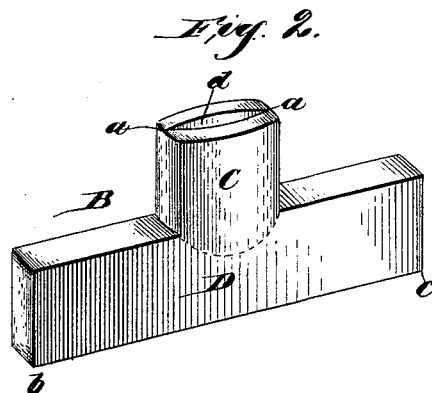
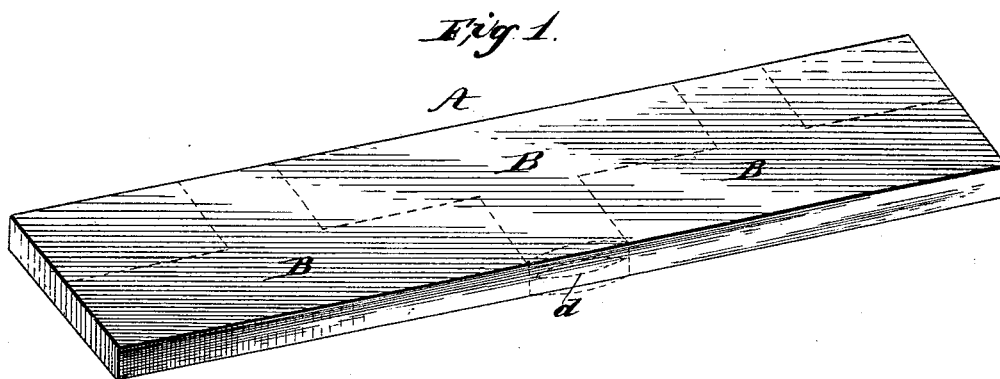


(No Model.)

J. J. JOHNSTON.
BLANK FOR SHOVELS.

No. 385,810.

Patented July 10, 1888.



Witnesses—

Wm. H. Scott.
Wm. E. Dyce.

Inventor

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES J. JOHNSTON, OF COLUMBIANA, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO HENRY M. MYERS, OF BEAVER FALLS, PENNSYLVANIA.

BLANK FOR SHOVELS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,810, dated July 10, 1888.

Application filed March 26, 1888. Serial No. 268,522. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES J. JOHNSTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbiana, in the county of Columbiana and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Blanks for Shovels; 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.

My invention relates to the art of shovel-making, and has for its object the construction of a blank having its tang split and the socket formed while the edges of the tang remain integral with the body of the blank.

The invention will be hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a bar of iron or steel, with shovel-blanks indicated thereon in dotted lines; and Fig. 2 is a similar view of my improved blank.

In the manufacture of shovels by longitudinal rolling from blanks in which the entire width of the tang has been split or severed great care is required to prevent the handle-straps from spreading laterally.

It is my purpose to produce a blank in which the handle-straps are held positively against the possibility of spreading or crossing each other laterally.

Reference being had to the drawings, A represents a bar of metal which has been rolled to a predetermined width and thickness, according to the class of blanks required. The bar is then passed through a suitable machine, by which the blank B is cut therefrom and the tang C split to a depth to form the handle-straps and the socket for the handle. The

body D of the blank is of a width from *b* to *c* about equal to the width of the finished article made therefrom. In splitting the tang C and forming the incision *d* it is not severed clear across its width, but at each edge portions *a a* are left uncut, or integral with the body of the blank, as shown in Fig. 2. After the tang of the blank has been thus split, a little cinder is thrown into the incision to prevent welding in reducing the blank to the shearing point. By this construction of the blank the handle straps formed from the split portions of the tang are prevented from spreading while being reduced. After the blank has been rolled or otherwise reduced to its proper dimensions, the edges of the handle-straps are freed by the trimming or shearing process, which in cutting off the ragged edges and shaping the handle-straps cuts sufficient from the edges to remove the uncut portions and free the straps.

The method involved and the machine for manufacturing my improved blank form subjects-matter of other applications for Letters Patent, Serial Nos. 268,347 and 268,523.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

As a new article of manufacture, a shovel or other blank provided with a body portion and a tang, and having its tang split and a socket formed therein and the edges of the tang left uncut, or integral with the body of the blank, substantially as described.

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

JAMES J. JOHNSTON.

Witnesses:

D. C. REINOHLE,
WM. E. DYRE.