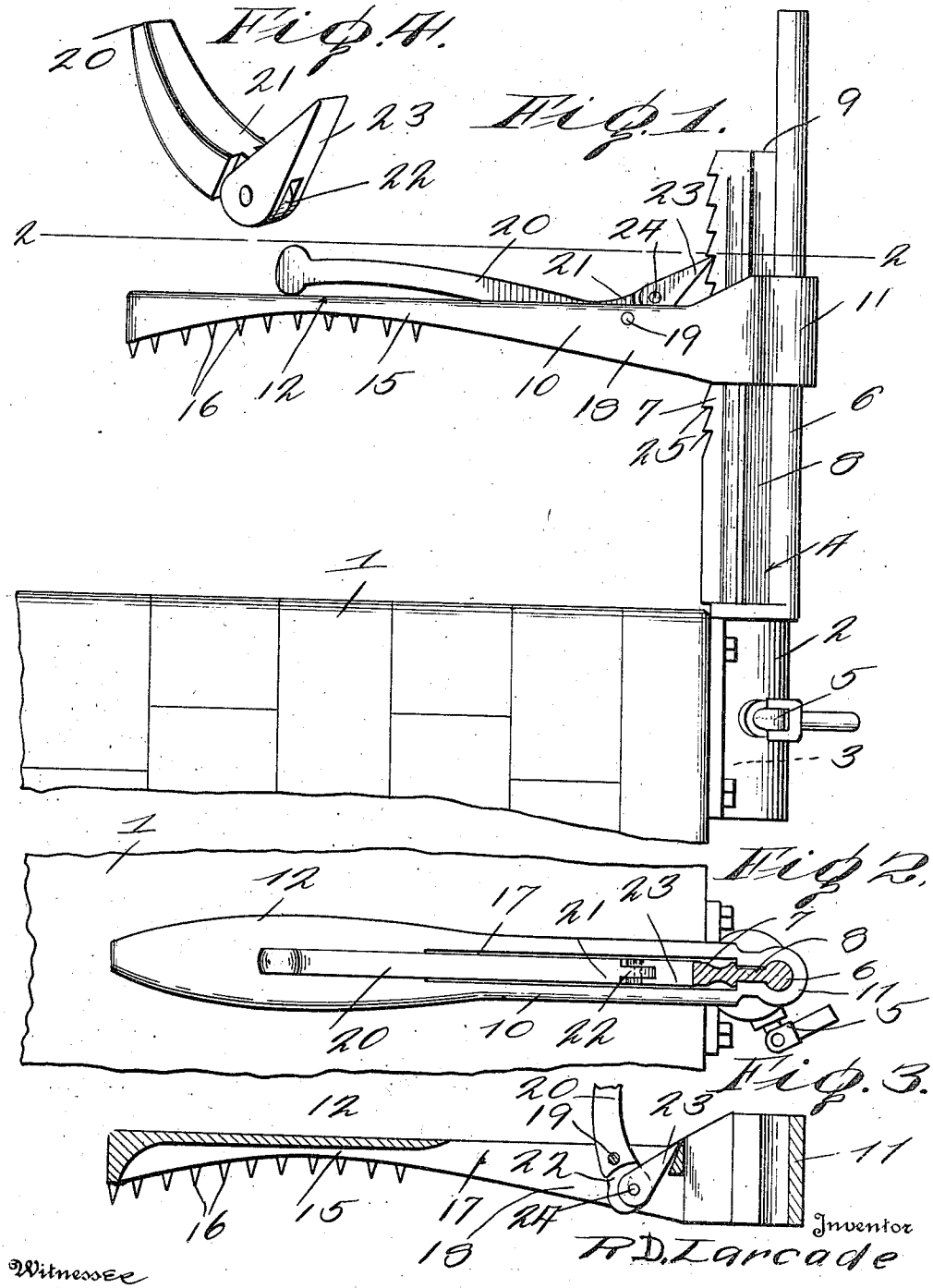
R. D. LARCADE.

MEAT CLAMP.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 29, 1917.

1,260,688.

Patented Mar. 26, 1918.



Witnesses

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ROBERT D. LARCADE, OF MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA.

MEAT-CLAMP.

1,260,688. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 26, 1918.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT D. LARCADE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Muskogee, in the county of Muskogee, State of Oklahoma, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Meat-Clamps; 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.

This invention relates to meat clamps for butchers' use.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved form of adjustable clamp for holding meat firmly upon a butcher's block or other support, in order that it may be sliced, sawed or otherwise butchered. To this end, I have provided a clamping arm which is rotatably and firmly adjusted from one edge of the block, and is so arranged that it may be firmly clamped upon the meat, and yet is readily and easily removable when it is desired to shift the meat or entirely dispense with the clamping device. A more particular object of the invention is to provide an improved form of locking device for the clamp, and also to so combine the clamp member and the supporting member for the latter that it may be readily positioned out of the way of the butcher without entirely removing the standard portion.

