

(No Model.)

C. KERRISON, Jr.  
BARBED NAIL OR SPIKE.

No. 362,843.

Patented May 10, 1887.

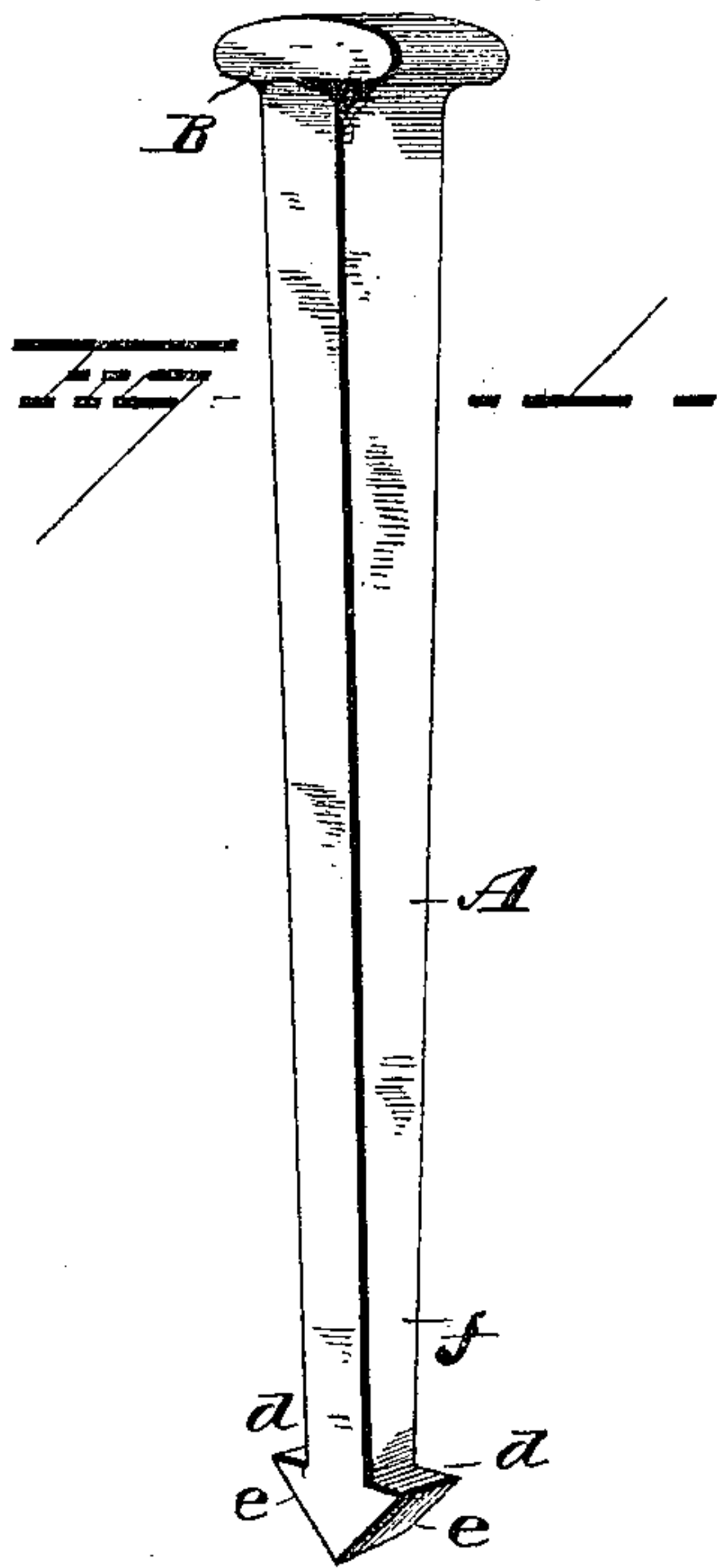


Fig. 1.

