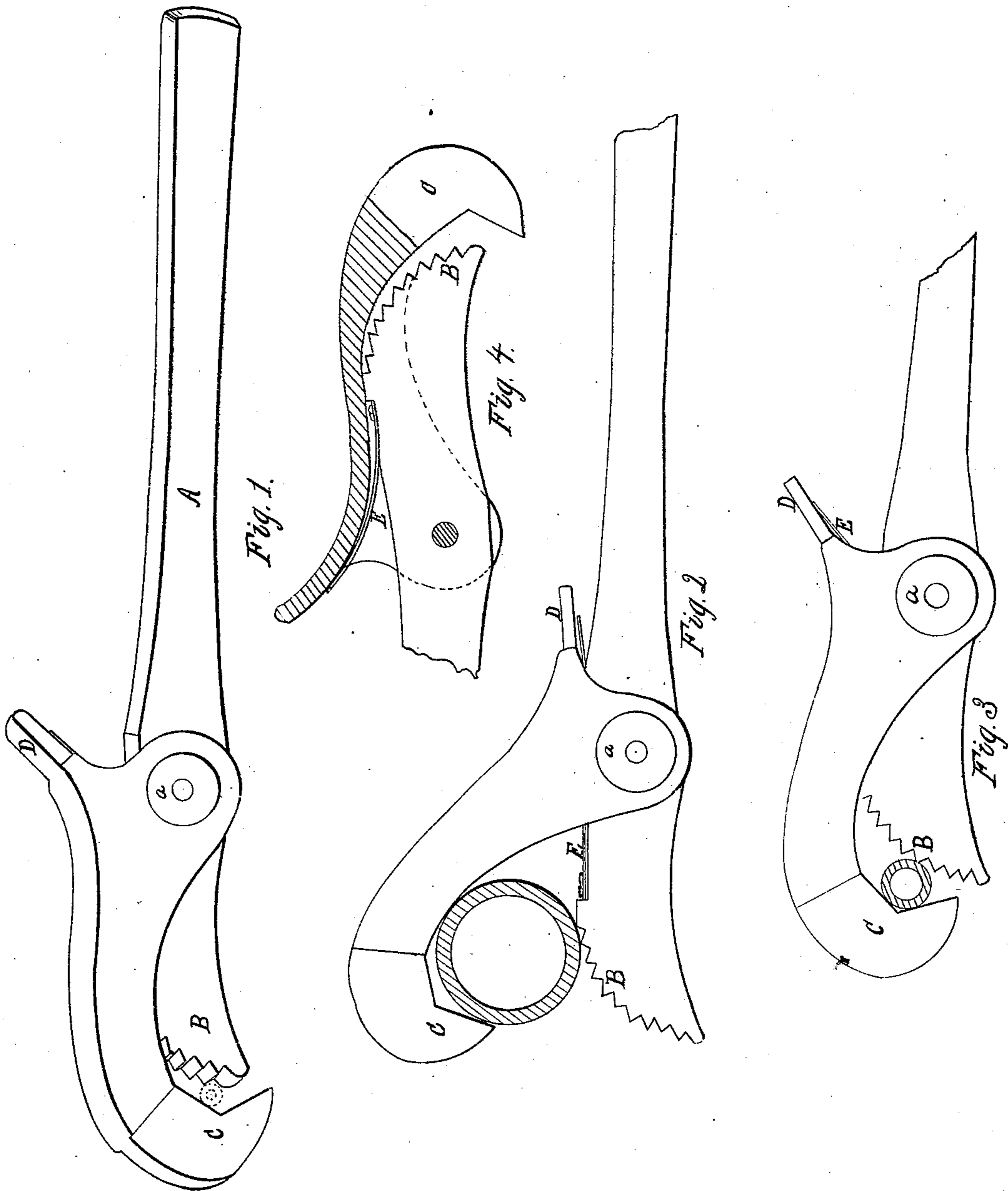


H. Getty,

Wrench.

No 37,395.

