

73923 T. J. PHILLIPS.

Implement for Removing Hoops from Barrels &c

PATENTED
JAN 28 1868

Fig. 1.

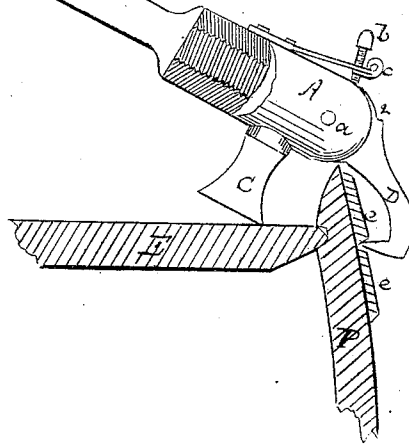
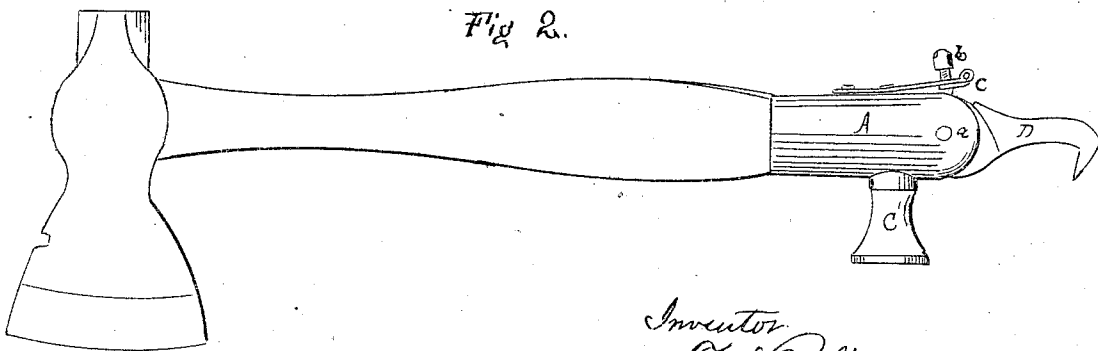


Fig 2.



O. B. Newell
R. S. Turner

Inventor
T. J. Phillips
By his atty
R. D. Smith

United States Patent Office.

THOMAS J. PHILLIPS, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Letters Patent No. 73,923, dated January 28, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN TOOLS FOR OPENING BARRELS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. PHILLIPS, of Washington, in the county of Washington, and District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Implements for Removing Hoops from Barrels, &c.; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents my invention as applied to the hoops of a barrel for the purpose of removing the same.

Figure 2 shows the manner of attaching my invention to the handle of an ordinary hatchet, or other similar tool.

My invention consists in an improved form of tool to be used in unheading barrels. It is well known to those engaged in handling barrels, where the same have to be opened, the fruit, or other articles contained therein, repacked, and the barrel again reheaded, and these operations, perhaps, repeated many times, that there is often great inconvenience, loss of time, and labor, in consequence of the destruction of the hoops by the tools ordinarily employed in removing them. In driving them off with the common hatchet, as they are always nailed to the staves, it is next to impossible to avoid splitting and breaking them, without great loss of time and labor, and thus the barrel is rendered nearly useless for the purposes desired. My device is intended to obviate this, to a great extent, and at the same time effect a saving of time and labor, as it does not destroy and very rarely injures the hoop in removing it.

In order that others may understand the construction and operation of my invention, I will proceed to particularly describe it.

A, fig. 1, is the head, and B the handle, both made of malleable iron. The head, A, together with the hammer C, is cast in one piece, and has at one end a hole drilled in, with a screw-thread cut upon the inner surface to receive and retain the handle B. At the other end, which is rounded off, is a vertical slot, cut to receive the shank of the hook D, which should be forged of steel, where it is retained by the pin *a* passing through both, on which it is free to turn up and down. On the top of this hook is a hole or notch, *g*, to receive the point of the catch *b* in the end of the spring *e*, when it is desired to use the whole as a hammer, it being retained in a line with the handle, as shown at fig. 2. The handle B may be provided with a claw, *h*, for drawing nails, and, when desired, may be removed from the head A, and the handle of an ordinary hatchet substituted in its place, as shown in fig. 2. The operation of the whole, in removing hoops from a barrel, is plainly shown at fig. 1, where E represents the head of a barrel, F the stave, and *e e* the hoops enclosing the same. Placing the point of the hook D under the edge of the hoop, at any point where the same is nailed, allowing the hammer-head C to bear upon the head E as a fulcrum, and pressing down on the handle B, the hoop is easily forced from its position without injury to the same, or the staves of the barrel. As only the top hoop is nailed the others may be readily removed in the ordinary manner.

The head A is preferably made separate, as shown, so that it may be attached to any kind of handle desired.

It is obvious that the precise form and material herein described are not necessary to the successful operation of this invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

As a new implement for removing hoops from barrels, &c., the herein-described head A, provided with the hammer C, or its equivalent, a suitable handle, and the hook D, all constructed and operating substantially as described.

THOS. J. PHILLIPS.

Witnesses:

D. B. VENTRE,
R. D. O. SMITH.