With the above objects in view and such others as may hereinafter appear, my invention will now be fully set forth and described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device mounted upon a butcher's block,

Fig. 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1,

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section through the clamping jaw, and

Fig. 4 is a detail of the locking device.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 1 represents a butcher's block of the usual construction to one side of which is suitably bolted a vertical bearing bracket 2. A spindle 3 formed upon the lower end of a standard 4 is rotatably held in the bearing bracket and is adapted to be fixed in adjustable position by means of the set bolt 5.

The standard 4 consists of a rounded guide rib 6, a rack 7 and an intervening web 8, the guide rib 6 extending upwardly beyond the web and rack portions to form the supporting staff 9 with relation to which the upper ends of the web and rack form a stop or support. Slidably mounted on the standard 4 is a jaw or clamping member 10 whose rear end is provided with the bearing 11 whose internal structure conforms to the cross sectional outline of the rod 6, the rack 7 and the web 8. Said jaw 10 is preferably formed as a comparatively broad web or plate 12 whose edges are provided with the downwardly extending flanges 15 which are concaved and provided with the marginal teeth or prongs 16.

Formed vertically through the shank of the jaw 10 is an elongated slot 17 adjacent whose longitudinal edges appear the widened portions 18 of the flanges 15, said portions 18 providing bearings for a stud 19 upon which is pivoted a lever 20. Said lever 20 is provided with a foot portion 21 through which the stud 19 projects, and beyond the foot portion 21 is provided with the reduced web 22 which fits between the bifurcations formed in the rear end of a pawl 23, and is therein pivotally secured by means of a rivet 24. Thus, by rocking the lever 20 upon its fulcrum the pawl 23 may be carried into and out of engagement with the teeth of the rack 7, said teeth being formed with the short horizontal faces 25 upon their lower sides, and thereby provide the abutments against which the end of the pawl locks.

In the use of my improved device, the standard 4 is primarily positioned in the bracket 2, and is therein locked at the particular angle with relation to the block 1 at which it is desired to extend the clamping arm or jaw 10. After the standard has been fixed, the jaw 10 may be positioned upon the standard, in such relation that the pawl 23 operates over the teeth of the rack 7. After the jaw 10 has been pressed down upon the meat as far as is practical, the lever 20 is lifted to its upper limit and the pawl engaged under the lowest practically available surface 25 after which the lever is again carried downwardly against the jaw 10 thereby bracing the socket of the jaw upon the standard 4, and also causing the teeth of the jaw to enter into the meat to securely clamp the latter upon the block. When it is desired to momentarily dispense with the jaw for the purpose of shifting

the meat, the jaw may be carried upwardly above the rack limit, so that it may be swung to the right or the left upon the staff 9, and then allowed to rest upon the upper end of the rack 7 and the web 8.

From the foregoing it is evident that I have provided a practical and efficient form of meat clamp which may be readily brought into use, and as quickly dispensed with when it is not required for use. Large pieces of meat may be readily held in position, as well as smaller pieces, so that the usual shifting and sliding of the meat upon the butcher's block is avoided. There is little mechanism to the present device, in that it consists of practically only two readily removable and disassembled elements which take up little room when placed out of operation.

The lever 20 will hold the clamp in any position upon the standard 6, whether thrown down into the position of Fig. 1 or is in its upraised or unlocked position. Furthermore, the lever 20 not only rigidly locks the clamp, but sets or wedges it down upon the meat when put into locking position.

It will be noted that the pawl 23 and lever 20 form together a toggle lever one member of which constitutes the pawl 23 and the other member of which is continued beyond the pivot 19 to overlie the jaw. The advantage of the use of a toggle lever is that the tendency of upward movement of the jaw holds the pawl engaged and at the same time, the pawl may be swung freely away from the rack when conditions dictate, when the jaw is pressed more firmly against the object held.

What I claim as my invention is:—

A meat clamp comprising a standard having means for attachment to a meat block, a rack associated with the standard and beyond which the standard projects to form a pivot pin, a clamping jaw mounted upon the standard and rotatable with respect to that portion beyond the rack upon said pivot pin and slidable with respect to the standard and rack, and means carried by the jaw in coöperative relation with the rack for holding the jaw against sliding movement in one direction, the rack being arranged to hold the jaw against rotation on the standard when engaged with the rack and to support the jaw when upon the standard beyond the rack.

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

ROBERT D. LARCADE.

Witnesses:

C. E. McLees,

J. W. Hale.