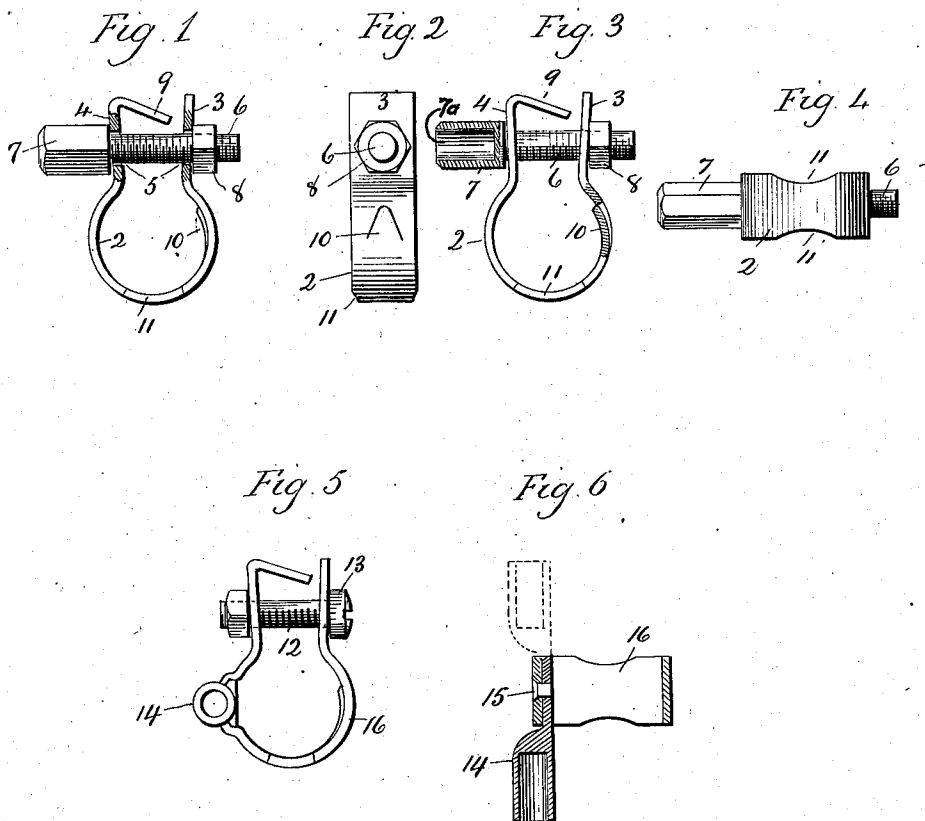


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GROUNDING CLAMP FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.  
APPLICATION FILED APR. 20, 1907.

899,636.

Patented Sept. 29, 1908.



Witness.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## GROUNDING-CLAMP FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.

No. 899,636.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 29, 1908.

Application filed April 20, 1907. Serial No. 369,279.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WHEELER H. VIBBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at New London, in the county of New London and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Grounding-Clamps for Electric Wires; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1 a view partly in side elevation and partly in section of one form which a ground clamp constructed in accordance with my invention may assume. Fig. 2 a side view thereof. Fig. 3 a sectional view thereof. Fig. 4 a reverse plan view thereof. Fig. 5 a view in side elevation of one of the modified forms which the clamp may assume. Fig. 6 a view thereof in transverse section looking downward.

My invention relates to an improvement in ground clamps for electric wires, the object being to provide a simple, convenient, durable and effective clamp constructed with particular reference to being applied to pipes, but also adapted to be applied with equal success to cables.

With these ends in view my invention consists in the construction hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In carrying out my invention as herein shown, I employ a strap preferably made of sheet copper and bent to form a substantially circular body 2 approximately corresponding in diameter of the pipe to which the clamp is to be applied. The strap is made long enough to form two arms 3 and 4 having aligned perforations 5 for the reception of a binding screw 6 which is formed at one end with a nut-like head 7 and furnished at its opposite end with an ordinary nut 8. The said head 7 being larger in diameter than the perforation 5 in the arm 4, bears upon the outer face of the same and co-acts with the said nut 8 in drawing the arms 3 and 4 of the strap together. A longitudinal chamber 7<sup>a</sup> formed in the said head 7 opens outwardly at the outer end of the head and provides convenient means for the attachment of the wires to be grounded, these being inserted into the said chamber and secured therein in any convenient manner. Moreover the ex-

posure of the entire head upon the outer face of the arm 4 readily adapts it to be held against rotation. The arm 4 is made longer than the arm 3 and bent inward at an acute angle to form a stop-finger 9 which engages with the inner face of the arm 3 when the arms 3 and 4 are brought into parallel positions. On account of its construction and arrangement this stop-finger 9 will yield within limits and may thus be said to be self-adjusting, whereby the clamp is adapted to grip a pipe or cable smaller than the internal diameter of its body 2. In order to guarantee a perfect electric contact between the clamp and the pipe, the body 2 of the clamp is struck inward to form a tooth 10. If desired more than one of these teeth might be produced. To facilitate the bending of the clamp I preferably cut the metal away on opposite sides in the middle of the body 2 as at 11 so as to increase the flexibility of the metal.

In the modified construction shown by Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawings the binding screw 12 is furnished with an ordinary screw head 13 in place of the tubular head 7 for which I substitute a socket 14 secured by a rivet 15 to the body 16 midway the length of one of the sides thereof. If desired the socket may be made double as shown by broken lines in Fig. 6.

It will be understood that such a clamp as described may be easily applied to any pipe and used as means for grounding electric wires to be connected with the clamp in either of the two ways provided. Instead of applying the clamp to a pipe it may be applied with equally good effect to a wire cable.

I claim:—

1. In a ground clamp for electric wires, the combination with a metal strap made in one piece and bent to form a substantially circular body and two arms one of which is made longer than the other and bent inward at an acute angle toward the inner face of the other arm to form a yielding stop-finger for the clamp; of a binding-screw passing through the said arms, whereby they are drawn together for clamping the said body upon the pipe or cable to which it is applied; and means for connecting the wires to be grounded, to the clamp.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a grounding-clamp for electric wires consisting in the combination with a one-piece metal

strap bent to form a substantially circular  
body and two perforated arms one of which  
is made longer than the other and bent in-  
ward at an acute angle toward the inner face  
5 of the other arm to form a yielding stop-fin-  
ger for the clamp; of a binding screw passing  
through the perforations of the said arms and  
furnished at its threaded end with a nut and  
provided at its opposite end with a head  
10 bearing upon the outer face of one of the said

arms and formed with an outwardly opening  
longitudinal chamber for the reception and  
attachment of the wires to be grounded.

In testimony whereof, I have signed this  
specification in the presence of two subscrib- 15  
ing witnesses.

WHEELER H. VIBBER.

Witnesses:

THOMAS J. LUSK,  
JOHN G. AUSTIN.