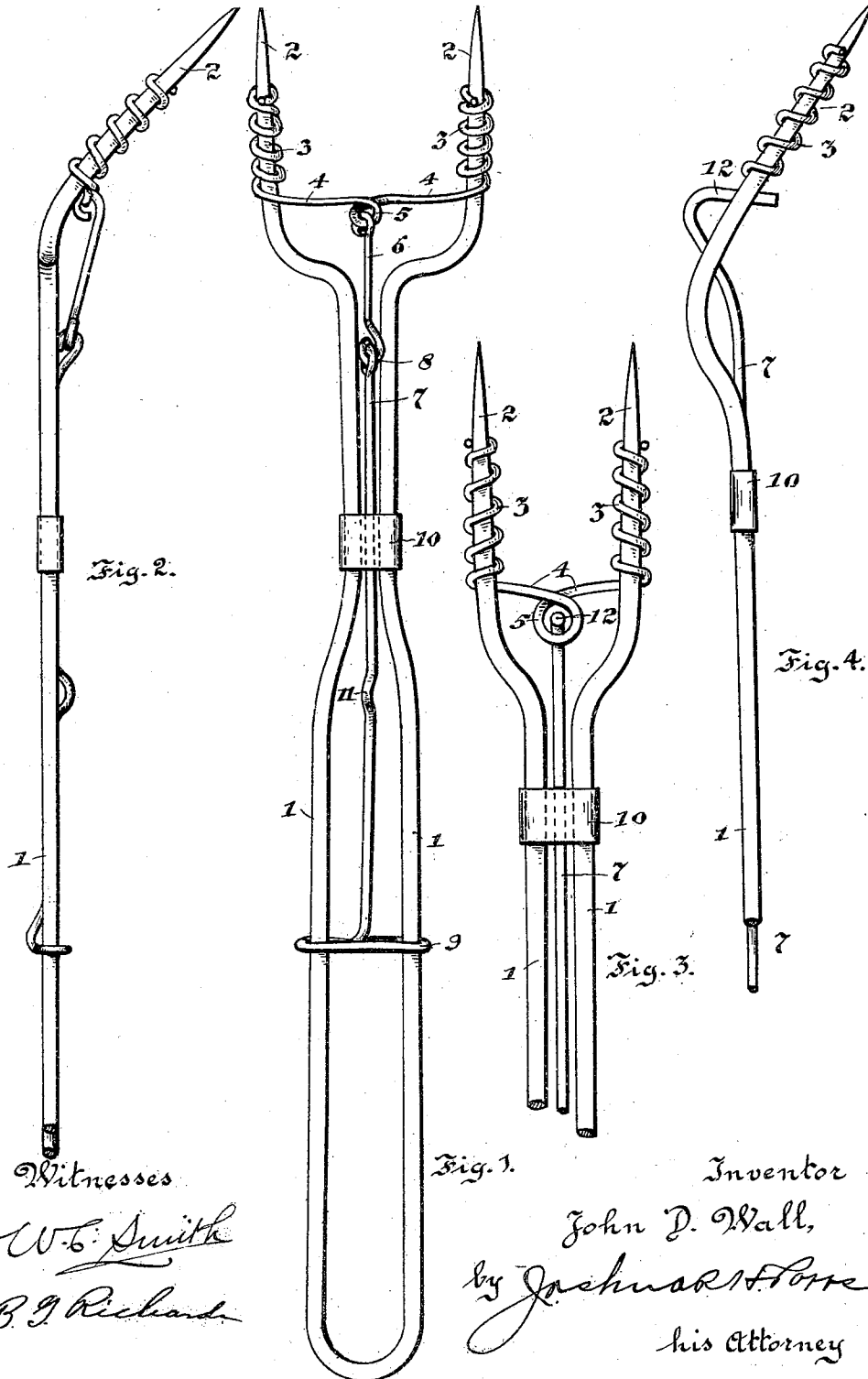


J. D. WALL.
FORK.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 31, 1910.

992,394.

Patented May 16, 1911.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN D. WALL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FORK.

992,394.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 16, 1911.

Application filed January 31, 1910. Serial No. 541,029.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN D. WALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Forks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in forks and has for its object the production of a fork provided with means for readily discharging an object impaled upon the points of the fork.

The invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which,

Figure 1 is a plan view of a fork embodying my invention, Fig. 2 is a side elevation of Fig. 1, Fig. 3 is a partial plan view of a fork illustrating a modified form of construction for applying the invention, and Fig. 4 is a side elevation corresponding to Fig. 3.

The preferred form of construction as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 comprises a fork consisting of a single wire bent to form the handle portion 1 and the tines 2. Discharging sheaths 3 are reciprocally mounted on tines 2. These sheaths are formed from a single wire member 4 bent and twisted at the center to form an eye or loop 5 and having its ends bent into helical spring form to pass over tines 2. Sheaths 3 are connected by means of the link 6 with a slidable operating member 7 mounted in the handle of the fork. This operating member is formed of a single piece of wire bent at one end to form an eye 8 to engage link 6 and at its other end to form a loop 9 slidably engaging over handle 1. A metallic band or clasp 10 is secured over the reduced portion of handle 1 to serve as a guide for members 7 and to cooperate with a hump 11 formed in member 7 to limit the outward or discharging movement of member 7.

By the construction as above set forth it will be seen that an object impaled upon

tines 2 may be readily discharged therefrom by manipulating member 7 with the thumb or forefinger of the hand grasping handle 1.

In the form of construction illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4 the operating member 7 is prolonged at its lower end where it is bent to form a pin 12 adapted to loosely engage in eye 5 of sheaths 3. This pin and eye engagement between members 7 and sheaths 3 will permit reciprocations of the former by means of the latter, as before.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred construction for carrying my invention into effect, this is capable of variation or modification without departing from the spirit of the invention. I, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the exact details of construction set forth, but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claim.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

In a device of the class described, a piece of wire doubled upon itself to form a pair of substantially parallel portions constituting a handle, the ends of said wire being spread and bent to form a pair of tines sharpened at the ends, a band encircling said parallel portions rigidly spacing the same apart, a longitudinal member arranged between said parallel portions and longitudinally slidable through said band, said band constituting a guide for the same, a slidable member mounted on said tines, eyes formed on said longitudinal member and said slidable member, a link connecting said eyes and a stop on said longitudinal member adapted to engage said band to limit the outward movement of said slidable member, substantially as described.

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

JOHN D. WALL.

Witnesses:

JANET E. HOGAN.

JOSHUA R. H. POTTS.