

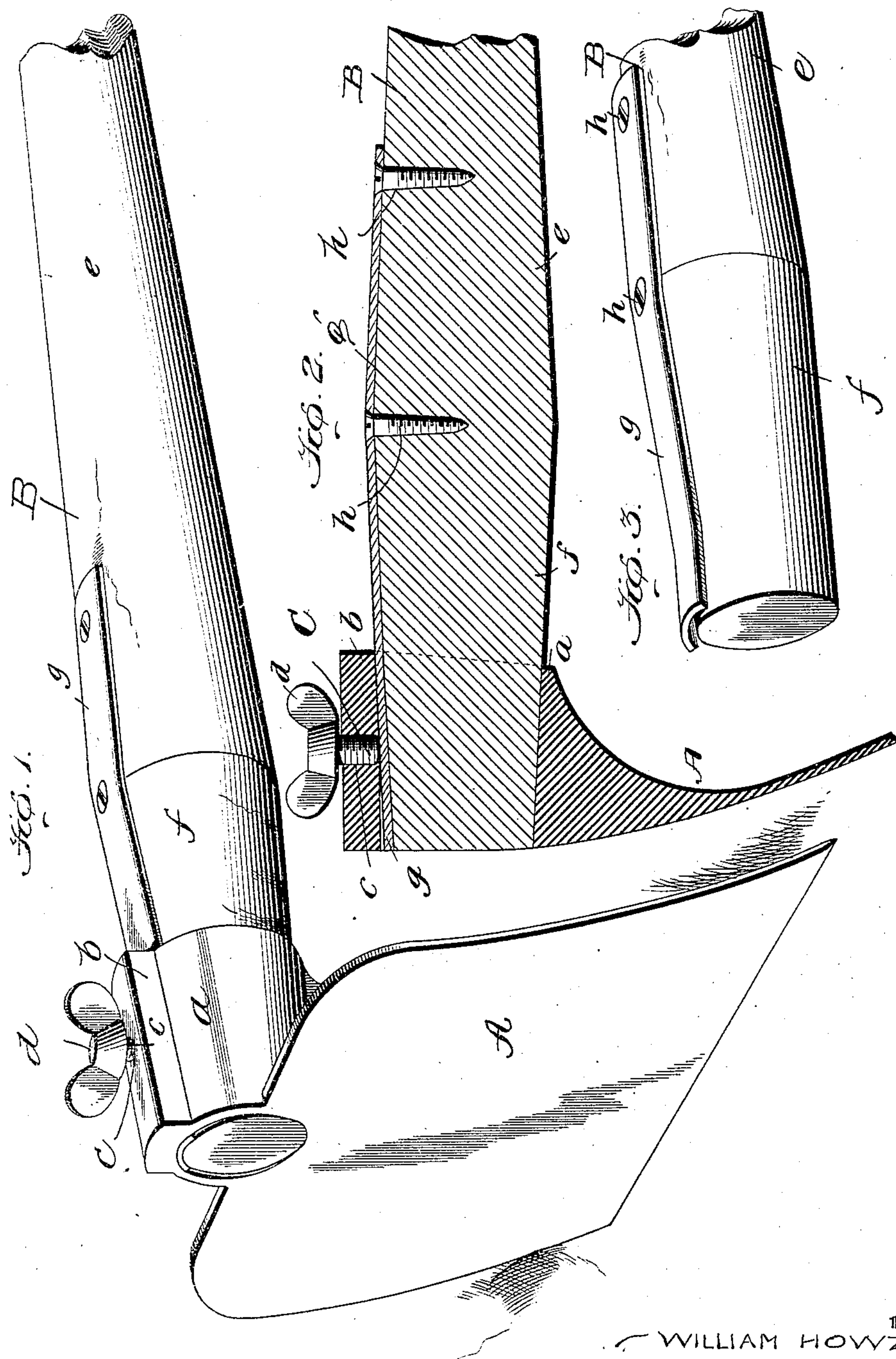
No. 773,256.

PATENTED OCT. 25, 1904.

W. HOWZE.
HOE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 1, 1904.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses

"Cashmere" 362
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WILLIAM HOWZE, OF CAIRO, GEORGIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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HOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 773,256, dated October 25, 1904.

