

(No Model.)

T. F. STONE, Jr.
WIRE HANDLING IMPLEMENT.

No. 567,204.

Patented Sept. 8, 1896.

Fig. 1.

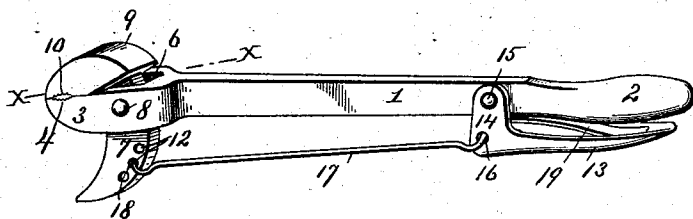


Fig. 2.

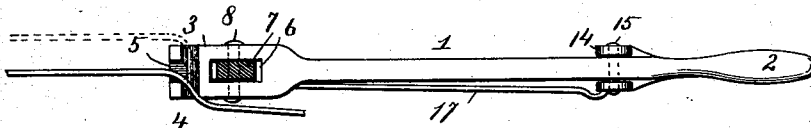
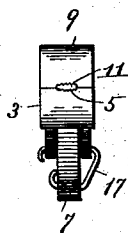


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS FOSTER STONE, JR., OF WESTON, MISSOURI.

WIRE-HANDLING IMPLEMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 567,204, dated September 8, 1896.

Application filed February 3, 1896. Serial No. 577,791. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS FOSTER STONE, Jr., of Weston, Platte county, Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Handling Implements, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

My invention relates to improvements in devices for handling wire, and more particularly to an improvement of this character which may be manipulated entirely by one hand.

The object of the invention is to produce a simple, strong, durable, and inexpensive device for reliably gripping and handling wire for tensioning or tightening, bending, twisting, or splicing purposes.

With this object in view the invention consists in its peculiar and novel construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In order that the invention may be fully understood, reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents in perspective a wire-handling device or implement constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 represents a section taken on the line $x x$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a front or end view of the implement.

In the said drawings, 1 designates an arm which is formed into a handle 2 at one end and at its opposite end into a jaw 3. Said jaw is notched transversely, as shown at 4, and also longitudinally for a slight distance, as shown at 5. It is also longitudinally slotted, as shown at 6. 7 designates an arm which extends downward through said slot and is pivoted therein on the bolt or pin 8, carried by the handle 1. At its upper end it is enlarged and formed into a head or jaw 9, and said jaw is transversely notched at 10 and longitudinally, as at 11, said notches opposing the notches 4 and 5 of the lower jaw, respectively. The lower end of the arm 7 is provided with a series of holes or apertures 12, and 13 designates a grip-lever which is arranged below the handle 2 and is provided with the upwardly-extending arms 14, which embrace the opposite sides of the arm 1 and are pivoted thereto on the bolt 15. The

lower ends of said arms are pivotally connected, as at 16, to one end of a rod 17, which rod is pivotally connected at its front end to a bolt or pin 18, extending through one or another of the holes or apertures 12. By thus pivoting said rod 17 to the arm 7 at one or another of the holes or apertures 12 the jaw movement of the implement may be regulated, as will be understood. The jaws are held normally apart by means of a spring 19, which, exerting its pressure against the handle 2 and the grip-lever 13, holds the latter normally depressed, and thereby holds the jaw 9 at some distance from the jaw 3 at its gripping or free end.

In practical operation the implement is gripped in one hand and the jaws are engaged with the wire, which may extend transversely through the notches 4, or may extend longitudinally through the notches 5 and laterally through one end of the notches 4, as shown clearly in Fig. 2. When the wire is gripped in this latter position by gripping tightly on the handles, it is obvious that the wire can be tensioned or tightened by pulling longitudinally upon the same without kinking or bending it to any appreciable extent, but if the wire is tensioned when extending transversely through the implement it is obvious that it must be bent approximately as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 2, which kink, of course, must afterward be taken out of the wire, and consequently takes up just so much of the operator's time with each operation. Therefore the first mode of operation described is preferable. It is obvious, owing to the fact that the wire may be handled so easily and quickly, that this implement will be found of inestimable value when fencing in grain or hay stacks, taking down old fences, and fencing through timber or brush or across creeks, where usually the wire has to be handled so much with one's hands. Owing to the fact that the notches are of the proper depth to cause the wire to be gripped before the edges of the jaws come together, it is obvious that the more one pulls the tighter the jaws will grip the wire.

From the above description it is obvious that I have produced a wire-handling implement which will be found most efficient for the purposes hereinbefore set out.

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

1. An implement for handling wire, comprising an arm terminating at one end in a notched jaw and at its opposite end in a handle, an opposing jaw provided with an arm pivotally connected to the first-named arm, a grip-lever pivoted also to the first-named arm, a spring interposed between said arm and said grip-lever, and a rod pivotally connecting the grip-lever and the arm of the second jaw, substantially as described.

2. A wire-handling implement, comprising an arm terminating at one end in a handle and at its opposite end in a jaw which is notched in its upper side both transversely and longitudinally, and is also provided with a longitudinal slot, a second jaw opposing

the first-named jaw and provided also with transverse and longitudinal notches, and provided furthermore with an arm which extends through and is pivoted in the slot of the first-named arm, a series of holes in the lower end of said arm, a grip-lever pivoted to the first-named bar and extending below its handle end, a spring interposed between said handle and said grip-lever, and a rod pivotally connecting said grip-lever with the arm last mentioned coincident with one or another of said series of holes or apertures, substantially as shown and described.

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

THOMAS FOSTER STONE, JR.

Witnesses:

W. L. NEWHOUSE,
K. B. CECIL.