

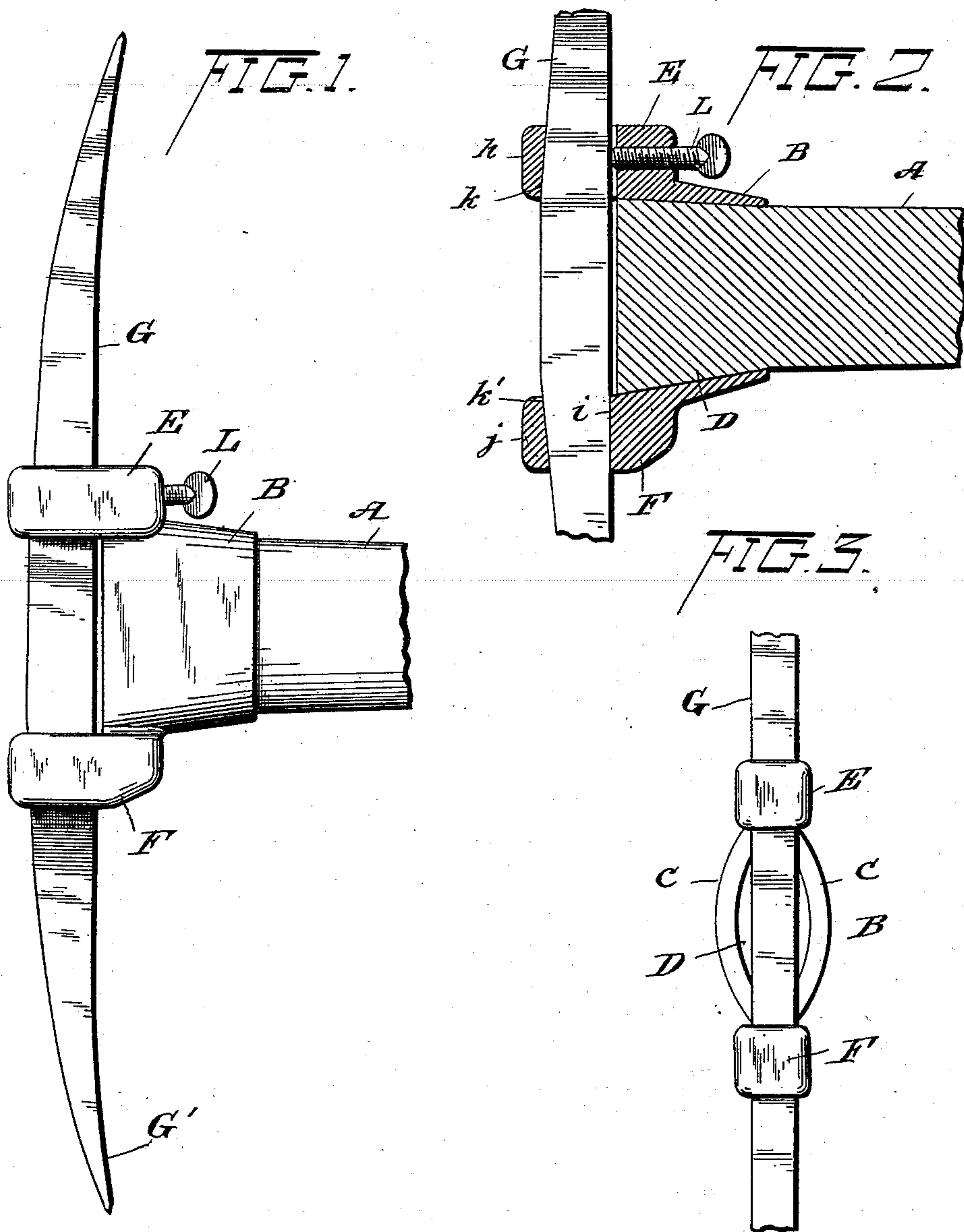
No. 623,025.

Patented Apr. 11, 1899.

J. B. LUCAS.
MINER'S PICK.

(Application filed July 13, 1898.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

Sam R. Turner

C. C. Hines

INVENTOR

James B. Lucas

By R. A. P. Cacey
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES BENNETT LUCAS, OF VALLEY SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA.

MINER'S PICK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 623,025, dated April 11, 1899.

