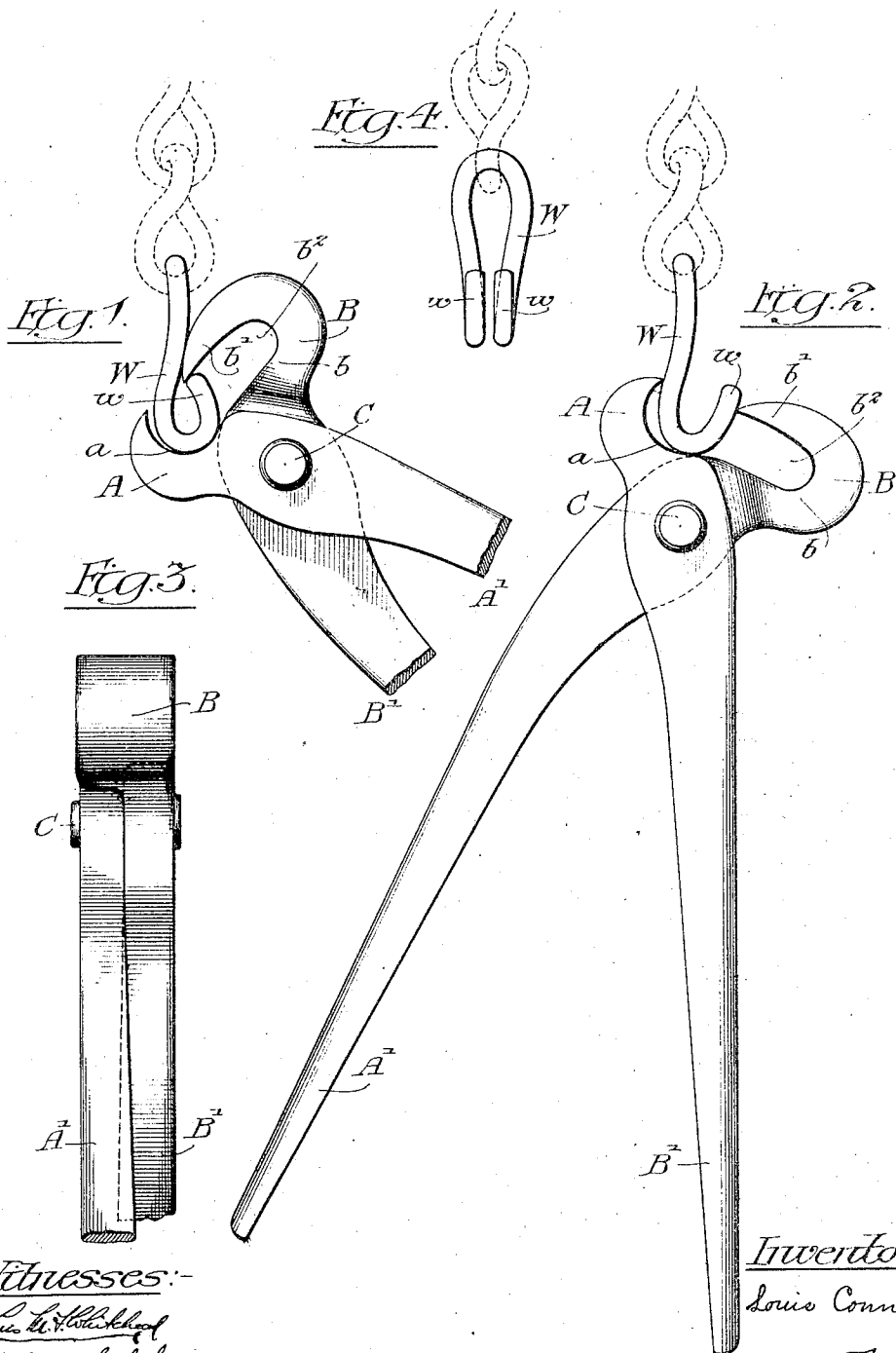


L. CONNE.
 TOOL FOR OPENING AND CLOSING THE LINKS OF CHAINS.
 APPLICATION FILED JULY 8, 1908.

1,106,439.

