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COBBLER'S NIPPERS

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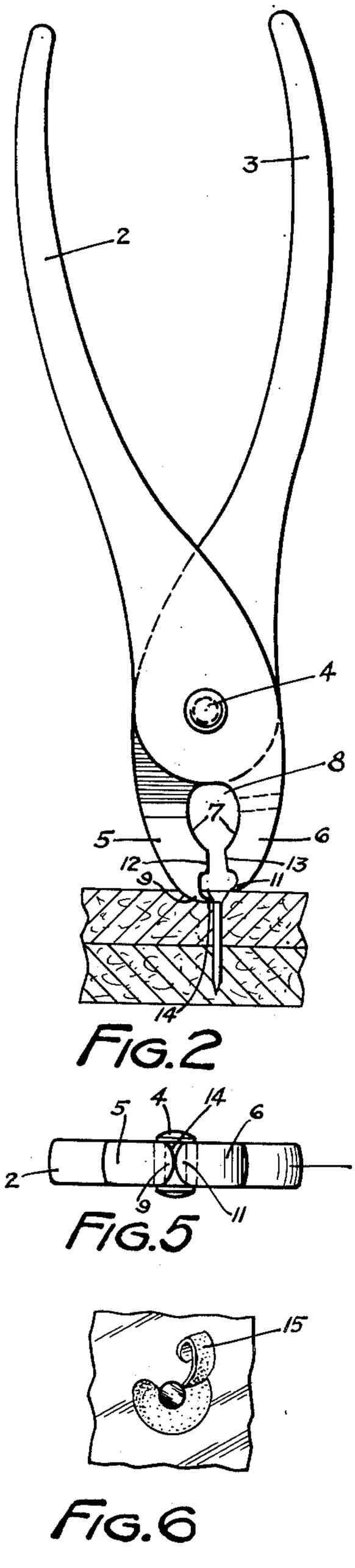

