

T. HOOKER.
HANDLE FASTENING WEDGE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 10, 1908.

959,862.

Patented May 31, 1910.

Fig. 1.

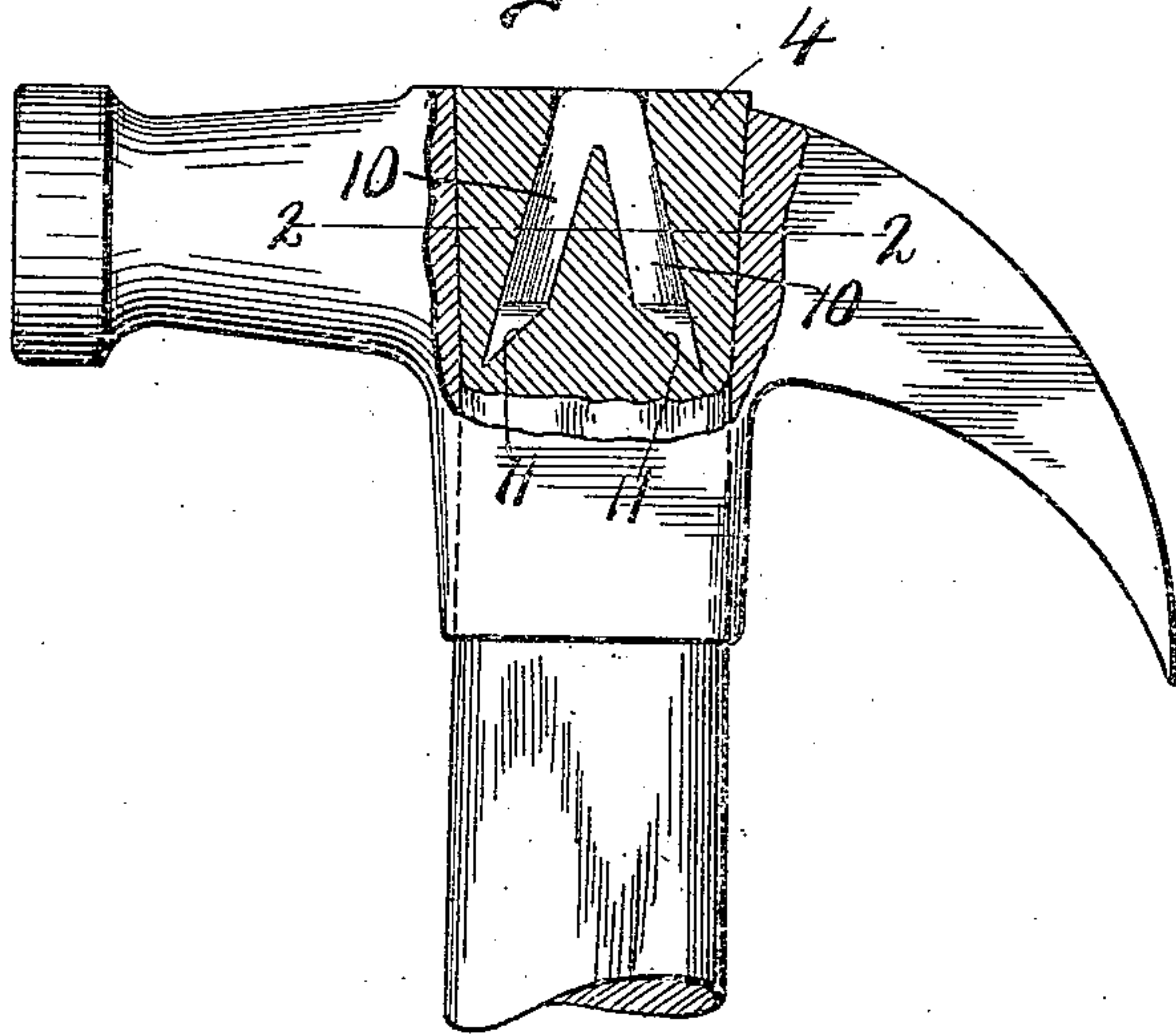


Fig. 2.

