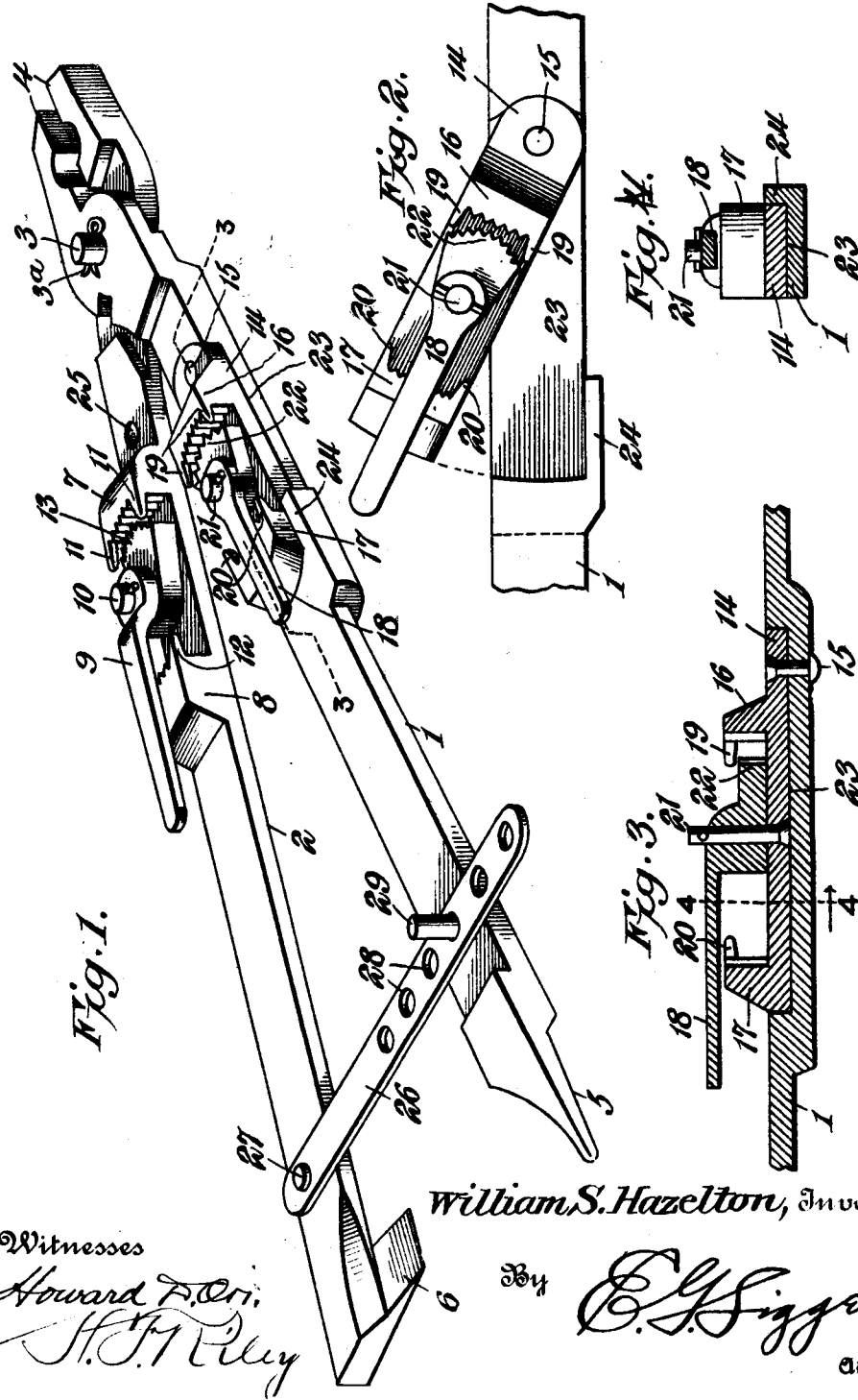


W. S. HAZELTON.
WIRE FENCE BUILDER.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 16, 1911.

1,036,231.

