Feb. 11, 1941. W. H. CAWOOD 2,231,323

FASTENER HOLDER AND OPERATING TOOL

Filed March 14, 1939 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

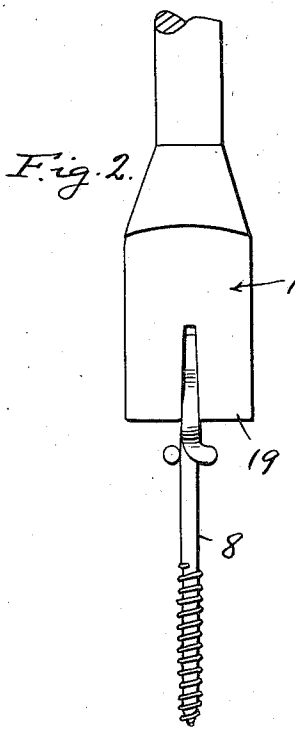


Fig. 2.

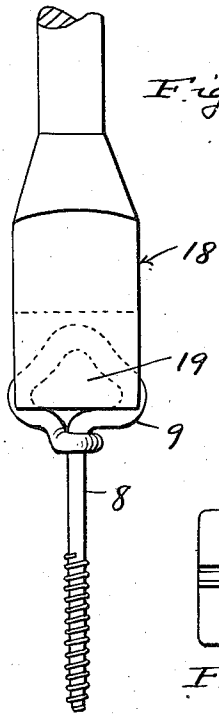


Fig. 3.

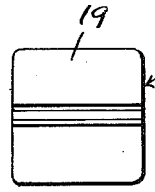


Fig. 4.

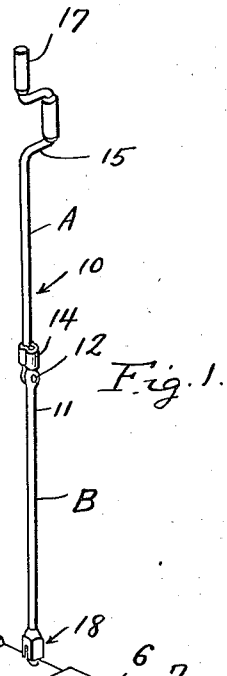
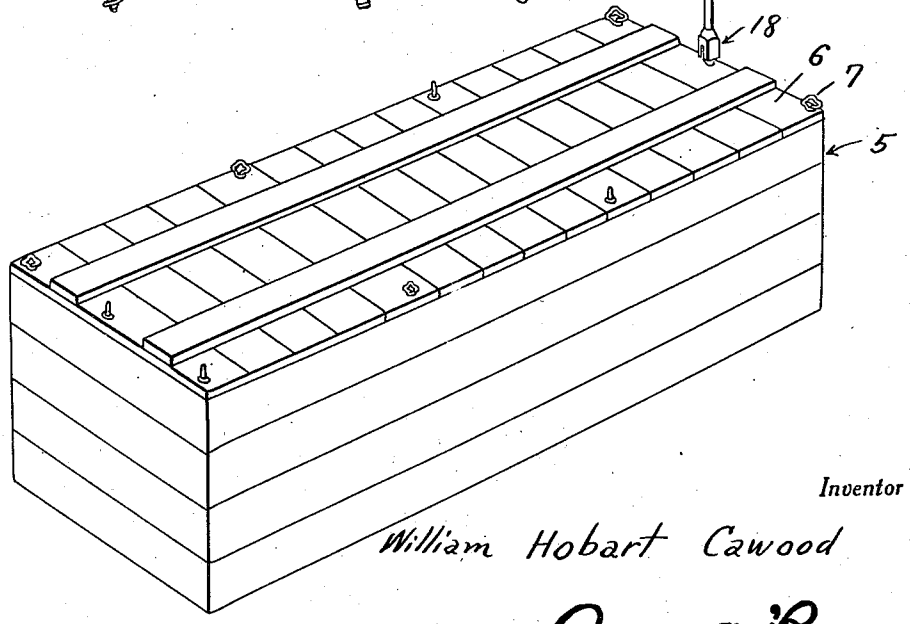


Fig. 1.



