Sept. 1, 1936. M. GLASS 2,052,705

FOLDING BLADE GAFF

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Fig. 1.

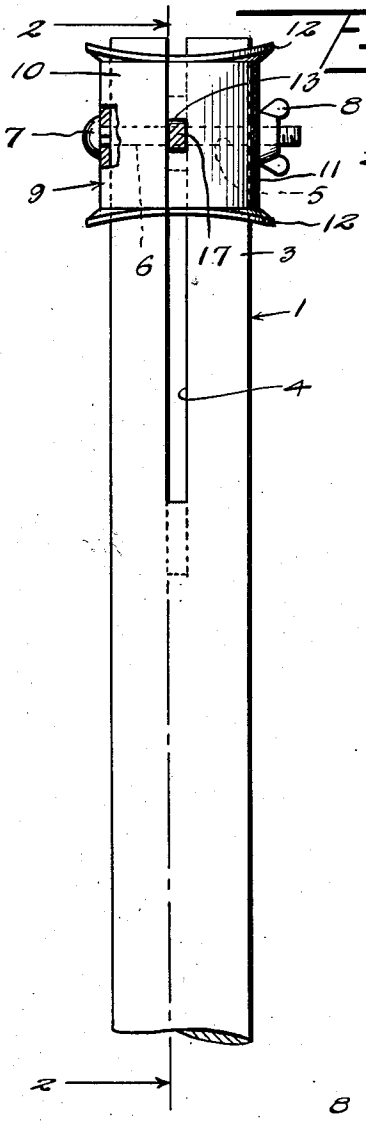


Fig. 2.

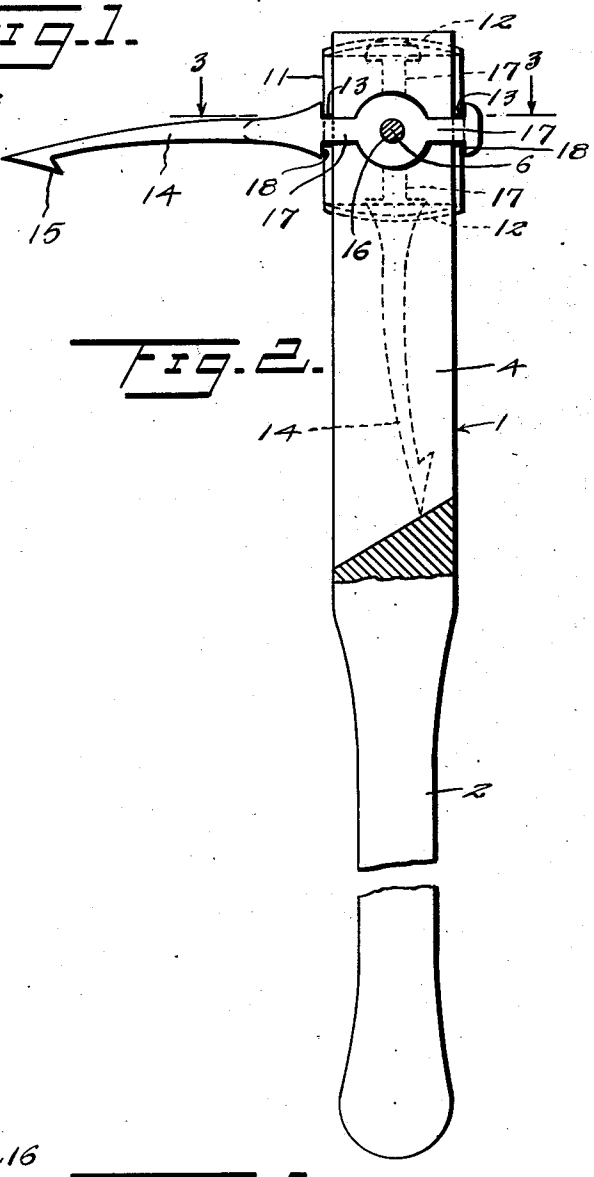
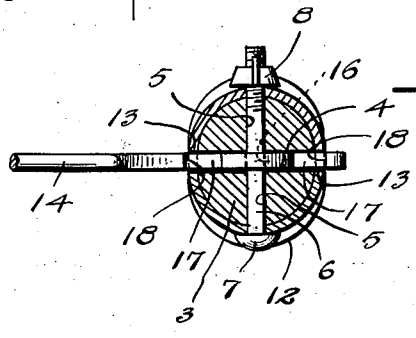


Fig. 3.



