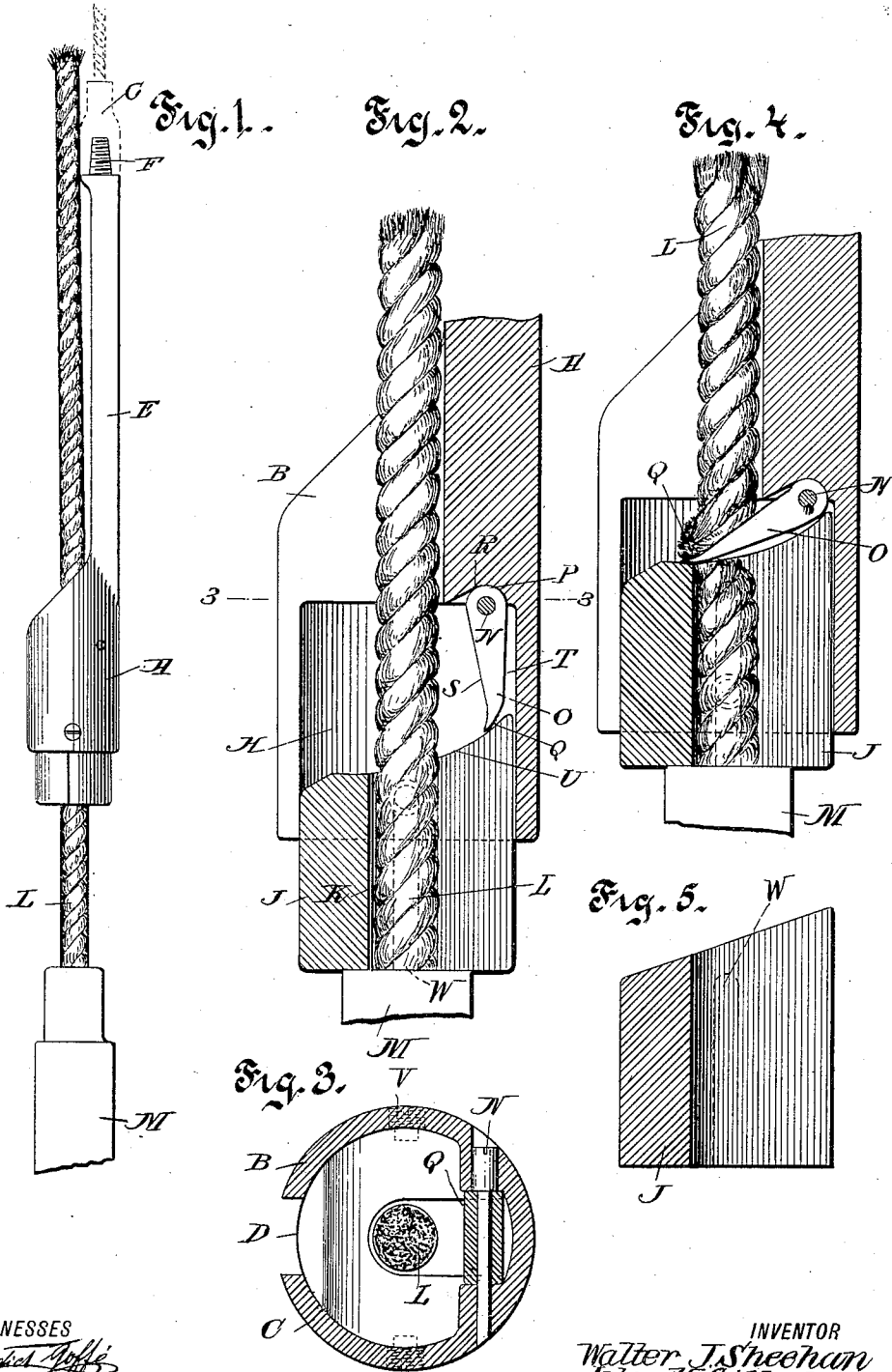


W. J. SHEEHAN & J. H. GILBERTSON.
CABLE AND WIRE CUTTER.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER J. SHEEHAN AND JOHN H. GILBERTSON, OF COALINGA, CALIFORNIA; SAID
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CABLE AND WIRE CUTTER.

