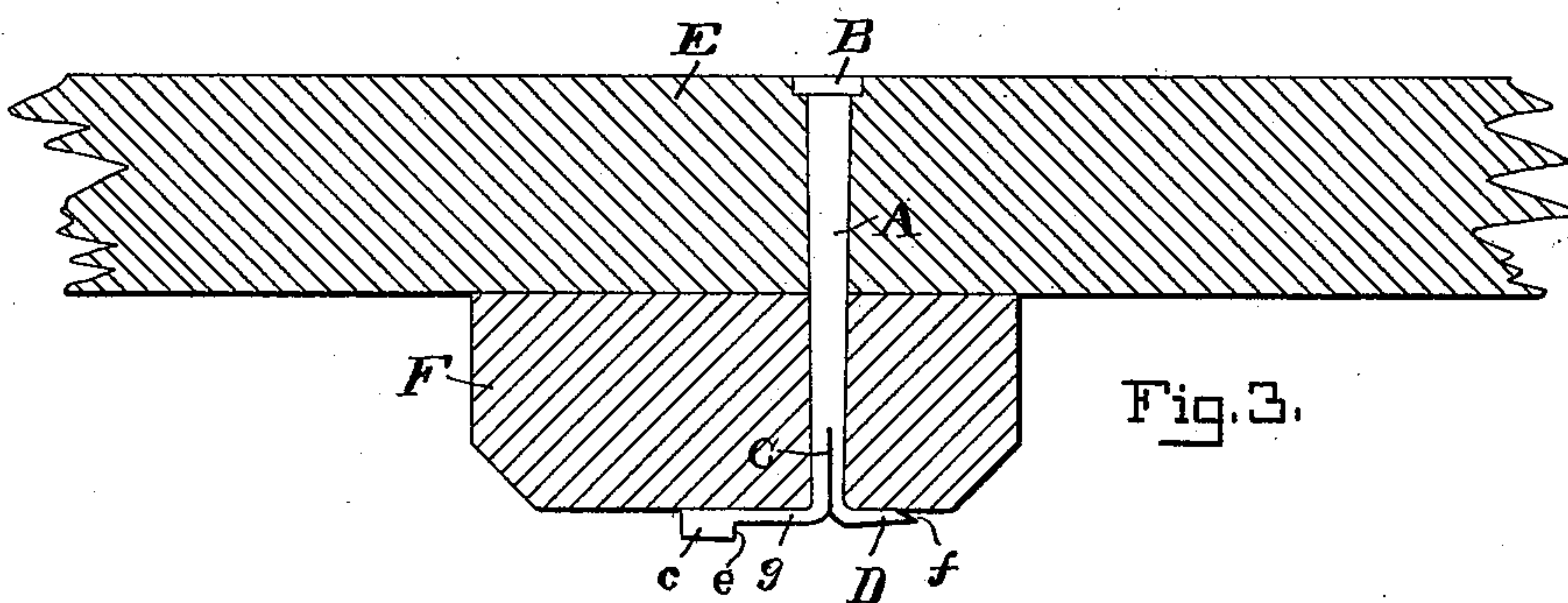
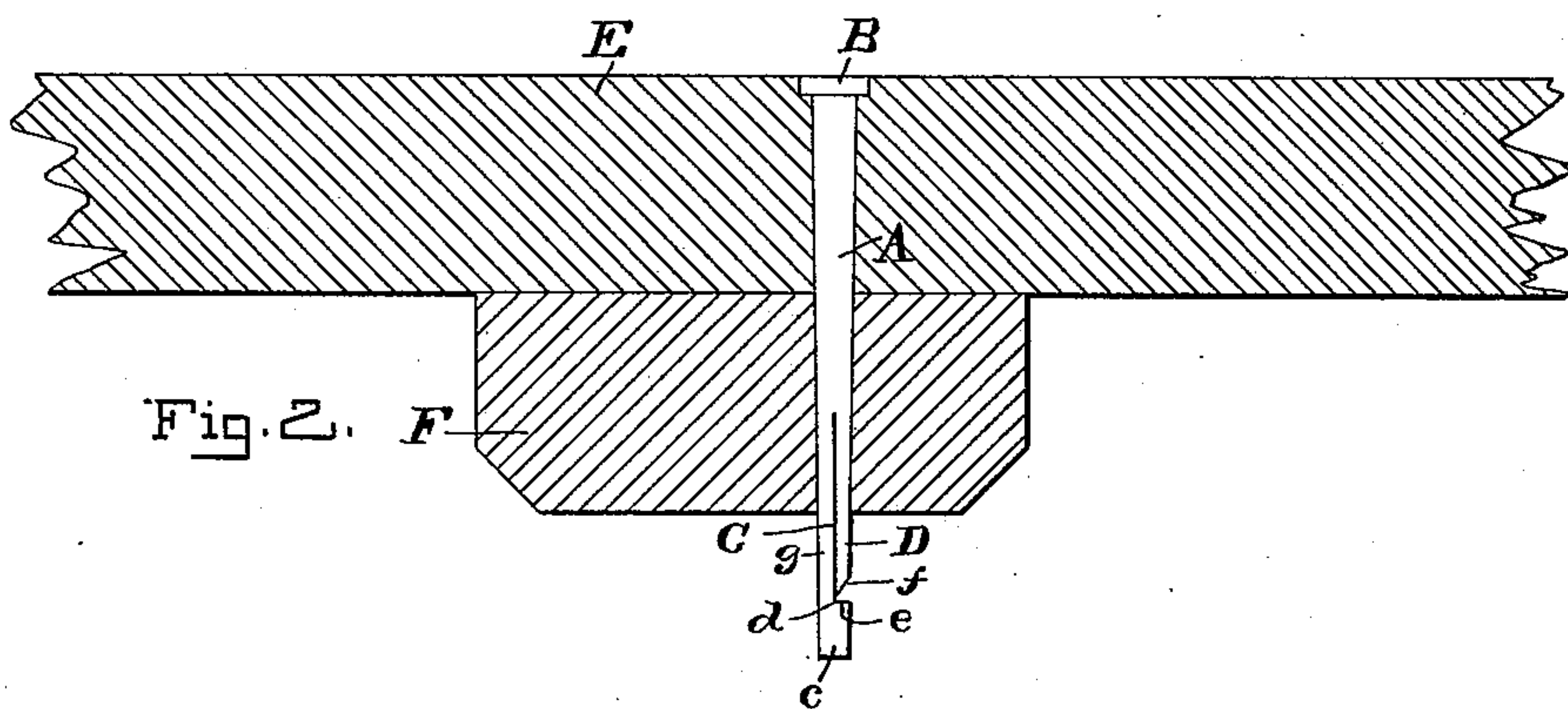
