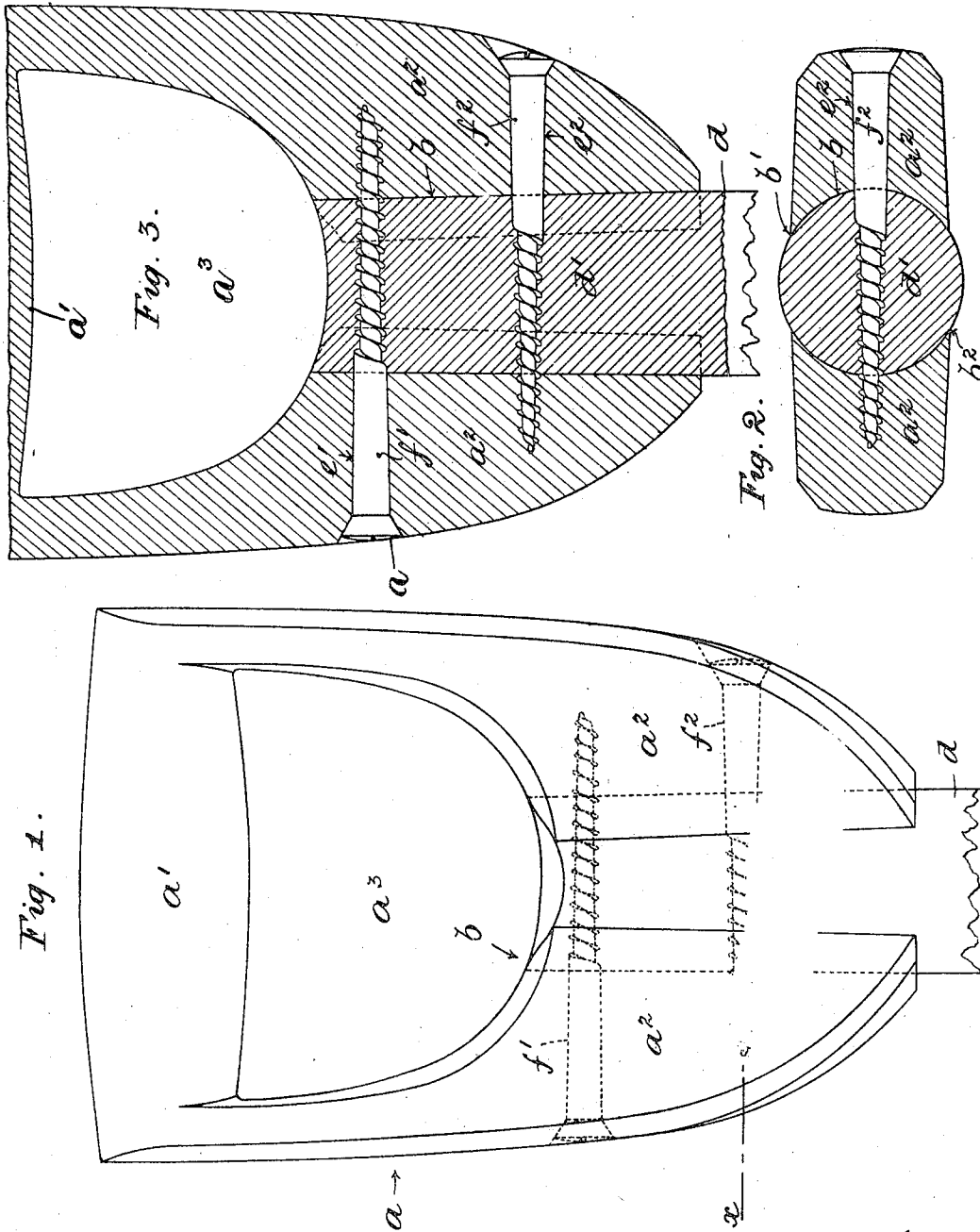


F. PARKES.
SPADE AND SIMILAR HANDLE.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 25, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses,
Robert Grant,

Inventor,
Frank Parkes,
By *James L. Norris,*
Atty.