Patented Aug. 20, 1912.



Witnesses
Howard F. Orr,
J. P. Riley

William S. Hazelton, Inventor,

By

E. J. Siggers,
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. HAZELTON, OF NORTH CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

WIRE-FENCE BUILDER.

1,036,231.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 20, 1912.

Application filed May 15, 1911. Serial No. 627,298.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. HAZELTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Chicago, in the county of Lake and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Wire-Fence Builder, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in wire fence builders.

10 The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of wire fence builders, and to provide a simple, inexpensive and efficient device, adapted for stretching wire in the construction of fences, and in splicing cut or broken wires with either a
15 telegraph or loop splice, and capable also of readily taking up the slack in a fence wire.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and
20 novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and pointed out in the claims here-to appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size
25 and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

30 In the drawing:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a wire fence builder, constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the pivoted wire engaging clamp. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional
35 view of the same on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the
40 drawing.

In the accompanying drawing in which is illustrated the preferred embodiment of the invention, the wire fence builder is in the form of a pair of tongs and comprises levers
45 1 and 2, connected near their outer ends by a pivot 3, and provided beyond the same with co-acting jaws 4. The pivot 3 is shown in the drawing equipped with a key 3^a, but any other suitable means may be employed for

securing the pivot in the openings of the le- 50
vers 1 and 2. The lever 1 is provided at its inner end with a staple extracting projection 5, and the inner end of the opposite jaw is equipped with a blade 6, adapted to clear
55 away the wood of a post around the staple 5 to expose the same to enable the extractor 5 to readily engage the staple.

The left hand lever 2 is equipped with a wire engaging clamp comprising spaced
jaws 7 and 8, and a coöperating lever 9, piv- 60
otally mounted at the space between the jaws 7 and 8 on a stud or pivot 10, and adapted to coöperate with either jaw 7 or 8 and en-
gage with a wire at either side of the said
jaws. The jaws 7 and 8 are provided with 65
serrations or teeth, and they have terminal projecting fingers 11 and 12, extending inwardly and over-hanging the space between the jaws and the lever. The lever 9 is pro-
vided with a head having a curved wire en- 70
gaging edge 13, provided with serrations or teeth, adapted to co-act with the teeth of either of the jaws 7 and 8 to grip a wire.

The right hand lever 1 is provided with a pivotally mounted wire engaging clamp, 75
consisting of a plate 14, pivoted at one end to the lever 1 by a suitable pin 15 and provided with spaced jaws 16 and 17, and carrying a lever 18. The jaws 16 and 17 are provided with serrations or teeth and have
80 projecting fingers 19 and 20, and the lever, which is mounted on a pivot 21, is provided with a head having a curved wire engaging edge 22, which is also provided with serrations or teeth. The lever 18 is adapted
85 to coöperate with either of the jaws, and to engage with the wire at either side of either jaw. The inner and outer jaws of the two wire engaging clamps are designed to be spaced different distances from the pivot of
90 the lever, so as to enable the jaws to operate with greater advantage on wires of different sizes. The lever 1 is provided with a recess 23 to receive the pivoted wire engaging clamp, and it has a flange 24 extending
95 along the outer side of the recess at one end thereof and arranged to be engaged by the free end of the clamp to form a stop for the

same for maintaining the pivoted clamp in alignment with the lever 1 during the stretching operations. The pivoting of the clamp enables the latter to adjust itself with respect to the relatively fixed wire engaging clamp of the left hand lever 2, and facilitates the introduction of the wire into the device.