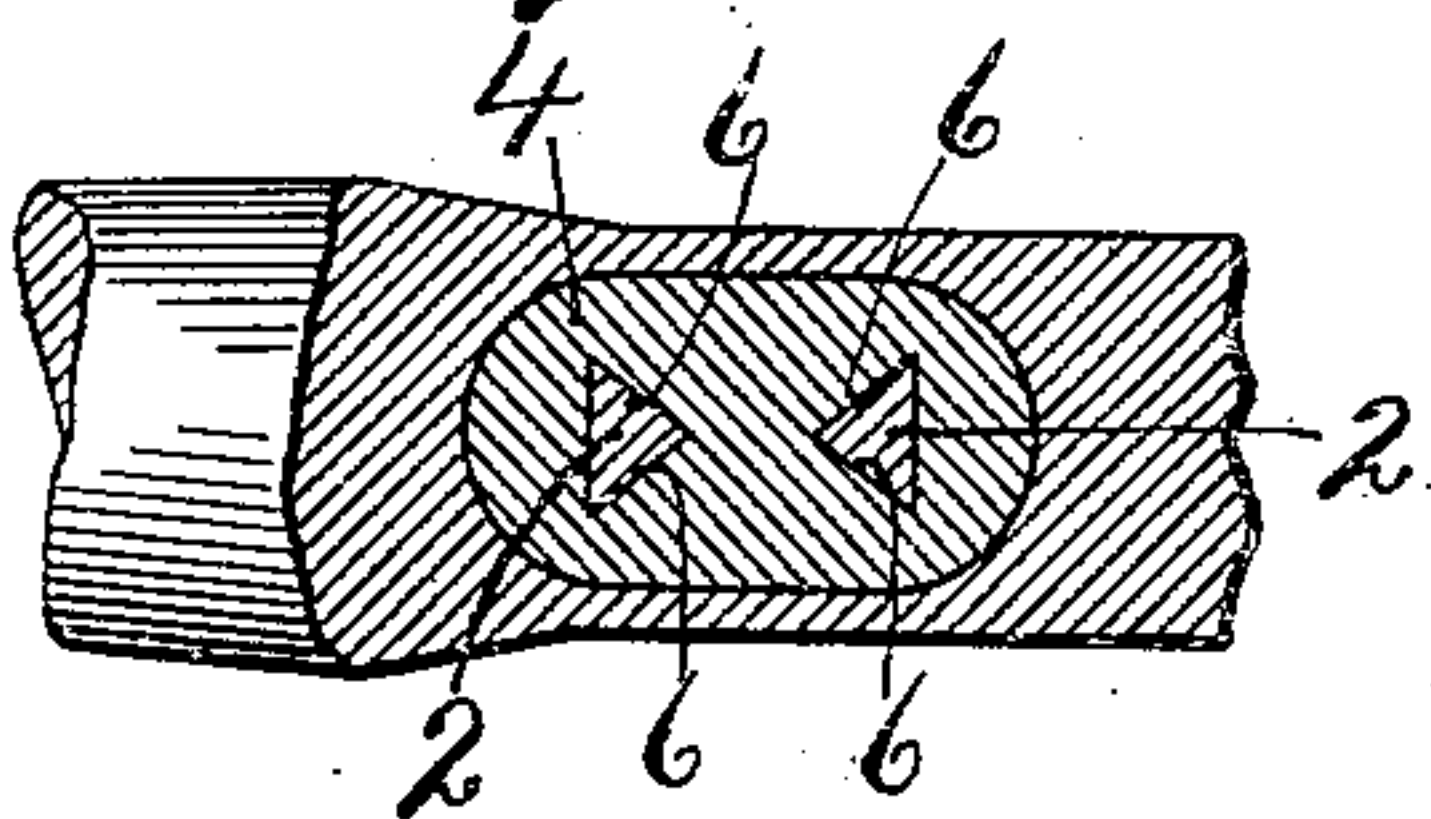


Fig. 3.

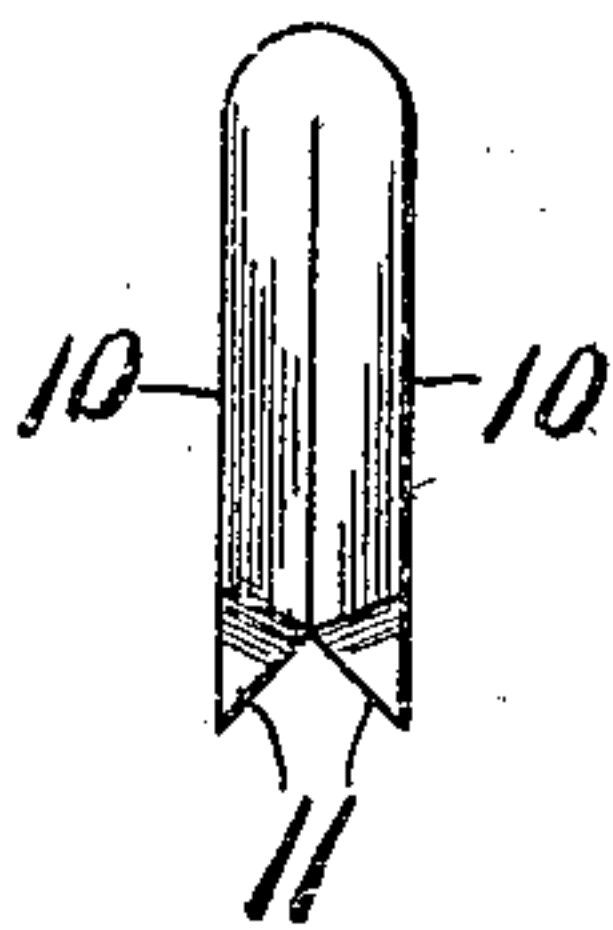
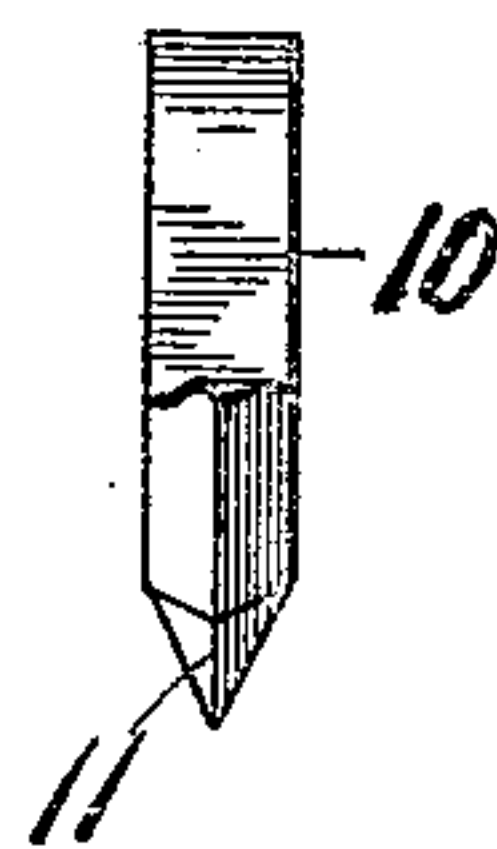


