A. Rowe,

Millstone Pick.

No. 36,170. Patented Aug. 12, 1862.

Fig. 1.

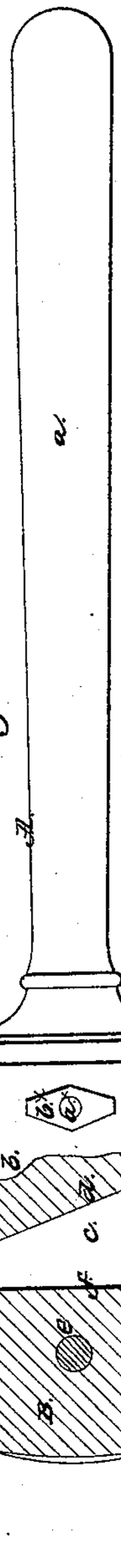
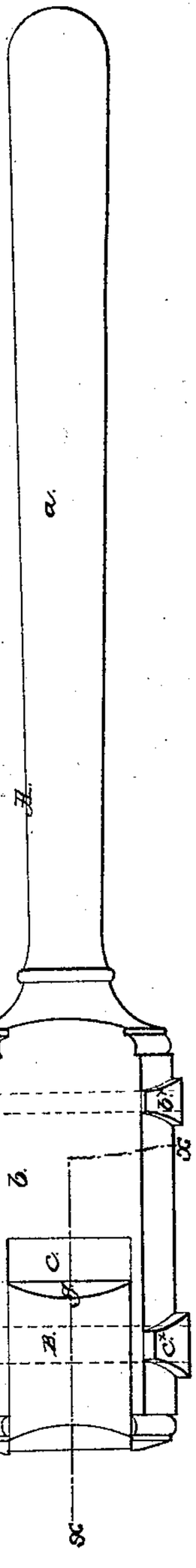


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANSON ROWE, OF ATALISSA, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN HANDLES FOR MILLSTONE-PICKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **36,170**, dated August 12, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANSON ROWE, of Atalissa, in the county of Muscatine and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Handles or Stocks for Millstone-Picks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side sectional view of my invention, taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a plan or top view of the same.

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

This invention relates to an improvement in the ordinary pick-handle, which consists of a piece of hard wood turned at one end so as to be readily grasped and held by the operator and having its opposite end comparatively large in diameter, so as to form a hub or head, in which a taper hole is mortised to receive either end of the pick, which is of double-taper form. In this arrangement the pick is only secured firmly in its handle when the taper of the former corresponds with the taper of the mortise in the latter, and as the picks are all forged by hand without the aid of gages or other means to determine their proportions or shape it follows as a matter of course that they will vary materially in form, and hence but few fit properly the mortise in the handle or stock.

The object of this invention is to obviate the difficulty above specified; and to this end I construct the hub or head of the handle or stock with an adjustable key or block, so arranged that the mortise or aperature which receives the pick may, without any special manipulation on the part of the operator, be adapted to suit the precise form of the pick, and thereby cause the same to be firmly secured in the handle or stock.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents the handle or stock of the pick, having one part, *a*, turned, as usual, of a proper size to be readily grasped and held by the operator, and having a hub or head, *b*, at its opposite end considerably larger in diameter than *a*. The outer part of the hub or head *b* is slotted longitudinally a certain distance, as shown at *c*, and the back edge of this slot is inclined, as shown at *d* in Fig. 1. In the front part of this slot *c* there is fitted a key or block, B, and secured by a pin, *e*, which passes transversely through the hub or head *b*, and on which pin the key or block B is allowed to turn freely. The principal portion of the inner surface of this key or block B is a plane, as shown at *f* in Fig. 1, and the upper and lower parts may be slightly beveled or formed of short planes *g g*, having an oblique position with *f*. The key or block B does not extend back to the inclined edge *d* of the slot *c*, a space being allowed between them to receive the pick, as will be seen in Fig. 1, in which the pick is shown in red outline. By this arrangement it will be seen that when the pick is inserted in the space between the key or block B and the back inclined edge, *d*, of the slot *c* the key or block will, in consequence of turning on the pin *e*, adjust itself to the pick whether the same have a greater or less taper and the latter be firmly secured in the handle or stock, the inclined back edge, *d*, of the slot *c* giving the pick the proper inclination. Thus by this simple means the difficulty attending the ordinary pick handle or stock is fully obviated and much embarrassment avoided, as the picks are very liable to fall from the ordinary handle, and if they strike the millstone angularly the corners of the pick are liable to break.

I would remark that the hub or head *b*, in order to prevent being split, may have a rod, $a^{\times}$, pass through it, with a plate, $b^{\times}$, at each end, and the pin *e* of the block B may be provided at its ends with similar plates, $c^{\times}$.

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

The adjustable key or block B, fitted in a slot *c* in the hub or head *b* of the handle or stock A of a millstone-pick, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

ANSON ROWE.

Witnesses:

ROBERT T. THOMPSON,

LEONARD LAMB.