



GEORGE M. THOMPSON, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 83,109, dated October 13, 1868.

DEVICE FOR STRETCHING TELEGRAPH-WIRES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE M. THOMPSON, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and improved Vise for Stretching Telegraph-Wires; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents an inverted plan view of my improved telegraph-wire vise.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

The object of this invention is to construct a device for stretching telegraph-wires, so that persons on poles can, with but one hand, apply the instrument and stretch the wire, while with the other hand they can hold fast to the pole.

The instrument heretofore used for the same purpose, required the person using it to employ both hands for the purpose of applying it, and as such person had then, on the telegraph-pole, only a chance to hold himself by the use of his lower extremities, he would always be in a dangerous position, liable to fall to the ground.

By so constructing the instrument that but one hand is used, it will be made much more convenient for the persons attaching the wires, and will lessen the danger connected with such operation.

The invention consists in the use of a handle, on which two spring-jaws are so pivoted that they will

automatically grasp a wire which is put between them.

A, in the drawing, represents a plate or bar, made of metal or other suitable material, shaped as shown in fig. 1, with one broad and one narrow end.

To the narrow end is pivoted a link, B, to which may be fastened a strap, by means of which the instrument may be suspended from the body of the person attaching the wires to the poles.

To the under side of the broad portion of the plate A are pivoted, by means of pins *a a*, two jaws, C C, with roughened opposite edges, they being, by means of springs *b b*, pressed forward against pins *c c*, that project from the under side of the plate A.

The instrument is applied by moving it forward upon and against the wire, so that the jaws will be forced open to receive the same. As soon, then, as the instrument is pulled, it will hold fast to the wire, and the same can therefore be conveniently stretched.

It will be seen that this instrument can be applied with one hand, and that the wire can then be stretched with one hand, so that the operator will have his other hand free to hold himself to the pole.

Having thus described my invention,

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The within-described instrument for stretching telegraph-wires, consisting essentially of the plate or bar A and jaws C C, as set forth.

GEO. M. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

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