No. 856,097. PATENTED JUNE 4, 1907.

O. E. PALMER.

CLAW HAMMER.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 21, 1905. RENEWED MAY 6, 1907.

Fig. 1.

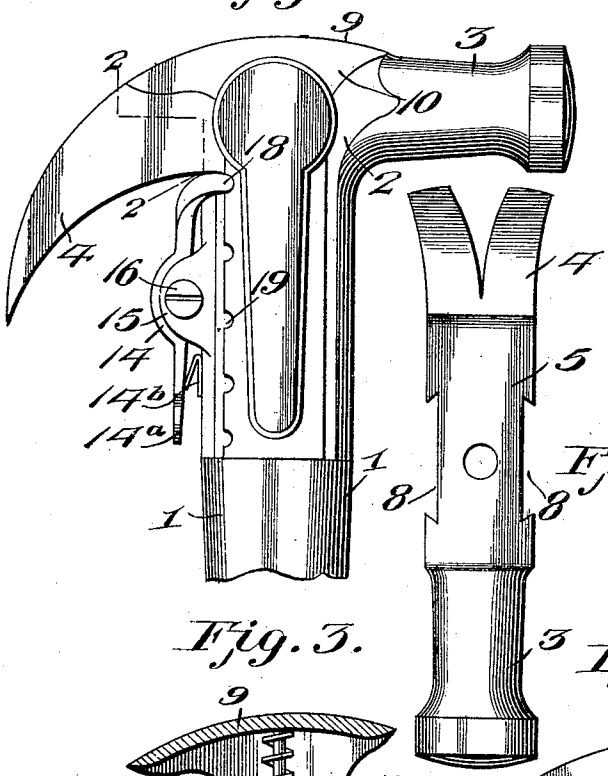


Fig. 2.

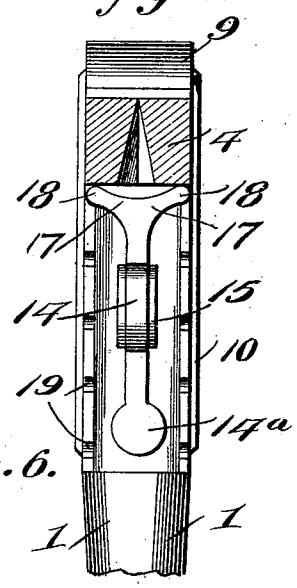


Fig. 6.

Fig. 3.

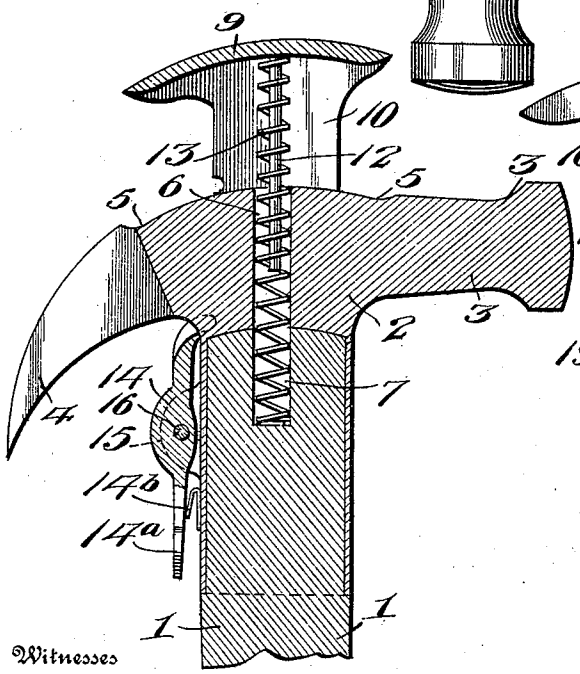


Fig. 4.

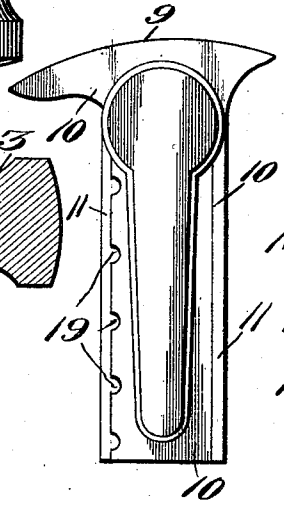
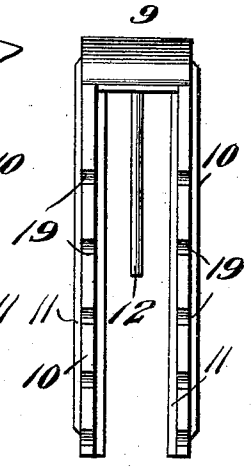


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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CLAW-HAMMER.

No. 856,097. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 4, 1907.

