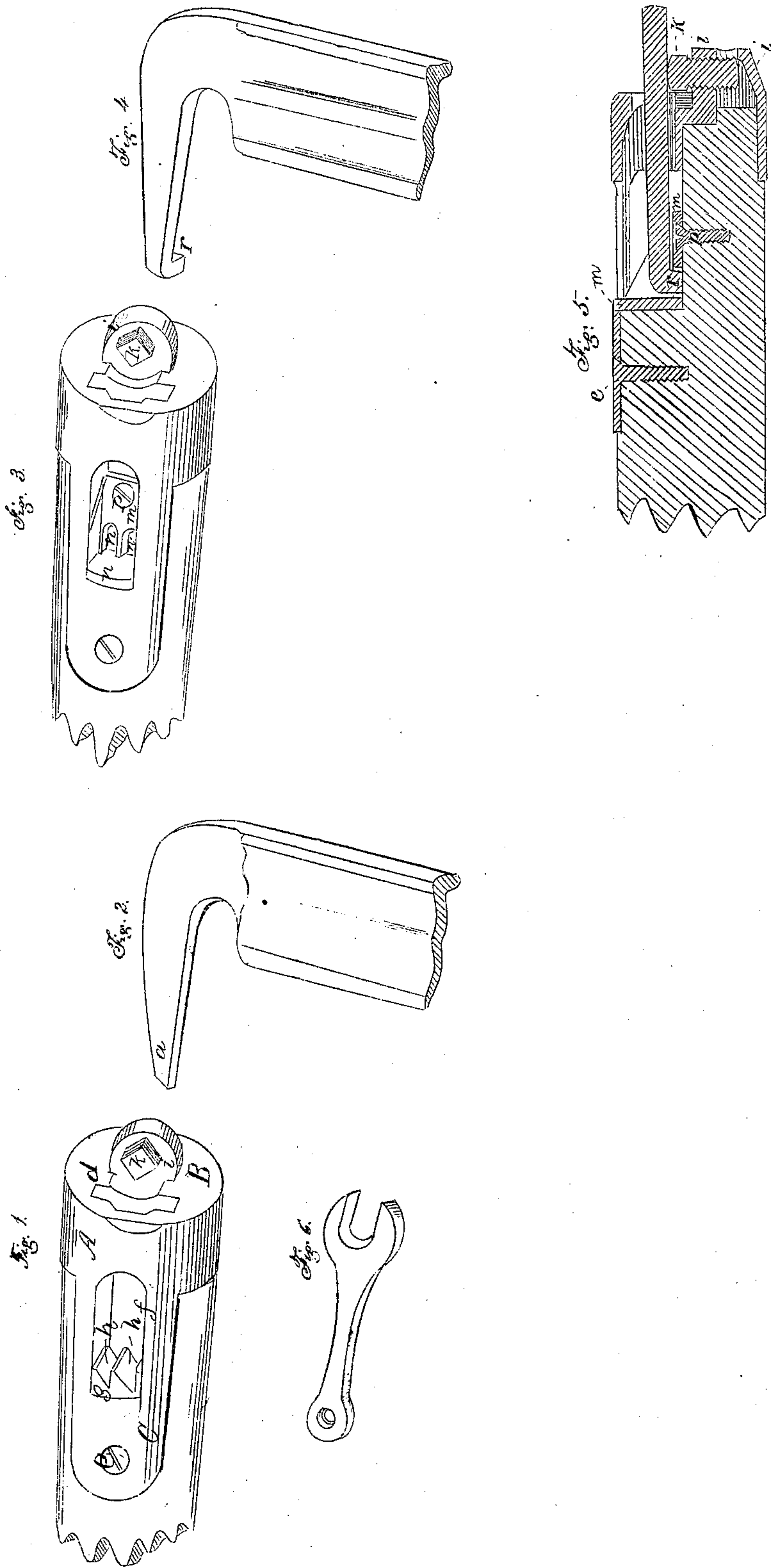


A. Kimball, Scythe.

No. 9593

Patented Feb. 22, 1853.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALPHEUS KIMBALL, OF FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SCYTHE-FASTENINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 9,593, dated February 22, 1853.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALPHEUS KIMBALL, of Fitchburg, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have made certain Improvements in Scythe-Fastenings; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification.

My invention consists in an improvement upon a scythe-fastening patented by E. S. Clapp, and it will be necessary that I describe first the device employed by him, and then the improvement which I have added thereto to remedy the defects which have manifested themselves in his invention.

Figure 1 is a view of a scythe-snath as constructed by Clapp, and patented March 18, 1851. Fig. 2 is the heel of the blade, adapted to the snath represented in Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 represent my improvement, which will be described hereinafter. Fig. 5 is a section through the snath and the heel of the blade, the latter being in place. Fig. 6 is the wrench for operating the confining-screw.

In Fig. 1, A is a metallic ring, which surrounds the snath at its lower end, one end of which is closed, as at B. In this bottom plate, B, is an elongated opening, *d*, wider than the thickness and longer than the breadth of the heel of the scythe, for the purpose of admitting the scythe-blade.

C is a metallic plate attached to or made in one piece with the ring A, by which means the latter is secured to the snath by one or more screws, as seen at *e*.

f is a slot in the metallic plate C, at one end of which is a metallic piece, *g*, having two or more notches, *h h'*, and secured to the snath by screws, or otherwise.

i is a projection from the metallic cap or plate B, which carries the screw *k*, which may be raised or lowered by the wrench, Fig. 6, or in any other method. The scythe-blade, Fig. 2, is furnished with a heel constructed rather differently from those ordinarily in use, the wedge-formed termination *a* of which fits into either one of the notches *h h'*, the heel of the scythe passing into the hole *d* of the cap B. The screw *k* is then turned so as to force it against the scythe-blade, which is thereby secured to the snath, the notches *h h'* holding the point *a* and preventing any horizontal motion of the blade. This fastening, though it proved to be both efficient and eas-

ily managed, was found liable to two objections. In the first place, it was necessary that the scythe-blade should be made expressly for the fastening, as the ordinary blade with the claw upon the heel was not adapted to use with it; and in the second place, although the blade when first put in was perfectly firm and secure, it was liable to become loose after being in use a short time, and the point *a* was gradually withdrawn from the notches *h* and *h'*, and the blade required to be readjusted.

To remedy these defects is the object of my present invention, which may be described as follows:

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the scythe-snath with my improved fastening attached. Fig. 4 is a view of the scythe-blade. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section through the scythe snath, blade, and fastening.

The general construction of my fastening and the manner of securing the blade by means of the screw are similar to those described above, and I will confine my description to the improvements which I have made.

m is a small metallic plate of the form seen in Figs. 3 and 5, secured to the snath by screws *p*, or otherwise, and having two or more openings, *n n'*, into one of which is placed the claw *r* of the ordinary scythe-blade, Figs. 4 and 5. The screw *k* is then raised against the heel of the blade, as before described, and the scythe is securely fastened to the snath. No amount of use can now loosen the blade, as it is held firmly in place by the notches *n n'*, as described, while the fastening is capable of being used with blades of the ordinary construction, which is not the case with the fastening as constructed and patented by Clapp, as aforesaid.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The method of securing the blade of the scythe to the snath by passing its shank through the end of the stationary metal cap B and securing it by means of the upward pressure of the screw *k*, in combination with the claw *r* and bush-piece *m*, constructed and operating in the manner substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereto set my signature the 1st day of December, A. D. 1852.

ALPHEUS KIMBALL.

Witnesses:

M. H. FISK,

G. F. BAILEY.