

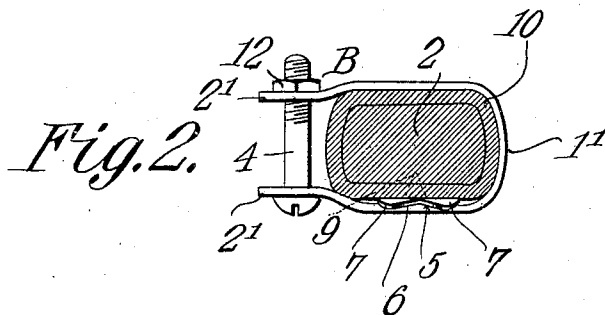
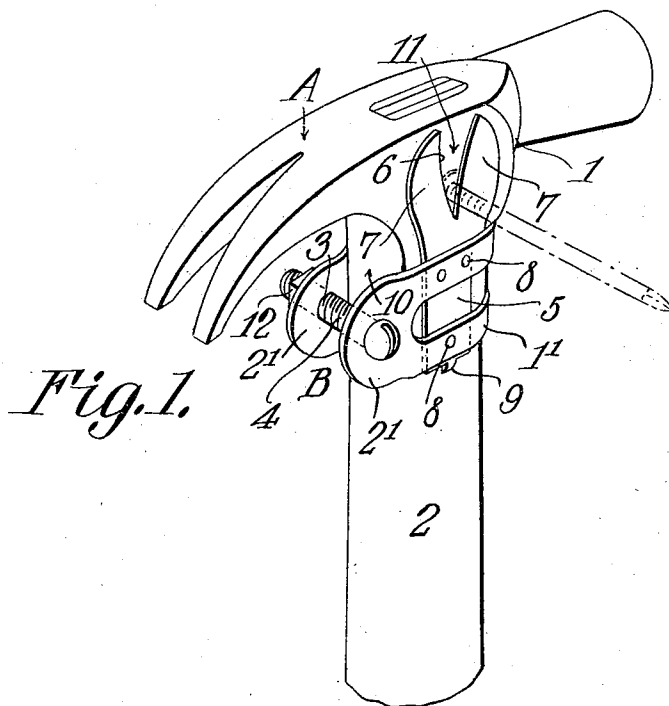
No. 869,835.

PATENTED OCT. 29, 1907.

G. W. FOWLER.

NAIL HOLDING ATTACHMENT FOR HAMMERS.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 23, 1906.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. FOWLER, OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA.

## NAIL-HOLDING ATTACHMENT FOR HAMMERS.

No. 869,835.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 29, 1907.

Application filed November 23, 1906. Serial No. 344,759.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. FOWLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Raleigh, in the county of Wake and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and useful Nail-Holding Attachment for Hammers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an attachment for hammers for holding various sizes of nails or tacks during the placing or starting of the nail or tack, as, for instance, in a position beyond the convenient reach of both hands.

The invention has for one of its objects to provide a nail holding attachment of this character which is of comparatively simple, inexpensive and substantial construction, and reliable and efficient in use.

A further object of the invention is to so construct the attachment that it is capable of being rigidly secured to hammers of various sizes and that it is adapted to be placed on the hammer in such a way that the jaws can be readily released after the nail or tack is started, thereby enabling the latter to be fully driven in by the usual head of the hammer.

With these objects in view, and others, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the invention comprises the various novel features of construction and arrangement of parts, which will be more fully described hereinafter, and set forth with particularity in the claims appended hereto.

In the accompanying drawing, which illustrates one of the embodiments of the invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hammer equipped with the nail holding attachment. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the hammer handle showing the attachment in plan view.

Corresponding parts in the several figures are indicated throughout by similar characters of reference.

Referring to the drawing, A designates an ordinary hammer of the claw type comprising a head 1 and handle 2, and B the nail or tack holding attachment therefor.