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Feb. 11, 1941. W. H. CAWOOD 2,231,323

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Filed March 14, 1939 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 5.

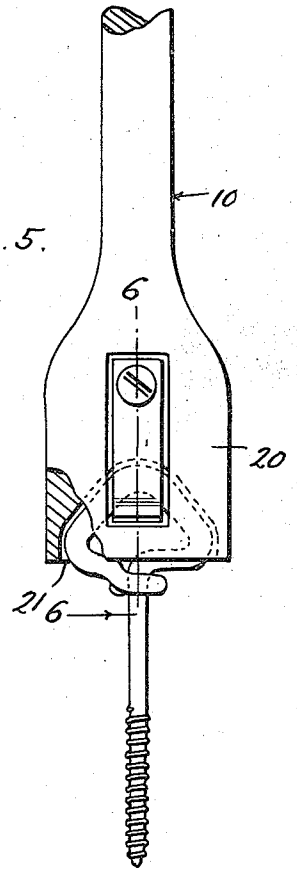
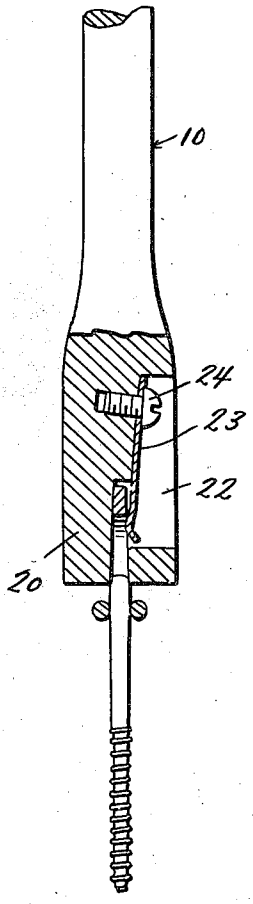


Fig. 6.



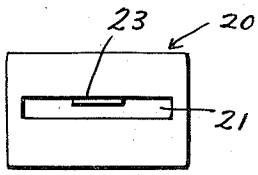


Fig. 7.

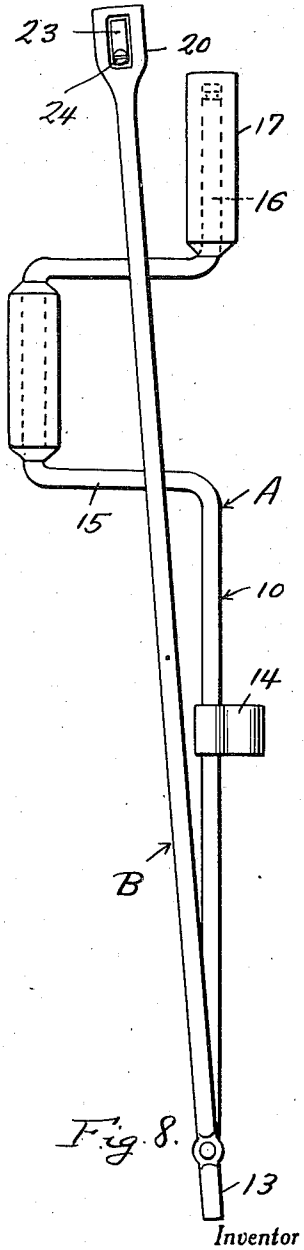


Fig. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,231,323

FASTENER HOLDER AND OPERATING TOOL

William Hobart Cawood, Middlesboro, Ky., assignor to Mary V. Cawood, Middlesboro, Ky.

Application March 14, 1939, Serial No. 261,832

1 Claim. (Cl. 145—66)

This invention relates to a tool especially adapted for securing fasteners of a casket box, while located within a grave and after the placing of the casket in the box and the cover on said box, and has for the primary object the provision of a device of this character which will permit a person standing beside an open grave to place each cover fastener in place and tightly secure the same without the necessity of entering the grave for such a purpose and is so constructed that it may be readily folded to permit easy carrying and storing thereof when not in use.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

For a complete understanding of my invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the tool in operation of securing a fastener in place on a casket box.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary side elevation illustrating the head of the tool gripping one of the fasteners.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary front elevation illustrating the head of the tool gripping a fastener

Figure 4 is an end view of the head of the tool.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary front elevation partly in section illustrating a modified form of head construction.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary side elevation partly in section illustrating the modified form of head.

