(No Model.)

R. S. PICKETT.

SPLIT NAIL OR TACK.

No. 323,200. Patented July 28, 1885.

Fig. 1.

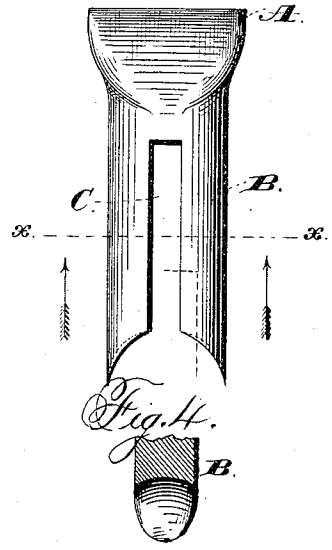


Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

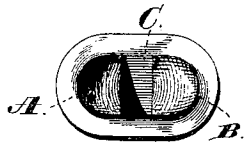
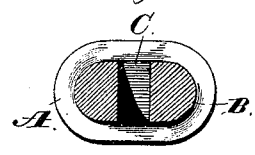


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUFUS S. PICKETT, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

SPLIT NAIL OR TACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 323,200, dated July 28, 1885.

Application filed February 2, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUFUS S. PICKETT, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven, and in the State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Split Nails or Tacks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a view in elevation of my improved nail or tack, enlarged so as to show the details of its form more clearly; Fig. 2, a sectional view of the same on line *x x* of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, an end view of the same as it appears when looking at its point, and Fig. 4 a detail vertical sectional view of the lower portion of one of the prongs or legs of the nail or tack.

Letters of like name and kind refer to like parts in each of the figures.

The object of my invention is to provide an improvement in split nails or tacks.

In the drawings, A designates the head of the tack or nail, and B the shank of the same, provided with the longitudinal slot C, extending from the point well up toward the head A. In cross-section, as shown in Fig. 2, the tack or nail is oblong or oval, the corners of the oblong being rounded so that the oblong has rounded ends. The slot C is parallel to the rounded edges or sides of the shank. At the point the ends of the prongs are beveled inward on each side toward the slot C. Instead of making this bevel plane, I prefer to make it concave, as shown in the drawings. The bevel of each prong end is concaved not only transversely, but also longitudinally. This leaves not only a much sharper cutting-edge at the extreme point of each prong than a plane bevel would, but also makes sharp edges extending some distance up the sides of the prong ends. As I have found by experiment, making the prong-points of this peculiar shape insures the easiest penetration, and also the easy and uniform spread of the points, so that they shall take the best and firmest hold on the material into which they are driven.

In practice my tacks are made of flat round-edged wire, a cross-section of which could be called an "oblong" with rounded ends. This peculiar form of wire or blank leaves the nail or tack, after slotting, with full strong prongs of great holding-power, and of such shape that the hole made in the material with which it is used by it or to receive it does not have to be of such size or shape as to weaken the material, as is the case where round or square nails or tacks are used. My nail or tack is also much easier made than round or square ones, as there is less stock to cut away at the slotting of the point than in such other forms. In making it, the mill which is used to cut the slot is so formed that it cuts the peculiar form of concave bevel of the prong ends at the same time. As indicated already hereinbefore, this concaving of the prong end bevels is an important point, as better and sharper cutting-edges at the prong ends can be obtained thereby.

The bevels of the prong ends of the ordinary and well-known forms of the split nails or tacks can obviously be to advantage concaved, as set forth herein, to secure the best cutting-points.

My nail or tack as described is especially well suited for securely fastening leather or metal plates to any part or parts of rubber shoes or boots that need to be protected, but is also suited for use wherever split nails or tacks are applicable.

The mill used is so formed that both curvatures or concaves of the bevel end of each prong are of the same radius.

I have invented an improved method of using my split nail or tack as described above, as well as other well-known forms of split nails or tacks. Such method is fully described, set forth, and covered in an application filed by me June 3, 1885, as a division of this application. I do not, therefore, herein claim any particular method of using the nail or tack described and shown, but limit myself to the article.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. As an article of manufacture, a nail or tack having its shank in cross-section and oblong with rounded ends, and provided with a longitudinal slot cut in the shank parallel to the rounded edges or side thereof, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. As an article of manufacture, a split

nail or tack having the ends of its prongs formed with a concave bevel, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. As an article of manufacture, a split or slotted nail or tack having the ends of its prongs beveled, and such beveled portions concaved both longitudinally and transversely, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of January, A. D. 1885.

RUFUS S. PICKETT.

Witnesses:
JOHN H. POST,
LOUIS S. DAY.