

No. 736,797.

PATENTED AUG. 18, 1903.

G. J. STEELE.
HAMMER.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 17, 1903.

NO MODEL.

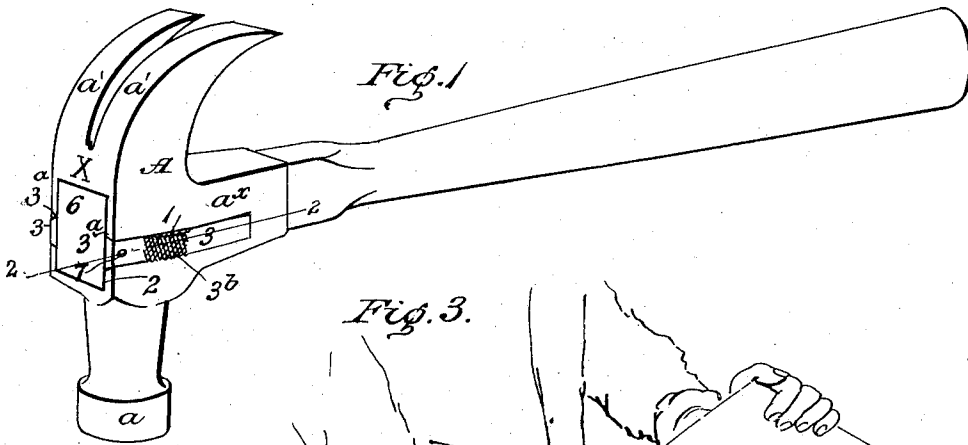


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.

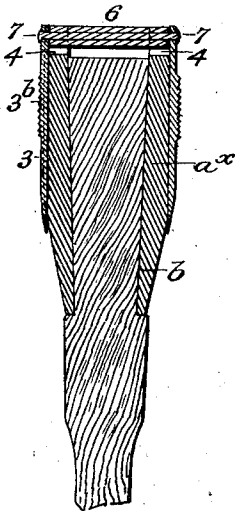


Fig. 5.

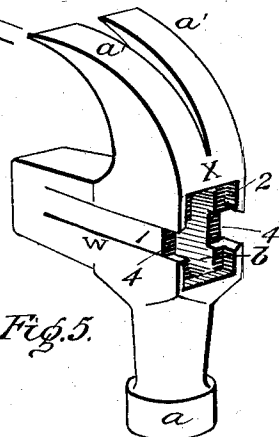


Fig. 4.

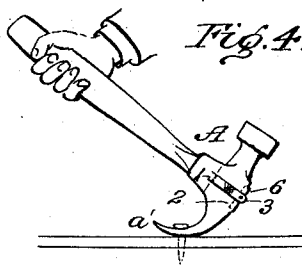


Fig. 6.

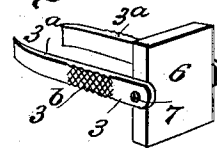
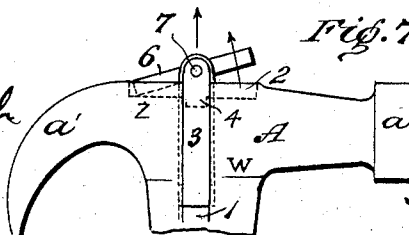


Fig. 7.



WITNESSES:

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GEORGE JOSEPH STEELE, OF CANBY, CALIFORNIA.

HAMMER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 736,797, dated August 18, 1903.

Application filed February 17, 1903. Serial No. 143,813. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE JOSEPH STEELE, residing at Canby, in the county of Modoc and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hammers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements on the ordinary claw-hammer, and is especially designed to provide the said style of hammer with a simple, inexpensive, and easily made and applied device for producing an increased leverage power for drawing nails, so that nails of more than ordinary lengths may be easily and effectively drawn without danger of breaking the hammer-claws or bending the nails.

My invention in its generic nature comprehends a fulcrum member adjustably connected to the hammer-head and coöperatively joined with the said head in such manner that under ordinary conditions the hammer-head has the usual shape and appearance and is free from any projecting members or portions that may interfere with the free and usual manipulation and operation of the hammer and which is adapted to be quickly and conveniently adjusted to form a fulcrum-piece for materially increasing the leverage power of the claws under the hammer.

In its more complete nature my invention includes, in combination with the hammer-head, a fulcrum device embodying bearing members slidable on the hammer-head in the longitudinal plane of the handle, a bearing-piece pivotally hung in the said members adapted to be extended in the longitudinal plane thereof, whereby to provide an extension projected at right angles therein and outwardly from the head, and means for holding the said pivoted member locked to its extended position.

In its still more subordinate features my invention consists in certain details of construction and peculiar combination of parts, all of which will hereinafter be fully explained, and specifically pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of my improved hammer, the fulcrum devices being shown in their normal position. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the head, taken on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a view illustrating the manner in

which the hammer is adjusted and used for drawing a long nail. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the fulcrum devices closed in and the hammer used for drawing ordinary short nails. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the hammer-head. Fig. 6 is a similar view of the adjustable fulcrum devices. Fig. 7 is a detail view hereinafter specifically referred to.

