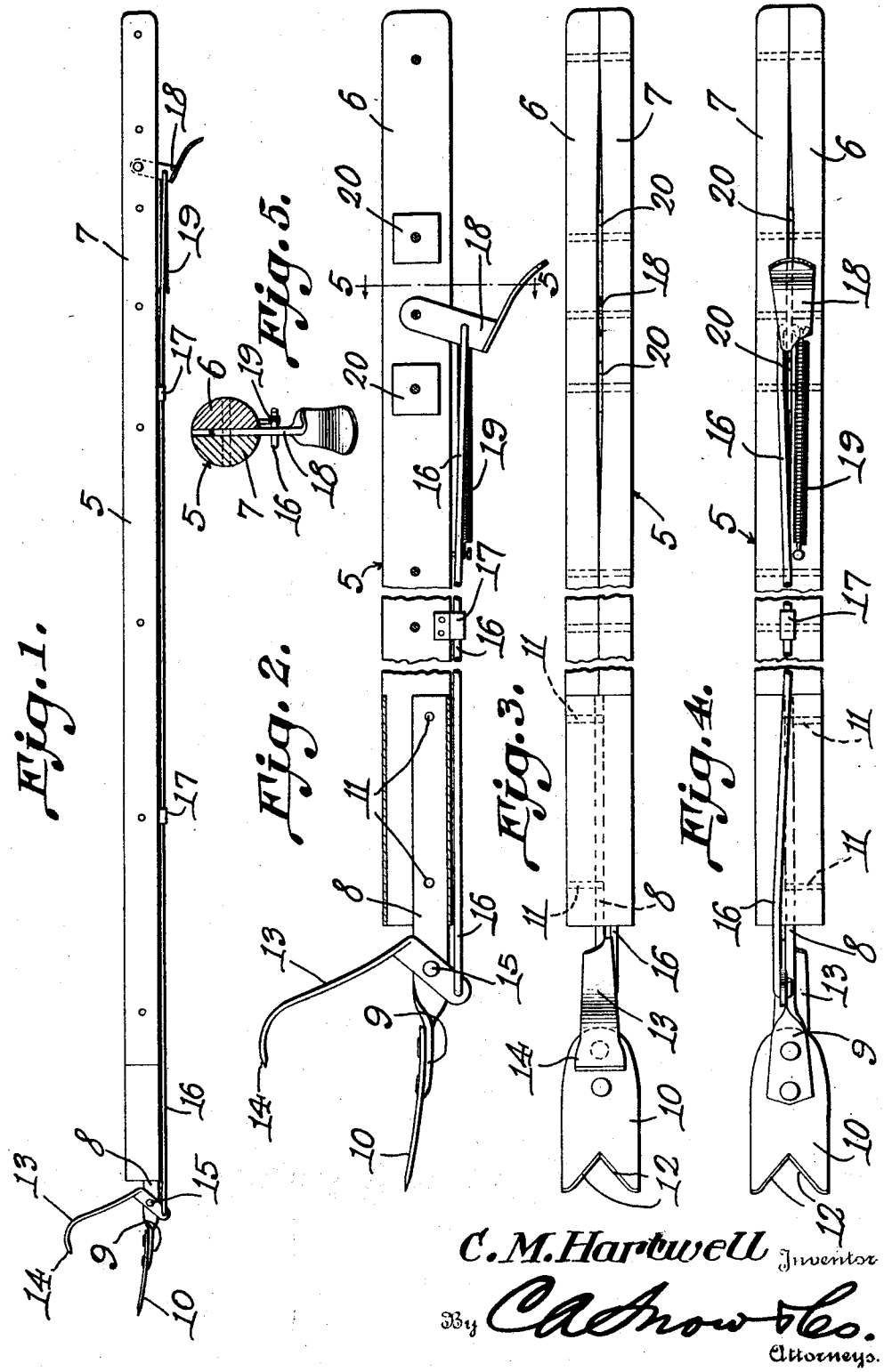
July 14, 1931. C. M. HARTWELL 1,814,216

WEEDER

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WEEDER

Application filed November 12, 1928. Serial No. 318,857.