FIG. 2

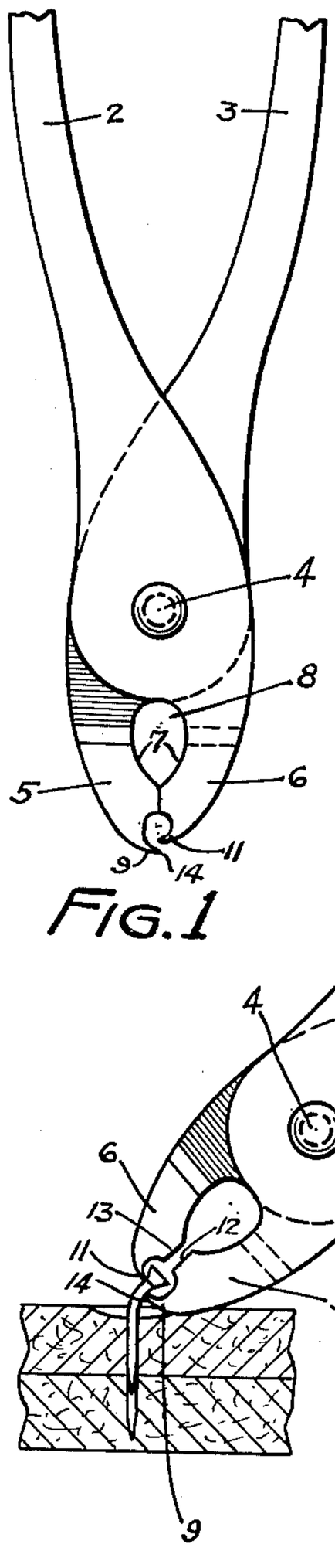

FIG. 1

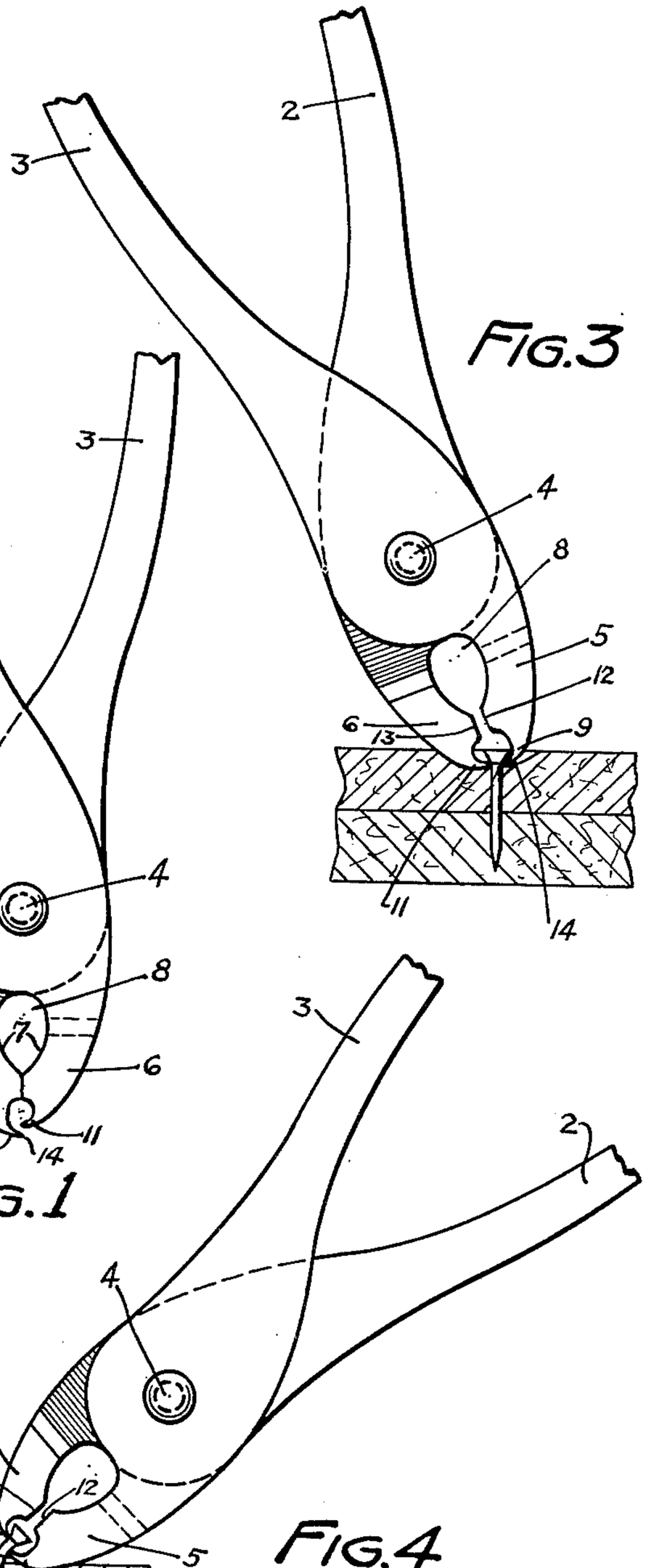

FIG. 3

FIG. 5

FIG. 4

FIG. 6

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COBBLER'S NIPPERS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 7—5.4)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in nippers and more particularly to such a device adapted for use in the mending of shoes and the like.

An object of the present invention is to provide a nippers having a pair of jaws which are so designed that they may readily and quickly be manipulated into engagement with the head of a nail secured in the heel or sole of a shoe for the purpose of extracting the nail therefrom.

A further object is to provide a cobbler's nippers having complemental jaws each provided with a claw-like terminal which are oppositely disposed, whereby they may be brought into gripping engagement with a nail head embedded in the heel or sole of a shoe, without danger of cutting the nail in the operation of withdrawing it from the shoe.

A further object is to provide such a device wherein the claw-like terminals of the two jaws are disposed in offset relation longitudinally of the jaws, whereby the gripping ends of said claw-like terminals cannot directly engage one another when the jaws are closed.

A further object is to provide a nippers comprising complemental jaws having claw-like terminals, and one of said jaws being relatively longer than the other, whereby said terminals are disposed in offset relation longitudinally of the nippers, and the adjacent faces of said terminals being concave and cooperating to provide an opening for receiving the head of a nail to be extracted, when the jaws are maneuvered into gripping engagement with the nail head, whereby the nail head cannot become disengaged from the jaws when the nippers is actuated to withdraw the nail from the shoe.

Other objects of the invention reside in the provision of means for limiting the closing movements of the jaws, whereby the claw-like terminals are spaced apart when the jaws are in closed position; in the unique design of the claw-like terminals of the two jaws, whereby one of said terminals may be utilized as a fulcrum upon which to tilt the nippers during the operation of extracting a nail from the sole or heel of a shoe; and in the provision of a knife edge on one of said jaws, whereby should the nail to be extracted have its head deeply embedded in the sole or heel, a portion of the leather surrounding the nail head may be quickly cut away by a slight rotary movement of the nippers, thereby to expose the head so that the jaws of the nippers may readily be applied thereto; and in the provision of cobbler's nippers which is extremely

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simple and inexpensive in construction, and whose jaws are so designed that when engaged with a nail head, there is little danger of the nail head becoming disengaged from said jaws, when the nippers are manipulated to extract the nail from the shoe.

These and other objects of the invention and the means for their attainment will be more apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings.

