2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. A. SCANLAN.
Dredging Tongs.

No. 201,559 Patented March 19, 1878.

Fig. 1

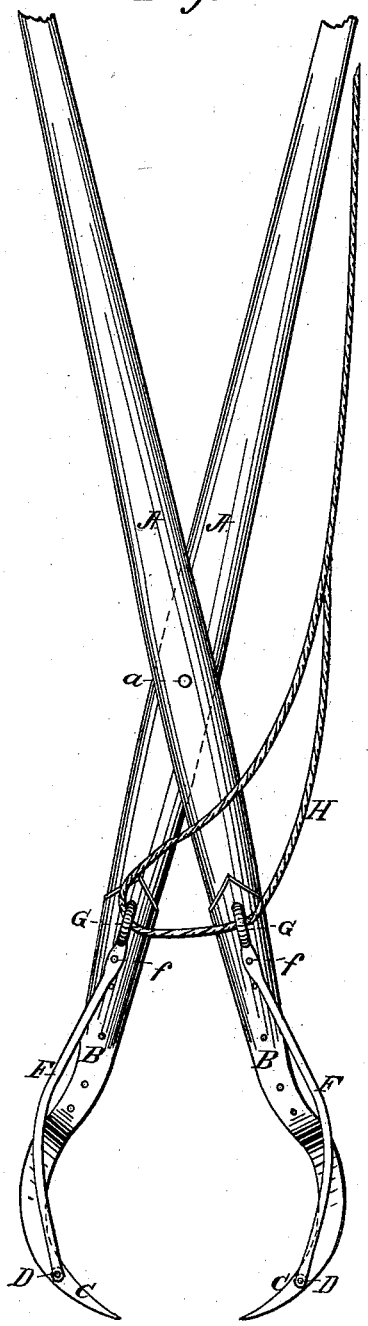
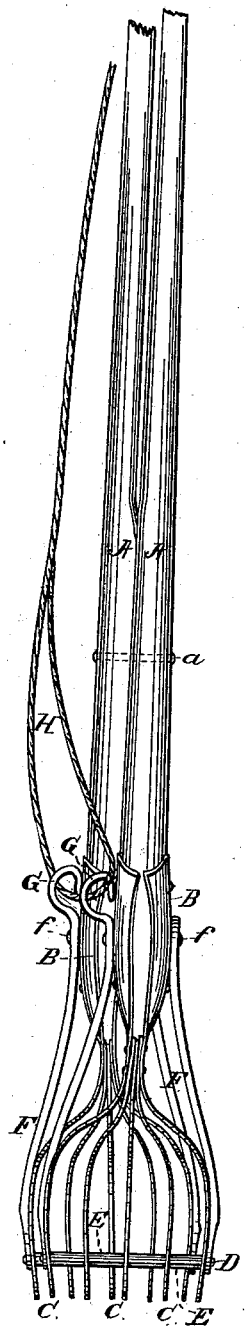


