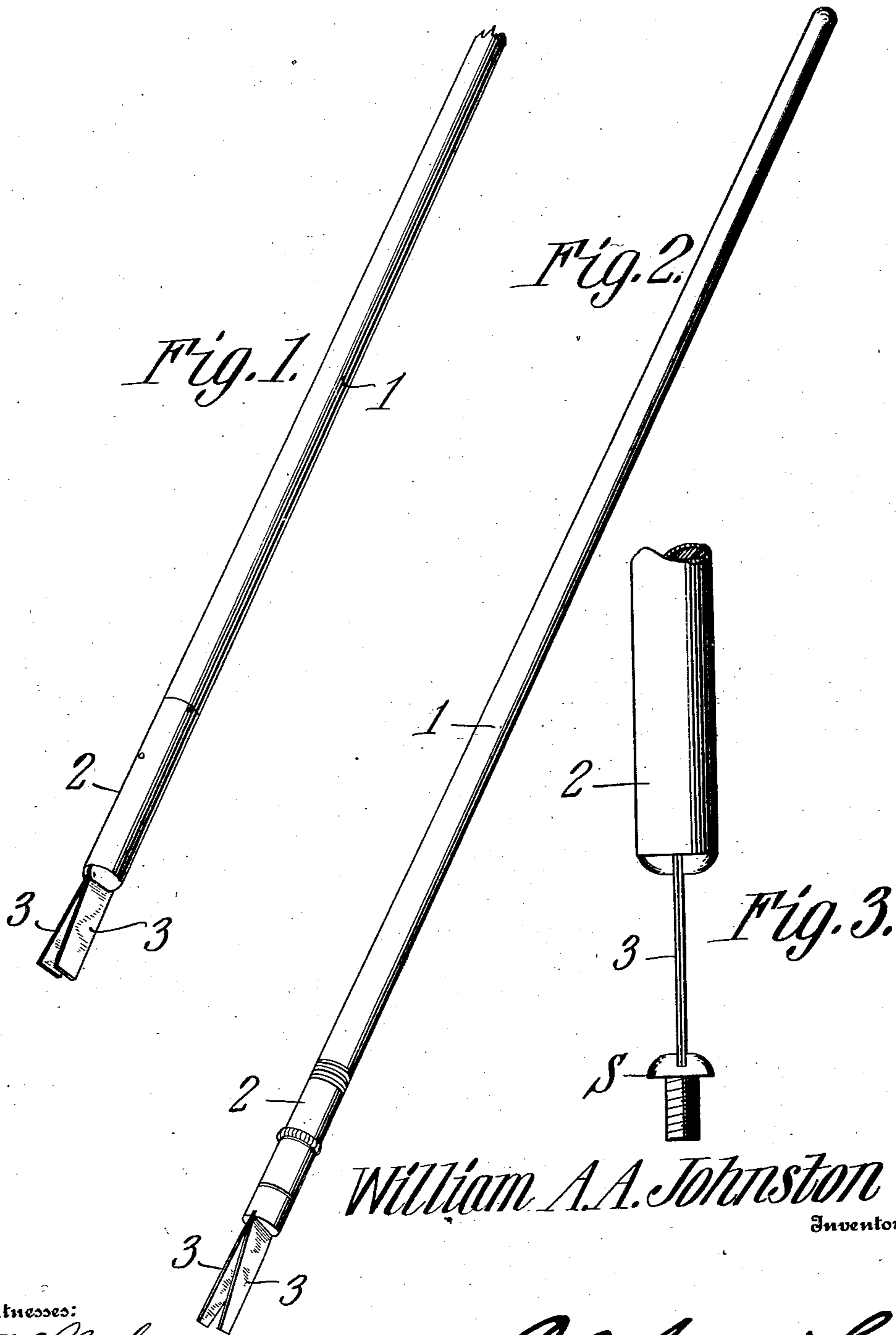


No. 896,731.