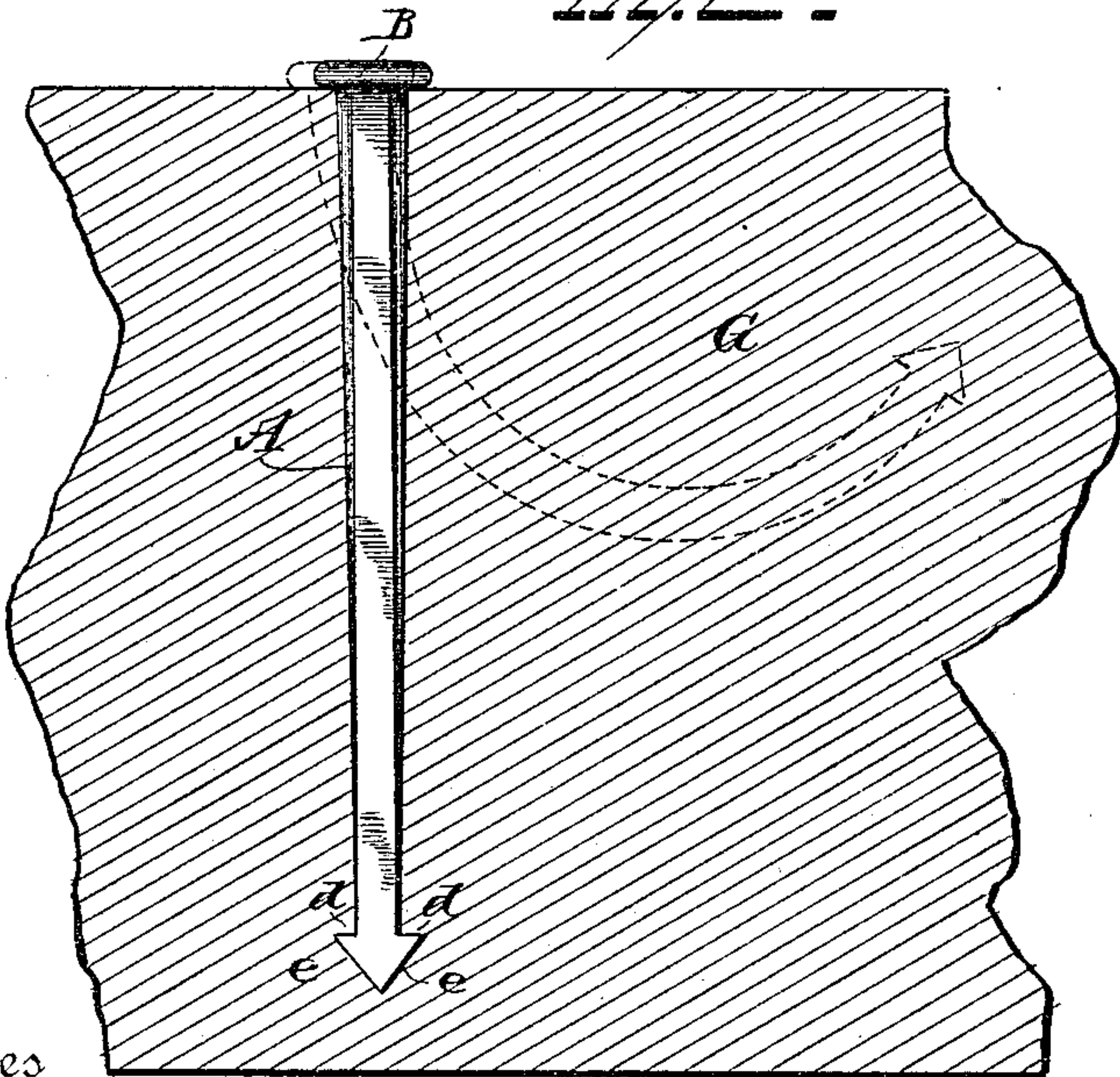


Fig. 2.

