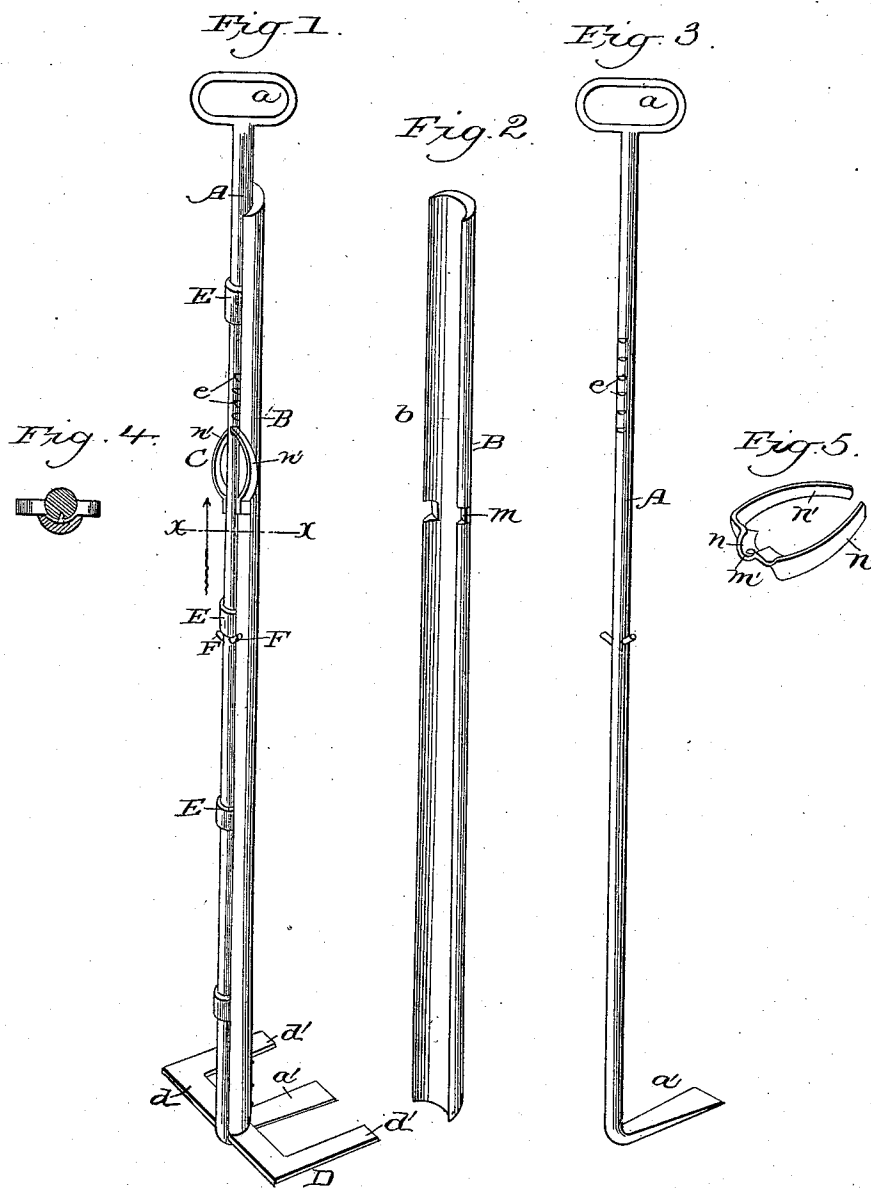


(No Model.)

S. TODD.
GRAVE IMPLEMENT.

No. 532,116.

Patented Jan. 8, 1895.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL TODD, OF ALTURAS, CALIFORNIA.

GRAVE IMPLEMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 532,116, dated January 8, 1895.

Application filed March 27, 1894. Serial No. 505,260. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL TODD, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Alturas, in the county of Modoc and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Grave Implements; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a grave tool or implement to facilitate the burial operation and lessen the labor of placing the boards on the box in the grave after the casket has been lowered, and which will obviate the necessity of entering the grave for this purpose.

The improvement consists of the novel features and the peculiar construction and arrangement of the parts which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed, and which are shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an implement embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the handle. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the rod. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the spring holder.

The handle B is grooved throughout its length to form a seat b for the rod A and is provided at one end with a support D. The handle is preferably of wood and the support of iron and composed of a head d having prongs d' at its ends and having a shank to form means of attachment with the handle.

The rod A is longer than the handle and is fitted in the groove b and is adapted to turn and move longitudinally therein. One end of the rod has a suitably formed handle a which is a loop, as shown. The other end is bent at about right angles to form a support a' which acts in conjunction with the support d' , to hold the boards to be laid into the grave.

Bands or keepers E at intervals in the length of the handle hold the rod in place in its seat b . Stops F on the rod limit the movement of the same when turned in its seat by engagement with the edges of the handle on either side of the groove.

A spring holder C is fitted in a seat m in the handle and is adapted to engage with and

hold the handle in the required position. This keeper is composed of a cross-piece m' having a depression n to conform to the contour of the groove b , and retaining arms n' which project obliquely from the ends of the cross-piece and have their free ends brought together over the rod A to engage with a series of stops e by means of which the handle is held in the required position.

In the operation of the device, the board is held between the supports d' and a' and is laid into the grave and placed in proper position on the box. By grasping the handle and the rod and turning the latter, the support a' will be turned from beneath the board and the implement, being released, can be withdrawn and used again in precisely the same manner.

The instrument may also be conveniently used in the handling of hot iron in machine shops, and also lumber in water.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. An implement for the purpose described, composed of a handle having a laterally extending support at one end, a rod attached to the handle and adapted to have a limited longitudinal and rotary movement relative thereto and provided with a laterally extending support corresponding and adapted to co-operate with the support on the handle, substantially as described.

2. An implement for the purpose described, composed of a handle having a laterally extending support at one end, a rod attached to the handle and adapted to have a limited longitudinal and rotary movement relative thereto and provided with a laterally extending support corresponding and adapted to co-operate with the support on the handle, and a spring holder to secure the handle and the rod in the required position, substantially as set forth.

3. An implement for the purpose described, composed of a handle having a laterally extending support at one end, a rod attached to the handle and adapted to having a limited longitudinal and rotary movement relative thereto, and provided with a laterally extending support corresponding and adapted to co-operate with the support on the handle, a U-shaped spring holder attached to the handle and adapted to engage at its free ends with

the stops on opposite sides of the rod and hold the handle and rod in the required position, substantially as specified.

4. An implement for the purpose described, 5 composed of a handle grooved throughout its length and having a laterally extending support at one end, a rod seated in the groove and adapted to have a limited rotary and longitudinal movement therein and provided 10 with a laterally extending support corresponding and adapted to co-operate with the support on the handle and a spring holder composed of a cross head secured to the handle and having arms which extend obliquely and 15 engage with the opposite sides of the rod, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

5. The herein described implement composed of a longitudinal grooved handle having a cross bar at one end provided with later-

ally extending prongs, a rod seated in the said 20 groove and adapted to turn and move longitudinally therein and having end opposite the pronged end of the handle bent at right angles to provide a stop to co-operate with the said 25 prongs, a stop on the rod to limit its rotary movement, keepers to hold the rod in the handle and a spring holder attached to the handle and comprising two bars which are adapted to engage with the opposite sides of the rod and 30 hold it and the handle in the required position, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SAMUEL TODD.

Witnesses:

C. C. DANIELS,
E. E. COPELAND.