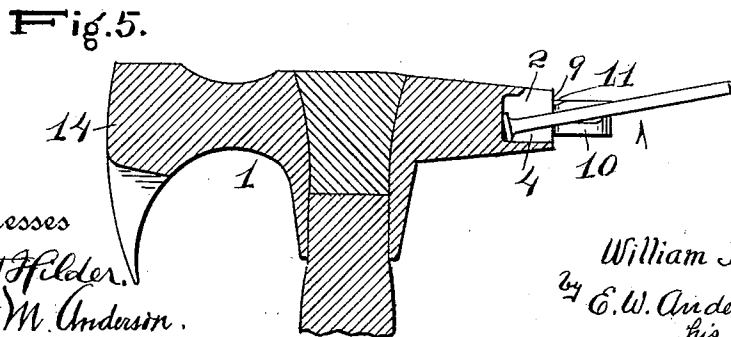
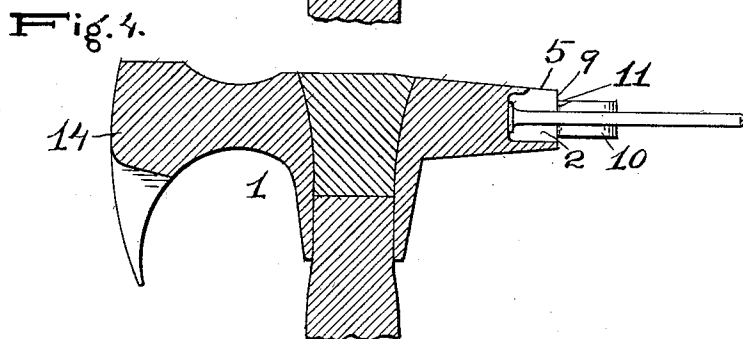
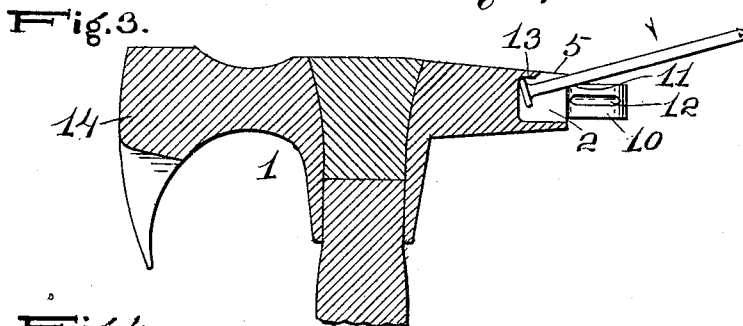
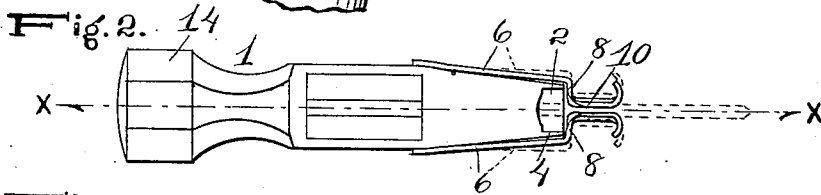
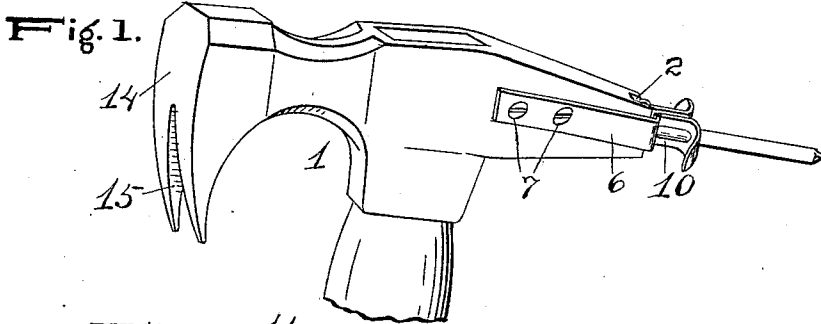


W. THOMAS.
COMBINED HAMMER AND NAIL SET.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 25, 1912.

1,041,903.

Patented Oct. 22, 1912.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COMBINED HAMMER AND NAIL-SET.

1,041,903.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 22, 1912.

Application filed March 25, 1912. Serial No. 686,088.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, resident of Springfield, in the county of Greene and State of Missouri, have made a certain new and useful Invention in Combined Hammers and Nail-Sets; and I declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention with the nail set or gripped by the spring jaws. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same with the nail shown in dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a section on the line $x-x$, Fig. 2, showing the nail about to be engaged between the spring jaws. Fig. 4 is a similar view with the nail set or gripped between the spring jaws. Fig. 5 is a similar view with the nail about to be released from the jaws.

The invention has relation to hammers or means for driving nails, having in connection therewith means for holding the nail to set or start the nail in position prior to driving the nail home.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combinations of parts, as hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating the invention, the numeral 1 designates the head of a hammer, one end of which is provided with a recess 2 extending inward longitudinally of said head, said recess being laterally closed at 4 and provided with a lateral entrance opening 5 leading thereinto.

6, 6 are attachment plates for the recessed end of the hammer, to which they are secured at 7, said plates extending inward toward each other at 8 across the open end 9 of said recess and outward at 10 in line with the hammer head to form a pair of spring-acting jaws of substantially parallel relation.

In the use of the invention, the nail head is inserted within the recess through the lateral entrance 5, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, when finger pressure is brought to bear against the shank of the nail to

press said shank against the inner portions 11 of said jaws to open the jaws against the tension of the spring thereof, the nail shank passing between the jaws until it is brought in line with longitudinal seats 12 of the jaws, said jaws then snapping together to grip the nail shank in said seats. In this operation the head of the nail takes a bearing against the shoulder 13, being the inner face of the lateral recess wall above the opening 5. The nail now being held between the jaws with the nail head confined within the recess, the workman takes the hammer by its handle and swings the hammer to bring the point of the nail in forcible engagement with the place in the work wherein it is desired to drive it. The nail will in this way be driven in engagement with the work to a sufficient extent to start and hold it in position, when the nail is released by a movement of the hammer to cause the nail head to take a bearing against the inner face of the lateral wall of the recess opposite the entrance opening. A bodily movement of the hammer will then cause the nail head to pass out of said opening, the nail remaining in set or started position in the work. The workman then drives the nail home by using the opposite end 14 of the hammer as a drive, said end having preferably a nail extracting claw 15 as a part thereof.

The invention is designed for general use in driving nails, to save time and labor, and particularly in overhead or difficult work, to dispense with the helper or extra man usually needed.

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

1. A nail placer comprising a hammer head having an end recess provided with an opening in one of its side walls and a bearing shoulder in rear of said opening, and gripping means for the nail shank to maintain it in set position in said head comprising opposite longitudinally grooved spring plates in axial alinement with said head, the nail head having a bearing against said shoulder and against the opposite wall of said recess in being set in position between and released from said gripping means.

2. A nail placer comprising a hammer head having a longitudinally alined end

recess provided with an opening in its upper wall and a bearing shoulder in rear of said opening, and gripping means for the nail shank to maintain it in set position in said head comprising opposite longitudinally grooved spring plates in axial alinement with said head having lateral extensions located across the outer end of said recess to prevent endwise outward movement of the nail, and outer branches having connection with opposite sides of said head, the nail head being adapted to take a bearing against said shoulder and against the opposite wall of said recess in being set in position between and released from said gripping means. 15

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM THOMAS.

Witnesses:

C. O. SPERRY,

EDITH WOOD.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."