The hammer-head A has the usual hammer-heel *a* at one end and the double claws *a' a'* at the other end of the nail-socket *b*, all of which may be of the usual form, as they *per se* form no part of my invention. The sides *a^x a^x* of the hammer-head are, however, each formed with a dovetailed or undercut groove 1 1, which extends through the outer or top edge *x* of the head, and the said grooves merge with a countersunk portion or recess 2 2 in the said outer end of the hammer-head, the purpose of which will presently appear.

3 3 designate a pair of narrow spring-steel members having beveled edges 3^a 3^a, adapted to engage and slide within the dovetailed grooves 1 1, and the said members 3 also have externally-serrated portions 3^b 3^b, which project in a plane beyond the side faces of the hammer-head, whereby to facilitate the outer movement of the members 3, as will presently more fully appear. The outer face X of the head is also provided with a pair of oppositely-disposed notches 4 4 in line with the grooves 1 1, which form the locking means for holding the fulcrum-block 6 to its operative position, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, by reference to which it will be noticed the said block 6 consists of a steel plate of substantially the width of the hammer edge and is pivotally hung upon a cross-pin 7, fixedly held in the outer ends of the bearing members 3 3.

So far as described it will be readily apparent that when the members 3 3 are extended beyond the faces X of the hammer-head sufficiently to permit the block 6 being turned in alinement with the members 3 3 and with its inner edge in register with the notches 4 4, by tapping on the outer end of the block 6 the members 3, with the block, will be moved inward, and the lower end of the block 6 will seat in the notches 4 4, and by reason of such adjustment of the parts mentioned the said block 6 will then be held from turning on its pivot and form, as it were, an end extension pro-

jected at right angles from the hammer-head, whereby to produce a fulcrum-bearing of sufficient length to permit of drawing nails of more than ordinary lengths with ease and in the manner clearly shown in Fig. 3. To restore the parts to a normal position, it is only necessary to push the members 3 3 sufficiently outward to withdraw the inner end of the fulcrum-block 6 from the lock-notches 4 4 to permit the said block turning in a plane parallel with the hammer-head, after which the members 3 3 and the block can be shoved back to the positions shown in Figs. 1 and 4 to adjust the hammer for ordinary uses and for drawing small sizes of nails in the usual manner.

In the practical application of the members 3 3 to the head they are held in a spring-tight engagement therewith, so as to be firmly locked against the head when the parts 3 and 6 are in their closed or normal position, and the said members 3 3 are also made of a length somewhat greater than the length of the grooves 1 1, which extend inward of the head to a point just below where the bevel of the head sides begin, and by reason thereof and the fact that the body portion of the members 3 3 have dovetailed edges to engage with the undercut or dovetailed edges of the grooves 1 1 the inner ends of the members 3 will press inward and close against the beveled faces W of the head, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

By pivotally securing the block 6 to the members 3 3, as shown, the said block can be utilized as a means for turning the members 3 3 outward under leverage force, whereby to conveniently overcome the tight frictional engagement of the said spring members 3 3, such operation of the block 6 being diagrammatically illustrated in Fig. 7, from which it will be seen that after the block 6 has been moved out a distance of, say, one-fourth of an inch from the head by exerting thumb-pressure under one end of the block the other end (indicated by Z) will act as a fulcrum for the block, which then serves as a lever to pull out the members 3 3 sufficiently to permit the block 6 to assume a position at right angles to the head, for the purposes heretofore explained.

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

1. In a hammer of the character described; the combination with the head having parallelly-disposed side grooves; of a fulcrum device comprising a pair of spring members adapted to straddle the head and engage with

the side grooves, a block pivotally mounted in the outer ends of said spring members and adapted to be turned into alinement with the said members, as set forth.

2. The combination with the claw-equipped hammer-head having a socket in its outer face, of a fulcrum device mounted on the hammer-head and longitudinally adjustable with respect to the said head, said device including a pivotally-supported flat bearing-block adapted when turned to a plane parallel with the head to fit in the socket in the said head and adapted to be projected at right angles from the head, as specified.

3. In combination with the claw-equipped hammer-head having a socket in its outer face, a fulcrum device mounted on the hammer-head and longitudinally adjustable with respect to the said head, said device including a pivotally-supported bearing-block adapted when turned to a plane parallel with the head to fit in the socket of said head and adapted to be projected at right angles from the head, and means for locking the said block from pivotal motion when projected endwise, as stated.

4. In combination with a hammer-head having side grooves and transversely notched on its outer face, the notches and the grooves being in register; of a fulcrum device comprising a pair of oppositely-disposed spring members slidable in the side grooves of the hammer-head, a flat block pivotally mounted in the outer ends of said spring members and adapted to act as a lever for drawing out the spring members and to be projected at right angles from the hammer-head with its inner end in engagement with the notch of the outer face of the hammer-head, as set forth.

5. As an improvement in claw-hammers; the combination with the head; of a fulcrum device consisting of a pair of spring members adapted to straddle and clamp over the sides of the head and a block pivotally mounted in the outer ends of the said members, the latter being longitudinally adjustable with respect to the hammer-head whereby the block can be turned in alinement therewith to project at right angles from the hammer-head, and means for locking the said block from pivotal movement when it is projected at right angles from the head, substantially as shown and described.

GEORGE JOSEPH STEELE.

Witnesses:

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E. B. POPE.