

J. YERKES.

Wedges for Tool-Handles.

No. 150,385.

Patented April 28, 1874.

Fig. 1.

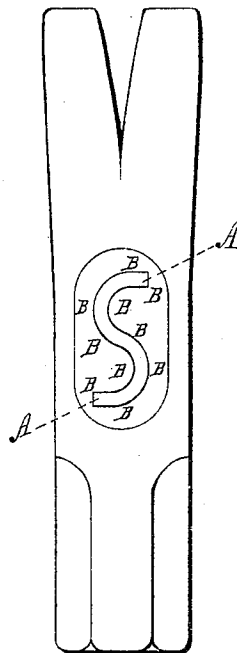


Fig. 2.

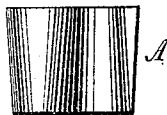
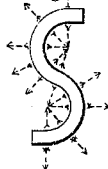


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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IMPROVEMENT IN WEDGES FOR TOOL-HANDLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **150,385**, dated April 28, 1874; application filed
September 16, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JONATHAN YERKES, of the city and county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wedge for Tool-Handles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a clear and exact description of the nature thereof, sufficient to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to fully understand, make, and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top or plan view of the wedge as applied to a hammer-handle. Fig. 2 is a side view thereof. Fig. 3 is a vertical section thereof. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing the operation of the wedge.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

It is well known that wedges for tool-handles have been constructed of blocks, generally of quadrilateral form, and that the wedging or tightening operations have been in lines at right angles to each other.

My invention consists in constructing the wedge so that when forced into the handle, the wedging or tightening will be accomplished in diagonal as well as other lines, whereby the hold of the wedge will be powerful and reliable, the device forming a new article of manufacture.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a wedge, which is to be driven into the handle of a tool in the manner well known.

This wedge is constructed of a piece of metal, cast or otherwise, made of the form longitudinally of a scroll or zigzag, having rounded or angular turns, and of wedging or tapering form vertically, the construction being such that if lines are drawn or projected from the sides B B of the wedge, the same will extend diagonally as well as right-angularly therefrom, as seen in Fig. 4.

Now, when the wedge is driven into the handle of the tool, it is evident that the wood will be forced in directions corresponding to the lines shown in Fig. 4—that is to say, the wood will be wedged in lines diagonal and right angular to the lines of the transverse and longitudinal directions of the end of handle in the tool, so that while the wood is compressed against the eye of the tool, some of its particles are compressed against each other at the curves, bends, or turns of the wedge, whereby, there being so many lines of compression, the end of the handle is powerfully tightened in the eye of the tool and correspondingly held.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, the wedge A for tool-handles, substantially as herein described, and for the purpose set forth.

JONATHAN YERKES.

Witnesses:

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