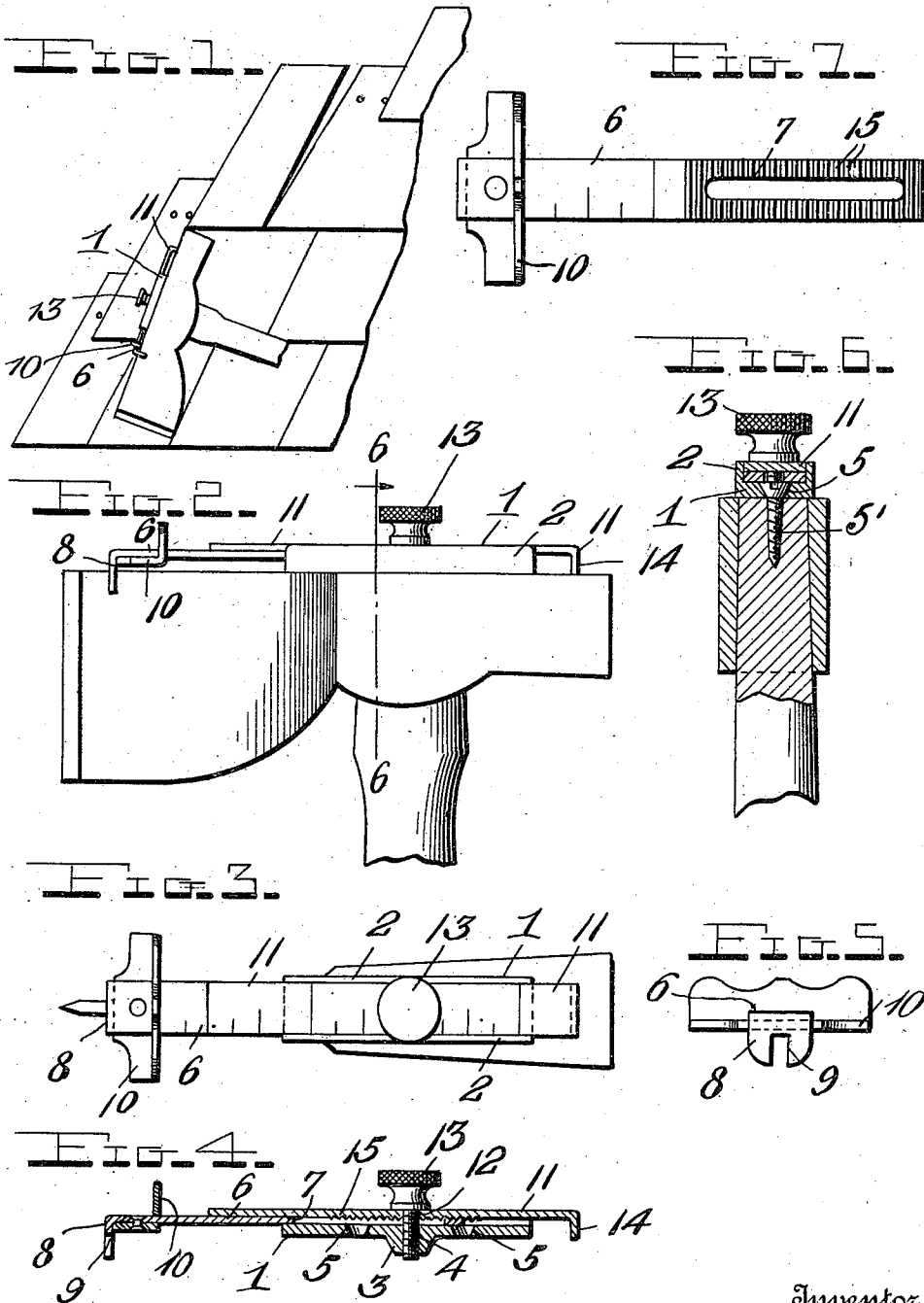


T. LITZENBERG.  
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989,715.

Patented Apr. 18, 1911.



Witnesses

Chas. R. Griesbauer  
C. H. Griesbauer.

by

A. B. Wilson & Co.

Attorneys

Inventor  
T. Litzenberg.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE LITZENBERG, OF ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI.

## GAGE ATTACHMENT FOR HATCHETS.

989,715.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 18, 1911.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THEODORE LITZENBERG, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Joseph, in the county of Buchanan and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gage Attachments for Hatchets; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in shingle gage attachments for hatchets and the like.

