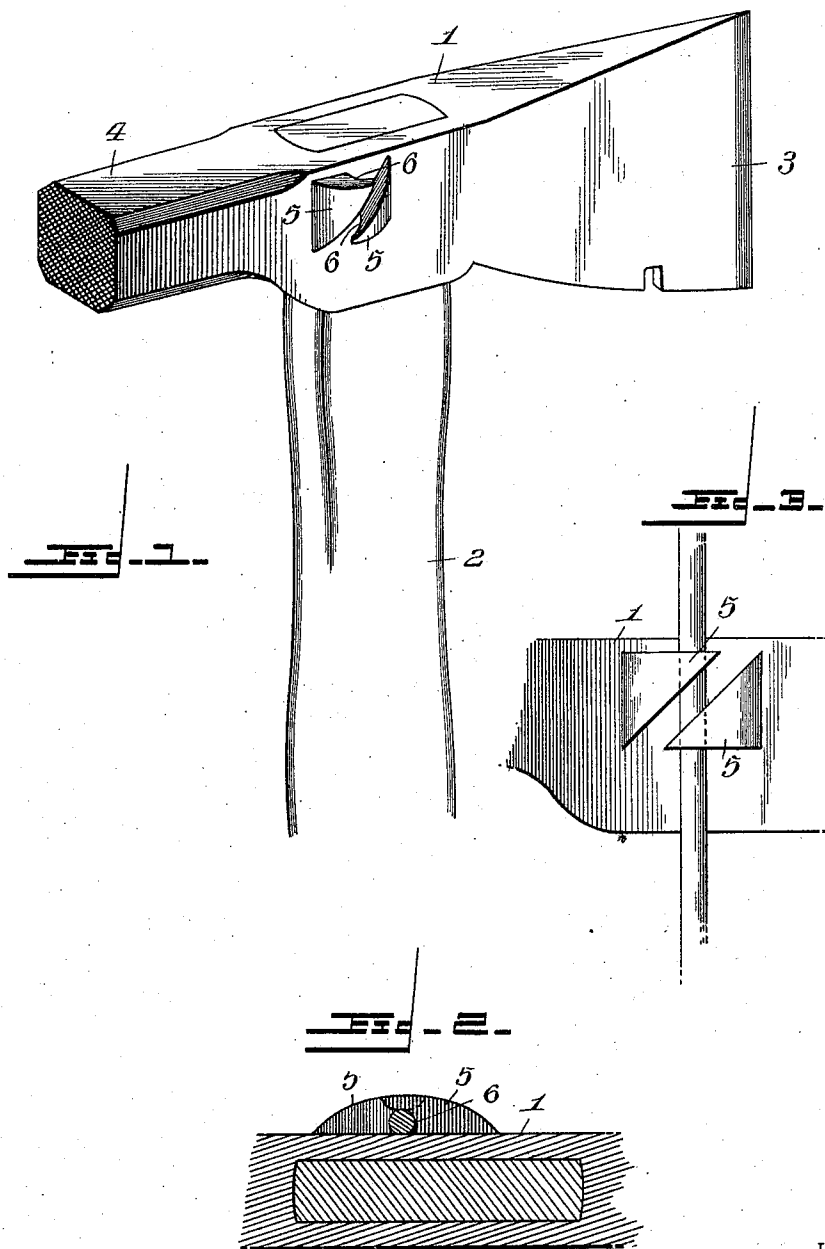


(No Model.)

E. A. KECK.
COMBINED HATCHET AND WIRE TIGHTENER.

No. 574,611.

Patented Jan. 5, 1897.



Inventor

Edgar A. Keck.

Witnesses

Thos. W. Riley.

R. M. Smith.

By his Attorneys,

C. A. Snow & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDGAR A. KECK, OF COTULLA, TEXAS.

COMBINED HATCHET AND WIRE-TIGHTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 574,611, dated January 5, 1897.

Application filed January 17, 1896. Serial No. 575,868. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDGAR A. KECK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cotulla, in the county of La Salle and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Combined Hatchet and Wire-Tightener, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to combination-tools; and the object in view is to provide in one article a hatchet and a wire-twisting device by means of which slack may be taken up in fence-wires as fast as it occurs.

With the above object in view the invention consists in certain novel features and details of construction and arrangement, as hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the drawings, and finally embodied in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the construction of the improved device. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail sectional view showing the manner in which a wire is engaged preparatory to crimping or bending a kink in the same. Fig. 3 is a detail elevation of the wire-crimping jaws. Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 designates a hatchet having a socketed or apertured head for the reception of the end of a handle 2. This hatchet is provided at one side of the head with a chopping-blade 3, of any preferred shape, and has upon the opposite side of the head a poll 4, said parts being preferably formed in one piece.

Upon one side of the head and preferably formed integrally therewith are two laterally-projecting spurs or jaws 5, which are arranged at a slight distance apart sufficiently to admit an ordinary fence-wire between them. The general tendency of these spurs or jaws is in an oblique direction, and the inner adjacent faces or edges of said jaws are also obliquely disposed, but arranged substantially in parallelism. The projecting extremities of the jaws 5 are cut under to form receiving-shoulders 6, against which the wire

may rest during the operation of twisting or crimping the same, at the same time forming overhanging keepers for preventing the accidental displacement of the wire while being operated upon.

In operation the head of the hatchet is brought against a slack fence-wire until the jaws 5 straddle the same, whereupon the tool is revolved until the shoulders 6 engage the wire. Upon a further rotation of the tool the jaws take up the wire and form a kink or crimp therein. When the tool has been turned sufficiently to take up all the slack in the wire, by simply reversing the direction of rotation the tool may be readily disengaged from the wire, leaving the latter kinked and taut.

The combination-tool hereinabove described is especially designed for "fence-riders" or those whose duty it is to keep in repair the wire-fences surrounding large tracts of land. This device renders it unnecessary for the attendant to carry a separate crimping-tool in addition to the hatchet, which is also essential.

It will be apparent that changes in the form and proportion may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

A tool provided upon one side with opposing triangular jaws projecting laterally therefrom and having their adjacent faces arranged opposite and parallel to each other, the said jaws lapping by each other and terminating in acute-angled points which are undercut to form wire-engaging shoulders, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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

EDGAR A. KECK.

Witnesses:

T. R. KECK,
W. J. BOWEN.