(No Model.)

J. W. OVERSTREET.

PLIERS FOR CUTTING AND STRETCHING WIRE.

No. 372,560. Patented Nov. 1, 1887.

Fig. 1.

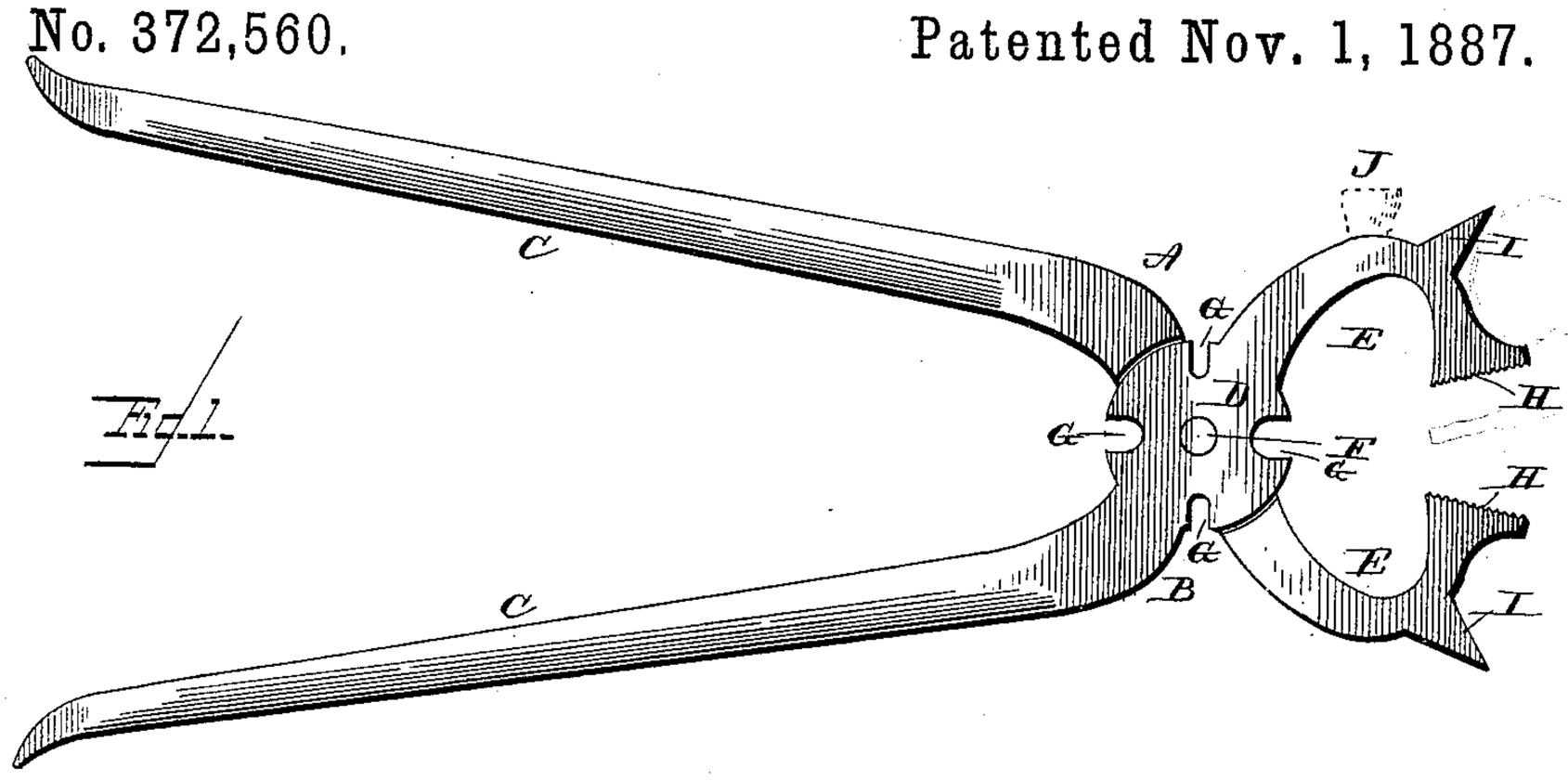


Fig. 2.