The object of the invention is to provide a gage of this character which may be readily attached to a hatchet and quickly and easily adjusted to the desired position for gaging the courses of shingles or other material on which it is used.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a diagrammatic view illustrating the use of the invention; Fig. 2 is a side view of a hatchet, showing my improved gage in position for use thereon; Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the same; Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view of the gage removed from the hatchet; Fig. 5 is an end view of one end of the gage; Fig. 6 is a cross section of the same on the line 6—6 of Fig. 2; Fig. 7 is a plan view of the shingle engaging members of the gage.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, 1, denotes the attaching member of the gage, said member consisting of a base plate having on its opposite edges upwardly projecting parallel flanges 2, which form a channel to receive the adjustable shingle engaging members of the gage. On the under side of the base member, is formed a tapered lug 3 through which and through the base plate is formed a threaded passage 4, the purpose of which will be hereinafter described. The attaching member 1, is provided on each side of the lug 3, with screw holes 5, through which are inserted screws 5' which are driven into the end of the handle of the hatchet, thus securely fastening the attaching member to the top or outer edge of the hatchet, as clearly shown in the drawings.

Arranged in the base member 1, are the shingle gaging members of the device, said members comprising an inner adjustable bar 6, in the inner end of which is formed a longitudinally disposed slot 7, which

aligns with the screw hole 4, in the base member 1. The outer end of the member 6 is bent downwardly at right angles, as shown at 8, and in said right angular end, is formed a blade engaging notch 9, which, when the device is in place, is adapted to receive the outer or upper edge of the blade of the hatchet thereby holding the outer end of said adjustable member against lateral movement.

Secured to the outer portion of the member 6, by means of a rivet or other suitable fastening device, is a right angular stop or shingle engaging plate 10, the ends of which project a suitable distance beyond the opposite edges of the member 6. One right angular portion of the stop plate has formed midway between its ends a slot through which the adjustable bar 6 is passed before the plate is secured to the bar, thus providing a strong, durable connection for these parts. The ends of the right angular plate 10 are square and project at right angles to the opposite edges of the bar 6, as shown said right angular projecting ends forming stops which are engaged with the edges of the last course of shingles laid and thus hold the hatchet in position to cause the pole or hammer end thereof to indicate the position of the shingles for the next course.

Arranged above and adapted to engage the upper side of the member 6 of the gage is a clamping bar 11, in which is formed a screw hole 12, through which and through the slot in the member 6, is inserted a clamping screw 13, which is here shown and is preferably in the form of a thumb screw. The screw 13 is adapted to be screwed into the threaded passage 4, in the base plate 1 and lug 3, thereby securely binding the plate 11 against the plate 6, and thus clamping the latter against the base plate of the member 1, whereby said plate 6, is secured in its adjusted positions. The outer end of the plate 11, is bent downwardly at right angles to form a spacing lug 14, which is adapted to engage the outer side of the poll of the hatchet.

On the engaging faces of the plates 6 and 11, are formed serrations 15, whereby said plates will firmly engage each other when clamped together. On the outer surface of the plates 6 and 11, are arranged scales of measurement whereby the position of the adjustable plate 6, may be readily determined.

In the use of the device, the hatchet is laid flat on the shingles with one or the other of the laterally projecting ends of the stop plate 10, in engagement with the lower edge of a course of shingles. With the hatchet in this position, the shingles for the next course are engaged at their lower edges with the outer end of the poll of the hatchet which will be in proper position for spacing the courses of shingles, this operation being clearly indicated in Fig. 1, of the drawings.

It will be readily seen that I have provided an exceedingly simple gage which may be constructed at a very slight cost and which when in use will prove highly efficient. The down turned end of lug 14 serves to reinforce the clamping bar so as to hold the same properly spaced from the edge of the hatchet and at the same time prevents buckling of the clamping bar while protecting the end of the inner bar and providing means for preventing the access of dirt to the slot in the said inner bar so that the adjustment of the bars may be easily accomplished at all times. The construction of the stop plate reinforces the end of the inner bar so that the stop plate will be held in fixed relation to the inner bar, and the said plate projects beyond both edges of the inner bar so that the device may be used on either side without requiring any reversal of any part, that is to say, the workman may proceed alternately from the opposite sides of the roof in laying successive courses of shingles without stopping to readjust or reverse the gage or any of its parts.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention, as defined in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

A shingle gage attachment for hatchets comprising an attaching member adapted to be secured to the end of the hatchet handle and lie against the edge of the blade and the poll, a graduated inner bar disposed longitudinally upon the attaching member having a longitudinal slot and having one end turned down and provided with a central notch to engage the edge of the hatchet blade, a stop plate secured to the under side of said bar immediately adjacent the downturned end thereof, said plate having an upturned portion containing a central slot through which the bar passes, the ends of the plate projecting beyond the opposite sides of the bar, a graduated clamping bar disposed longitudinally of the attaching member above the inner bar and having one end extending beyond the end of the inner bar and bent inwardly to form a lug adapted to bear against the edge of the hatchet poll, and a thumb screw carried by the clamping bar and passing through the slot in the inner bar into the attaching member to secure the inner bar in an adjusted position.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THEODORE LITZENBERG.

Witnesses:

JOHN W. LOECK,  
F. C. DAVIS.