

P. B. CUNNINGHAM.
Shovel.

No. 160,170.

Patented Feb. 23, 1875.

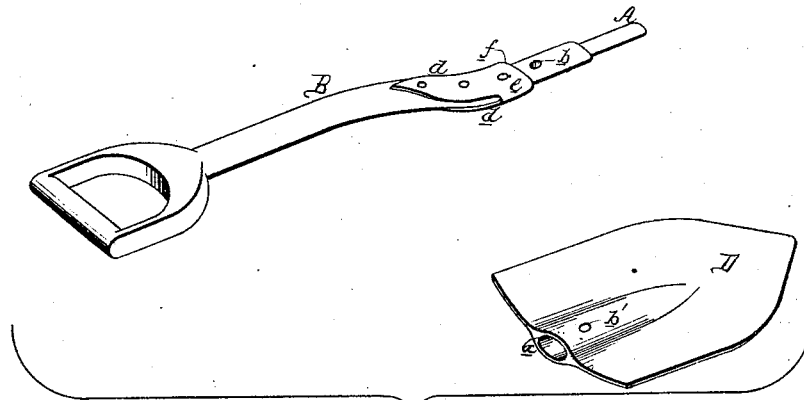


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

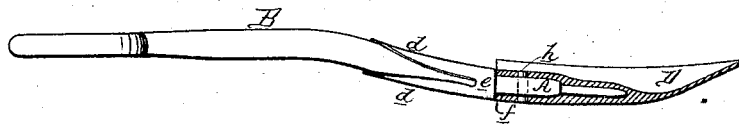


FIG. 3.



Witnesses,

Thomas M. Swain
Hubert Howson

P. B. Cunningham
by his Atty.
Hewson and Son

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER B. CUNNINGHAM, OF FREEHOLD, ASSIGNOR TO THOMAS WEISS, OF BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOVELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **160,170**, dated February 23, 1875; application filed February 6, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER B. CUNNINGHAM, of Freehold, Luzerne county, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Shovels, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to facilitate the repairing of shovels by adapting a metal tongue, A, on the handle B of the shovel to a socket, *a*, formed in the blade D, and securing it therein by a bolt or rivet, as shown in the perspective view, Figure 1 of the accompanying drawing, the withdrawal of this pin permitting the ready furnishing of the blade with a new handle, or the old handle with a new blade.

The tongue A is forged in one piece with straps *d d* and a socket, *e*, which are fitted over the end of the wooden handle B of the shovel, and permanently secured to the same by rivets or otherwise, as shown in Fig. 1 and in the longitudinal section, Fig. 2. A shoulder, *f*, is formed on the tongue, for fitting snugly against the rear edge of the blade, when the said tongue is fitted into the socket, and the blade and handle are secured together by a transverse pin, *h*, or by a rivet or bolt adapted to holes *b* and *b'* in the tongue and blade, as clearly shown in the transverse section, Fig. 3.

In ordinary shovels and spades the handle

is secured to the blade so that it cannot be disconnected therefrom. In foundries, especially, where the handles frequently become burnt, numbers of shovels having good blades are discarded, owing to this difficulty of attaching new handles.

By my invention this objection is entirely overcome, the connection between the handle and the blade being perfectly rigid while the shovel is in use, and yet permitting the ready disconnection of the blade from the handle after simply knocking out the pin *h*, either handle or blade being replaced by a new one without loss of time.

Another advantage of my invention is the economizing of space in packing the blades and handles separately for transportation in large quantities.

I claim as my invention—

A shovel in which are combined a metal tongue, A, secured to the handle, with a socket, *a*, formed for its reception in the blade, as set forth.

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

PETER B. CUNNINGHAM.

Witnesses:

SAM. BRUNNER,
JESSE WEAVER.