Patented Jan. 13, 1863.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY GETTY, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN PIPE-TONGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **37,395**, dated January 13, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY GETTY, of Brooklyn, Kings county, and State of New York, have invented, made, and applied to use a new and Improved Self-Adjusting Pipe-Tongs for the use of Gas-Fitters and Others; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and correct description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of my improved self-adjusting pipe-tongs; Fig. 2, a view showing the largest size of pipe as grasped by my self-adjusting pipe-tongs; Fig. 3, a view showing a smaller size of pipe as grasped by my self-adjusting pipe-tongs; Fig. 4, a sectional view of my self-adjusting pipe-tongs, showing the slotted jaw and spring employed.

In the drawings like parts of the invention are indicated by similar letters of reference.

The nature of my invention consists, first, in so constructing a pipe-tongs for the use of gas-fitters and others that the same shall automatically adjust themselves to various sizes of pipe, thus saving the time and labor required to adjust screws, change jaws and pins, fix wedges, rack-teeth, or any of the means now employed for adjusting pipe-tongs or wrenches to various sizes of pipe; second, in the use or employment of the finger-rest to enable the operator to use the tongs with one hand.

To enable others skilled in the arts to make use of my invention, I will speak of its construction and operation.

A shows a stationary jaw, provided at its top or upper end with the serrated cam B, forming what I term the "serrated-cam lever." The serrated cam B is so shaped that it will, in combination with the hook-jaw C, firmly grasp the pipe, and, when smaller sizes of pipe are placed between the said cam and the hook-jaw, will automatically adjust itself to the same.

C shows a hook-jaw pivoted at its lower end to the serrated-cam lever by means of the bolt and nut *a*. This hook-jaw C is provided with the slot or box on its inner side, as shown in Fig. 4, the object of this slot or box being, as stated, to form a receptacle for the other

jaw employed, thus bringing the jaws in close contact when it is necessary to use the tool in corners, or where little room is afforded.

D is the finger-rest, formed on the lower portion of the hook-jaw C; and E is a spring, attached on the inner side of the serrated-cam lever, and so bent as to bear against the finger-rest D on the hook-jaw C.

The pipe-tongs being thus constructed, the operation is as follows: The operator grasps the tongs (the hook-jaw being downward) between the fingers and thumb, the fingers resting upon the finger-rest D and the thumb upon the serrated cam-lever. By pressing upon the finger-rest D the hook-jaw C is thrown out, and, the tongs being applied to the pipe, upon releasing the hold upon the finger-rest D the tongs at once adapt themselves to whatever size of pipe it may be necessary to turn. The hand being placed at the extreme end of the serrated-cam lever, and the pipe being firmly and tightly gripped between the jaws employed, by turning the serrated-cam lever up upon the further application of power it (the pipe) is easily turned. To unscrew a pipe, the operation just described is reversed, the hook-jaw C being placed up, the thumb resting upon the finger-rest D, and the serrated-cam lever being turned downward. The presence of the finger-rest D enables the operator to use the tongs with one hand; enables him at the same time to use a second pair of tongs with his other hand, which is of great advantage in coupling or connecting two pipes together. The peculiar advantage, however, arising from the use of my improved pipe-tongs is, first, that they are self-adjusting or automatic in their operation, and will grasp six different sizes of pipe. This is of great importance, as in all tongs or wrenches heretofore made, in which a rack or screw or some equivalent device as means of adjustment is employed, the loss of time and nicety of adjustment required have prevented their successful introduction; and, second, but one pair of my tongs is required where three or four are now employed.

While in the drawings accompanying this specification I have shown a handle or lever supporting a serrated cam, I am well aware that the invention may be varied by attach-

ing the handle or lever to the hook-jaw C and depriving the serrated cam B of the same, merely leaving enough of the present lever used to support the cam properly and admit of the attachment of the hook-jaw C, as shown.

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

1. The hook-jaw constructed as shown, in

combination with a stationary serrated-cam lever, for the purpose specified.

2. In combination with the same, the finger-rest D, for the purpose set forth.

HENRY GETTY.

In presence of—

A. TURNER,

A. SIDNEY DOANE.