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FOLDING BLADE GAFF

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5 Claims. (Cl. 306—18)

This invention relates to devices of the class known as gaffs and pertains particularly to a gaff adapted for use in fishing.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide an improved type of gaff in which novel means is employed for joining the same with a handle whereby the gaff may be firmly secured in working position relative to the handle, or may be readily released for movement relative to the handle into an enclosing or guard area.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved gaff in which a novel means is employed for locking the blade in working position at right angles to a carrying handle whereby the use of the gaff with one hand is made easy so that the gaff may be conveniently employed when fishing from a boat as well as from the shore or from a stationary structure such as a wharf or pier.

The invention broadly contemplates the provision of a handle having a slot formed longitudinally therein from one end and having a pair of semi-cylindrical sleeves co-operating to encircle the slotted end thereof and held in position by a bolt and wing nut. The gaff blade is provided with an apertured end which is disposed in the slot of the handle and has the bolt passing therethrough and with the reduced portions at each side of the aperture, each of which passes through a recess in one of the semi-cylindrical sleeves which is drawn into tight engagement with the handle and operates to firmly lock the gaff blade in position at right angles to the handle.

The invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, with the understanding, however, that the invention is not confined to any strict conformity with the showing of the drawing but may be changed or modified so long as such changes or modifications mark no material departure from the salient features of the invention as expressed in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a view partly in elevation and partly in section of the gaff embodying the present invention, the blade being transversely sectioned.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing wherein like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the numeral 1 indicates generally the handle for the gaff embodying the present invention, the portion 2 being the hand grip end of the handle, while the portion 3 may be broadly referred to as the head. Formed in the head portion or end 3 of the handle is a slot 4 which extends from the end inwardly a substantial distance and passes through from one side to the other of the handle body. Adjacent the upper end of the head end of the handle is a transverse passage, as indicated at 5, which extends at right-angles to the slot 4 and which is designed to receive a bolt 6 of the type which is squared adjacent the head end 7 and is threaded at its other end to receive a wing nut 8.

Encircling the end portion 3 of the handle is a split sleeve, which is indicated generally by the numeral 9 and which comprises two semi-cylindrical portions 10 and 11 and each of these sleeve portions has an aperture for the passage of the bolt 6 therethrough, and in addition each is provided at each end with the heavy reinforcing flange or lip 12 which, in addition to serving as a means for giving rigidity to the portion, provides a convenient means for taking a hold upon the same with the fingers when it is necessary to draw the sleeve portion outwardly for the purpose hereinafter described. Normally the two portions 10 and 11 of the split sleeve are held with their opposing edges in abutting relation by the wing nut 8 which is threaded onto the bolt 6 in the manner illustrated.

The sleeve portion 11 is of slightly greater circumferential extent than the portion 10 so that the contacting edges of the two sleeves will lie in the plane of one side of the recess 4 instead of in the center of the same, as would be the case if the sleeve were divided upon its axial center, and each longitudinal edge of the portion 11 is provided with a notch or cut-out 13 which is of a depth equal to the width of the recess 4 over which it lies.

The numeral 14 indicates the gaff blade and this is slightly arcuate adjacent its pointed end and has the barb 15 in the usual manner. At its other or inner end the blade is flat and of a thickness substantially equal to the width of the recess 4 in which it positions, and this flat inner end portion is formed to have a bolt opening 16 through which the bolt 6 passes and upon each side of the opening is a reduced neck 17, at the outer end of each of which are formed two shoulders 18. Normally when the gaff is not in use, the blade will be swung on the bolt 6 into the recess 4, but when it is desired to use the