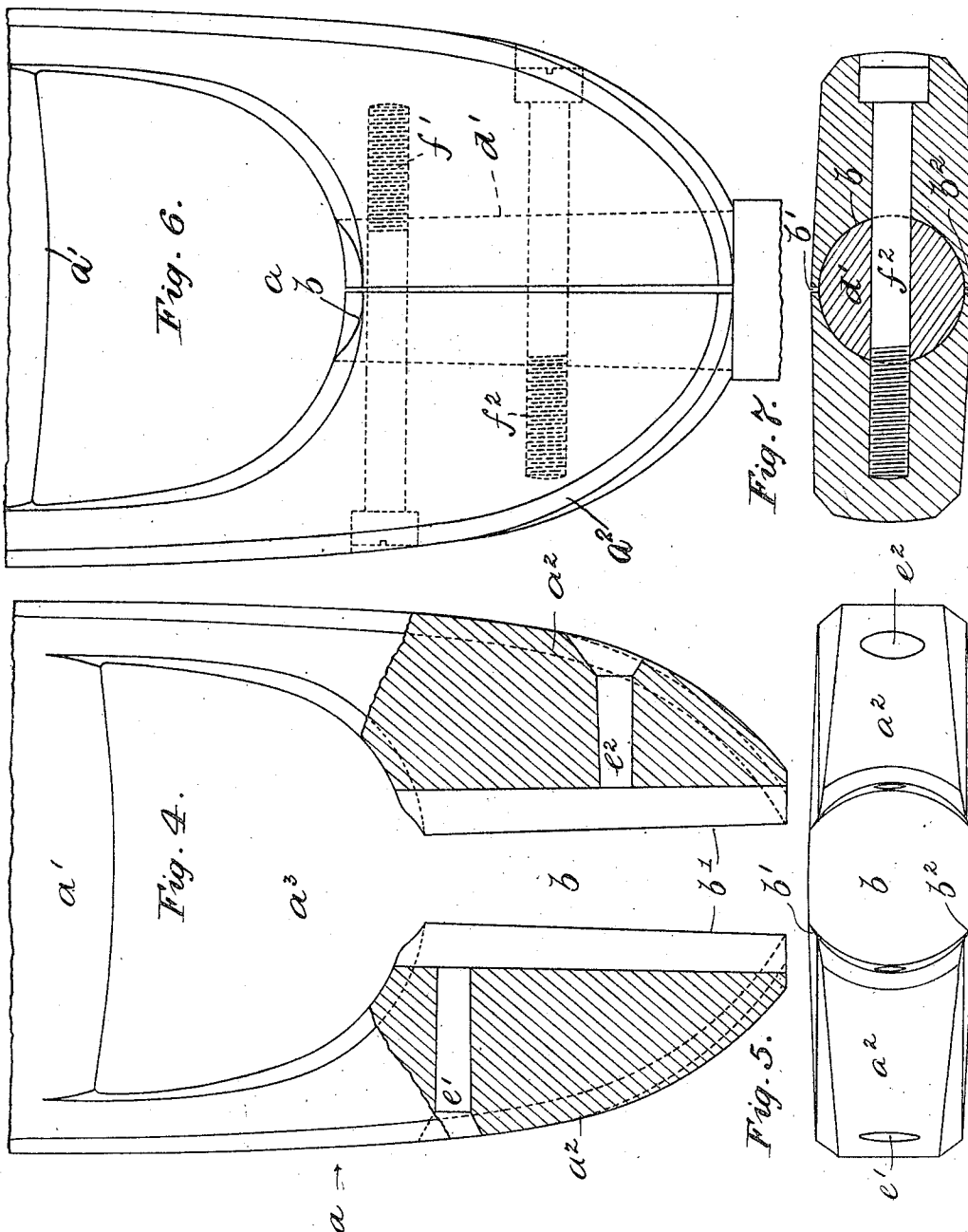
No. 812,675.

PATENTED FEB. 13, 1906.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK PARKES, OF BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

SPADE AND SIMILAR HANDLE.

No. 812,675.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 13, 1906.