When it is desired to stretch a wire in the construction of a fence, the left hand lever 2 is anchored to a post by means of a chain (not shown) having a hook, adapted to engage a hole 25, arranged adjacent to the outer jaw 7 of the wire engaging clamp of the lever 2. The right hand lever is then swung outward away from the left hand lever as far as possible, and the wire to be stretched is placed within the pivoted clamp. The lever 1 is then swung inwardly toward the lever 2, and the wire is placed in the clamp thereof, after which the wire is released from the pivoted clamp. The lever 1 is then swung outwardly to reengage its clamp with the wire, which is again stretched by swinging the lever 1 inwardly toward the lever 2 as before described. The stretching operation is repeated until the wire is placed under the desired tension. After the wire is stretched to the desired tension, it is stapled or otherwise secured to the fence post.

When it is desired to splice the ends of a broken or cut wire, the terminal portions of the wire are placed in the clamps of the levers 1 and 2, so as to project about two inches from the inner sides of the clamps. The levers are then drawn together and are locked by means of a connecting strap or bar 26, which holds the device until the wires are twisted or looped together. In forming a telegraph splice, each end of the wire is twisted around the main portion of the other end or wire at the outer side of the clamp, a suitable twister (not shown) being employed for this purpose. When it is desired to make a loop splice, the ends are drawn together in overlapping relation in the manner heretofore described. Then one end of the wire is looped around the operating wire at the outer side of the clamp, after which the looped wire is removed from the device. The device is then turned laterally in a downward direction to loop the other end of the wire. The wire first looped may then be twisted around its body portion. The clamp is then removed from the other end of the wire, which is likewise twisted, while the first loop is held by the jaws of the tongs. Also in making a telegraph splice, the wires, after the first one is twisted, may be removed from the clamps and may be held between the jaws of the tongs while making the second twist. The connecting strap 26 is pivoted at one end by a pin 27 to the lever 2, and it is provided with

a series of perforations 28, arranged at intervals and extending inwardly from the other end of the strap and adapted to receive a stud 29, projecting from the inner portion of the lever 1. By arranging the stud 29 in the perforations 28, the two levers may be locked at different adjustments.

When it is desired to take up the slack of a fence wire, the staples are removed from the wire at several posts, and the wire adjacent to one of the posts is placed in the clamps, which are arranged at spaced points by opening the levers 1 and 2. The levers are then closed, which stretches the wire and forms a loop at the post. The wire is secured by stapling it at each side of the loop formed by the device. The levers, which are arranged in a horizontal position during the stretching operation, are turned to a vertical position to permit the wire to be arranged close to the post.

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

1. A wire fence builder including a pair of tongs composed of two levers pivotally connected adjacent to their outer ends, and wire engaging clamps carried by the levers and located at points between the pivot and the inner ends of the levers, one of the clamps being pivotally mounted and the lever upon which it is mounted being provided at the outer side with a stop arranged in the path of the pivoted clamp for maintaining the same in alignment with such lever during the stretching operation.

2. A wire fence builder including a pair of tongs composed of two levers pivotally connected adjacent to their outer ends, and wire engaging clamps carried by the levers at points between the pivot and their inner ends and each comprising relatively fixed inner and outer jaws, and a lever pivoted in the space between the said jaws and having a wire engaging head arranged to co-act with either jaw.

3. A wire fence builder including a pair of tongs composed of two levers pivotally connected adjacent to their outer ends, and wire engaging clamps carried by the levers at points between the pivot and their inner ends and each comprising relatively fixed inner and outer jaws spaced apart and provided with inwardly projecting fingers located at opposite sides of the clamp, and a wire engaging lever pivotally mounted in the space between the jaws and arranged to co-act with either jaw.

4. A wire fence builder including a pair of tongs composed of levers pivotally connected together, one of the levers being provided with a recess and having a flange arranged at the outer side of the recess at one end thereof, a plate pivoted in the recess at

the other end thereof and having its free end
arranged to engage the said flange, said
plate being provided with a wire engaging
jaw, a wire engaging lever pivotally mount-
ed on the plate and co-acting with the jaw,
and a wire engaging clamp carried by the
other lever.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing
as my own, I have hereto affixed my signa-
ture in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM S. HAZELTON.

Witnesses:

CURT D. WACHTER,
JOSEPH SARNOVSKY.