Fig. 2



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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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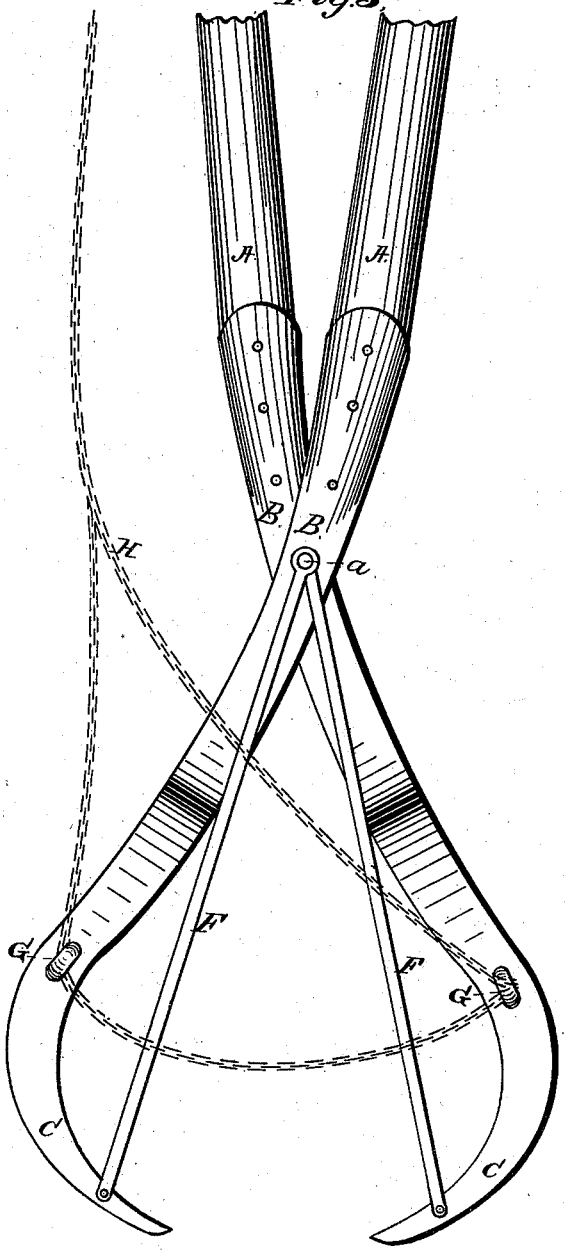
Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. SCANLAN, OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FIFTH HIS RIGHT TO ELISHA LINDSAY HALSEY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN DREDGING-TONGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **201,559**, dated March 19, 1878; application filed October 10, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. SCANLAN, of Charleston, in the county of Charleston and State of South Carolina, have invented a certain new and Improved Dredging-Tongs, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to dredging-tongs provided with a pair of handles hinged together shearwise, each carrying a blade provided with three, five, seven, or more teeth. To the neck of each blade is applied an eye, which eyes are drawn together by a cord, to retain the rock within the grasp of the blades.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of the tongs, omitting a portion of the length of the handles. Fig. 2 is a back view of the same. Fig. 3 is a side view on a larger scale, illustrating certain modifications.

A A are a pair of handles of ordinary construction, pivoted together at *a* and secured in sockets B B of the blades, which blades are each formed with any desirable number of teeth, C C C, firmly tied together by through-bolts D, which clamp the teeth against the interposed sleeves E. The bolts D also secure the lower ends of brace-rods F, the upper ends of which are bolted at *f* to the upper part of the blade-socket, the bolt *f*, which thus secures them, being passed through the handle, so as to retain it. G G are eyes, which may project laterally from the necks of the blades, or may project toward each other, as preferred. They are employed for the reception of a rope or chain, H, which serves to hold the blades together in drawing up a piece of rock.

The implement is found highly useful in gathering phosphate-rock from beneath the water, and may be advantageously employed in all similar operations. The tongs may be made of iron or steel.

In the modification shown in Fig. 3 the sockets B B extend above the pivot *a*. The eyes G G may be located, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, at the upper ends of the brace-rods F, or they may be located on the side of each blade, as shown in Fig. 3, or they may be placed at any intermediate point, as may be preferred, or as the form and construction of the tongs may require. The brace-rods F may be bowed, as illustrated in Fig. 1, so as to admit rocks of any length between the blades, or they may extend straight across the bow of the blades, as illustrated in Fig. 3, so as to retain small pieces of rock between the jaws.

By extending the rods in a straight line from the pivot *a* to near the extremities of the blades, as shown in Fig. 3, the said rods are adapted to brace and support the blades, while they may be of smaller size.

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

The dredging-tongs constructed with handles A A, teeth C C, bolts D D, sleeves E E, braces F F, eyes G G, and rope or chain H, as and for the purposes set forth.

C. A. SCANLAN.

Witnesses:
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