The attachment comprises a split clamping sleeve 1' having its ends 2' turned outwardly parallel to each other and apertured at 3 for receiving the clamping bolt 4. Attached to the clamping sleeve 1' is a plate 5 that extends upwardly from the sleeve and is provided with a longitudinally disposed V-shaped slot 6 forming the said upper end into relatively fixed convergent jaws 7. The plate 5 is attached to one side of the clamping sleeve in any suitable manner, as by being formed integral therewith, or secured by rivets 8, as shown. On the lower end of the plate 5 is a spur 9 having its pointed end turned laterally so as to permit of its being driven into the handle 2, and thus cooperate with the clamping bolt 4 to hold the attachment rigidly on the hammer and sustain the thrust produced when the convergent jaws are engaged and disengaged relatively to the nail.

The socket of the ordinary hammer head is tapered on its exterior surface in a direction toward the free end

of the hammer handle, and while a simple clamp applied thereto would quickly work loose, the device shown and described in the present instance is effectually locked in cooperative relation with the hammer head, the spur projecting laterally from the plate 5 at a point beyond the smaller end of the socket and cooperating with the wooden handle, serving to positively lock the holder from longitudinal movement, while the plate 5, cooperating with the flat face 11 of the hammer head, prevents a relative turning movement of the holder about the socket of the hammer head.

The attachment is assembled on the hammer in such a position that the clamping sleeve encircles the socket 10 of the hammer head 1, while the jaws 7 are disposed along the side of the side face 11 of the head 1. In placing the attachment on the hammer, the nut 12 of the bolt 4 is unscrewed sufficiently to permit the clamping sleeve to be passed over the outer end of the handle 2 and then slid along the handle and adjusted around the socket 10. The spur 9 is next driven into the wooden handle 2 and then the nut 12 is drawn up tight so that the clamping sleeve 11 will firmly grip around the socket end of the hammer head.

In placing a nail or tack in position, the head thereof is engaged between the jaws 7 and the side face 11 of the hammer head; the shank of the nail or tack extending outwardly between the jaws at right angles to the axis of the handle 2. The hammer is then taken by the handle 2 in one hand and the nail or tack is readily placed or started by a swinging movement of the hammer with the nail or tack pointed toward the object in which the nail is to be driven. After thus placing the nail, the hammer is disengaged therefrom by pulling on the hammer in a direction toward the operator. The nail can then be completely driven in the usual manner.

With a nail holding attachment of the construction described, the same can be applied to hammers of various sizes and can be secured rigidly in place without screws or other fastening devices which require to be driven into the handle and thereby weaken the same, according to certain attachments for holding nails. The construction is simple, inexpensive and durable, and permits of nails or tacks being readily placed in position and the hammer being easily released after the nail or tack is started.

What is claimed is:—

1. A nail holder attachment for hammers composed of sheet material and embodying a divided clamping sleeve, surrounding the tapered handle-receiving socket of the hammer head, a bolt cooperating with the free ends of said sleeve for drawing its sides into cooperative relation with the said socket, a nail holding device rigidly attached to one side of the sleeve embodying a plate cooperating with one of the flat sides of the hammer head to prevent a relative rotary movement of the nail holder and having a pair of relatively fixed convergent jaws formed at one end thereof and resting opposite to the side face of the hammer head, and a spur formed on the opposite end of said

plate at a point beyond the smaller end of the socket on the hammer head and extending radially inwardly and adapted to be held in coöperative relation with the hammer handle by the drawing action of said bolt.

- 5 2. A nail holder attachment for hammers embodying a clamping sleeve, a tightening bolt for drawing it into coöperative relation with the hammer handle, and a nail holding device rigidly secured to one side of the sleeve and embodying a plate having a pair of relatively fixed
- 10 convergent jaws at one end arranged opposite to one of the side faces of the hammer head, and diverging outwardly relatively thereto to form a contracted recess between the plate and hammer head to receive the nail head

and to produce a wedging action thereon and a spur formed on the opposite end of said plate and extending inwardly in a direction substantially parallel to the axis of the tightening bolt and adapted to be drawn directly into coöperative relation with the hammer handle by the tightening action of said bolt.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE W. FOWLER.

Witnesses:

WM. H. YAGER,  
D. R. BYRUM.