(No Model.)

C. B. WEBSTER.

SCREW HOLDING ATTACHMENT FOR SCREW DRIVERS.

No. 601,188 Patented Mar. 22, 1898.

FIG. I.

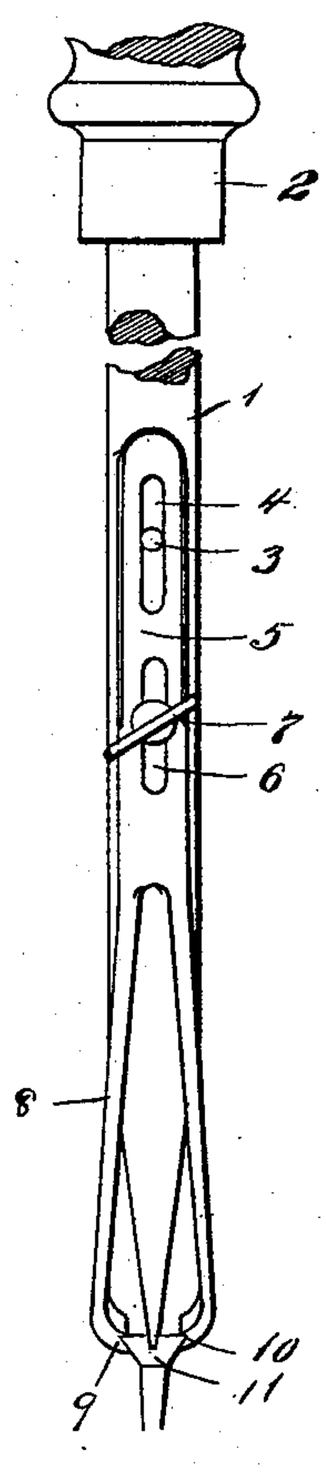


FIG. II.

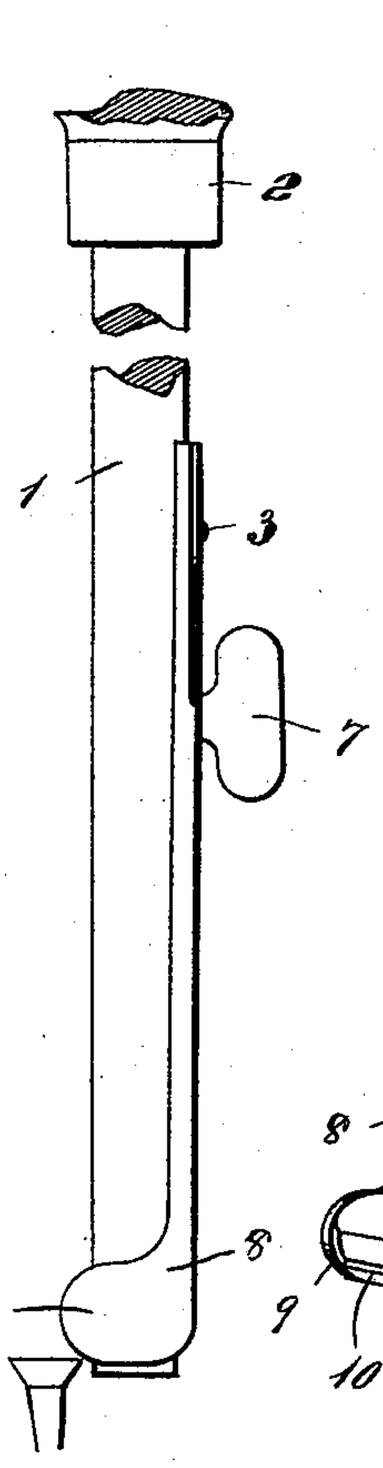
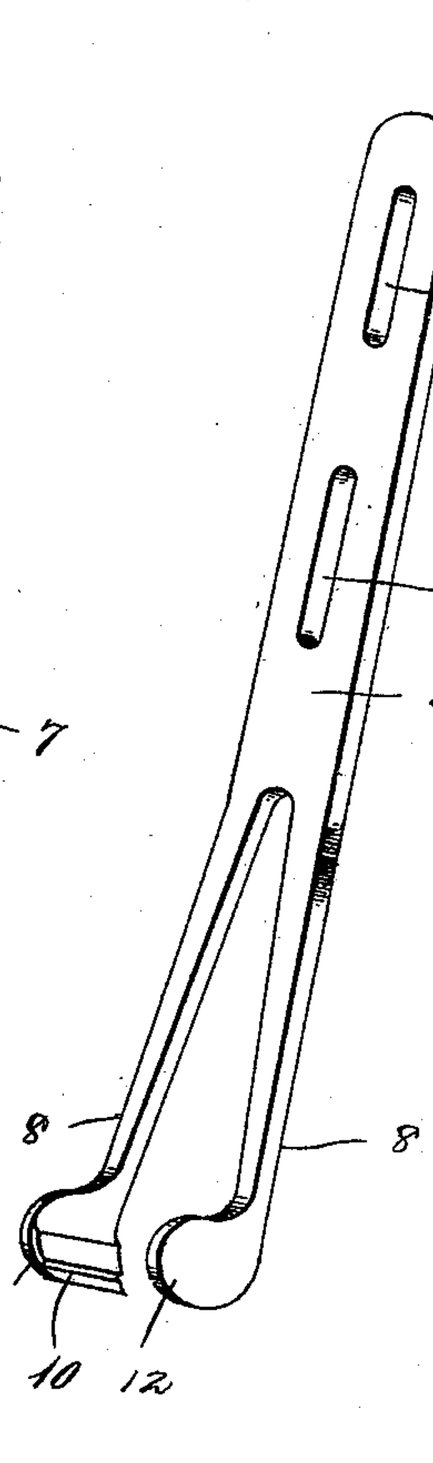


