(No Model.)

J. H. SUBLETT.

POST HOLE DIGGER.

No. 509,778. Patented Nov. 28, 1893.

Fig. 1.

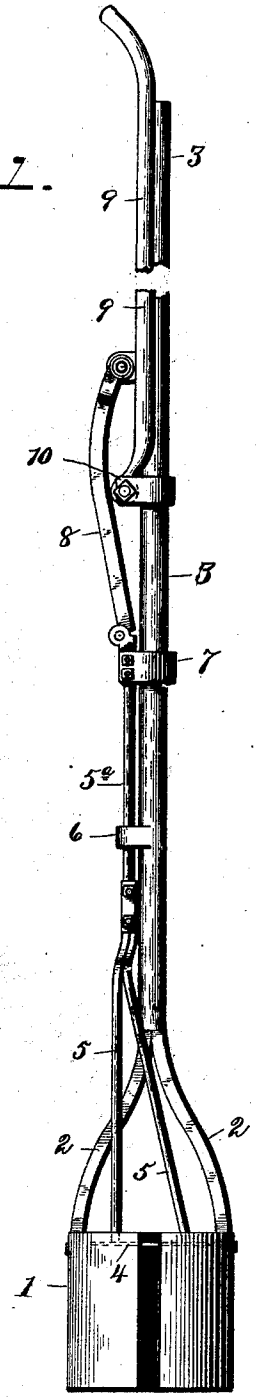
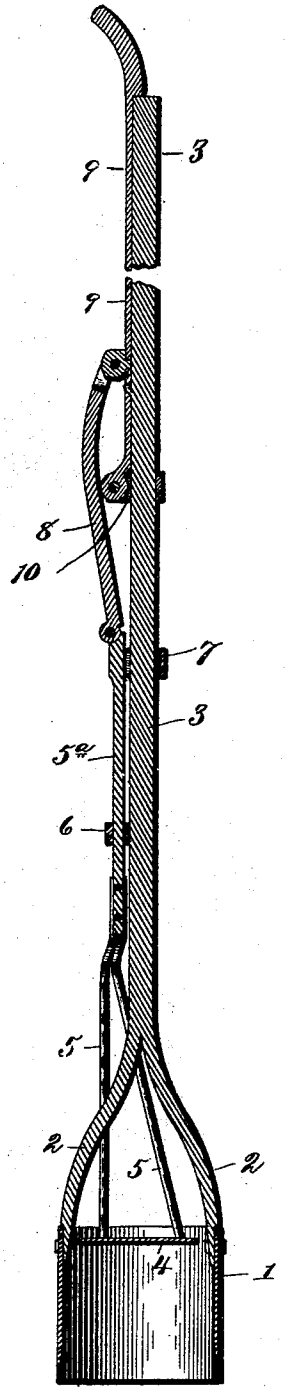


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. SUBLETT, OF BLANDVILLE, KENTUCKY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD TO ROBERT MARION SHELTON, OF SAME PLACE.

POST-HOLE DIGGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 509,778, dated November 28, 1893.

Application filed November 9, 1891. Renewed April 29, 1893. Serial No. 472,436. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. SUBLETT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Blandville, in the county of Ballard and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Post-Hole Diggers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in implements for digging post holes.

The invention is designed as an improvement upon that description of post hole digger which consists of an annular cup with a cutting edge at its lower portion, and an operating rod or handle secured to said cup. In using this device the cup is alternately forced into the ground and withdrawn therefrom by means of the handle, an oscillating or turning movement being given thereto. During the progress of the work the cup soon becomes filled or clogged with earth, rendering it necessary to remove the same therefrom. This is usually accomplished by beating the cup upon the ground or striking it against some object, which is a very unsatisfactory method, as it not only fails to properly clear the cup, but it injures and damages the device and frequently destroys it altogether.

The object of the present invention is to obviate the above defects and provide a post hole digger in which the earth can be readily removed from the cup in a rapid and efficient manner and without liability of injuring the implement.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described and definitely pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a side elevation of a post hole digger constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same.

In the said drawings the reference numeral 1 designates an annular metallic cup formed with a cutting edge at its lower end. At its upper end it is provided with two curved upwardly projecting arms 2, the ends of which are brought toward each other and secured to the vertical handle 3, consisting preferably of a round metallic bar.

The numeral 4 designates an annular disk, somewhat smaller in diameter than the interior of the cup. It is located within said cup and adapted to work therein, and is provided with a series of upwardly extending arms 5, the ends of which are brought together above the arms 2, and secured by means of bolts or nuts to the rod 5^a, which passes through a lug 6, on the handle or bar 3. To the upper end of this rod above the lug 6, is secured a collar 7, which encircles the handle 3 and is capable of sliding up and down thereon. To this upper end of rod 5^a, is pivoted the lower end of a link 8, the upper end of which is pivoted to a lever 9, which in turn is pivoted in lugs 10, secured to the handle 3, about midway of the height of the same. The lever is concavo-convex in cross section, or grooved trough shaped so as to snugly fit the circular handle 3.

The operation is as follows: When the cup in operation becomes filled with earth, the implement is held in an inclined position and the disk 4, is forced downwardly by means of the lever 9, link 8 and arm 5, causing the earth to be ejected from the cup in a rapid and efficient manner.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

In a post hole digger the combination with the annular cup and the handle secured thereto, of the disk located and working in said cup, having a series of upwardly extending arms secured to a rod passing through a lug on the said handle, a trough-shaped or grooved lever, pivoted to said handle and a connecting link pivoted to said lever and rod, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES H. SUBLETT.

Witnesses:
R. G. SHELBOURNE,
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