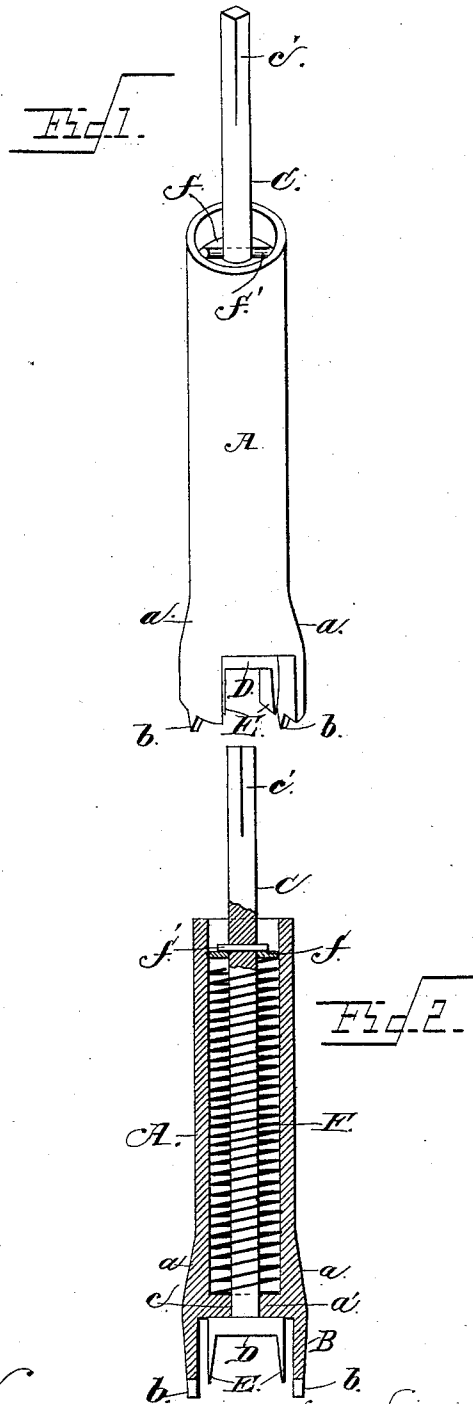


(No Model.)

D. W. FOUTS.
PLUG CUTTER.

No. 341,646.

Patented May 11, 1886.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID WILLIAM FOUTS, OF CHRISMAN, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO ALEXANDER B. STANDIFORD AND JOHN E. STANDIFORD, BOTH OF
SAME PLACE.

PLUG-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 341,646, dated May 11, 1886.

Application filed March 5, 1886. Serial No. 194,165. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID WILLIAM FOUTS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chrisman, in the county of Edgar and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Plug-Cutting Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in plug-cutting devices; and it consists of the peculiar and novel construction and combination of parts, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

The primary object of my invention is to provide an improved device for cutting plugs that are designed to be used in filling up holes over the heads of screws, bolts, nails, or the like. The device is especially adapted for use by carpenters, cabinet and carriage makers, or for cutting bungs for barrels.

I propose to provide an implement or tool with a shell having prongs to hold it in place on the wood or material, and a cutter-spindle arranged within the shell and having a cutter-head, which carries the cutting-blades, that are disposed within the holding-prongs of the inclosing-shell, the cutter-spindle being fitted in a brace or bit to rotate the same, and having a longitudinal movement within the case to project the cutter-head beyond the holding-prongs, whereby the cutters are fed forward and the bung or plug can be conveniently forced from the wood, and the spindle is normally retracted in the case or shell by a spring, all as will be hereinafter more fully described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved plug-cutting device. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal sectional view thereof.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures, *a* designates the shell or inclosing-case of my improved plug-cutting device, which is preferably made tubular or cylindrical in form. The lower end of the shell is enlarged or flared outwardly, as at *a*, and provided with a closed head, *a'*, and from opposite sides of the enlarged or flared end of the shell depend prongs *B*, having one or more

teeth, *b*, on their lower edges, which are adapted to take or be forced into the wood or other material, to hold the shell or case securely and rigidly in place, the outer faces of the prongs being preferably curved or rounded to correspond to the curvature of the shell, while their inner faces are straight, as seen in Fig. 2.

C designates a spindle that is arranged longitudinally and centrally within the shell or case *A*. The lower end of the spindle passes through a central opening, *c*, in the head *a* of the case *A*, and is provided with a head or plate, *D*, that is preferably rectangular in form and carries the cutting-blades *E*. This head of the spindle is preferably formed integral therewith, but it can be made separate therefrom, and the cutter head and blades are arranged and inclosed within the holding-prongs of the shell, by which they are protected from injury. By arranging the cutters within the prongs the latter hold the device very firmly in place, and the cutters thus insure a more even and uniform plug or cut, and operate more steadily, with less liability to lateral play, and a consequent unevenness of cut. The spindle *C* has a squared end or shank, *C'*, by means of which it can be fitted and securely held in a brace or other suitable implement for rotating it and the cutters, and the spindle has a longitudinal movement within the case to feed and project the cutters forward when they are acting upon the work. The cutter-head *D* is normally held against or in engagement with the head *a'* of the shell, so that the blades carried thereby are drawn within the plane of the prongs, so as to be out of the way, by means of a coiled spring, *F*, which encircles the spindle within the shell or case *A*, one end of said spring bearing against the head *a'* of the shell and the other end against a washer, *f*, which is fitted and held in place on the spindle by a pin, *f'*, that passes transversely through the spindle at the proper point.

This being the construction of my invention, the operation thereof is as follows: The squared end of the spindle is fitted in a brace or other suitable implement and the shell *A* is grasped by one hand, so as to leave the other hand free to operate the brace, &c. The teeth of the holding-prongs are forced firmly into

the wood or other work, and the spindle is rotated and pressed forward against the tension of its retracting-spring, so that the cutters E are brought into contact with and operate upon the material to cut the plug or bung. Pressure is steadily applied to the spindle to feed the same and the cutters forward at the required rate to properly act on the wood, and after the plug or bung has been cut the pressure on the spindle is released, to adapt the spring to rotate the spindle in the shell and draw the cutters away from the work, the retrograde movement of the spindle being limited by the cutter-head coming in contact with the head *a'* of the shell.

The cutter-blades may be formed with the head, or separate therefrom, and interchangeable with other blades of different sizes, to adapt the device to cut plugs or bungs of different sizes, and other changes in the form and proportion of parts and details of construction, herein shown and described as an embodiment of my invention, may be made without departing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages thereof.

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

1. In a plug-cutting device, the combination of a shell having the holding-prongs, and

a longitudinally-movable rotating spindle arranged within the shell, and having the cutters disposed between the prongs, substantially as described.

2. In a plug-cutting device, the combination of a shell having the retaining-prongs, and a spring-actuated spindle arranged and movable longitudinally within the shell, and having a cutter-head normally held in contact with a head of the case and carrying the blades, which are arranged within the prongs, substantially as described.

3. In a plug-cutting device, the combination of a shell, A, having the prongs B and teeth *b*, a rotating spindle inclosed and movable longitudinally within the shell, a cutter-head, D, carried by the spindle and provided with the blades E, which are arranged within the prongs B, and a spring, F, encompassing the spindle, for retracting the same within the shell or case, all arranged and combined, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

DAVID WILLIAM FOUTS.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. FAIR,

WM. S. WALTRIP.