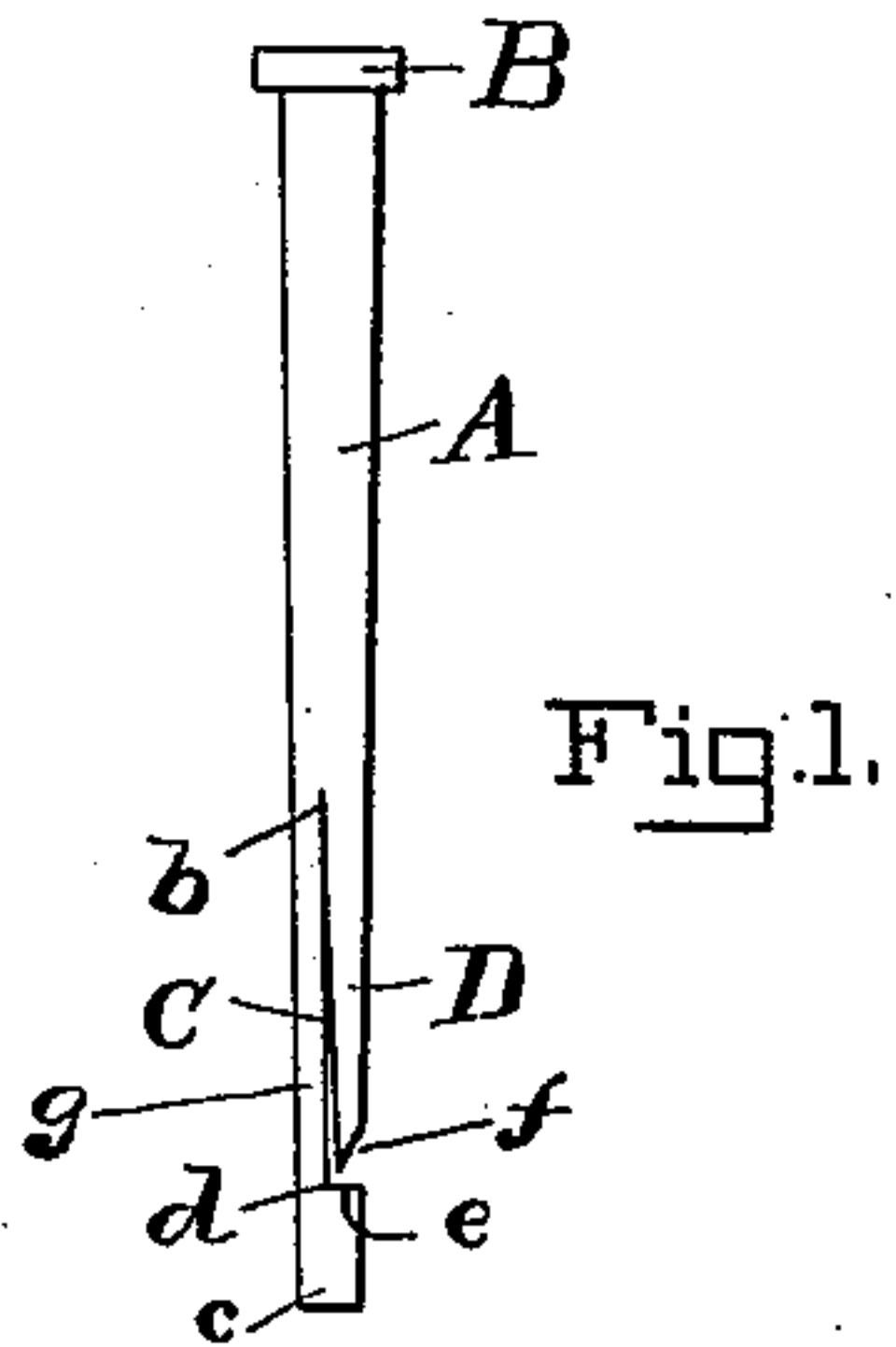


