D. H. Chamberlain,

Tool Handles,

No. 10,500, Patented Feb. 7, 1854.

Fig. 4.



Fig. 3.

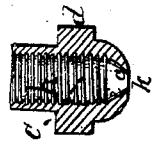


Fig. 7.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 2.

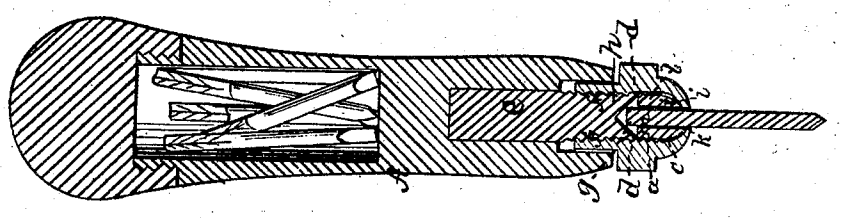
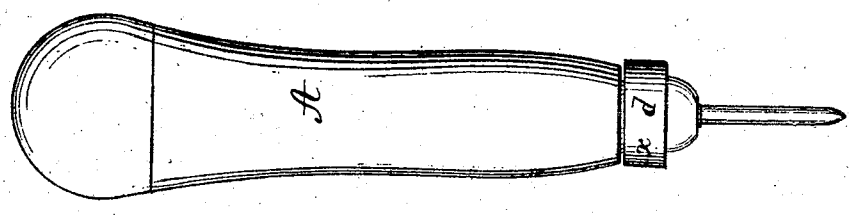


Fig. 1.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DEXTER H. CHAMBERLAIN, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

TOOL-HOLDER.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 10,500, dated February 7, 1854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DEXTER H. CHAMBERLAIN, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Awl-Hafts or Tool-Holders; and I do hereby declare that the same is fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, letters, figures, and references thereof.

Of the said drawings, Figure 1 represents an external elevation, and Fig. 2 a longitudinal section of my improved awl haft or tool handle.

In the said drawings A denotes a wooden handle having a metallic shank, *e*, fitted into it and arranged as seen in Fig. 2. This shank is provided at its lower end with a concave recess or closing socket, *g*, and also a male screw, *f*, the same being arranged as seen in Fig. 2. On this male screw a nut, *d*, is screwed, said nut being provided with a chamber, *c*, formed in it as represented more particularly in Fig. 3, the female screw of said nut being shown at *h* as disposed above the chamber, *c*. The lower part of the chamber, *c*, is made dome shaped or is provided with a conical or other proper shaped recess, *i*, and a hole or passage, *k*, leading out of the middle thereof. The chamber, *c*, is calculated to receive two holding jaws, *a*, *b*, one of which is represented in bottom view in Fig. 4, in edge view in Fig. 5, in side view in Fig. 6, and also in Fig. 7, which denotes a view of its inner side. Each of the jaws is beveled or chamfered off at top and bottom (as seen at *t*, *n*,) so as to correspond with the closing sockets of the screw and screw nut and so that when said screw nut is screwed down upon said jaws so as to clamp them between the sockets the jaws shall be forced toward one another and upon the awl or article placed between them and hold it firmly not only at or near the tops of both of the jaws, but also at or near their bottoms and also between said tops and bottoms.

The common split socket of awl hafts generally bears unequally and at the lower end of the awl, whereas by my improved manner of forcing the jaws together by means of the concave sockets of the screw and nut, the jaws are caused to adapt themselves and to bear upon the entire length of that part of the shank interposed between them and so as to take a very firm and strong grasp upon it. The socket, *g*, also constitutes a rest or support for the upper end of the tool under endwise or longitudinal pressure on it—such being another advantage peculiar to my improvement.

Besides the advantages which my improved awl haft has over many others in firmly holding an awl or tool inserted between its jaws and supporting the lower end of the shank as described, it is so made that any wrench such as is generally used to close the jaws of the common awl haft is rendered unnecessary, as the screw nut is provided with a milled surface or edge (as seen at *x*) by which, by the application of the hand of a person to the same, such screw nut may be revolved on its screw. The recess or closing socket, *g*, formed at the lower end of the screw, *e*, may be so made and the lower ends of the two jaws may also be so constructed in correspondence with the said recess that while they perform the function of forcing the jaws toward one another they will prevent the jaws from being rotated when the screw nut is being turned on its screw. Thus when the screw nut is firmly screwed down upon the jaws, there can be no transverse revolution of the tool while in use, such as would be liable were the socket, *g*, and the lower ends, *a*, *b*, made conical or spherical or so that the jaws *a*, *b*, could readily turn around in the socket *g*.

I do not claim a split or jaw socket having a screw and screw nut applied to it for the closing its jaws upon the shank of an awl or tool inserted between them, but

What I do claim as my invention is—

My improved method of arranging, constructing, and applying together the jaws and confining screws, the same consisting in making the jaws, *a*, *b*, separate from the screw shank *e*, (on which the screw *f* is cut) and in other respects substantially as described, and not only providing the screw nut with a closing concavity or socket *i*, but the screw shank, *e*, with a closing socket, *g*,

for the jaws to rest in; the whole being so that when the screw nut is screwed down upon the jaws the combined action of the jaws and the screw-nut shall operate to simultaneously close the jaws at their upper and lower ends as specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my signature this sixth day of January, A. D. 1854.

DEXTER H. CHAMBERLAIN.

Witnesses:
R. H. EDDY,
F. P. HALE, JR.