

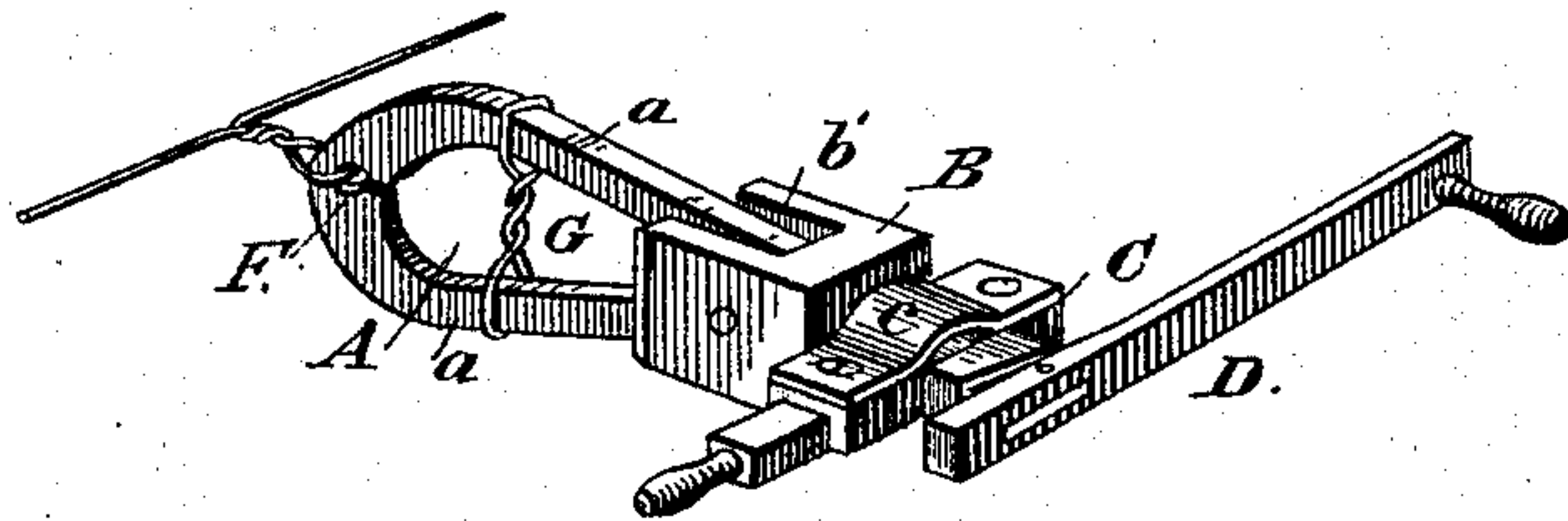
(No Model.)