Patented Aug. 11, 1914.



Witnesses:-

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOOL FOR OPENING AND CLOSING THE LINKS OF CHAINS.

1,106,439.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 11, 1914.

Application filed July 8, 1908. Serial No. 442,467.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS CONNE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tools for Opening and Closing the Links of Chains, of which I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification.

The present invention, while susceptible of use in other situations, is more particularly designed to afford a simple and efficient means for readily applying "anti-skidding" chains to the tires of automobile wheels or removing such chains therefrom.

The invention consists in the tool hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and particularly defined in the claim at the end of this specification.

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a tool embodying my invention, the tool being shown in the act of opening a chain link. Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation showing the tool as used in closing a chain link. Fig. 3 is a back view of the tool. Fig. 4 is a detail view showing one of the links of a chain for use in connection with which the tool is particularly well adapted.

My improved tool comprises two opposing jaws A and B that are united together by a pivot bolt C. The jaws are furnished, respectively, with handles A' and B' that will be of sufficient length to give the required leverage. The jaw A is formed with a curved seat *a* adapted to receive the end portion of a chain link that is to be opened or closed. The seat *a* extends from the end of the jaw A to approximately the line of intersection of the jaws A and B, so that when a chain link W is placed within the seat *a* it will be held against the connection of the opposing jaw. The body *b* of the jaw B is formed with a wedge-shaped end *b'*, and this wedge-shaped end *b'* of the jaw B is so broad that in opening a chain link W it simultaneously spreads both of the free ends *w* of the wire of which the link is composed. An elongated space *b²* is formed between the body *b* and the wedge-shaped end *b'* of the jaw B, this elongated space *b²* serving to admit the ends *w* of the link W, and thereby enabling the wedge-shaped end *b'* of the jaw B to spread the ends *w* of the link when the link is to be

opened. By reference more particularly to Fig. 3, it will be seen that the body portions of the jaws A and B are expanded, as shown, in order to give the required width to the jaws.

When the tool is used for opening a chain link one end of said link will rest within the seat *a* of the jaw A. When the link is in such position the wedge-shaped end of the jaw B will be forced between the free ends *w* and the body of the chain link, thereby forcing the ends *w* away from the body of the link, and the elongated space *b²* of the jaw B permits the wedge-shaped end *b'* of the jaw to close down toward the end of the link.

When the tool is used for closing the ends *w* of a chain link, said link will be placed in the seat *a* of the jaw A, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawing, and the wedge-shaped end *b'* of the jaw B will then be forced down upon the ends *w* of the link until these ends are bent inward sufficiently toward the body of the link.

It will thus be seen that my invention provides an exceedingly simple and efficient means whereby the links and chains may be quickly opened and closed, and the invention is especially advantageous for applying chains to the tires of automobile wheels or removing the chains therefrom, as this has heretofore been done by the slow and unsatisfactory use of a chisel and hammer.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

A tool for opening and closing chain links comprising two pivoted, relatively long and short, opposing jaws of substantially the same width, each of said jaws having a broad, wedge shaped, edge and a handle, said relatively short jaw having a recessed, curved seat, arranged substantially in line with its handle and extending from its edge to approximately the line of intersection of the jaws, and adapted to receive the looped end of a chain link in the opening and closing operations, said relatively long jaw being U-shaped with the inner faces of the side portions thereof substantially parallel to each other and to the edge of the jaw and at right angles to its handle, the recess between said inner faces being of relatively greater depth than width, the broad, wedge shaped end of said relatively long, U-shaped jaw being arranged to close inside of and

adjacent the edge of the opposite, relatively
short jaw, with its inner face substantially
at right angles to the seat of said relatively
short jaw and spaced apart from the inner
5 portions of both of said jaws, whereby the
spread portions at the end of the chain link
may be received in the recess of said rela-

tively long, U-shaped jaw without pinching
the same, substantially as described.

LOUIS CONNE.

Witnesses:

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