Application filed September 1, 1904. Serial No. 222,961. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HOWZE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cairo, in the county of Thomas and State of Georgia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Hoes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention pertains to means for fixing tool-blades, more particularly hoe-blades on handles; and it consists in the peculiar and advantageous construction hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claims appended.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hoe embodying my invention, the same being shown with a portion of its handle broken away. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the same, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the forward portion of the handle as the same appears when removed from the blade.

Similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings, referring to which—

A is the blade of the hoe. B is the handle, and C is the screw, hereinafter described, for fixing the blade on the handle.

As best shown in Fig. 2, the blade A is provided with a rearwardly-extending eye *a*, which is preferably increased in diameter toward its rear end and is provided in turn with a portion *b* of increased thickness, in which is a threaded aperture *c* to receive the screw C. The said screw C is preferably provided with a winged head *d* to facilitate turning thereof; but it obviously may have a head of any description without involving a departure from the scope of my invention.

The handle B comprises a body *e*, preferably of wood; having a forward tapered portion *f* and a metallic tongue *g*, connected by screws *h* or other means to the body *e* and extending to the forward end of the body and having its forward portion curved transversely, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, so as to snugly conform to said forward end of the body. The connection of the metallic tongue *g* to the body *e* is located in rear of the forward

portion *f* of the body, and from this it follows that the forward free portion of the tongue will tend to normally spring away from the forward portion of the body, as shown in Fig. 3; also, that when the said forward portion of the tongue is pressed against the forward portion of the body it will exert pressure outwardly or in a direction away from the portion *f*.

In assembling the parts of my novel tool the forward portion of the tongue *g* is pressed against the forward portion *f* of the handle body *e*, and the forward end of the handle is pressed into the eye *a* of the blade. The screw C is then turned inwardly, so as to hold the forward portion of the tongue *g* under pressure against the forward portion *f* of the handle-body and fix the forward end of the handle in the eye *a* of the blade. In virtue of the forward portion of the tongue *g* having a tendency to spring outwardly, it will be observed that the said portion will exert considerable outward pressure against the inner end of the screw C, and thereby effectually prevent casual outward turning of the screw and the consequent loosening of the handle in the eye *a* of the blade. It will also be observed that the forward portion of the metallic tongue will serve as a wear-plate—i. e., will effectually prevent the screw C from indenting or otherwise injuring the wooden body of the handle B.

While the forward portion of the tongue *g* serves by exerting outward pressure against the screw C to preclude casual loosening of the handle in the eye *a* of the blade, it will be appreciated that when it is desired for any purpose to remove the handle from the blade the same may be readily accomplished by first turning the screw outwardly and then withdrawing the handle endwise from the eye *a*.

The permanent connection of the metallic tongue *g* to the handle-body *e* is advantageous, because it lends resiliency to the forward portion of the tongue, as stated, and also because it precludes the loss or misplacing of the tongue when the handle is disconnected from the blade.

In addition to the advantages which I have

hereinbefore ascribed to my novel hoe, it will be noticed that the same is simple and inexpensive in construction and embodies no delicate parts, such as are likely to get out of order after a short period of use.

I have entered into a detailed description of the construction and relative arrangement of the parts embraced in the present and preferred embodiment of my invention in order to impart a full, clear, and exact understanding of the said embodiment. I do not desire, however, to be understood as confining myself to such specific construction and relative arrangement of parts, as such changes or modifications may be made in practice as fairly fall within the scope of my invention as claimed.

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

1. The combination of a tool-blade having an eye provided in its wall with a threaded aperture, a screw bearing in the said threaded aperture of the eye, and a handle comprising

a body portion shaped to enter the eye of the blade, and a metallic tongue permanently connected to the body portion and having a forward resilient portion arranged to be engaged by and exert outward pressure against the inner end of the screw.

2. In a hoe, the combination of a blade having a rearwardly-extending eye gradually increased in diameter toward its rear end, and also having a threaded aperture in the wall of the eye, a screw bearing in the said threaded aperture of the eye, and a handle comprising a body having a forward tapered portion, and a tongue permanently connected to the said body in rear of the said tapered portion thereof, and having a forward resilient portion arranged to be engaged by and exert outward pressure against the inner end of the screw.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM HOWZE.

Witnesses:

S. B. SINGLETARY,
C. E. GIMER.