D. T. BROWN.  
WIRE TIGHTENER.

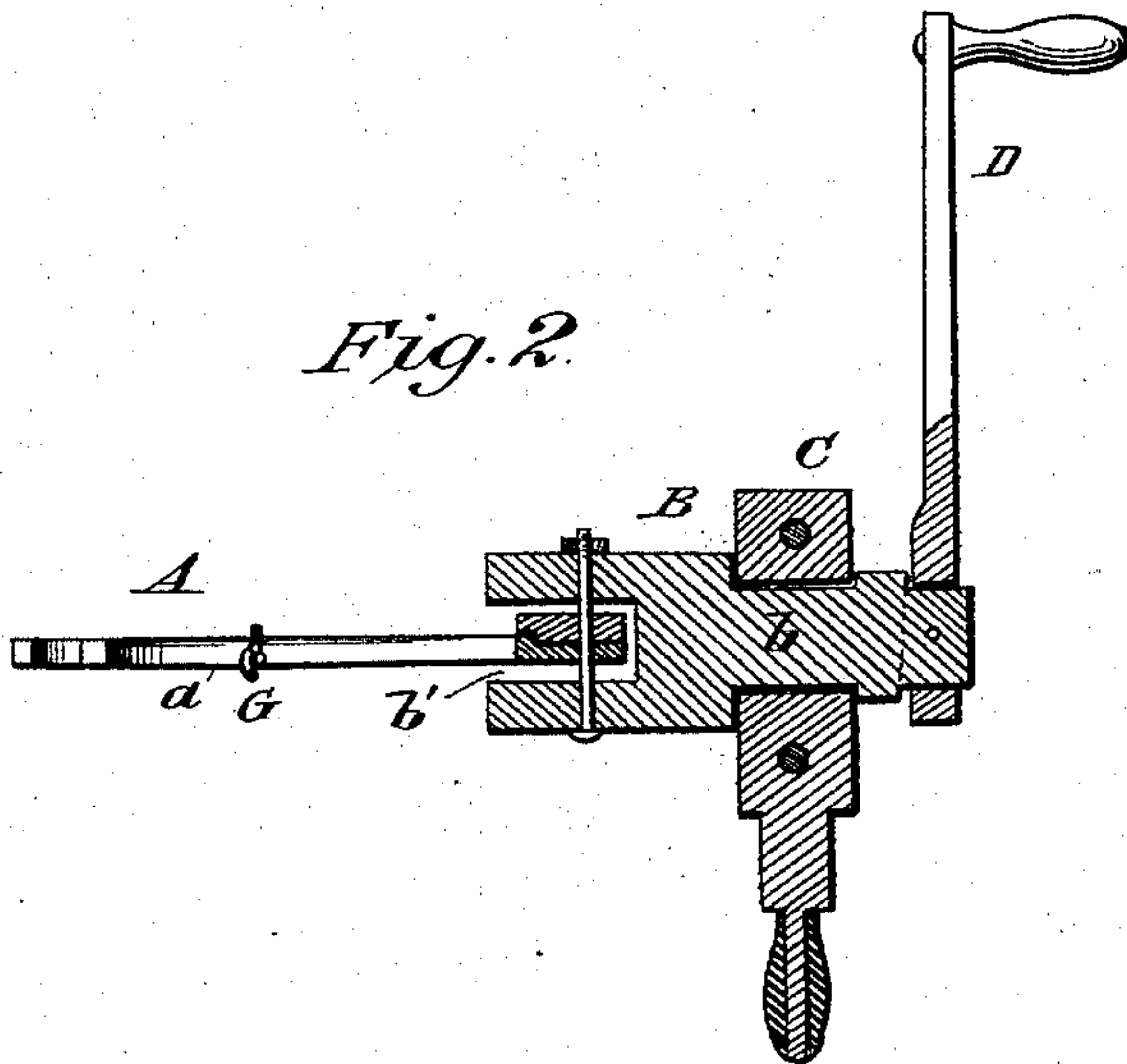
No. 388,626.

Patented Aug. 28, 1888.

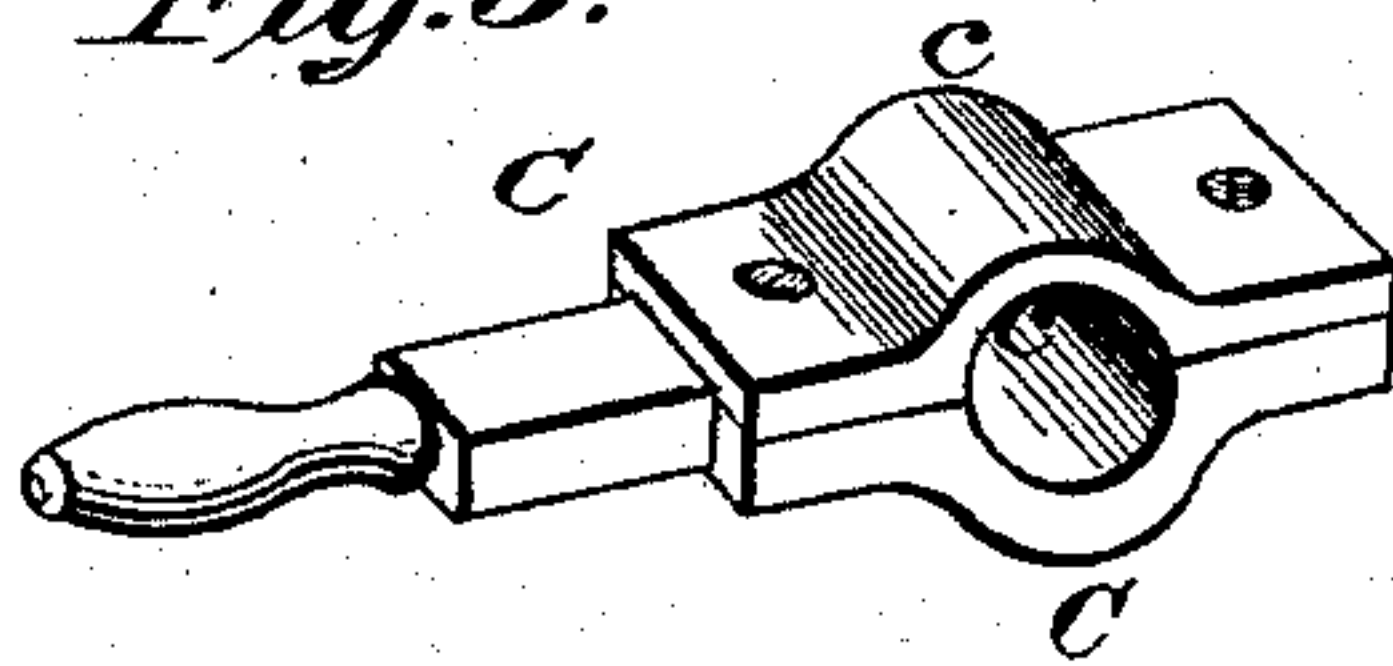
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID T. BROWN, OF WALKER, MISSOURI.

