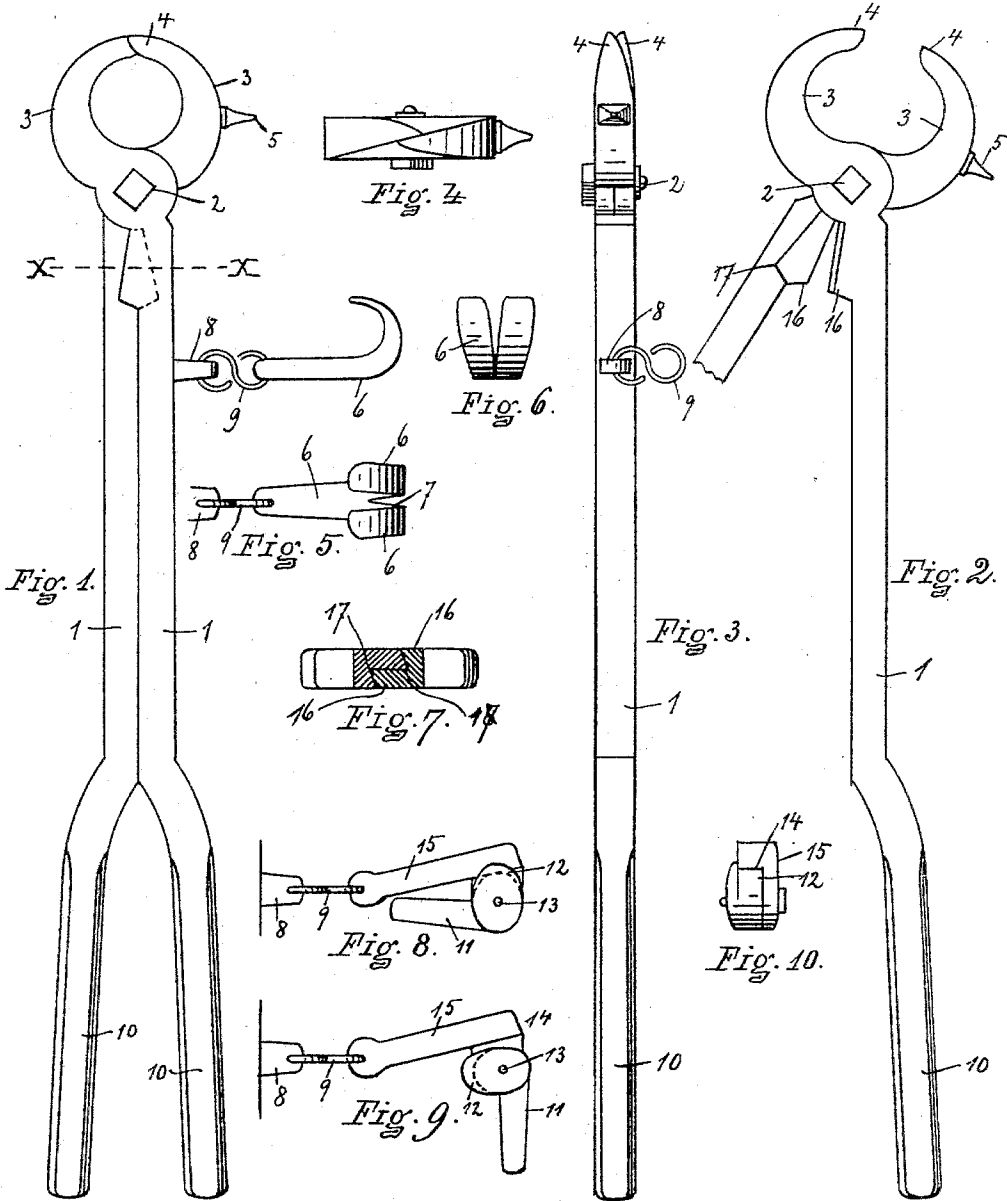


(No Model.)

E. CONKLING.
WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 597,102.

Patented Jan. 11. 1898.



WITNESSES
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EUGENE CONKLING, OF COLD BROOK, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, OF ONE-HALF TO HAYDN B. FENNER.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 597,102, dated January 11, 1898.

Application filed July 17, 1897. Serial No. 644,872. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE CONKLING, of Cold Brook, in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to a wire-stretcher; and it consists in the combination and arrangement of the parts hereinafter more fully pointed out and claimed.

