

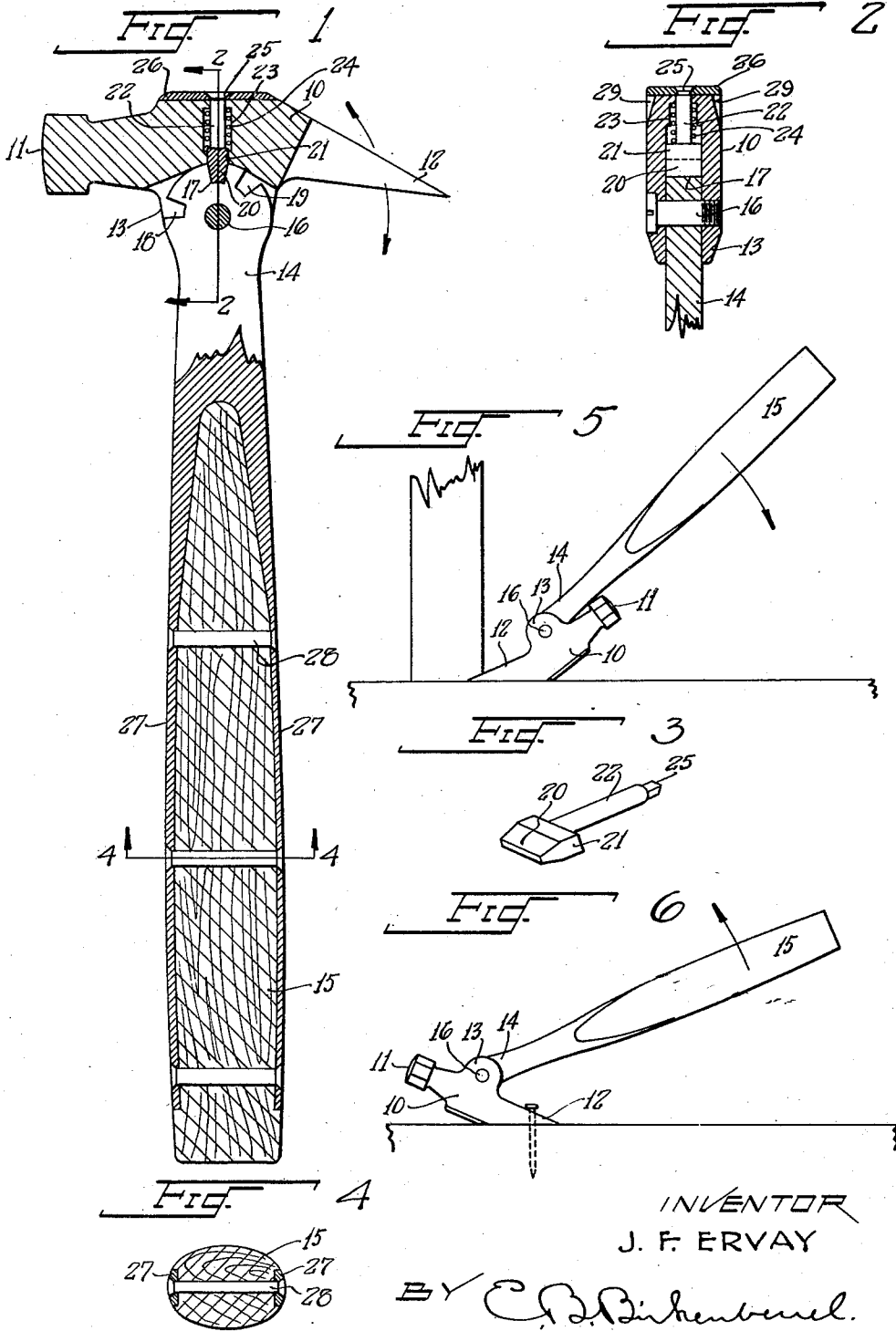
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CARPENTER'S HAMMER

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CARPENTER'S HAMMER

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The main object of this invention is to provide a claw hammer with an adjustable head which will enable its angular relation to the handle to be varied for the purpose of better adapting it to special kinds of work.