## WIRE-TIGHTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 388,626, dated August 28, 1888.

Application filed May 12, 1888. Serial No. 273,749. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DAVID T. BROWN, of Walker, in the county of Vernon and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wire-Tighteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improved wire-tightener for fence and other wire; and it consists in certain novel constructions and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device as in use. Fig. 2. is a sectional view of the device, and Fig. 3 is a detail view of the holder,

The improved device is shown as comprising a gripper, A, for the wire, a rotating head or body, B, supporting said gripper, a holder, C, by which to support said body, and a handle, D, by which to turn the body and the gripper connected therewith. The body B in the construction shown has the gripper secured to it and projecting from one of its ends, is provided with a circular portion, *b*, journaled in a suitable box, *c*, on holder C, and has the handle D at its rear end, such handle being an ordinary crank slotted at its inner end to receive an angular portion of the body.

The gripper is preferably formed of two arms, *a a*, secured at one end to the body B, preferably in a slot, *b'*, formed in the end of said body, and such arms are pivoted at such end with relation to each other, so that their opposite or outer ends may be moved apart and together in the operation of the device. In the construction shown the arms are pivoted together at their inner or rear ends and to the head or body at E, as shown. At its outer end the gripper has its sides curved or inclined approximately to a point at its extremity, while near such end I provide the gripper with an opening, F, for the wire to be stretched. In order to secure or clamp these arms tightly together in stretching the wire, I provide an adjustable connection, G, which may be slid along the arms of the gripper to position to hold the free end or jaws of same snugly together or to release them, as may be desired. The opening F is attained by notching or slotting the inner edges of the arms, as shown.

In operation, the connection G is to be moved back toward the head or body and the arms opened to receive the wire, when by moving the connection G outward on said arms they will be clamped together and the wire be held in the opening F. Now by turning the body and gripper the slack of the wire will be taken up in a twist, as shown, the inclined or curved sides operating to prevent the wire from becoming twisted around the gripper, as will be readily understood.

It will be understood that ordinarily the operator will grasp the holder with the left hand and turn the crank with the right hand. However, for use by left-handed persons the holder may be reversed and grasped by the right hand, while the left is used to turn the crank-handle.

The construction is simple and will be found efficient and easy of operation.

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

1. A wire-tightener comprising a head or body provided with a gripper for the wire, formed of two arms or sections pivoted with relation to each other, and a holder to which said head or body is journaled, substantially as set forth.

2. A wire-tightener comprising a head or body, a holder to which said head or body is journaled, the gripper formed of two arms connected to the head or body and pivoted with relation to each other, and an adjustable connection between the said arms, whereby they may be clamped firmly together when twisting the wire, substantially as set forth.

3. The improved wire-tightener consisting of a holder, and a head or body portion journaled to said holder and provided with a gripper having near its outer end a transverse opening for the wire to be stretched, and having its edges inclined or curved toward such end, substantially as set forth.

4. The improved wire-tightener comprising a head or body, a gripper consisting of arms connected with said head or body and pivoted with relation to each other, the holder to which such head or body is journaled, and the handle whereby to turn such part, substantially as set forth.

5. The wire-tightener herein described, consisting of the head or body, the handle by which to turn it, and the holder to which it is journaled, the gripper consisting of arms connected with the head or body and pivoted with relation to each other, such arms having near their outer ends slots or notches forming a guide-opening and having such ends in-

clined or curved, and the adjustable connection whereby said arms may be clamped together, substantially as set forth.

DAVID T. BROWN.

Witnesses:

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