The present invention relates to a wrecking tool and has for its principal object to provide a device of this nature which is particularly useful in taking up flooring, sidings, sheeting, and in removing slats or strips in taking apart merchandise crates and the like.

Another important object of the invention lies in the provision of a tool of this nature which has a pivoted shoe that may be disposed in contact with the full width of the board which is to be pried loose from the joist, studding, or other timber to which it is to be nailed, rendering it less liable to split or damage the lumber for future use and thereby revering the shoe the tool is converted into a practical and efficient nail puller.

Another important feature of the invention lies in the provision of a handle for a tool of this nature which has one end sharpened or beveled chisel-wise rendering this end useful in the operation for which the tool is to be used.

A still further very important object of the invention lies in the provision of a wrecking tool of this nature which is comparatively simple in its construction, inexpensive to manufacture, yet strong and durable, easy to manipulate, thoroughly efficient and reliable in use, and otherwise well adapted to the purpose for which it is designed.

With the above and numerous other objects in view as will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in certain novel features of construction, and in the combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the tool showing the same in one position for use.

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the tool in another position for use with a portion thereof broken away.

Fig. 3 is a detail section taken substantially on the line 3–3 of Figure 2 looking downward.

Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view taken substantially on the line 4–4 of Figure 2.

Fig. 5 is another detailed section taken substantially on the line 5–5 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawing in detail, it will be seen that the numeral 5 denotes an elongated handle having one end sharpened or beveled as at 6 for forming a prying implement which is very useful in wrecking as will be recognized by those skilled in this art. The other end of the handle 5 has a curved portion as is denoted by the numeral 7. This curved portion 7 terminates in a straight extension 8 pointing in the same general direction from the curved portion 7 as the handle 5 and disposed in substantial spaced parallelism with the handle 5. The extension 8, however, is much shorter than the handle 5 as will be apparent from an inspection of Figures 1 and 2. A shoe 5 is pivotally mounted on the extremity of the extension 8. This shoe 5 is of U-shaped formation in cross section as is illustrated to advantage in Figure 4 so as to include a bite portion 10 having rectangular sides 11 which are provided with openings 13 registering with an opening 13 in the extremity of the extension 8 for receiving a fulcrum pin 14. The outer surface of the bite portion 10 is serrated as indicated at 15 for engagement with the boards so as to prevent slipping. Adjacent one end of the shoe the sides 11 are bent inwardly towards each other to abut each other and may be riveted in abutment as is indicated at 16 if desirable although this is not essential. The adjacent end of the bite portion 10 has a V-shaped notch 17 to form a nail claw for the purpose of pulling nails when the tool is positioned as shown in Figure 2 and when in this position it will be noted that one longitudinal edge of the extension 8 abuts the interior surface of the bite 10 so that in Figure 2 the handle may be swung in a counter-clockwise direction for extracting a nail engaged in the notch 17.

A pair of arms 19 are pivoted by pins 20 or in any other suitable manner to the intermediate portions of the curved portion 7 and are provided adjacent their other ends with arcuate slots 21 to receive limiting pins 22 projecting from the curved portions 7. The free ends of these arms 19 have perpendicular outwardly directed extensions 33 which terminate in perpendicularly disposed serrated flanges 24 for obtaining a grip on a joist or the like. I provide two of these arms 19 so that the tool may be used on either the right or left hand side of the joist, studding or other timber to which the board is nailed as may be necessary.

To use this tool for the purpose of prying up floor boards and the like, the shoe 5 is
disposed in the position shown in Figure 1 wherein it is disposed below the board to be pivoted up and the bight portion 10 thereof is disposed at an acute angle to the under surface of the board. The boards as shown are of the tongue and groove formation as is most common in flooring and the like and it is desirable to pry up the free edge of the board first in order that it may be loosened from engagement with the next adjacent board without injuring the tongue and groove structure as is absolutely necessary. When in this position, one of the arms has its extension and flange engaged on a joist and obviously by swinging the handle 5 as shown in Figure 1 in a counter-clockwise direction, the free edge of the board will be raised first and then the entire board will be pulled away from the next adjacent board.

From the above detailed description of the device and the examples of its utility, it is thought that a thorough understanding of the operation and advantages of the tool may be had by those skilled in this art without a more detailed description thereof. It is apparent that the tool is useful in numerous other different operations which will readily occur in actual practice. The present embodiment of the invention has been disclosed merely by way of illustration to bring out the utility of the tool since in actual practice this embodiment of the invention has proven successful and efficient in the attaining of the advantages enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description. Numerous changes in the details of construction, in the sizes, and in the combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed or sacrificing any of its advantages.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. A tool of the class described comprising a handle, a shoe, said shoe being of U-shaped formation in section to provide a bight portion and a pair of sides, means for pivotally mounting the sides on one end of the handle, a portion of said sides being bent inwardly towards each other to form a stop shoulder to engage the extension so that the bight may be disposed obliquely thereto.

2. A tool of the class described comprising a handle, a shoe, said shoe being of U-shaped formation in section to provide a bight portion and a pair of sides, means for pivotally mounting the sides on one end of the handle, a portion of said sides being bent inwardly towards each other to form a stop shoulder to engage the extension so that the bight may be disposed obliquely thereto, the exterior surface of the bight being serrated.

3. A tool of the class described comprising a handle, a shoe, said shoe being of U-shaped formation in section to provide a bight portion and a pair of sides, means for pivotally mounting the sides on one end of the handle, a portion of said sides being bent inwardly towards each other to form a stop shoulder to engage the extension so that the bight may be disposed obliquely thereto, the exterior surface of the bight being serrated, one end of the shoe remote from the bent end portions of the sides being provided with a V-shaped notch.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

GEORGE W. BASORE.