gaff the wing nut 8 is loosened so that the portion 11 of the split sleeve may be moved on the bolt 6 so as to shift the notched edges from over the recess 4, whereupon the blade may be swung outwardly to a position at right angles with the handle and the portion 11 of the sleeve may then be moved back so that the necks 17 will each be disposed in a notch 13 and the shoulders 18 at the outer ends of the necks will abut the outer surface of the sleeve portion 11. By then tightening the wing nut up on the bolt 6 so as to draw the sleeve portions together, it will be seen that the gaff blade will be firmly locked in the desired working position and may be freely used without fear of its working loose or shifting its position. In order to replace the blade in the protecting recess 4 in the head end of the handle, the foregoing process is reversed and the flanged reinforcing edges 12 of the sleeve portion 11 may be conveniently grasped by the fingers so that if the sleeve portion should stick no difficulty will be had in getting a hold upon it so that it may be drawn outwardly on the bolt to effect the release of the blade.

From the foregoing it will be readily apparent that a gaff constructed in accordance with the present invention will be sturdy and reliable and the blade when not in use will be well protected so that its point or the point of the barb will not be injured if the gaff is thrown about.

What is claimed, is:

1. A gaff of the character described, comprising a handle having a slot cut therein from one end, a pointed gaff blade having the end opposite the point flattened and disposed in said slot, said flattened end having an opening therethrough, a pivot bolt extending through the slotted end of the handle and through said blade opening and having a nut on one end thereof, and means encircling the slotted end of the handle having two portions separable on a line extending longitudinally thereof and having said bolt passing therethrough to hold said portions against separation, said portions operating to secure the gaff blade in position perpendicular to the handle upon the drawing up of the nut on the bolt.

2. A gaff of the character described, comprising a handle having a slot formed therein from one end, a gaff blade flattened at one end and pointed at the other end, said flattened end of the blade being disposed in the slot, a split sleeve encircling the slotted end of the handle and having the edges of the two portions thereof in opposed relation, the longitudinal edges of one of said portions of the sleeve being notched intermediate its ends to receive the gaff blade, and means for securing the portions of said split sleeve together whereby when the gaff blade is engageable in said notch it will be secured in a position perpendicular to said handle.

3. A gaff, comprising a handle having a slot formed therein from one end thereof, a gaff blade having one end flattened and provided with an aperture, the other end of the blade being pointed, said flattened end of the blade being disposed in the slot, a sleeve surrounding the slotted end of the handle and longitudinally divided to form two portions, the longitudinal edges of which are in opposed relation, one longitudinal edge of one sleeve having a notch therein, said gaff blade having a reduced neck portion adjacent said aperture which is adapted to locate in said notch, and a bolt passing through the handle and the two portions of said sleeve and through the opening of said blade, said bolt having a nut threaded thereon for securing the portions of the sleeve together, said blade being oscillatable upon the bolt upon separation of the sleeve portions for disposition in said slot.

4. A gaff comprising a handle having a slot formed therein from one end, a gaff blade which is flattened at one end and apertured through the flattened portion, said apertured flattened portion being disposed in said slot, said flattened portion at each side of the aperture being reduced to form a neck terminating at its outer end in a shoulder, a sleeve surrounding the slotted end of the handle and longitudinally divided to form two portions, the edges of which are in abutting relation, the longitudinal edges of one of said portions each being provided with a notch for the reception of a neck portion of the blade, and a bolt passing through the handle, the two portions of the sleeve and the aperture of said blade and having a nut threaded upon one end and bearing against a sleeve portion, the abutting edges of said sleeve portions being in the plane of one side of said slot.

5. A gaff, comprising a handle having a slot formed therein from one end thereof, a gaff blade having one end flattened and provided with an aperture, the other end of the blade being pointed, said flattened end of the blade being disposed in the slot, a sleeve surrounding the slotted end of the handle and longitudinally divided to form two portions, the longitudinal edges of which are in opposed relation, one longitudinal edge of one sleeve having a notch therein, said gaff blade having a reduced neck portion adjacent said aperture which is adapted to locate in said notch, and a bolt passing through the handle and the two portions of said sleeve and through the aperture of said blade, said bolt having a nut threaded thereon for securing the portions of the sleeve together, said blade being oscillatable upon the bolt upon separation of the sleeve portions for disposition in said slot, said portions of the sleeve having outwardly extending flanges at the end edges thereof forming finger holds for facilitating the shifting of the sleeve portions.

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