FIG. III.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARY B. WEBSTER, OF ROSEBOOM, NEW YORK.

SCREW-HOLDING ATTACHMENT FOR SCREW-DRIVERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 601,188, dated March 22, 1898.

Application filed August 28, 1897. Serial No. 649,859. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARY B. WEBSTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Roseboom, in the county of Otsego and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Screw-Holding Attachments for Screw-Drivers; 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.

The object of my invention is to provide an attachment for screw-drivers whereby a screw may be held in proper place while it is being inserted into or withdrawn from its seat for the purpose of holding it in proper alinement in one case and for preventing its accidentally falling in the other.

The invention consists of the novel features of construction which will be hereinafter more fully described and specifically claimed.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my attachment shown applied to a screw-driver. Fig. 2 is a similar view at right angles thereto. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the attachment.

Like reference-numerals indicate like parts in the different views.

The screw-driver is of the ordinary form of construction, being made up of a shank 1, having a sharpened lower end, and a handle 2, by means of which it may be turned. Projecting laterally from the shank 1 is a guide-pin 3, which fits within an elongated slot 4 in the plate 5, constituting the base of my screw-holding attachment. Said plate 5 is further provided with a second elongated slot 6, located beneath the slot 4, for receiving a thumb-screw 7, by means of which the position of the attachment on the shank 1 may be regulated. The said plate 5 has formed integral with it downwardly-extending spring-arms 8 8, the lower ends of which are formed with inwardly-extending lugs 9 9, which are notched or grooved, as shown at 10, for the reception of the head of the screw 11. The lower ends of said arms are also formed with rearwardly-extending wings 12 12, which straddle the lower ends of the shank 1. The notches or grooves 10 extend along the lower inner edges of the wings 12, the lugs in which they are formed constituting spring-clamps or engaging portions for the head of the screw.

In Fig. 1 of the drawings the screw 11 is shown in operative position in the holder, the lower end of the screw-driver fitting within the groove in the head of said screw. When in this position, the screw may be inserted into the opening designed to receive it and screwed into place by turning the handle 2 of the screw-driver in the ordinary manner. When the lower ends of the arms 8 8 come in contact with the wood or other material in which the screw is being driven, they will spring apart, releasing the engaging portions thereof from the head of the screw and thereby enabling the screw to be driven home by the screw-driver alone. In removing the screw from an inaccessible place the thumb-screw 7 is loosened and the screw-holder moved upwardly on the shank 1, throwing the engaging portions thereof away from the lower end of said shank. The screw to be removed may then be slightly turned to the left until its head projects slightly beyond the surface of the material in which it is located. The holder may then be thrown downwardly and the engaging portions of the spring-arms brought into contact with the head of the screw. The further outward movement of the screw may then be effected in the usual manner, and when it has been withdrawn there will be no danger of its falling to the ground, as it is securely held between the spring-arms 8 8.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that my improved screw-holding attachment is made of a single piece of metal which is adapted to be adjustably secured to the shank of the screw-driver, upon one side thereof and is provided with inwardly spring-pressed arms which act from the resiliency of the metal from which they are made, the said arms being provided with inwardly-extending lugs having recesses cut in them in which the head of the screw fits and with laterally-extending wings which lie at right angles to the base of the plate and to that part of the shank to which the base is attached, so as to embrace or straddle the point of a screw-driver, as clearly shown.

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

As a new article of manufacture, a screw-holding attachment for screw-drivers, made of a single piece of metal, the base of which is provided with slots for the reception, respectively, of a guide-pin and an adjusting-screw on the shank of the screw-driver and with downwardly-extending, inwardly-spring-pressed arms formed with lugs having recesses cut in them on their inner surfaces and with laterally-extending wings adapted to embrace the ends of the shanks and lying at right angles to the base and to that part of the shank to which said base is attached, as and for the purpose set forth.

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

CARY B. WEBSTER.

Witnesses:
C. E. HAWLEY,
ANN MILLER.