In the accompanying drawings there has been disclosed a structure designed to carry out the various objects of the invention, but it is to be understood that the invention is not confined to the exact features shown, as various changes may be made within the scope of the claim which follows.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view showing the novel nippers herein disclosed with its jaws in closed position;

Figure 2 is a view showing the manner of applying the jaws to a nail head;

Figure 3 is a view showing the nippers slightly tilted in one direction to effect a firm grip on the nail;

Figure 4 shows the nippers tilted in the opposite direction, whereby the longer jaw provides a fulcrum about which to pivot the nippers to extract the nail from the shoe;

Figure 5 is an end view of the nippers, showing the preferred configuration of the claw-like terminals of its jaws; and

Figure 6 is a fragmentary view showing a portion of the material surrounding the nail severed from the sole or heel to expose the nail head.

The novel nippers herein disclosed is shown comprising a pair of handles **2** and **3** of conventional design, pivotally connected together by a pivot **4**. The handles **2** and **3** are formed with jaws **5** and **6**, respectively, each having an inwardly curved surface **7** which cooperates to provide an enlarged opening **8**, as best illustrated in Figure 1.

One of the dominant features of the present invention resides in the unique construction of the jaws **5** and **6**, whereby when engaged with a nail for the purpose of extracting it from the sole or heel of a shoe, the jaws are not likely to become disengaged therefrom, and at the same time, one of said jaws provides a fulcrum about which the nippers may be pivoted to extract the nail from the shoe with a minimum of effort.

As clearly illustrated in the application drawing, the jaws **5** and **6** vary in length, the jaw **5** being slightly longer than the jaw **6**. The jaws

are provided with claw-like terminals 9 and 11 which are so fashioned that when the jaws are closed as shown in Figure 1, the terminals of the jaws are spaced apart. It will also be noted by reference to Figure 1 that the jaw terminals 9 and 11 are offset from one another longitudinally of the nippers, whereby they cannot directly engage one another when the jaws are closed, as shown in Figure 1. This is an important feature in that it minimizes the danger of the jaw severing the head from the body of the nail, when pressure is applied to the nipper handles in the operation of extracting the nail. Suitable stops 12 and 13 are provided on the jaws 5 and 6, respectively, for limiting the closing movements of the jaws, as will be understood by reference to Figure 1.

The claw-like terminal 9 of the relatively longer jaw 5 is provided with a cutting edge 14 which is preferably arcuately formed, as shown in Figure 5, whereby when the nippers are applied to the sole or heel of the shoe adjacent to a nail, a portion of the leather or material surrounding the nail head may be severed from the sole or heel, as illustrated at 15 in Figure 6, thereby to expose the nail head so that the claw-like terminals of the nippers may readily be engaged therewith.

To engage the jaws with the head of a nail, the cutting edge of the terminal 9 of the longer jaw is maneuvered around the nail head by rotating the nippers relative to the nail and at the same time pressing the sharpened claw-like terminal 9 into engagement with the heel or sole of its shoe. Such manipulation of the nippers will cause the sharpened edge 14 of terminal 9 to sever the sole or heel immediately around the nail, as indicated in Figure 6, to permit the application of the jaws to the nail head, as shown in Figure 3.

After having engaged the nail head, the nippers are preferably slightly tilted in the direction of the relatively shorter jaw 6, as shown in Figure 3, to enable the claw-like terminal 9 of jaw 5 to more firmly engage the nail, after which the nippers is tilted in the opposite direction, as shown in Figure 4. During such tilting movement of the nippers, the end of jaw 6 serves as a fulcrum for the nippers, whereby considerable leverage is gained so that the nail, regardless of its size, may readily and quickly be extracted from

the sole or heel of a shoe with a minimum of effort and without danger of cutting the head off the nail.

The novel nippers herein disclosed has been found very useful in shoe repair shops, as it makes it possible to quickly extract the nails from the heel or sole of a shoe without effort, and without damaging the shoe. The nippers is also extremely simple and inexpensive in construction, whereby it may be manufactured in quantity production by conventional well known equipment, whereby such nippers may be furnished at extremely low cost.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only, and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, but the appended claim should be construed as broadly as permissible in view of the prior art.

I claim as my invention:

A cobbler's nippers for extracting nails from the soles and heels of shoes, comprising a pair of co-acting jaws each having an inwardly turned claw-like terminal, one of said jaws being relatively longer than the other whereby the terminals of said jaws are disposed in off-set relation longitudinally of the nippers, when the jaws are closed, the terminal of said longer jaw having an arcuately formed cutting edge whereby rotary movement of the nippers, when said terminals are engaged with the head of a nail to be pulled, will cause said sharpened terminal to sever the leather around the head of the nail, thereby to facilitate operatively engaging the jaws with the nail head, and means for limiting the closing movement of the jaws, when engaged with the nail head, thereby to prevent them from severing the head from the body of the nail.

THEODORE E. PETERSON.

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