T. J. CLOSE.

Tool-Handles.

No. 168,876.

Patented Oct. 19, 1875.

Fig. 1.

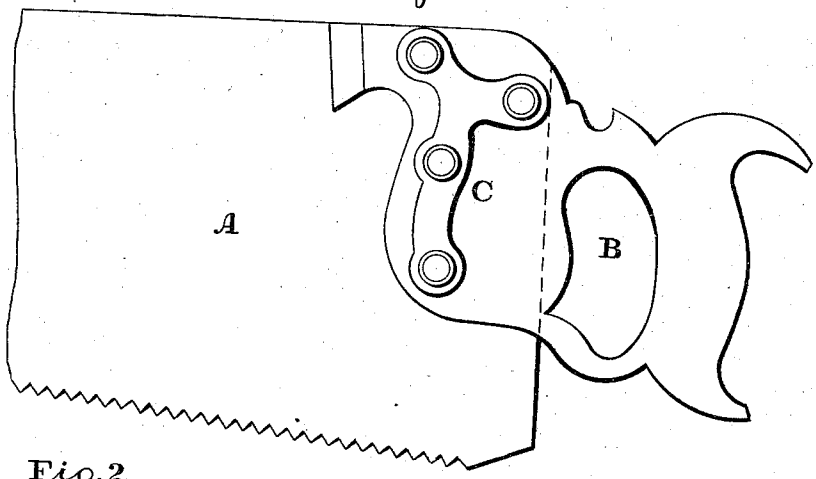


Fig. 2.

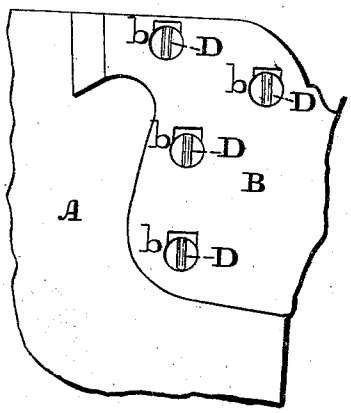


Fig. 4.

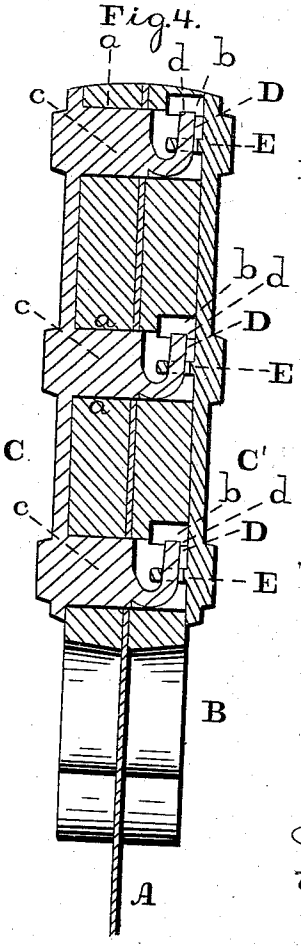
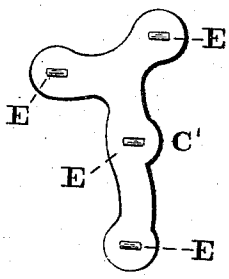


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. CLOSE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN TOOL-HANDLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **168,876**, dated October 19, 1875; application filed January 23, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. CLOSE, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in 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 side view of the device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a similar view, a portion being detached. Fig. 3 is a view of the inner face of a detached portion. Fig. 4 is a transverse section of Fig. 1.

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

My invention consists in securing the handle and blade of a tool by means of clamping-plates having a drawing connection, as hereinafter specified.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the blade, and B the handle thereof, in the slit of which the blade is fitted. C C′ represent plates which are adapted to be applied to the sides of the blade, and one plate, C, has cast with, or otherwise secured to, it one or more hooks, D, and the other plate, C′, has cast with, or otherwise secured to, it one or more eyes, E. In the handle and blade there are transverse openings sufficiently large for the passage of the hooks and eyes D E; but the openings *a* in one side of the handle are preferably larger than the opening *b* of the other side. The portions of the plate C adjacent to the points of union of the hooks D are formed with projections *c*, which, when the parts are in position, enter the openings *b* of the handle, and the upright or longitudinal parts *d* of the hooks extend in outwardly-inclined or wedging directions; or the inner faces of said parts extend in such directions for purposes to be explained.

The operation is as follows: The blade is fitted in the slit of the handle as usual. The plate C is now applied to one side of the handle, so that the hooks D enter the openings *b*. The plate C′ is now applied to the other side of the handle, so that the eyes E entering the openings *b* will be in line to receive the parts *d* of the hooks. A few blows of a hammer or other implement is then given to the plate C′, so as to force the eyes E over the hooks D, and it will be seen that, owing to the shape of the hooks D, the action of the eyes on the hooks will draw the plates C C′ to each other, and, consequently, clamp the blade and handle in a most powerful and uniform manner.

When the parts are to be separated the plate C′ will be struck or forced so as to move said plate and clear the hooks of the eyes, whereby the plates are readily detachable from the handle.

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

The tool-handle and blade herein described, secured by clamping-plates having a drawing connection, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

THOS. J. CLOSE.

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