Application filed July 13, 1898. Serial No. 685,854. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES BENNETT LUCAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Valley Springs, in the county of Calaveras and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Miners' Picks; 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.

This invention relates to improvements in picks, and particularly to the class of picks employed by miners and stoneworkers, which embody a socket-piece, a removable handle, and a blade detachably secured to the socket, so that it may be removed when dull or broken and another blade substituted therefor.

The object of my invention is to provide a pick of this character which is comparatively inexpensive in construction, strong and durable, and embodies an improved form of socket and simple and effective means for securing the blade thereto, whereby the use of wedges, keys, and analogous fastening devices, which are liable to become detached, lost, or misplaced, is avoided.

A further object is to provide a socket in which the handle is adapted to be inserted in a novel manner and secured without splitting or otherwise weakening the butt-end thereof and employing extraneous fastening means.

To these ends the invention consists in certain novel features of construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter more fully, described and specifically set forth in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating the invention, Figure 1 is a fragmentary side elevational view of my improved pick. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section thereof. Fig. 3 is a front elevational view.

Referring now more particularly to the accompanying drawings, wherein like letters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, A represents the helve or handle of the pick, and B the head or socket piece thereof. This socket-piece is approximately of elliptical form, having curved side walls c, which taper or flare inwardly, so as to form a wedge-shaped socket

which is of substantially the same width throughout, but longest or of greatest depth at the outer end or mouth thereof. The butt-end D of the helve corresponds in form to the socket, but, as usual, is made a little larger than the same, and in applying the latter thereto the handle end of the helve is inserted through the mouth end of the socket and the butt-end thereof then forcibly driven in place.

The socket is provided with head straps or loops E and F, formed integrally therewith and adapted to receive the pick-blade G. The passage of the strap E is made somewhat larger than the passage of the strap F and has the inner face of its outer wall h slightly beveled, while the said strap F is provided with a seat projection i, which contracts its passage, and also has the inner face of its outer wall j beveled. The inner edge of the pick-blade is straight, as usual, throughout the greater portion of its length, while the central portion only of its outer face is straight, thus causing the formation of shoulders k and k'.

The pick is applied to the head by inserting the narrow point end G' thereof first through the strap E and then through the strap F until its wide portion adjacent to the shoulder k' enters the latter and said shoulder engages the beveled face of the wall j, when the blade will be firmly held from movement in one direction. A thumb-screw L, working in an opening in the inner wall of the strap E, is provided to hold the blade firmly against movement in the reverse direction, and when the parts are positioned in the manner described and the thumb-screw forced inward the shoulder k of the blade will be caused to bind against the inner face of the wall h. By this construction it will be seen that the pick-blade will be firmly retained in position by means of a single fastening device carried by one of the straps and that intermediate wedges or keys or similar fastenings, which are unreliable and apt to become lost or misplaced, are dispensed with, that the pick is secured and reinforced on opposite sides of its center, that the straps do not obstruct the mouth of the socket-piece, and hence the handle may be conveniently applied in the manner heretofore described,

and that the pick when in position prevents the butt-end of the handle from working outwardly and the socket from working inwardly and becoming loose.

- 5 When the pick-blade is broken or dulled and it is desired to remove the same, this may be conveniently accomplished by simply slacking the thumb-screw L and then tapping the point end G' of the blade to release it
10 from engagement with the strap F, when it may be quickly detached.

From the above description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be apparent that my invention provides
15 a pick which is comparatively simple and inexpensive in construction, strong and durable, and embodies a simple and effective form of socket and fastening means for uniting the parts.

- 20 Changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be made within the scope of the invention without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof.

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

A pick of the character described, comprising a tapering elliptical socket provided with straps or loops projecting outwardly beyond
30 the mouth thereof, each strap having a flaring passage formed by beveling the inner face of its outer wall and one of said straps having its inner wall extended to form a seat or
35 projection which contracts its passage with respect to the passage of the other strap, a pick-blade adapted to be inserted and withdrawn through the larger passage of the latter strap and provided with shoulders to abut
40 against the said beveled outer walls of the straps, a set-screw working in a threaded opening in the inner wall of the larger strap and impinging against the blade to force the same against the beveled outer wall of said
45 strap, and a handle having a wedge-shaped butt inclosed in the socket and terminating in rear of the blade, substantially as described.

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

JAMES BENNETT LUCAS.

Witnesses:

J. H. PATTEE,
H. B. PURDY.