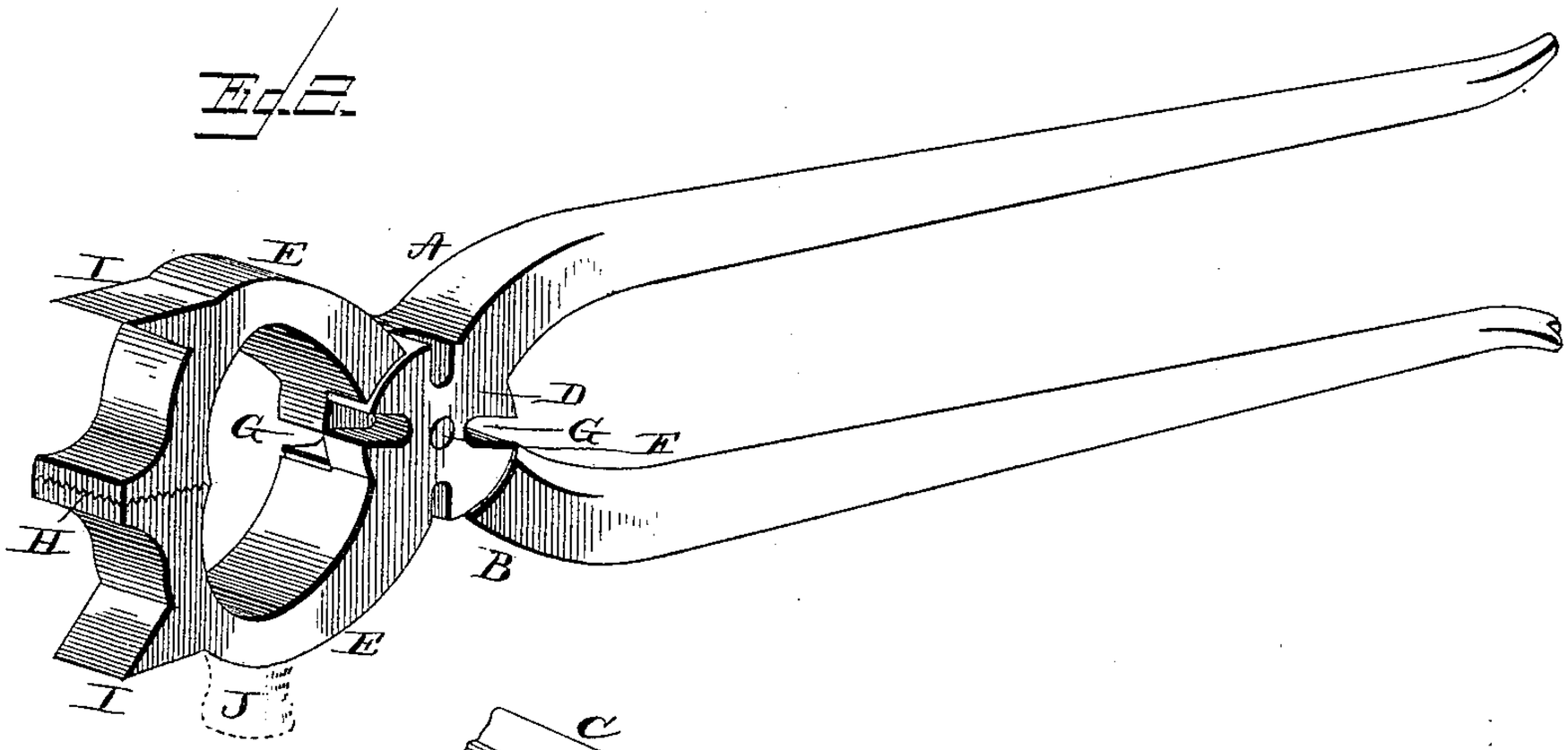
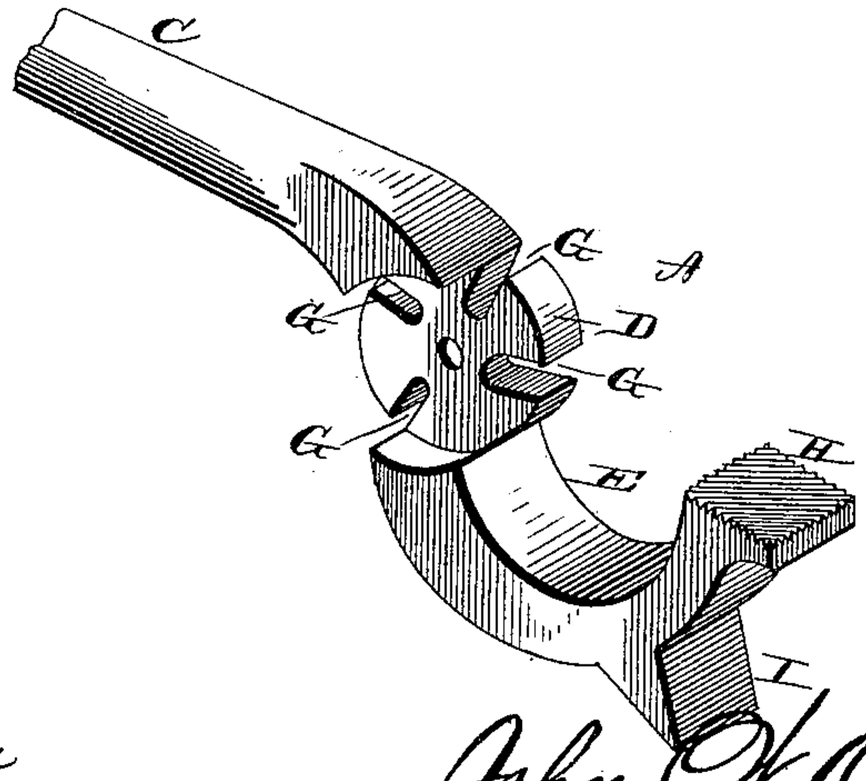


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
F. L. Ourand.
Benj. L. Cowl.