Application filed August 25, 1905. Serial No. 275,805.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK PARKES, managing director of Public Company, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Dartmouth street, Birmingham, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spade and Similar Handles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to handles for spades, shovels, forks, and similar tools and implements, and particularly to D-pattern handles made from wood. Usually the grips and bodies of such wooden handles are made in one piece with the stail or shaft or cut out from one solid piece of timber; but this method is wasteful and expensive; and the object of the said invention is to prevent this waste and reduce the cost of manufacture by constructing or forming the handle proper separately from the stail or shaft and rigidly connecting these two parts together in the manner hereinafter described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents an elevation of the complete grip and upper end of the shaft of a spade-handle constructed or built up in accordance with the said invention. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of Fig. 1 on the dotted line *z*. Fig. 3 represents a complete vertical section of the built-up handle. Fig. 4 is an elevation, partly in section, of the grip portion of the said handle separately, and Fig. 5 is a view of the lower edge thereof. Fig. 6 is an elevation of the complete grip and upper end of the shaft of a spade-handle embodying the modified construction. Fig. 7 is a transverse vertical section through the modification shown by Fig. 6.

The same letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

According to this form of the said invention the D-shaped handle proper, *a*, comprising the grip or grasp *a'* and the side cheeks *a''*, is formed by taking a D-shaped piece of solid timber of suitable thickness and cutting out of the broader end below the part which is to form the grip a smaller D piercing or hand-hole *a'''*, a sufficient quantity of wood being left between the bottom of this piercing and the smaller end of the handle-blank to provide for the formation therein of a split or open-sided socket which is adapted to receive the upper end of the stail and to be closed around or clipped upon the same by

screws or equivalent means. The portion of this D or handle piece which is to form the grip is trimmed or fashioned into the usual shape, and then the intact portion or base of the blank is counterbored with a vertical socket or clearance *b*, extending, preferably, from the bottom end right through into the lower part of the hand-hole and having openings *b'* *b''* at back and front, so that the base is divided into the two halves or cheeks *a''*, whose upper ends are connected by the solid or integral grip, while the extended open-sided socket is adapted to receive the upper end *d'* of the stail or shaft *d*, which is shaped from a separate piece of timber. The concaved inner edges of these cheeks constitute, as it were, separated seatings or jaws, which saddle onto the opposite sides of the inserted end of the handle and grip the latter between them.

In order to prevent any relative movement between the two parts and to establish a rigid and practically solid connection between them, provision is made for contracting or closing the open-sided socket around the end of the shanking, and in the arrangement represented transverse holes *e'* *e''* are bored from each of the opposite sides of the separated cheeks right through the socketing or inserted end of the shaft and also (if necessary) for a suitable distance into the other cheek, and wood-screws *f'* *f''* of suitable length are inserted into the said holes from the opposite sides of the handle, respectively, and when screwed fully home they contract the socket by drawing the said cheeks together laterally, so that they clamp, clip, or close them onto the handle end of the shaft.

Although it is preferable to employ wood-screws for contracting the socket or drawing together the said parts, yet it is obvious that I may use cross-pins and nuts or similar connections for the same purpose.

Fig. 6 represents an elevation of another form of handle constructed according to the said invention, in which the grip D or handle part is provided with a split socket instead of an open-sided one, as in the preceding form. Fig. 7 is a horizontal section of the said handle. The said D or handle part *a* is made from a single solid piece of timber, as before, and after the vertical socket *b* has been bored in the lower part the opposite walls of the said socket are split or divided at *b'* *b''*, preferably by saw-cuts. The upper end *d'* of the shaft or stail, which may be slightly shouldered, is

then inserted into the split socket and secured by transverse screws f' f^2 , which contract or close the said split socket upon the shaft end and establish a rigid and practically solid connection.

Having fully described my invention, what I desire to claim and secure by Letters Patent is—

A handle for spades and similar tools and implements comprising an integral structure having a bifurcation forming contractible side sections, a circular shaft on the upper end of which the handle is applied, said side

sections provided with recesses conforming to the shape of the shaft and adapted to surround a greater portion of the shaft when in position to prevent lateral displacement, and screw fastenings for securing the side sections to the shaft. 15

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses. 20

FRANK PARKES.

Witnesses:

HENRY SKERRETT,

HENRY NORTON SKERRETT.