This invention relates to a device especially designed for use in removing plantain or other weeds from lawns, gardens or the like, the important object of the invention being to provide means for gripping and holding the weed while it is being cut, to facilitate the weeding operation.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of this character whereby the gripping member will hold the weed after it has been cut and removed, so that while the device is in the hands of the operator, the weed may be readily deposited in a bag or other carrier.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a gripping means which may be operated by the movement of a trigger or lever located adjacent to the handle of the device.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, may be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a weeder constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is an elevational view illustrating one of the sections of the handle or body portion as removed.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the device.

Figure 4 is a bottom plan view of the device.

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the body portion of the device is indicated generally by the reference character 5 and includes sections 6 and 7 respectively which have flattened surfaces which are brought together in such a way as to grip the blade and various elements of the weeder, therebetween.

The contacting surfaces of the sectional body portion are cut away at a point adjacent to one end thereof to provide a clearance for the shank 8 which is slightly twisted as at 9, so that the blade 10 may be secured thereto. Securing nails 11 pass through the sectional body portion, and through the nail openings formed in the shank 8, to the end that the shank 8 and blade 10 secured thereto, are securely held against movement.

A sleeve is positioned over one end of the body portion adjacent to the shank 8 to further secure the body portion against splitting, while in use. The outer end of the blade 10 is formed in such a way as to define inclined cutting edges 12 so constructed that when the tool is forced into the ground surface, the cutting edges of the blade will act to cut the weed at a point below the ground surface.

Cooperating with the blade 10, is a finger 13 which has a wide outer extremity 14 sharpened so that it will bite into the weed which has been cut by the blade 10 and hold it securely on the blade so that the weed may be lifted and positioned in a carrier or container. The outer end of the finger is curved towards the blade 10 so that the gripping of the weed by the finger will be assured.

This finger 13 is pivotally connected to the portion of the shank 8 extending beyond the end of the body portion, at 15, one end of the finger 13 extending below the shank 8 where it is formed with an opening to receive the right angled end of the rod 16 which constitutes the operating means for operating the pivoted finger 13.

As shown, the rod 16 extends along the body portion 5 and operates through the straps 17 that have portions thereof disposed between the sections of the handle so that the straps 17 are held against movement. A finger piece indicated at 18 is also pivotally supported between the sections of the body portion and is formed with an opening to receive one end of the rod 16 to connect the rod 16 to the finger piece 18.

Associated with the finger piece is a coiled spring 19 that connects with the finger piece and acts to normally urge the finger piece forwardly to the end that the finger 13 is held

in spaced relation with the blade 10. Spacing members 20 are positioned between the sections 6 and 7 of the body portion so that when the sections are secured together, the spacing members will hold the sections in spaced relation with each other throughout a portion of the length of the body portion, to permit of free pivotal movement of the finger piece.

While I have shown and described the body portion or handle as constructed of sections secured together, it is pointed out that this body portion or handle may be constructed in any suitable way, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the use of the device the operator positions the blade 10 at a point on the ground surface adjacent to a weed to be removed, whereupon the finger 13 is moved to clamp the weed. The blade is now forced into the ground surface cutting the weed which is held by the finger 13. While the weed is gripped between the finger 13 and blade 10 the weed may be readily deposited in a container carrier in which the weeds are being collected.

I claim:

A weeder comprising a sectional body portion, means at the ends of the sections of the body portion for securing the sections together, means secured between the sections for holding the sections in spaced relation throughout a portion of their lengths, a finger piece pivotally mounted within the space between the sections, a blade having a shank secured between the sections at one end of the body portion, a blade pivotally mounted on the shank, a rod connected with the pivoted blade and having connection with the finger piece to operate the pivoted blade when the finger piece is operated.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature.

CHARLES M. HARTWELL.