(No Model.)

G. P. MORRILL.

AX AND TOOL HANDLE GUARD.

No. 291,216. Patented Jan. 1, 1884.

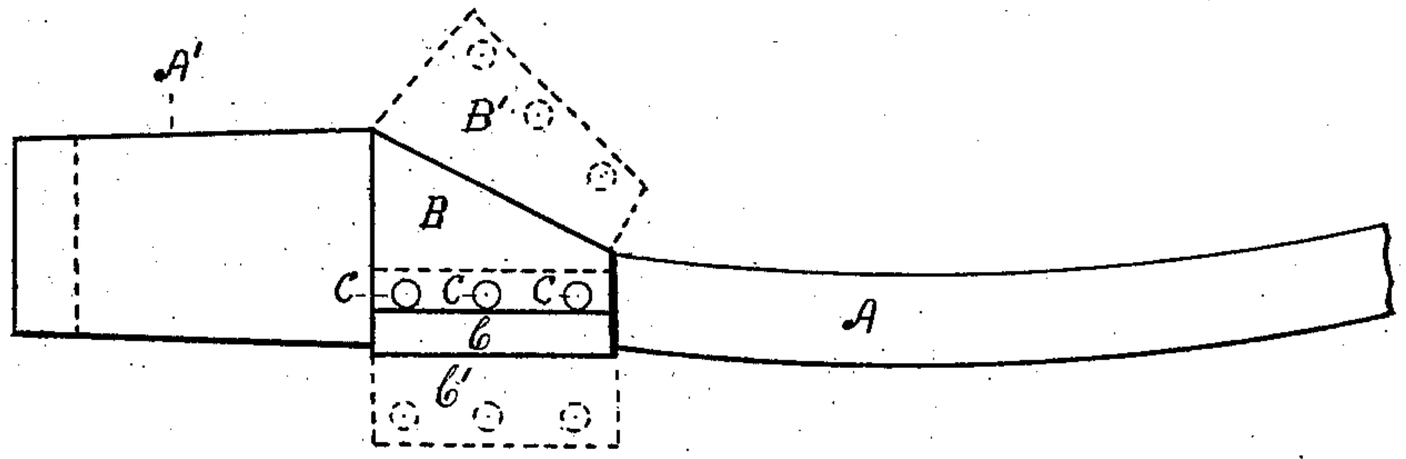

FIG. 1.

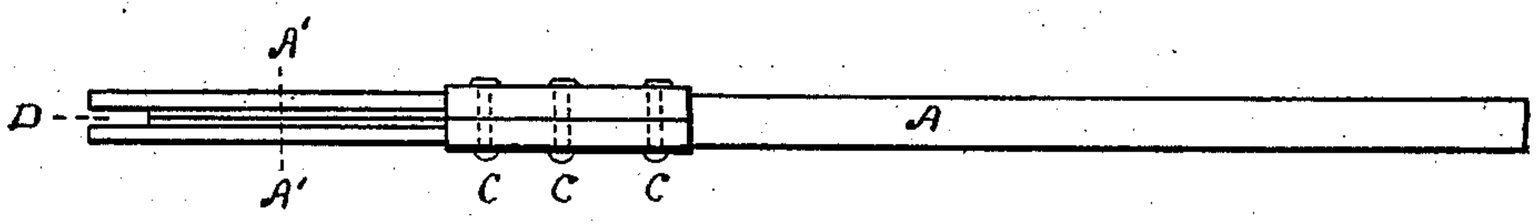

FIG. 2.

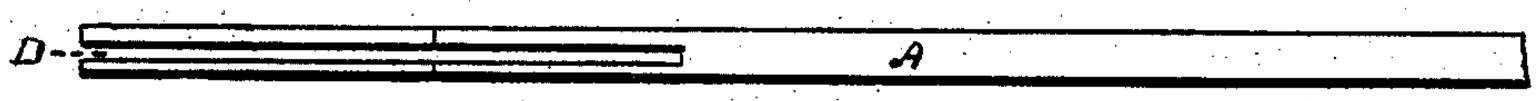

FIG. 3.

