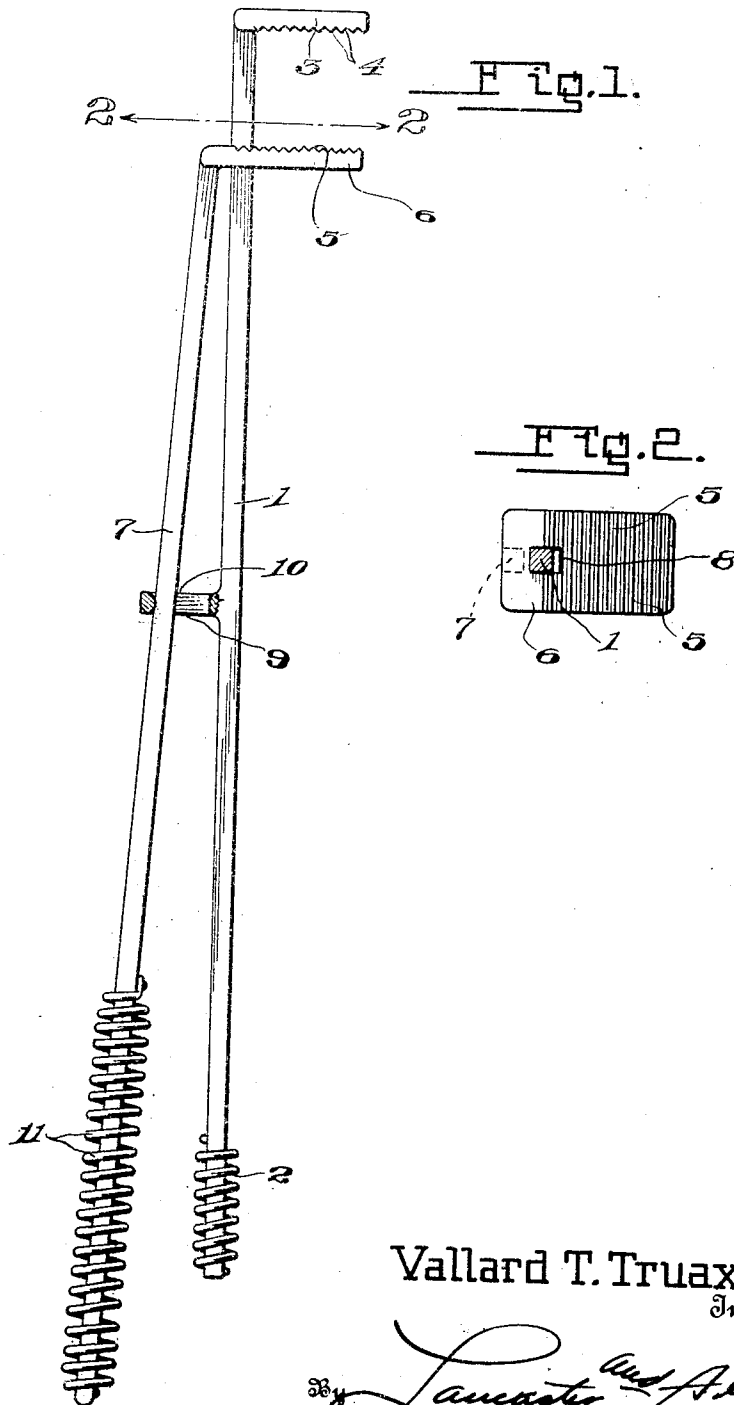


1,370,860.

V. T. TRUAX.
FIREPLACE TONGS.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 1, 1919.

Patented Mar. 8, 1921.



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FIREPLACE-TONGS.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VALLARD T. TRUAX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Grants Pass, in the county of Josephine and State of Oregon, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fireplace-Tongs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to tongs, and more particularly to a pair of tongs designed principally for use in connection with fire places, being designed for gripping pieces of wood or other fuel to be placed in the fire place, or for turning the burning fuel in the fire place, and an object of this invention is to provide tongs as specified, which are simple in construction, durable, and by means of which a firm grip may be had and maintained upon an article.