The purpose of my invention is to provide a combination wire-stretcher, wire-cutter, and staple-puller in the same tool, the tapering curved jaws being so constructed that their overlapping points engage each other on opposite faces of the points, and other details of construction hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents my wire-tightener in a closed position. Fig. 2 represents the same in an open position with a portion of one of the handles removed. Fig. 3 represents an edge view of Fig. 1, taken from the right of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 represents the end view of Fig. 2, taken from the front end, showing the reversed faces of the pointed inclined curved ends of the jaws. Fig. 5 represents a top view of the wire-engager. Fig. 6 represents a right-hand view of Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a cross-section taken on line X X of Fig. 1. Fig. 8 shows a side view of the wire-engager of a modified form of construction, showing the same in a closed position. Fig. 9 represents the same in open position. Fig. 10 is an end view of Fig. 8.

In the drawings similar figures of reference refer to corresponding parts in the several views.

My invention has for its object the construction of a combined wire-stretcher, wire-cutter, and staple-puller for use in facilitating the stretching and removal of fence-wire.

I construct the working parts of my combi-

nation-tool in two independent sections 1 1, jointed or pivoted together at 2 by a rivet, bolt, or screw, so that the handles and jaws can be opened and closed when working the tool. The jaws are curved and tapering, as shown at 3 3, and arranged so that the curved points 4 4 overlap each other on an incline on the opposite sides of the jaws from the position they are in at the pivotal point. By this arrangement the closer contact of the working points of the jaws can be secured as well as added strength, as each jaw in this construction supports the other, and the combined strength of both can be obtained when the same are to be used in drawing staples, and the tendency of the jaws to separate where they lap on the same side as the two parts occupy when pivoted together is wholly overcome and greater strength secured by this arrangement. The periphery of one of the circular jaws I provide with a projecting spur 5, which engages the fence-post when the tool is used for stretching the wire. In connection with the spur and on the same side of the tool just back of the fulcrum or pivotal point of the two sections I provide a wire-engager 6, having a V-shaped opening, the prongs being curved like the claws of a hammer, the inner edges of the V-shaped opening having engaging surfaces on their concave sides, as shown at 7, Fig. 5.

At the opposite end of the wire-engager I provide a hole for receiving link 9, which engages the projection 8 on the side of the handle for forming a flexible connection of the wire-engager with the handle of the wire-stretcher. By placing the claws of the wire-holder astride of the wire the concave edges of the V-shaped opening grasp the wire and hold the same firmly while the spur on the periphery of the jaw engages the post, and by applying pressure to the handles the wire is stretched and held while the staple is driven.

Figs. 8 and 9 show modified forms of construction and represent a wire-holder composed of two parts. Part 11 has curved face 12 (shown in dotted lines in Figs. 8 and 9) and is pivoted at 13 to the other half, so that an eccentric cam is formed the circular face

of which comes in contact with the shoulder when brought into the position shown in Fig. 8, thus holding the wire firmly between the surfaces or faces, as shown at 14, against the opposite half at 15, thus forming a convenient and strong method of grasping and holding the wire. This wire-holder of modified construction is held by the link 9, connecting with one end, so that it is joined to the handle of the tool upon the same side with the spur on the periphery of the jaw. For severing the wire I provide cutting edges back of the pivotal point of the jaws, as shown at 16 16, Fig. 2, the edges of which are beveled and so arranged that each section of the cutting edge fits into depressions 17, Fig. 2, on either side of the handles 10 10, so that when they are closed the cutting edges are protected, as shown in Fig. 7.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a wire-stretcher composed of two parts pivoted together, the combination therewith of the curved tapering jaws overlapping each other on an incline on opposite sides

from the pivotal sections, substantially as set forth.

2. In a wire-stretcher composed of two parts pivoted together, the combination therewith of the overlapping curved jaws carrying a spur on the periphery of one of the jaws and a wire-engager having a curved bifurcated V-shaped opening in one end and connected to the handle at the other end on the same side of the tool as the spur, substantially as set forth.

3. A wire-stretcher composed of two parts pivoted together with curved tapering jaws overlapping each other as stated, in combination with projecting inclined cutting edges back of the pivotal point fitting into depressions on the opposite side of the handle, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EUGENE CONKLING.

Witnesses:

S. R. BRAYTON,

JOS. BRAYTON.