J. C. SEARS.

Tool-Handle.

No. 168,789. Patented Oct. 11, 1875.

Fig. 1.

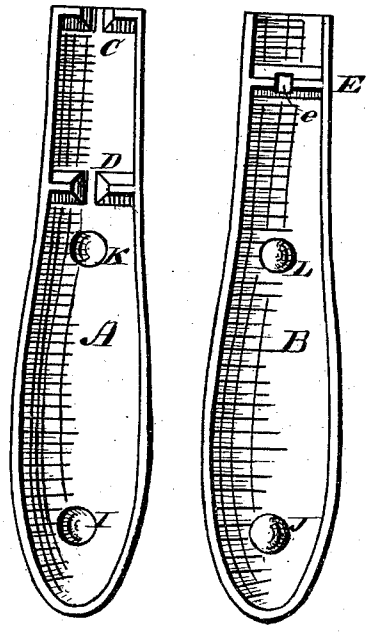
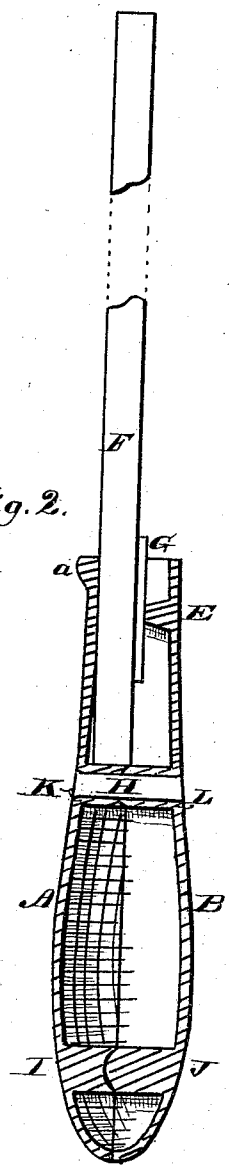


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN TOOL-HANDLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **168,789**, dated October 11, 1875; application filed August 17, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. SEARS, a resident of the city and county of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Tool-Handles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being hereby had to the annexed drawing, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows the two parts of the handle separated, and looking at the inner sides thereof; and Fig. 2, a central longitudinal section of the handle. For purpose of illustration a knife-sharpener is shown in position.

Like letters refer to like parts.

My aim is to provide means for cheaply manufacturing a tool-handle to which the tool can be readily and firmly attached.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, A B represent the handle, which is made in two parts, and which, outwardly, are similar, and as shown. Both parts, also, to lighten the handle, are on their inner sides hollowed out, as shown. The part A is provided with two bearings, C and D. The former, C, is arranged at the outer end of the part A, and the latter, D, toward the center of said part, and, preferably, nearly an inch and a half from the bearing C. The part B is also furnished with a bearing, E, which is arranged at such a point as to come (when the two parts A and B are put together, as hereinafter described, to form the handle) between the two bearings C and D of the part A. To illustrate the mode of inserting a tool in the handle, a knife-sharpener, consisting of a triangular steel, is shown in position against the bearings. To steady the steel laterally, two of the bearings, C and D, are provided with V-shaped notches, into which the steel is received. The other bearing, E, in the part B is flat, saving that it has a notch, *e*, in it to receive a key, G, hereinafter mentioned. In forming the handle, the two parts C and D are fastened together by a rivet, H, or screw. I preferably use but one rivet, as shown; and to prevent the turning of the two parts on each other they are, respectively, furnished with the projections I and J, which are arranged to come opposite and against each other, and to engage, and for this purpose the projection I at its end is made concave, and the projection J convex. K and L represent a similar set of projections, and through which the rivet H is passed, for the projections, in coming together, constitute a bearing for the shell of the handle as the rivet is inserted and prevent its collapse. The tool is readily fastened in the handle by passing its end or tang into the bearings C and D, and against the projection K, and then driving a key, G, between the bearing E and the end or tang of the tool. This at once firmly fastens the tool in position, and in such a way as to prevent its working loose. To steady the key it is passed into the notch *e*. Providing a metal tool-handle with three bearings, C D E, arranged relatively as described, (and thus securing three bearing-points, of which no two are opposite each other,) enables the tool to be readily and firmly attached thereto, without any fitting or finishing of the parts, or without the use of a bushing, elastic or otherwise. The handle, therefore, can be cheaply made by casting from any suitable metal.

I am aware that handles for files and screw-drivers have been constructed in two parts, and I therefore do not claim such broadly; but,

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

The herein-described tool-handle, consisting of the parts A and B, bearings C, D, and E, arranged as described, and the projections I, K, J, and L, constructed as described, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:

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