PATENTED AUG. 25, 1908.

W. A. A. JOHNSTON.  
SCREW POSITIONING IMPLEMENT.  
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 23, 1907.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. A. JOHNSTON, OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA.

## SCREW-POSITIONING IMPLEMENT.

No. 896,731.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 25, 1908.

Application filed August 23, 1907. Serial No. 353,914.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. A. JOHNSTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Shreveport, in the parish of Caddo and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Screw-Positioning Implement, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a screw positioning implement.

As is well known in certain machines, such as typewriters, it is often exceedingly difficult to position a screw owing to the inaccessibility of the part which is to receive it, or to the presence of obstructing mechanisms.

The object of the present invention is to provide a cheap, simple and thoroughly efficient implement which will positively hold a screw until it is partly seated, whereby the final seating with a screwdriver may readily and easily be effected.

With the above and other objects in view as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists generally stated in a screw positioning implement embodying a handle and a pair of outwardly flexed resilient screw nick engaging members carried thereby, the pressure exerted by the members against the walls of the screw nick serving positively to hold the screw assembled with the implement until the initial setting of the former has been secured.

The invention consists further in the various novel features of construction of the implement as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of the specification and in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of an implement constructed in accordance with the present invention, and showing one adapted more particularly for use in connection with relatively large screws. Fig. 2 is a similar view of an implement adapted for positioning relatively small screws. Fig. 3 is a view in elevation showing the manner in which the implement is employed, the handle being broken away.

The implement embodies a handle 1 which may be of any length and with one end of which is assembled a ferrule 2 of any preferred construction. Held within the ferrule are two thin resilient outwardly-flexed screw nick engaging members 3, which may be constructed of any metal suited to the purpose,

preferably one that is non-corrosive, and are of the same thickness throughout their length. As shown in both Figs. 1 and 2, the outer ends of the members 3 are straight and are disposed at right angles to the length of the handle, thus to insure the positive engagement of the members with the walls of the screw nick. A further feature to be observed is that it is essential that the outer face of the members be perfectly flat and true in order to secure the best results. That form of implement shown in Fig. 1 is adapted for positioning relatively large screws, while that shown in Fig. 2 is adapted for use for relatively small screws, the latter function being secured by tapering the members, as shown.

As above stated, the members 3 are thin, and of the same thickness throughout their length, the object of the first construction being to adapt the ends of the implement for use in connection with screws having very narrow as well as relatively wide nicks, thereby to extend its range of usefulness beyond the limit to which such tools are usually confined.

The object of the second construction is to adapt the members to engage along their sides with the screw-nick, thus to permit positioning of screws that could not be positioned if the ends of the members were engaged with the screw nick.

In using the implement the members 3 are pressed together and inserted in the nick of the screw S, as shown in Fig. 3, and upon pressure being released from the members, their outer sides will impinge against the walls of the screw nick with sufficient force to hold the screw from accidental separation while being positioned. As soon as one or more turns have been taken upon the screw the implement is withdrawn and the screwdriver inserted and the seating of the screw completed.

This implement will be found of great utility in connection with the assemblage of typewriters or calculating machines of different kinds or with other machines in which the parts are small and closely assembled.

What is claimed is:—

A screw placing tool comprising a handle, a ferrule secured to one end of the handle, and a pair of resilient diverging screw nick engaging members having smooth exterior faces and of uniform thickness throughout their entire length, said members having

their converging ends rigidly secured to the handle at said ferrule and their diverging ends provided with square terminals normally and yieldably held in spaced relation, 5 the inner faces of the members being smooth and unobstructed from the square terminals to the ferrule whereby when the members are pressed together the inner faces of said members will engage each other throughout their

entire length thereby to form a shank of uniform thickness in cross section. 10

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM A. A. JOHNSTON.

Witnesses:

D. R. HERNDON,  
CHAS. C. GREENE.