R. M. SHELLABARGER.

HANDLE FOR SHOVELS.

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1,267,915.

Patented May 28, 1918.

Fig. 1.

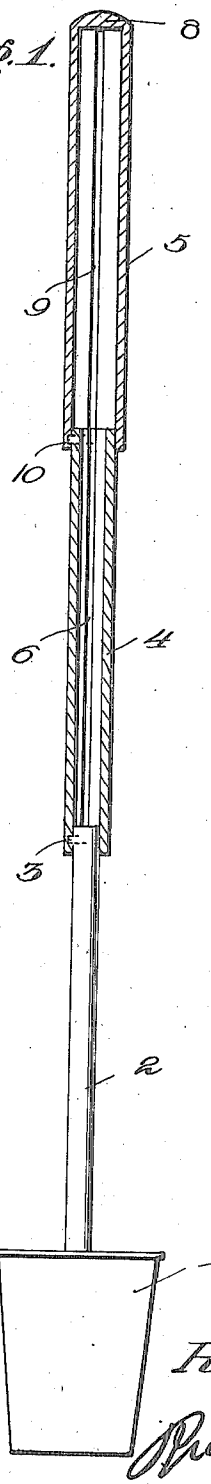


Fig. 2.

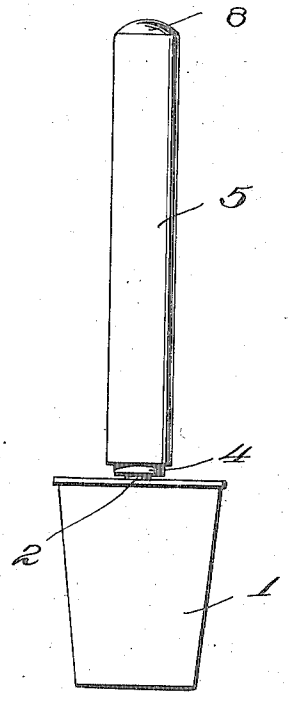


Fig. 3.

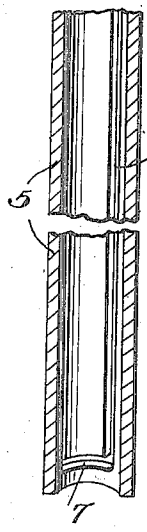
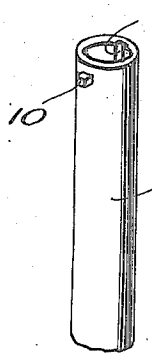


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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HANDLE FOR SHOVELS.

1,267,915. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 28, 1918.

Application filed June 4, 1917. Serial No. 172,768.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT M. SHELLABARGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at West Liberty, in the county of Muscatine and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Handles for Shovels, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to handles and especially to handles for shovels, etc., the primary object of the invention being to provide a handle which may be collapsed so as to occupy a minimum amount of space when not in use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simple and inexpensive handle which may be very readily placed in an operative position without the instrumentality of any tools whatsoever and may likewise be conveniently collapsed without the assistance of any tools or the like.

The above and other objects and advantages of this invention will be understood from the following description of the present preferred embodiment, the same being illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view of a handle constructed in accordance with my invention, the same being applied to a spade.

Fig. 2 is an elevational view of a spade embodying my improved handle, the latter being shown in a collapsed position.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view of one of the handle sections, and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of another section of the handle.

In the drawings a shovel blade 1 is provided which has extending upwardly therefrom a handle shank 2, the latter being equipped, adjacent its upper end, with a lug 3.

The collapsible handle *per se* consists of a pair of tubular telescopical sections 4 and 5 the former having its opposite ends open. One end of said section 4 is sleeved over the outer terminal of the handle shank 2 while the opposite end is telescopically arranged within the section 5. Said section 4 is provided on its inner periphery with a longitudinally extending groove 6, the latter terminating short of the inner end of the tube and communicating with an arcuate peripheral groove 7. From the above it will be appreciated that the grooves 6 and 7 comprise a bayonet groove in which the lug 3 of the handle shank 2 rides.

The outer end of the section 5 is closed as indicated at 8. A bayonet groove 9 is formed on the inner periphery of said section 5 and is adapted to receive a lug 10 the latter being carried on the upper outer periphery of the section 4 of the handle.

As will be noted more particularly from Fig. 1 of the drawings, the sections 5 and 6 of the handle are of uniform diameter and uniform thickness throughout their entire length and fit snugly into each other, section 4 snugly receiving the shank or handle 2 of the shovel. By this means all looseness or play between the sections of the handle when in extended position is avoided thus producing a relatively light but strong and rigid handle. Also, as lug 10 of section 4 fits into groove 9 of section 5 and lug 3 of section 2 fits into groove 6 of section 4, these grooves extending the full length of the respective sections, I insure that the lugs will be at all times in register with their coöperating grooves thus permitting the handle to be readily extended or collapsed, as desired.

In use it will be appreciated that the lugs 3 and 10 engage the arcuate portion of the bayonet groove in the sections 4 and 5 respectively so that pressure may be exerted on the sections 4 and 5 without collapsing the latter. When it is desired to collapse the handle, it will be appreciated that it is only necessary to turn the sections 4 and 5 until the longitudinally extending portion of the grooves 6 and 9 register with the lugs 3 and 10, pursuant to which the sections 4 and 5 will telescope into a position as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

It will be understood that the above description and accompanying drawings comprehend only the general and preferred embodiment of my invention and that various minor changes in details of construction, proportion and arrangement of parts may be made within the scope of the appended claims without sacrificing any of the advantages of my invention.

I claim:

1. A collapsible handle comprising a shank portion adapted to be secured to a shovel blade, a tubular member slidable on said shank member and snugly receiving the same, said tubular member being of uniform thickness and uniform diameter throughout

its entire length and provided with an inner longitudinally extending groove and a groove communicating with said longitudinally extending groove and disposed at right angles thereto, said shank being provided with a radially projecting lug engaging into the grooves of the tubular member and an upper tubular member slidably receiving the first mentioned tubular member, said upper member being of uniform diameter and thickness throughout its entire length and having an inner longitudinally extending groove and a groove communicating with said longitudinally extending groove at the lower ends thereof and disposed at right angles thereto, said first mentioned tubular member being provided with a radially projecting lug engaging into the grooves of the uppermost tubular member.

2. A telescoping handle comprising a lower shank member provided with a radially projecting lug adjacent its upper end an intermediate tubular member of uniform diameter and thickness throughout its length snugly receiving said shank member and provided in its inner face with a bayonet slot receiving the lug of the shank member, said bayonet slot extending to the upper end of the intermediate tubular member, the said tubular member being further provided adjacent its upper end with an outwardly directed radially projecting lug, and an upper tubular member slidably receiving the intermediate tubular member and of uniform diameter and thickness throughout its length provided with a bayonet slot adapted to receive the lug of the intermediate tubular member, the upper end of said upper tubular member being closed.

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

ROBERT M. SHELLABARGER.

Witnesses:
JAMES B. TABLER,
CARL R. TEMPLEMAN.