

No. 862,082.

PATENTED JULY 30, 1907.

O. E. LEWIS.
WIRE CLAMP.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 19, 1906.

Fig. 1.

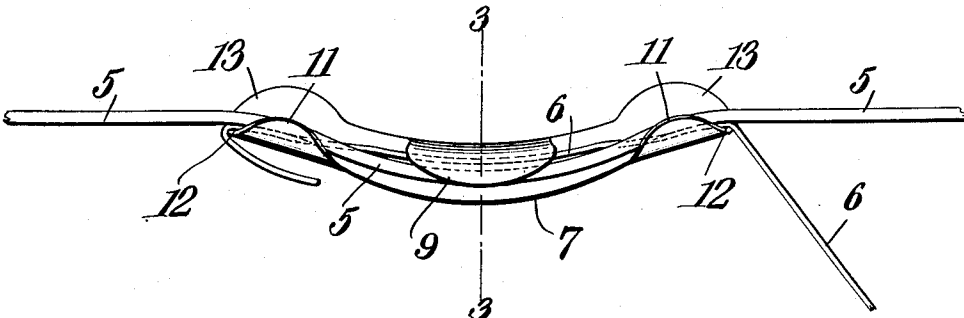


Fig. 2.

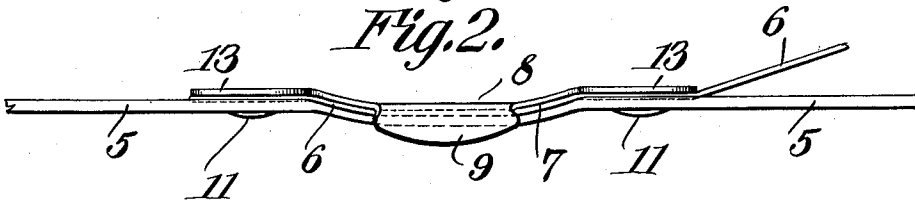


Fig. 3.

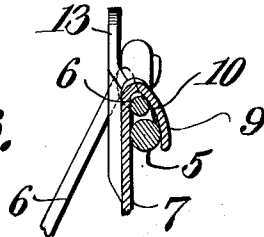
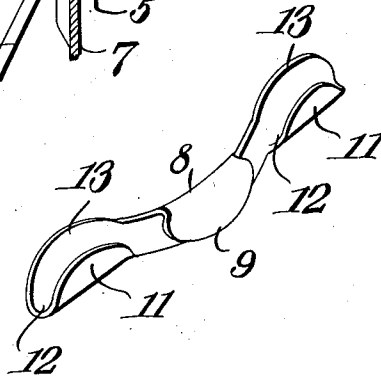


Fig. 4.



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OLIVER E. LEWIS, OF ULYSSES, NEBRASKA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOSEPH B. SIMPSON,
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WIRE-CLAMP.

No. 862,082.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 30, 1907.

Application filed June 19, 1906. Serial No. 322,478.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OLIVER E. LEWIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ulysses, in the county of Butler and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Wire-Clamp, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to clamps or couplings for uniting electric conductors, and has for its object to provide means for connecting the local wire of a telephone, telegraph or other electrical instrument with the main line wire.

A further object of the invention is to provide a clamp having a plurality of spaced arms or lugs disposed in staggered relation and adapted to receive the local and main line wires for clamping the same in electrical contact with each other.

A further object of the invention is to provide a clamp capable of being readily attached to or detached from the main line and having its central portion bowed outwardly and its opposite ends deflected laterally thereby to firmly grip the wires and effectually lock the same against accidental displacement.

A still further object of the invention is to generally improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency as well as to reduce the cost of manufacture.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification; Figure 1 is a side elevation of a clamp or coupling constructed in accordance with my invention showing the same in position on a line wire. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1. and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the clamp or coupling detached.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawings.

The improved coupling is principally designed for connecting the local wire leading from a telephone, telegraph or other electrical instrument at a subscriber's station to the main line wire, and by way of illustration is shown in position on the line wire 5 and clamping the local wire 6.

The clamp is preferably stamped, or otherwise formed of a single piece of copper or other suitable material and consists of a body portion 7 having its central portion bowed outwardly and its opposite ends deflected upwardly, as shown.

The bowed portion 8 of the clamp is provided with an over-hanging wire retaining ear or lug 9 the free end of which is spaced from the adjacent wall of the body portion to form a seat 10 for the reception of the wires 5 and 6, while the opposite ends of said body portion are provided with similar ears or lugs 11 disposed in staggered relation to the central ear 9 and forming seats 12 adapted to receive and grip the wires on each side of the central ear or lug.

The metal forming the body portion is extended vertically at the ears 11 to produce terminal projections 13 which serve to guide the main and local wires to their seats when positioning the clamp on the line wire.

By having the wire engaging lugs disposed in staggered relation the latter will exert a clamping action on the wires at the seats 10 and 12 while by reason of the central bowed portion 8 the wire will be deflected laterally into engagement with the lugs 11 thus serving to lock the clamp against both lateral and longitudinal movement.

In using the device the local wire 6 is arranged parallel with the line wire 5 and the clamp placed in position on the latter with the wire engaging the central seat 10 and one of the terminal seats 12 after which the free end of the clamp is forced downwardly and the wire passed over the adjacent retaining lug 11 into the contiguous seat 12 thus locking the line-wire in electrical contact with the local wire at each of the wire-receiving seats.

It will here be observed that the greater the tension on the line wire the greater will be the clamping action exerted on the conductors thereby insuring a good electric contact between the same.

It will also be observed that the smaller or local wire bears against the base of the wire receiving seats while the line wire engages the side walls thereof thus serving to house the local wire and lock the same in engagement with the clamp.

In order to disconnect the device it is merely necessary to lift the line wire out of engagement with one of the terminal seats when the clamp may be readily detached and the wires disconnected.

The clamps may be made in various sizes and shapes

and being stamped or otherwise formed from a single piece of metal, may be manufactured, and sold at a comparatively small cost.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is;

1. A clamp comprising a plate provided with terminal and intermediate lugs disposed in staggered relation and defining wire-receiving seats, and projections extending laterally from the plate at the terminal lugs to assist in guiding the wire to its seat.
2. A clamp formed of a single piece of metal having an intermediate portion thereof bowed laterally and provided

with an over-hanging lug defining a wire-receiving seat and its opposite ends deflected laterally and provided with similar lugs forming corresponding wire-receiving seats, said intermediate and terminal lugs being disposed in staggered relation.

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

OLIVER E. LEWIS.

Witnesses:

E. HUME TALBERT,
S. N. ACKER.