

(No Model.)

G. S. NEU.
ELECTRIC WIRE TAPPER.

No. 467,891.

Patented Jan. 26, 1892.

Fig: 1.

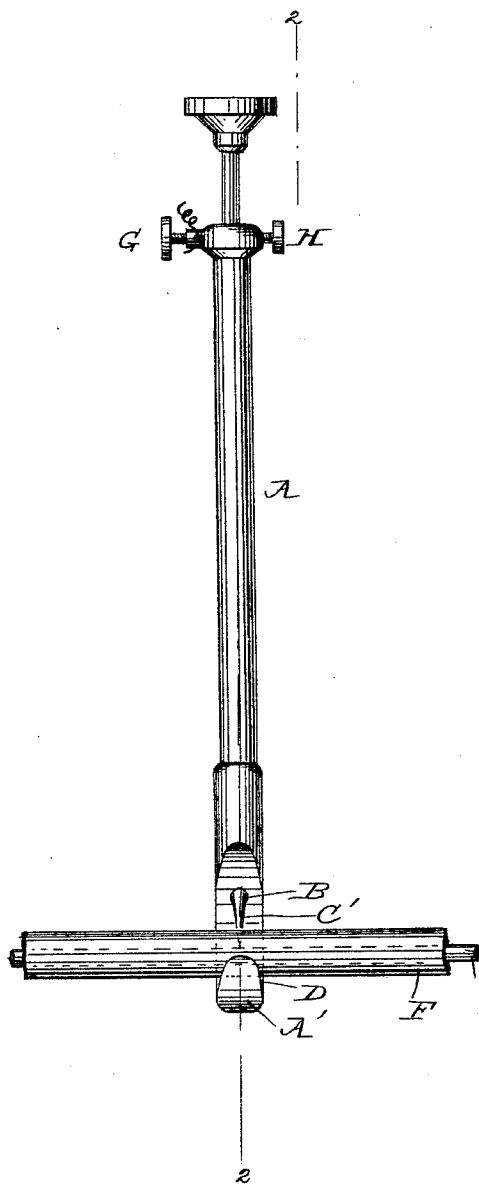
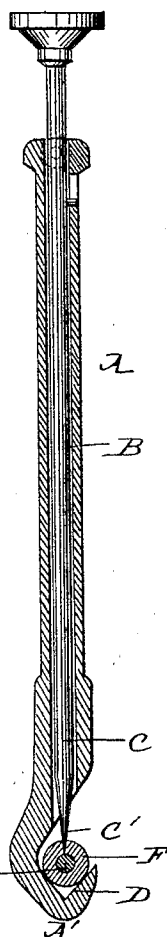


Fig: 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ELECTRIC-WIRE TAPPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 467,891, dated January 26, 1892.

Application filed September 17, 1891. Serial No. 405,970. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAVE S. NEU, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Electric-Wire Tappers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to means for making temporary connection with an electric wire, as for detecting the presence or absence of an electric current, or testing or measuring the same.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and convenient instrument for this purpose, which may be readily applied to and detached from an insulated wire of any size; and to this end the invention comprises a handle, a V-shaped seat to receive and firmly hold the wire whatever be its size, a pointed contact to pierce the insulation of the wire and co-operate with the seat in holding the wire, a guide in which the contact is movably fitted, and means for locking the contact and seat together.

The invention will first be described in detail, and its several features then pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of an electric-wire tapper embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same.

Like letters of reference designate corresponding parts in both figures.

In the form of my invention thus represented a handle A is formed with a longitudinal tube B to serve as a guide for a longitudinally-sliding metallic rod C, the lower end C' of which is sharp-pointed and projects from the lower end of the tube.

Directly and longitudinally opposite the pointed end C' a V-shaped seat D is formed on an extension A' of the handle A, in which the wire E to be tapped is received and cen-

tered opposite the metallic point C', as shown. The metallic rod C is then moved downward until its sharp point C' pierces the insulation F of the wire and makes electric contact with the wire, when the current, if any, will have free access to the rod C.

A binding-screw G is provided on the handle A, in electric connection with the rod C, for connection with another wire, which may be led to a galvanometer or other testing device or to a return-wire, with which connection may be had by another tapper.

For locking the contact-rod C to the tapped wire I here employ a set-screw H, working through the tubular guide onto the rod C, by releasing which set-screw the tapper may be readily disconnected from the tapped wire E. The outer end of the contact-rod is by preference formed with a head, as shown. The outside of the end of the seat-holding extension A' is also made V-shaped to permit its ready introduction beneath the wire wherever situated.

I claim as my invention—

1. An electric-wire tapper comprising a V-shaped seat for the wire, a guide, and a sharp-pointed contact to pierce the insulation guided in a line directed at the center of the V-seat, substantially as described.

2. In an electric-wire tapper, the combination, with a tubular guide and a V-shaped wire seat, of a contact-rod fitted to slide lengthwise in said guide in a line directed at the center of the V-seat, substantially as described.

3. In an electric-wire tapper, the combination, with a tubular guide, a V-shaped wire seat, and an unthreaded contact-rod fitted to slide lengthwise in said guide in the line of the center of the V-seat, of a set-screw to lock the sliding contact-rod to its tubular guide, substantially as described.

GUSTAVE S. NEU.

Witnesses:

CLARENCE L. BURGER,
BURNHAM KALISCH.