Figure 7 is an end view illustrating the modified form of head.

Figure 8 is a side elevation illustrating the tool in a folded position.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the numeral 5 indicates a box employed in a grave for receiving a casket and has a cover 6 secured in place by fasteners 7 each consisting of a screw threaded shank 8 and a substantially triangular shaped head 9 having opposite flattened faces. The box 5 is lowered into an open grave and the casket is then positioned in the box by the usual casket-lowering mechanism. After this operation has been completed the cover 6 is lowered into position on the box for closing the latter with a casket therein. All of these operations can take place from the surface of the ground and it has been the present practice of a person to enter the grave in order to position and secure the fasteners 7 through the cover into the box. Through the use of the present invention the necessity of a person entering the grave is entirely obviated.

The tool is indicated in entirety by the character 10 and consists of an elongated rod-like member 11 including sections A and B. The sections A and B are pivotally connected, as shown at 12, and the pivoted end of the section B has formed thereon an extension 13 over which may be positioned a sleeve 14 slidably mounted on the section A when it is desired to secure the sections A and B against pivotal movement and with said sections in alignment with each other.

The upper portion of the section A is in the form of a brace including the usual crank portion 15 and handle portion 16. Grips or sleeves 17 are journaled on the handle portion 16 and the crank portion 15. The sleeves or grips are employed for rotating the rod-like member 10 in a manner similar to the rotation of a brace.

The free end of the section B is enlarged to form a head 18 which is bifurcated to form gripping jaws 19 adapted to receive therebetween and grip the opposite flattened faces of the head 9 of the fastener. When the head of the fastener is inserted between the jaws, it will require considerable force for the extraction thereof from the head.

In operation, after the placing of a fastener in the head 18 the operator standing on the surface of the ground adjacent the open grave may position the fastener in the opening of the cover and readily thread the same into the box. After the threading of the fastener fully into the box, the head 18 may be readily detached from the fastener by an upward pull on the device and the next fastener positioned in the head 18 so that it in turn can be passed through the next opening in the cover and threaded into the box. Thus it will be seen that through the use of this tool the securing of the fasteners into the box and through the cover is made comparatively easy without the necessity of a person entering the grave.

Referring to my modified form of invention as shown in Figures 5 to 7, the section B of the tool may be provided with a head 20 in which is formed a recess 21 opening outwardly through the free end of said head. The head is also provided with a recess 22 which opens through the front face of the head and also communicates with the recess 21. A leaf spring 23 is secured in the recess 22 by a screw or like fastener 24 and the free end thereof is adapted to enter the recess 21 for engaging and gripping the head of a fastener when inserted in the recess 21. The recess 21 is of a general shape corresponding to the shape of the

head of the fastener. Through the use of the spring 23 a positive securing of the fastener within the head of the tool is had obviating any possibility of the fastener slipping out of the head of the tool.

It is believed that the foregoing description, when taken in connection with the drawings will fully set forth the construction and advantages of this invention to those skilled in the art to which such a device relates, so that further detailed description will not be required.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

A tool for securing the screw fasteners of casket casings therein from above a grave, said fasteners having upstanding eye-like heads, said tool comprising a rod-like shank adapted to be inserted in the grave and provided with an operating crank and handle at one end for rotating the same, and a chuck on the other end of said shank for attaching the head of a fastener to said end, said chuck being provided with an end slot for the insertion of said head therein having inwardly converging side walls for frictionally gripping the opposite sides of said head with a wedging action to provide for a tight fit of the head in the chuck, said chuck having a longitudinal countersink in one side opening into one side of the slot, and a leaf spring anchored at one end in said countersink and having a crimped opposite end extending into said slot by way of said opening to snap into said head under insertion of the head in the slot and thereby releasably latch said head in said slot.

WILLIAM HOBART CAWOOD.