The second object is to provide a hammer having all the properties of an ordinary claw hammer, and which in addition can be used as a pinch bar as well as for the purpose of pulling nails in positions which would ordinarily be inaccessible to the fixed type of claw hammer.

The third object is to so construct the hammer that the adjustment can be readily made without loss of time or the employment of fragile parts which might be difficult to construct, or which might otherwise detract from the normal strength of the hammer.

These, and other objects, will become more apparent from the specification following as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section through a hammer head and handle.

Figure 2 is a section along the line 2—2 in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the latch member.

Figure 4 is a section taken along the line 4—4 in Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a side elevation of the hammer used as a pinch bar.

Figure 6 is a side elevation showing the head inclined in an opposite direction for nail-pulling purposes.

Similar numbers of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the hammer head consists of a body 10 on one side of which is formed the usual nail-driving face 11 and on the opposite side of which are the claws 12. The head 10 is provided with a slotted socket 13 between which is mounted the shank 14 of the handle 15. A screw 16 forms a pivotal connection between the head 10 and the handle 15. The shank 14 is provided with a plurality of tapering notches 17, 18 and 19 adapted to receive the tapering point 20 of the latch 21 which is slidably mounted in the head 10 on its longitudinal

axis. The latch 21 is provided with a shank 22 which passes through the enlarged opening 23 in the head 10 within which opening is placed a spring 24 adapted to urge the latch 21 into engagement with one of the notches 17, 18 or 19. The end 25 of the shank 22 is made square and has riveted thereon a flat head 26 by means of which the latch 21 may be withdrawn manually.

It is desirable to have the body of the handle 15 made of wood which is confined within the extended sides 27 of the shank 14 by means of the rivets 28.

It will be noted that when the latch 21 occupies the notch 17 then the head is in the normal relation to the handle, or one which is ordinarily occupied in the common form of claw hammer; but if the notch 18 is occupied by the latch 21 then the device assumes the form shown in Figure 6; whereas if the notch 19 is occupied by the latch 21 the device is usable as a claw hammer as shown in Figure 5.

It will be noted that when used as a claw hammer the strain which may be placed thereon is divided between the screw 16 and the face 11 against which the handle bears, thereby providing the maximum amount of strength for a handle of a given size and material.

It will also be noted (as shown in Figure 6) that it is possible to introduce the head of the hammer into places which are ordinarily not accessible when the hammer handle is normal to its head. Obviously, this angularity could be still further increased or varied and the number of notches increased without departing from the spirit of this invention. It is also desirable to provide the sides of the head 10 with notches 29 to facilitate the withdrawal of the latch.

I claim:

1. In a claw hammer the combination of a head having a slotted socket, a handle pivoted in the slot of said socket, said handle having notches formed therein normally lying within said slot, a spring latch mounted in said head normally projecting into said slot, and a head on said latch forming the fulcrum for the hammer when a nail is being

drawn whereby said latch may be withdrawn from engagement with the notches in said handle for the purpose of permitting an alteration of the angular relation between said hammer and handle.

6 2. A claw hammer having in combination a head, a handle hinged to said head adapted to allow it to swing in either direction past its normal position, latch means for holding  
10 said head in either of said positions, said latch means consisting of a wedge, a head for said latch forming a fulcrum for the hammer head, the driving end of said head bearing against said handle when in one of said lat-  
15 eral positions.

3. In a hammer, the combination of a body having a nail-driving face on one side thereof and a nail-pulling claw at the opposite side thereof with a handle hinged to said body  
20 between said claw and face adapted to permit same to swing to either side of its normal position with relation to said handle, and a latch between said handle and head adapted to hold the parts rigidly in a normal relation  
25 to each other or on either side thereof in one extreme position, said handle bearing against the nail-driving head of said hammer.

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