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HANDLE-FASTENING WEDGE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS HOOKER, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Handle-Fastening Wedges, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to certain improvements in handle fastening wedges comprising any metallic fastening member adapted to be driven into wood and to clench itself by the mere act of driving thereinto for retaining two or more parts together such for example as a screw driver or similar tool or a hammer and a suitable wood handle although the same invention is equally useful as a substitute for the usual nails and possesses the additional feature of clenching itself when driven into the wood.

My main object is to provide a furcated shank with specially formed prongs or tines capable of cutting or wedging their way into the wood under driving pressure and also capable of expanding or spreading apart at their free ends so as to be self-clenching while being driven thereinto without liability of unduly splitting the wood.

Other specific objects relating to specific structural features of the invention will be brought out in the following description.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is an elevation partly in section of a hammer and a portion of its handle showing my improved fastening wedge as driven into the end of the handle in the socket or eye of the hammer to retain the hammer on the handle. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 are opposite face views of the fastening, one of the arms in Fig. 4 being partly broken away.

The fastening as shown in the drawings is illustrated as being employed for securing a hammer handle in the socket of the hammer, and it consists of a furcated member comprising a U-shaped bar V-shaped in cross section, and bent or closed upon itself with the sharp or V-shaped edges normally in close contact, forming opposite prongs or arms 10 having the inner faces of their extremities beveled both longitudinally and transversely, forming beveled V-shaped cutting edges 11. The opposed prongs or arms 10 constitute a self clenching fastening

which is driven into one end of a wooden handle 4. The beveled V-shaped cutting edges 11 of the fastening are triangular in contour and triangular in cross-section and having the opposite faces thereof beveled outwardly, with the apex of the triangle in continuity with the apex of the prongs or arms. When the fastening is driven into a handle or like device, it will be observed that the V-shaped ends of the fastening constitute wedging ends which when driven into the wood operate to deflect or spread apart the free ends of the prongs by impact with the wood of the handle, so that the fastening when driven home in the handle has its prongs or arms spread apart as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings and acts as a wedge to spread the wood of the handle firmly against the wall of the eye or hammer socket. The apexes of the prongs or arms being adjacent each other, and extending substantially throughout the length of said arms, the prongs or arms are rendered more or less pliable or bendable, and separable when driven into the wood, and the sharp edge of the wedge being presented to the wood at the closed end of the fastening, the latter is easily driven into the end of the handle so as not to project beyond the latter, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. The triangular prongs having their apexes presented to the wood, cut their way across the fiber of the wood, the compression of the fiber being at the back of the prongs so as to hold the latter against undue spreading and thus avoid danger of the prongs or arms breaking their junction with each other. The meeting edges of the prongs being sharp and normally close together, they naturally have a tendency when driven into the wood to partially cut and partially wedge their own channels, and the free ends of the prongs beveled or V-shape in cross-section form knife edges which tend to cut their way into the wood and to simultaneously but gradually spread the prongs or arms apart under driving pressure, and avoiding any appreciable thickness of wood between and at the bases of the prongs, thus tending to further materially decrease liability of the prongs breaking at their junction.

What I claim is:

A handle fastening wedge formed of a bar triangular in cross section doubled upon

itself to form two parallel equal length arms, the bar being doubled so that the apexes of the triangle abut throughout the length of the arms, the free ends of said arms being pointed, the pointed ends being triangular in contour and triangular in cross-section and having the opposite faces thereof beveled outwardly with the apex of

the triangle in continuity with the apex of the arms.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 7th day of March 1908.

THOMAS HOOKER.

Witnesses:

H. E. CHASE,

C. M. McCORMACK.