Other objects of the invention will appear in the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification and in which drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved tongs showing parts in section and Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2-2 of Fig. 1.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 1 indicates the main body shank of the tongs which has any suitable type of hand grip 2 formed upon one end thereof, and a rigid jaw 3 formed upon its opposite end and extending transversely thereto. The lower or inner surface of the jaw 3 is serrated or roughened as shown at 4 and is adapted to co-act with the serrated or roughened surface 5 of the movable jaw 6. The movable jaw 6, is formed upon the upper end of the movable shank or handle 7 of the tongs and is provided with an opening 8 through which the shank or handle 1 engages, as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, maintaining the shanks 1 and 7 and the jaws 3 and 6 in proper relation and against independent lateral movement. The opening 8 is large enough to permit longitudinal movement of the handle 1 there-through and to allow pivotal or rocking movement of one shank toward the other. The shanks or handles 1 and 7 are rectangular in cross section and a transversely extending projection 9 is formed upon the handle or shank 1 intermediate its ends. The extension 9 is provided with an opening 10 extending therethrough. This open-

ing 10 receives the shank or handle 7 there-through and forms a guide for longitudinal movement of the handle or shank 7, to permit regulation of the distance between the roughened gripping faces 4 and 5 of the jaws 3 and 6 respectively. The handle or shank 7 has a hand grip 11 of any suitable construction upon its end opposite to the handle which carries the jaw 6. By making the handles or shanks 1 and 7 rectangular in cross section, the said jaws are maintained in their proper relation and against movement under rotary action of the shanks or jaws.

In use, the handle 7 may be moved longitudinally through the guiding opening 10 to properly position the jaws 3 and 6 for gripping engagement with an article for receiving the fuel. For example, the jaws may be spread a distance greater than the article to be gripped, and after being placed over the article, the jaws may be moved toward the article until it engages the same, and then upon movement of the shanks or handles 1 and 7 toward each other with the aperture 8 as a pivoting point, the serrated faces 4 and 5 will be caused to bite into the article or piece of fuel gripped, or to be moved by means of the tongs.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings, it will be apparent, that tongs which are particularly adapted to handling various articles or pieces of fuel which could not be conveniently handled by the hands of a person have been provided, which tongs are simple in construction, durable, may be manufactured for a relatively small cost and also tongs which may securely grip an article to permit movement or adjustment thereof.

Changes in details may be made without departing from the spirit of this invention or the scope of the subjoined claims, but;

I claim:

1. In tongs, the combination, of a relatively long handle, a transverse jaw formed upon one end of said handle, a second handle of substantially the same length as the first mentioned handle, a transverse jaw formed upon an end of the second mentioned handle, said jaw being greater in cross section than said first mentioned handle, and having an aperture therein for the reception of said first mentioned handle and for pivotal movement of the second mentioned handle thereon, said first mentioned handle

having an extending portion rigidly formed thereon intermediate its ends and extending opposite in direction from the transverse jaws, said extending portion having an elongated slot therein for reception of said second mentioned handle, whereby said second mentioned handle can be moved transversely and longitudinally for varying the angular position of the jaws to grip an object.

2. In tongs, the combination, of a relatively long handle, a transverse jaw formed upon one end of said handle, a second handle of substantially the same length as said first mentioned handle, a transverse jaw formed upon an end of the second mentioned handle, said handles being polygonal in cross section, and the jaw upon said second mentioned handle being greater in cross section than said first mentioned handle and having an aperture therein for the reception of said first mentioned handle, and for pivotal movement of said second mentioned handle thereon, the first mentioned handle having an extension portion formed thereon intermediate its ends, and extending in opposite direction from the transverse jaws, said extending portion having an elongated slot therein for the reception of said second mentioned handle, whereby said second men-

tioned handle can be moved transversely and longitudinally for varying the angular position of the jaws, the sides of said elongated slot acting as a guard to prevent lateral movement of the second mentioned handle, and lateral movement of the jaws with respect to each other, and hand grips formed upon the free ends of the handles.

3. In tongs, the combination, of a pair of handles, a jaw upon each of said handles, one of said jaws having an aperture therein for pivotal and reciprocable reception of one of the handles therein, said last mentioned handle having an apertured lug thereon intermediate its ends for reception of said other handle.

4. In tongs, the combination, of a pair of jaws, one of said jaws having an aperture therein, a handle for each of said jaws, one of said handles passing through the aperture in said jaws, said last mentioned handle having a lug thereon provided with an aperture therein for reception of said other handle, and allowing sufficient play for said jaw may act as a pivoting surface upon the handle passing therethrough so as thereby to force the faces of the jaws together in gripping contact with an object.

VALLARD T. TRUAX.