(No Model.)

J. E. LEATHERS.

NAIL OR STAPLE.

No. 498,664. Patented May 30, 1893.

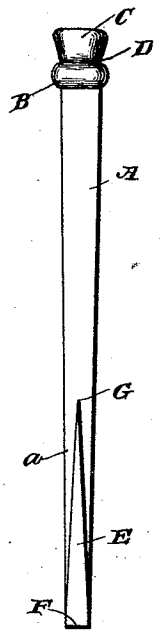

Fig. 1

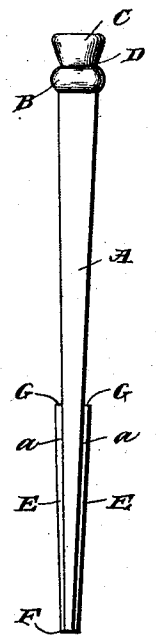

Fig. 2.

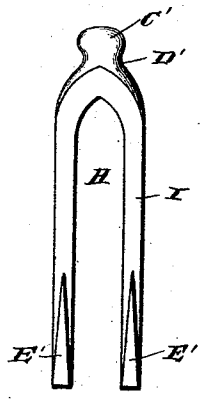

Fig. 3.

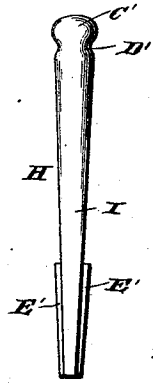

Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN E. LEATHERS, OF PETERBOROUGH, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

NAIL OR STAPLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 498,664, dated May 30, 1893.

Application filed November 25, 1892. Serial No. 453,060. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN E. LEATHERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peterborough, in the county of Hillsborough and State of New Hampshire, have invented a new and useful Nail or Staple, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in driven fasteners, such as nails, staples, &c.; and it has for its object to provide certain improvements in shanked or pronged fasteners, such as nails, spikes, staples, tacks and the like, which shall render the same more effective in the uses to which the same may be adapted.

To this end the invention primarily contemplates a nail, spike, &c., having improved means for driving, drawing and securing the same in the object, in connection with which the same may be used.

With these and other objects in view which will readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter more fully illustrated, described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a front view of a nail constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is an edge or side view of the same. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of a staple provided with the improvements contemplated by this invention. Fig. 4 is an edge or side view of the staple.

Referring to the accompanying drawings:—A represents a shank of a nail which is tapered toward its pointed end to form the usual opposite flattened faces *a*, and the shank A terminates at its upper end in the heads B and C, respectively, the latter of which serves in the capacity of an auxiliary head for the purpose of driving and withdrawing the nail when used for fastening temporarily or permanently. The head C, is of approximately the same diameter as the rounded head B, and meets the latter head at its base in a neck D, which readily receives the claw of a hammer or device for withdrawing the nail. Now it will be readily seen that the nail can be driven into any object up to the inner head B, as usual, to secure the use of the entire shank A, while at the same time the head C, is exposed, so that the nail can be withdrawn when so desired, and it will also be apparent that for permanent work the nail can be driven entirely home so that the upper auxiliary head C, can also be put into the object flush with the surface thereof.

The shank A, of the nail, is further provided upon each of the opposite flattened faces *a*, thereof, with the opposite triangular or wedge shaped projections E. The said triangular or wedge shaped projections E, project out from the opposite faces of the nail and serve as wedges to secure the same in position in the object into which the same may be driven. The projections E, have their bases F, terminate flush with the point of the shank A, and of a width equaling the point, and have their apices G, extend centrally up the faces on the shank toward the heads, so as to form combined stop and cutting edges. The projections E, form wedges around which the wood settles as the nail is driven into position, so that there is no danger whatever of the nail flying out when used in hard woods or frost bitten wood, and also prevents the nail from becoming loose in the wood. While the apices G, form stops which tend to prevent the withdrawal of the nail, the same also serve as cutting edges, so that the wedges can cut a path through the wood when the nail is being withdrawn. By providing a nail or spike with these projections, it will be readily seen that the same would be particularly adapted for splitting purposes, inasmuch as the nail will not fly out of position while being driven.

As illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, the constructions herein described are applied to a staple H. The staple H, is provided with the usual parallel prongs or shanks I, upon the opposite flat faces of which are the triangular or wedge shaped projections E′, similar in detail to the projections E, and serving the self-same function, while the staple is also provided with the head C′, at the base of which is formed the neck D′, so that the staple shall have the same adaptation for driving and withdrawing as the nail described, and may be used for various purposes. It will of course be understood that the nail and staple constructions

are adapted to all driven fasteners such as spikes, tacks, and the like.

From the foregoing description it is thought that the construction, operation and many advantages of the herein described improvement will be apparent.

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

In a driven fastener for wood, the driving shank having opposite flattened faces leading to its point and opposite triangular wedge-shaped projections projecting out from said opposite flattened faces and having their bases terminating flush with the point of the shank and of a width equal thereto, and their apices extending centrally up the flattened faces of the shank toward the driving head, to form combined stop and cutting edges, substantially as set forth.

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

JOHN E. LEATHERS.

Witnesses:
JAMES F. BRENNAN,
JOHN M. RAMSEY.