

the other. The construction suggests the older 'ECCO' with the lower ring added. It is 6½ inches long and stamped Patent No. 166762.



Fig. 18. Richards Bros 'TENT' brand adjustable; 6" adjustable, 4½" adjustable, riveted plates and 'TENT' logo

b) Front Rack and Worm (Auto Wrench)

This ubiquitous style was soon copied in England from earlier American designs and included in many vehicle toolkits. Not at all a precision tool, often doubling as a hammer and made by many manufacturers, this has to be the subject of a separate article.

i) Unusual Adjustment Mechanisms

W & C Wynn brought out a particularly interesting design marked 'MULTUM IN PARVO (*much in little*) Patent 11624 / 26, August 1884' (Fig. 19b). This was actually by Edward Barnes of Aston, probably an employee, and the design was carried on for a short while later by Wynn & Timmins. A fundamental weakness of the top screw-retaining lugs (or protruding shoulders) breaking off was corrected by John Herbert Wynn's Patent No. 20928 of 18th November 1892 where he replaced these by several other methods, the main one to be manufactured having a 'strap or cap' bridging across from the back of the top jaw: these tools are stamped 'WYNN'S PATENT' and 'CENTURY' and made by Wynn & Timmins.

Prized by collectors is the BSA 'quick adjust'. This exquisitely engineered tool was made in three sizes, 5¼-inch No. 1, c. 7-inch No. 2 and the 9⅞-inch No. 3 (Fig. 19c), all well marked with the patent number, B.S.A. and the model number. Patent No. 25592 of 19th November 1907 was by 'The Birmingham Small Arms Company Limited and Robert Walker Smith, Director'. When found they are generally in excellent condition, which is not testament to their useability, but to their near impossibility to disengage when being used in a confined space on a motorcycle: the nose of the moveable bottom jaw is pushed towards the body to disengage a fine serrated rack at the back and so slide the jaw.



Fig. 19. (a) 9" 'Burston' eccentric cam adjuster, (b) 6" Wynn & Timmins cycle adjustable, (c) 9" BSA No. 3 'quick adjust', (d) 14½" No. 3, "van Duijl" Patent, made by Thomas Chatwin.

Worthy of a mention is the Van Duijl Screw Spanner, possibly the only adjustable for which you need another adjustable