Inventor
John W. Overstreet,
By his Attorneys
Louis Bagger & Co.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. OVERSTREET, OF LITTLE HICKMAN, KENTUCKY.

PLIERS FOR CUTTING AND STRETCHING WIRE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 372,560, dated November 1, 1887.

Application filed July 14, 1887. Serial No. 244,253. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. OVERSTREET, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Little Hickman, in the county of Jessamine and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pliers for Cutting and Stretching Wire; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my new and improved pliers for cutting and stretching wire. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a detail view of one of the halves or parts of the pliers.

The same letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

My invention consists in a new and improved pliers, which is more especially designed for use in the construction of wire fences in stretching the wires from post to post and securing the same to or around the posts, in stretching the wires and securing them around posts and rails of fences in constructing various patent fences, my new and improved pliers being constructed to cut wires of varying diameters, for use as a tack-hammer, and also as a wrench, and my invention will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Referring to the several parts by letter, A and B indicate the two halves or parts of my new and improved pliers, the said parts being alike in construction, so that they can be cast in one mold, and each part being formed with the handle C, the precise shape and curvature of which may be altered without departing in the least from the spirit of my invention, the central circular part, D, which is recessed on what may be called its "inner side," so that it is only one-half as thick as the remainder of the part or half, and the jaw E, which is curved in nearly a semicircle, as shown.

The two parts or halves of the pliers are secured together at their recessed central parts, with the said recessed circular central sides of their central parts fitting in one another, and are riveted together by the central bolt or rivet, F, passing through the centers of the said central reduced parts, as shown, so that the central overlapping parts of the sections A and B are only as thick through as the single handles or jaws, owing to the said central circular parts being only one-half as thick as the other parts.

The central circular parts, D D, of the two sections or halves A and B of the pliers are formed with the cutter-recesses G G, which I have shown formed in four pairs between the handles, between the jaws, and on each side of the circular central parts, as shown, although the cutters on the sides may be dispensed with, if preferred; or those may be formed and the cutters between the jaws and between the handles may be dispensed with; or more or fewer cutter-recesses may be formed, as desired. These pairs of cutter-recesses in the central parts, D D, are arranged so that the two which constitute each pair register with each other when the jaws of the pliers and the handles thereof are opened, when the wire to be cut is placed in the two registering-recesses, and by pressing the handles together the edges of the cutter-recesses will sever the wire, so that I can cut up to a No. 8 wire readily, the cutter-recesses being of graded sizes, so as to receive and cut wires of different diameters.

The outer free ends of the jaws E E are formed with serrations H on their straight meeting faces, to enable them to grip the wire firmly and to prevent the wire from slipping as it is being stretched from post to post. These grip-jaws H H may be formed either long or short, broad or narrow, as preferred, and according to the character of the work to be done.

On each side of the grip-jaws are formed, on the outer side of the main jaws E, the projections I I, which act as braces, and these projections may be made either long or short. Their operation will be hereinafter described. One of these jaws may be provided with a small hammer-head, J, (shown in dotted lines,) near the projection I. Of course when the hammer-head is added the parts of the device cannot be both cast in the same mold, as above described.

In operation the wire to be stretched is seized between the serrated grip-jaws of the pliers, and can then be readily stretched be-

tween two or three posts at a time, the projections I I being brought into play when twisting a wire around posts and stretching the same so as to pull the wire tight and make it cut into the wood to prevent slipping, the wire being drawn around the post by the pliers and twisted, when one of the said projections is brought into contact with the post, and it will be readily seen will act as a brace or fulcrum to draw the wire still tighter, so that it will cut into the wood, and will also prevent the pliers from giving or slipping under the strain of the taut wire. The cutters are used for cutting wire of different diameter and are very effective. The hammer can be used as a tack-hammer or for hammering wire, &c.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction, operation, and advantages of my invention will be readily understood. It will be seen that my new and improved pliers are simple and strong in construction, can be manufactured at a small cost, and are exceedingly effective in operation. They can be manufactured of different sizes and with the various small changes described without departing in the least from the spirit of my invention. Besides the purposes or uses before specified, my new and improved pliers can be used as a wrench, as will be readily understood.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

The herein described pliers, consisting of two pieces alike in construction and pivotally secured together near one end, each piece having a handle portion, C, a curved jaw portion, E, and a circular reduced portion, D, said reduced portions being provided with recesses G G, and the outer end of each jaw portion having a serrated face, H, and provided with a projection, I, upon its outer side, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

JOHN W. OVERSTREET.

Witnesses:

W. R. SMITH,

A. B. DUNCAN.