

W. PEABODY.

AX.

No. 118,266.

Patented Aug. 22, 1871.

Fig. 4.

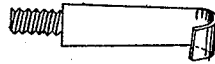


Fig. 1.

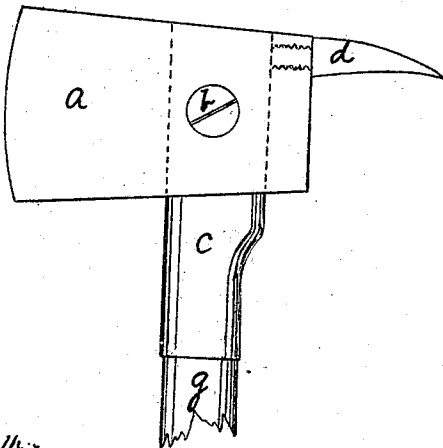


Fig. 2.

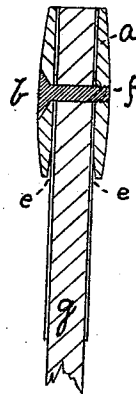
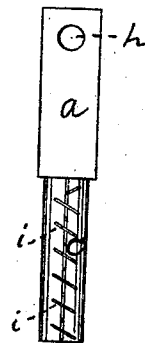


Fig. 3.



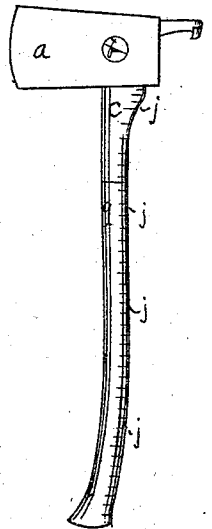
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*John Williams*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WASHBURN PEABODY, OF ORONO, MAINE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN AXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 118,266, dated August 22, 1871; antedated August 5, 1871.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WASHBURN PEABODY, of Orono, in the county of Penobscot and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Axes; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of my invention, which will enable others to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows a side view of my invention. Fig. 2, a section; Fig. 3, a back view; Fig. 4, a view of a marking-iron to be attached. Plate 2 shows a side elevation of my ax with the rule or measure and marking-iron attachment.

Same letters show like parts.

In the ax now in use the eye is made to cling closely to the handle, and by constant use the sharp edges are liable to work into and score the handle, causing it to break off close to the head. When the haft is fastened by a wedge in the usual manner and breaks, the part remaining in the head of the ax has to be cut out at the cost of much time and labor.

To overcome these disadvantages and to render the ax more serviceable and useful in other ways—which will be explained hereafter—are the objects of my invention.

To prevent the cutting and weakening of the handle by the sharp edge of the eye I cause said eye to be made flaring outwardly at the edge toward the handle, so that it does not come in contact with it. I also cover the handle with sheet metal extending from its lower extremity, which enters the eye, to a convenient distance up the handle. This serves the double purpose of preventing any splitting of the handle and keeping it from wearing out by striking against the wood to be cut or split. It also secures the haft to the head of the ax in an improved manner, viz., by running a screw through it countersunk upon one side of the head, and entering a hole prepared with a thread to receive it in the other. In case the handle breaks this screw can be taken out, the handle withdrawn, and another substituted, without loss of time.

As a further improvement, which adds to the utility of my invention, I tap a screw-hole in the back of the ax-head, in which may be inserted for use other tools which may be conveniently employed in this connection, as, for example, a marking-iron, when logs are being prepared for

the market. The ax can be used to remove the bark from the log and the marking-iron attached to the back of it to score the desired mark.

I also contemplate attaching a rule or measure to the handle of the ax, or scoring said handle so that it will serve as a measuring-rod. Then the surveyor, by inserting the marking-iron in the manner described, has all his instruments united in convenient form, making his measurements with the rule or measure on the handle, removing the bark with the edge of the ax, and scoring the proper marks upon the log with the marking-iron, thus accomplishing by one what has been heretofore done by three tools, and enabling one man to do the work now done by two or more.

A pick is another tool which can be attached to the back, as described, and be of great use in many cases, and by this means the transportation of a separate instrument is saved; and many others might be mentioned which the screw tapped in the poll of the ax would make it possible to attach, to the great advantage of the user.

By reference to the drawing my invention will be readily understood. Fig. 1, at *a*, shows a side view of my improved ax. At *b* is the screw securing the handle. *c* shows the metal surrounding the end of the handle *g*, and *d* a pick attached to the back of the ax-head, as described, the screw being shown in dotted lines. At Fig. 2 the various parts are shown by the same letters, and also the flare of the eye of the ax at *e*, and the thread in the eye which receives the screw at *f*. Fig. 3 shows the back of the ax-head with the hole for the reception of the removable tools at *h*. In this figure, also, the metal *c* is shown as fastened to the handle by being laced with wire on the back, (see *i*,) but it can also be soldered or otherwise secured. Fig. 4 shows a marking-iron which can be screwed into the hole *h* when desired, and plate 2 shows this screwed in place, and also the measure attached to the handle of the ax. In this case it is scored upon said handle, making it a kind of measuring-rod. (See *k*.)

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The improved ax as herein described, and for the purposes set forth.

WASHBURN PEABODY.

Witnesses:

WM. FRANKLIN SEAVEY,  
H. D. FALLET.