Application filed November 21, 1905. Renewed May 6, 1907. Serial No. 372,032.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OLE E. PALMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Osgood, in the county of Cass and State of North Dakota, have invented new and useful Improvements in Claw-Hammers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to claw hammers, and its primary object is to provide a device of this character wherein the head thereof is provided with a novel and highly useful fulcrum member which is adjustably mounted to permit of its being projected beyond the outer edge of the head of the hammer so as to produce varying increased leverage power for removing nails, whereby nails of varying lengths may be drawn without danger of breaking the hammer claws or bending the nails, said fulcrum member having such connection with the head of the hammer that when it is retracted the hammer head has the usual appearance, and to prevent the fulcrum member's forming an obstruction in the ordinary use of the hammer.

A further object of the invention is to provide a hammer which is simple and durable of construction, one wherein the fulcrum member may be held rigidly in its adjusted position, and one which may be manufactured and sold at a comparatively low cost.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a hammer constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1. Fig. 3 is a vertical central sectional view through the head of the hammer. Fig. 4 is a detail front elevation of the fulcrum member. Fig. 5 is a detail side elevation thereof, and Fig. 6 is a top plan view of the hammer, the fulcrum member being removed.

Referring to the drawings by reference numerals, 1 denotes the handle, and 2 the head of a hammer, the head of the hammer 2 being provided with the usual heel portion 3 and claw portion 4. The head of the hammer 2 has its top edge recessed, as at 5, and is provided with a centrally arranged and transversely extending socket 6, said socket alining with a similar socket 7 in the upper end of the handle 1. The opposite side edges of the head 2 are provided with undercut grooves 8, said grooves extending throughout the entire length of the head 2 and opening out through the top edge thereof.

9 denotes the fulcrum member which is curved on the arc of a circle so as to facilitate the withdrawal of a nail and so as to correspond to the general contour of the top edge of the head 2 and fit within the recess 5, whereby to give to the hammer the usual appearance when the fulcrum member 9 is in its retracted position and to prevent the fulcrum member forming an obstruction in the ordinary use of the hammer. Formed integrally with and depending from the fulcrum member 9 are arms 10, said arms being provided with beveled edges 11 and mounted for movement within the undercut grooves 8.

A rod 12 depends from the under-side of the fulcrum member 9 and is positioned within the sockets 6 and 7. An expansive coiled spring 13 is mounted within the sockets 6 and 7 and surrounds the rod 12, said rod serving as a guide for the upper end of the coiled spring 13 when the fulcrum member 9 is in its projected position. The spring 13 tends to retain the fulcrum member 9 normally projected, and to retain the fulcrum member 9 in rigid projected position, or in its retracted position, I mount upon the head 2 a pivoted latch finger 14. The latch finger 14 is secured between two ears 15 formed integrally with the hammer head 2 by means of a pivoted bolt 16. The upper end of the latch finger is bifurcated, as at 17, to position its notch engaging portions 18 for engagement with notches 19 upon the edges of the arms 10. The other end of the latch finger 14 is enlarged to provide a thumb piece 14^a, and the notch engaging portions 18 are held normally engaged with the notches 19 by means of a spring 14^b.

When it is desired to use the fulcrum member 9, the latch finger 14 is operated to withdraw its portions 18 from engagement with the notches 19, thus permitting the fulcrum member 9 being projected by means of the spring 13. After the fulcrum member has been properly adjusted, the portions 18 of the latch finger 14 are permitted to engage in the recesses 19, whereby to rigidly hold the fulcrum member 9 in its adjusted position. With the fulcrum member in a position beyond the outer edge of the head, a nail of more than the ordinary length may be easily withdrawn without danger of breaking the

hammer claws or bending the nail. The fulcrum member 9 may be positioned at different distances from the outer edge of the hammer head 2 so as to adapt the hammer for extracting nails of varying lengths.

Having fully described and illustrated my invention, what I claim is:

The combination with a handle provided with a socket in the upper end thereof, a hammer head secured to the handle and having its upper edge recessed and its opposite side edges provided with under-cut grooves opening out through the upper edge thereof, said hammer head being provided with an opening extending transversely therethrough and communicating with the socket in the handle, a curved fulcrum member adapted to occupy the recess when not in use, notched arms depending from the fulcrum member and having beveled edges, a rod depending from the fulcrum member for engagement in the opening and the socket, a spring located in the opening and the socket and surrounding the rod, ears formed integrally with the hammer head, a latch finger pivotally secured between the ears and having its upper end bifurcated to position its notch engaging portions for engagement with the notches in the arms of the fulcrum member, and a spring interposed between the hammer head and latch finger to normally retain the engaging portions of the latch finger in engagement with the notches of the arms.

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

OLE E. PALMER.

Witnesses:
GEO. F. FULLER,
BESSIE G. MACLEAN.