(No Model.)

L. OUDESLUYS.  
NAIL.

No. 465,285.

Patented Dec. 15, 1891.



WITNESSES:

*Otto H. Ehlers.*  
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INVENTOR

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BY

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ATTORNEY.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS OUDESLUYS, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

## NAIL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 465,285, dated December 15, 1891.

Application filed August 17, 1891. Serial No. 402,852. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LOUIS OUDESLUYS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore city, in the State of Maryland, have  
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nails, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in nails; and the object is to produce a split  
10 or bifurcated nail which can be driven through wood without dividing and then the portions or prongs on opposite sides of the split bent in opposite directions to clinch the nail.

To this end the invention may be said to  
15 consist in the novel features of construction hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents the nail in side elevation. Fig. 2 shows it driven through two  
20 boards, and Fig. 3 shows it clinched.

The letter A designates the body of the nail, and B the head. The said body portion, beginning at a point *b* near its middle part, is  
25 split longitudinally, the split C extending toward the tapered or pointed end *c* of the nail. This split, however, does not extend out of said end *c*, but terminates at a point *d* back of the same, at which point the nail is cut out  
30 laterally, forming a shoulder *e* at right angles to the split. A strip or prong D is in this manner formed at one side of the nail, the end or point of which prong is behind the shoulder *e*. This end is beveled on its outer  
35 side, as shown at *f*. It will be observed that the point *c* of the nail is left intact, and hence the nail can be driven into wood the same as any ordinary nail without danger of spreading or dividing. Even should the strip or  
40 prong D spread so that it projects a little beyond the shoulder *e*, the bevel *f*, coming in contact with the wood, will cause it to be forced back against the nail-body.

In nailing two boards E F together, as illustrated in the drawings, the nail is first driven  
45 through the same, so as to project on the op-

posite side, as shown in Fig. 2. The end *c* of the nail is then struck on the side to bend back the prong *g* on one side of the split C away from the prong D on the opposite side  
50 of said split, and said prong *g* is clinched against the wood, as shown in Fig. 3. The strip or prong D, which is thus left standing, is then bent in the opposite direction and clinched against the wood, as also shown in  
55 Fig. 3. It will be observed that the nail now securely holds the boards together and cannot work loose or come out.

The point of the split nail may be covered in other ways to prevent it from spreading  
60 when driven into the wood, and I do not, therefore, confine myself to the exact construction shown, but consider myself entitled to all variations therefrom as come within the spirit and scope of my invention. 65

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

1. A nail split part of its length, so that the portions or prongs on opposite sides of the  
70 split may be bent away from each other to clinch the nail, the entering point of the nail being intact and unsplit and covering the ends of both prongs.

2. A nail split a portion of its length, its entering point remaining intact, said nail being  
75 cut laterally to form a strip or prong at one side, the point of which is behind the shoulder formed by the lateral cut.

3. A nail split a portion of its length, its entering point remaining intact, said nail being  
80 cut laterally to form a strip or prong at one side, the point of which is behind the shoulder formed by the lateral cut and beveled on the outer side, for the purpose described. 85

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

LOUIS OUDESLUYS.

Witnesses:

F. P. DAVIS,

JNO. T. MADDOX.