1,018,274.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 20, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WALTER J. SHEEHAN and JOHN H. GILBERTSON, citizens of the United States, and residents of Coalinga, in the county of Fresno and State of California, have invented a new and Improved Cable and Wire Cutter, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates generally to a cutting device which is employed in cutting the wire rope used in well drilling.

The purpose of the invention is to provide an efficient device for cutting the operating cable or rope when the rope socket, which carries a suitable drilling tool, becomes stuck or wedged tight in the well bore.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of our improved device, showing it in operating position on the wire rope or cable; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view thereof, the parts being in position just before the cutting member begins to operate; Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view, showing the position of the parts after the rope has been cut; Fig. 5 is a sectional view of a modified form of block member.

Our device comprises a body member A of substantially cylindrical formation, one side thereof being removed, whereby a channel D, having side walls B and C, results. An elongated member E extends upwardly from one end of the body member A and at its upper end is provided with a suitable threaded portion F, for engagement with a sinker bar or operating cable G. The lower central portion of the body member A contains a substantially cylindrical recess H, and movably within this recess is the block J, having an opening K therein for the passage therethrough of the wire rope or cable L, to the lower end of which the rope socket M is attached. Adjacent one end of the cylindrical recess H, and supported on a pivot member N which extends through the body member A, is a knife member O, having a substantially circular end P adapted for engagement with the bottom of a similarly-shaped shallow recess R in the main body member A. The knife member O is pro-

vided with a transversely sharpened portion Q, this edged portion being formed by the meeting of the opposite inclined faces S and T of the body portion of the knife member.

The upper end of the block member J is preferably curved as at U in Fig. 2, this curvature permitting a sliding engagement between the free end of the knife member and the upper end of the block member.

The block member is held in position within the recess H in the member A, and is guided in its movement therein by means of the screws or bolts V, engaging in the guideways W on each side and adjacent the outer surface of the block member.

When it is desired to cut the wire cable L, adjacent the rope socket M, our device is lowered into the well bore with the cable L extending therethrough, as shown in Fig. 1. When the block member J engages with the upper end portion of the rope socket M, it will be forced upwardly into the recess H in the member A, and after a short travel within this recess, the upper end portion U of the block member will engage the free end of the knife member O, bringing the cutting edge thereof adjacent the cable or rope L, and on further inward movement, will bring these parts into the position shown in Fig. 4, thereby severing the rope or cable L.

The body member A will preferably be forged of soft steel while the cutter member O will be made of tool steel and the block B will be made of tempered steel, thereby providing a device which is extremely durable and very efficient.

It is to be noted (Fig. 2 and Fig. 4) that the end of the knife member O adjacent the pivot member N is in abutting relation with the member A, at the bottom of the shallow recess in which this pivot is mounted in operative and also in inoperative position, thereby affording a firm bearing relation between the knife member and the body member, the pressure against the cutting edge of the knife member being carried directly by the member A and not by the pivot member N.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent:—

1. A wire rope cutter, comprising a body member having a recess therein, a block within the recess, the body member being

also provided with a smaller recess communicating with the first-named recess, a knife member mounted within the second-named recess, with its end portion in engagement
5 with the bottom of the said recess, whereby when the block member is brought into engagement with the knife in cutting a cable extending through the body member, the pressure is transmitted directly to the body
10 member.

2. A wire cutter, comprising a body member having a recess in one end thereof, a block member movably mounted within the recess and having a curved upper portion,
15 the body member being also provided with a smaller recess at the bottom of the first-named recess, a knife member pivoted to the body member, with its end portion adjacent the pivot in engagement with the
20 body member at the bottom of the said second recess.

3. A wire cutter comprising a body member having an upwardly extending portion

adapted to engage a sinker bar, the body member being provided with a recess, a
25 block movable within the said recess, means being provided for guiding the block in its movement, the body member being also provided with a smaller recess at the bottom
30 of the first-mentioned recess, a knife pivoted to the body member within the said smaller recess, the end portion of the knife adjacent the pivot being in engagement with
35 the body member whereby as the block is moved the knife will be brought into engagement with the rope or cable passing therethrough, thereby severing the rope or cable.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence
40 of two subscribing witnesses.

WALTER J. SHEEHAN.
JOHN H. GILBERTSON.

Witnesses:

ALEX ARVIS,
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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,
Washington, D. C."