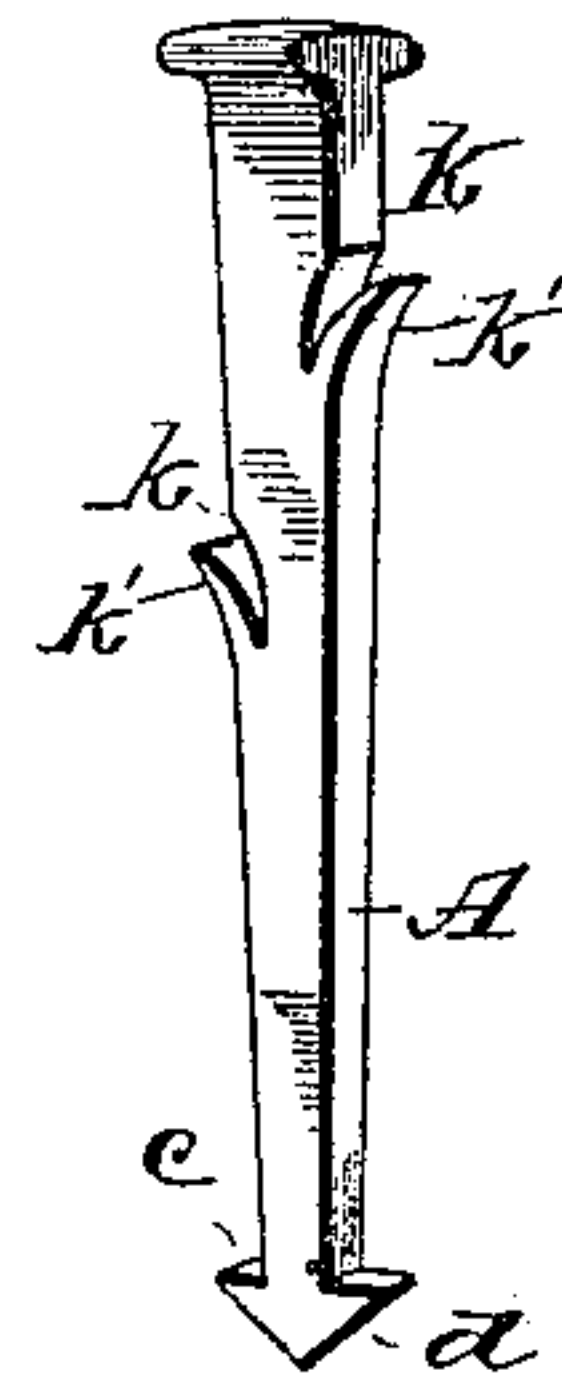


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

*Geo. Nottingham*  
*Geo. F. Downing*

Inventor

*C. Kerrison Jr.*

By his Attorney

*H. A. Seymour*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES KERRISON, JR., OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

## BARBED NAIL OR SPIKE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 362,843, dated May 10, 1887.

Application filed February 1, 1887. Serial No. 225,865. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES KERRISON, Jr., of Charleston, in the county of Charleston and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nails and Spikes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in nails and spikes.

Hitherto nails and spikes have been provided with one bevel-faced shoulder at the point for the purpose of deflecting its course in driving, thereby rendering its position secure and less liable to be removed either accidentally or purposely; but some objection has arisen to this construction, because there is no means for limiting or entirely preventing the deflection of the nail or spike, or, in other words, for driving it straight.

The object of my present invention is to provide a cut nail or spike which may be driven either straight or crooked into place, as desired.

A further object is to provide an inexpensive nail or spike of such similar construction to the nails and spikes in ordinary use that it may be formed from them with but little change, and one which may be easily driven in place.

With these ends in view my invention consists in certain features of construction and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a nail or spike showing improved barbed end. Fig. 2 represents a section through a block, showing the direction taken by a nail driven straight, and also the deflected direction of one driven obliquely. Fig. 3 is a modified form of nail with both the shank and point barbed.

In Fig. 1 an ordinary large-sized cut nail or spike is illustrated, having near the point a pair of sharp oppositely-located and laterally-extended shoulders, *d*, beneath which the nail immediately terminates in a sharp V-shaped point, the faces of which are lettered, respectively, *e e'*. These shoulders or double barbs *d* preferably are projected laterally on the faces *f* of the shank, which in ordinary cut nails are substantially parallel with each other, and prevent the easy or accidental withdrawal of the nail or spike. The principle on which

this nail operates when driven is plain. When driven at a right angle to the surface of the wood *G*, as shown in Fig. 2, the nail enters the wood and continues therein in a straight course, the fibers displaced by the nail impinging equally on the faces *e e'*; but when driven in the wood at any other angle than a right angle the resistance is necessarily greater on one face than on the other, hence deflecting the course of the nail in the direction of the least resistance, bending the nail-shank as a whole gradually, but not breaking it, and the upper barb or shoulder hooking, as it were, around the fibers of the wood above, while the opposite barb or shoulder guides it and acts as an additional means of holding the nail in place.

In the modification shown in Fig. 3 the shank of the nail is barbed, having the downwardly-extending notches *k* and upwardly-extending shoulders or barbs *k'*, so that when this nail is driven into place, in addition to the hold of the barbs at the point, these lateral barbs assist.

It is evident that slight changes might be resorted to in the form and arrangement of the several parts described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention; hence I do not wish to limit myself to the particular construction herein set forth; but,

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

1. A cut nail or spike having a plane body and a V-shaped point, the inclined faces of which diverge beyond the body to form two oppositely-extending barbs.

2. A nail or spike having a uniformly-tapering body and a V-shaped point, the inclined faces of which extend outwardly beyond the body of the nail to form two oppositely-extending barbs.

3. A nail or spike having a body of constant thickness and uniformly diminishing in breadth from the head, and having barbs which extend oppositely from the parallel faces of the body, and which are tapered to form the V-shaped point of said nail or spike.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

C. KERRISON, JR.

Witnesses:

I. P. DE VEAUX,  
J. H. PERRINE.