

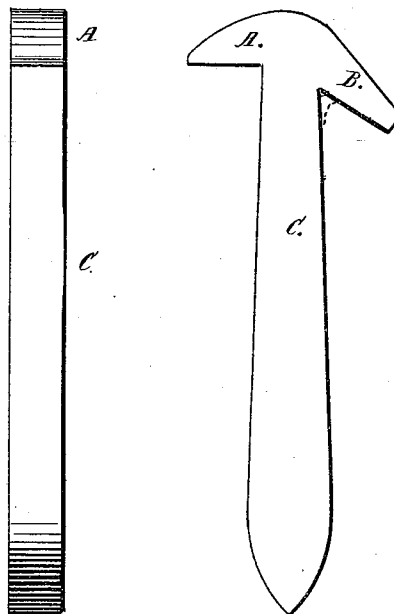
H. STIBBS.

Improvement in Spikes.

No. 132,934.

Patented Nov. 12, 1872.

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Witnesses.

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Henry Stibbs

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY STIBBS, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPIKES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **132,934**, dated November 12, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY STIBBS, of Baltimore, in the county of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in Spikes for Fastening Railroad Iron, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to the combination of the dovetail and brace in such a manner as effectually to prevent the spike from being loosened by the jar or bent backward by the strain upon it. To this end the invention consists in making a spike which gradually decreases in size from near the point toward and directly under its head, as Figure C in the accompanying drawing.

When this spike is driven into the ties the wood closes against it and prevents it being drawn out.

The brace B is at the back of the head A, and is made to incline downward in such a manner as to enter the wooden ties a short

distance, and prevents the spike from bending from its place. The brace is a little below the under part of the head A, so as to strengthen that part of the spike weakened by the dovetail.

I claim as my improvement in railroad spikes—

1. The tapered and pointed shank, the taper being that resulting from a gradual and uniform increase in the thickness of the shank from the head to the commencement of the beveled surface that terminates in the point, as shown and described.

2. The brace B opposite to and a little below the level of the head proper, and inclined downward, as and for the purpose set forth.

HENRY STIBBS.

Witnesses:

BENJN. EGGLESTON,
OLIVER BURKE.