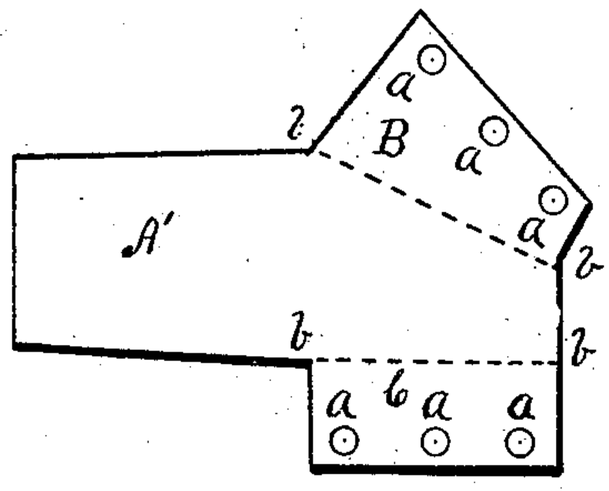

FIG. 4.

Witnesses.

H. M. Fowler

R. B. Fowler

Inventor.

Geo. P. Morrill

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE P. MORRILL, OF CANTERBURY, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

AX AND TOOL HANDLE GUARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 291,216, dated January 1, 1884.

Application filed March 12, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE P. MORRILL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Canterbury, in the county of Merrimac and State of New Hampshire, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ax and Tool Handle Guards, said invention consisting in the manner of attaching a metal band around the handle immediately behind the tool or ax, for the purpose of protecting the handle from being checked, splintered, or broken, of which the following is a specification.

The drawings accompanying the following specification illustrate my method of attaching my improved guard to an ax-helve, for which it is especially valuable, for the reason that the fibers of the wood are cut off in the peculiar form of an ax-helve at that portion covered by my band or guard, and also that greater strain is brought upon this part of the helve in the operations of cutting and splitting, and many attempts have been made and in a great variety of ways to protect the helve immediately behind the ax.

In the drawings, Figure 1 shows my improved guard attached to an ax-helve; Fig. 2, a top view of the same. Fig. 3 shows the mode of preparing the helve to receive the guard, and Fig. 4 represents the metallic guard before being applied.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in the several views.

My improved guard is attached as follows: The ax-helve A is sawed through the center in a vertical plane, at the end which is to receive the ax, as far back as the guard is to extend, forming the slot D, Fig. 3. Two pieces of sheet metal are then formed of the shape shown in Fig. 4, which, being placed side by side so that their edges coincide, and inserted in the groove D, will present the appearance shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 1, the two wings B and C in Figs. 1 and 4 being represented by B′ and C′. The portion of wood removed by the saw in the groove D should be equal to the thickness of the two metal plates to be inserted, as at A′ A′, Fig. 2. I then bend the wings B and C down upon and around the handle, as shown in Fig. 1, the edge of the upper wing, B, overlapping the edge of the lower wing, C. In the edges of the wings B and C are the holes *a*, so arranged that the holes in B and C will match each other, and the holes in the wings on one side of the handle come opposite those in the wings on the opposite side, so that holes may be bored through the wood of the handle, connecting the holes upon the opposite sides to receive the rivets C C C, Fig. 2, thereby securely binding the wings B and C to the handle A. The portion of the plate A′, it will be seen, forms a tongue, which extends forward in the center of handle as far as may be and not prevent the insertion of the wedge in the end of the handle. The wings B and C of one of the plates A′ are turned over and inclose one side of the handle, and the corresponding wings of the other plate are turned in the opposite direction, so as to inclose the opposite side of the handle, each plate inclosing one-half of the handle.

By the above-described mode of attaching my improved guard I am able to bend the wings B C around the handle and cause them to conform more readily and closely to the shape of the handle than is possible by bending one piece around the entire handle. I also greatly increase the strength of the handle by inserting the metal plates A′ A′, Fig. 2, which pass through the handle in a vertical plane extending from a point under the ax backward through that portion of the handle receiving the greatest strain in chopping or splitting.

In attaching my guard to other than ax-handles the shape of the metal plates should be so changed as to enable them to conform to the peculiar shape of the handle.

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

1. The ax or tool handle guard consisting of two metal plates inserted in a slot passing through the center of the handle, with the edges of each plate projecting from opposite sides of the handle, and being bent down upon the handle, so that the projecting edges of each plate will inclose the surface of one-half of the handle, the edges of each plate overlapping each other, and being secured by means of nails or screws passing into the wood forming the handle, or by rivets passing through the handle, as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with an ax or tool han-

dle having the end slotted as described, and having a metallic guard consisting of plates inserted in the slot and bent around the handle, as described, of the tongue-pieces A′ A′, attached to the guard and extending forward beneath the ax or tool, for the purpose of partially filling the slot and holding the guard more firmly in place, as and for the purpose set forth.

GEO. P. MORRILL.

Witnesses:
R. B. FOWLER,
H. L. PARKER.