

(No Model.)

O. L. OWEN.  
TONGS.

No. 572,564.

Patented Dec. 8, 1896.

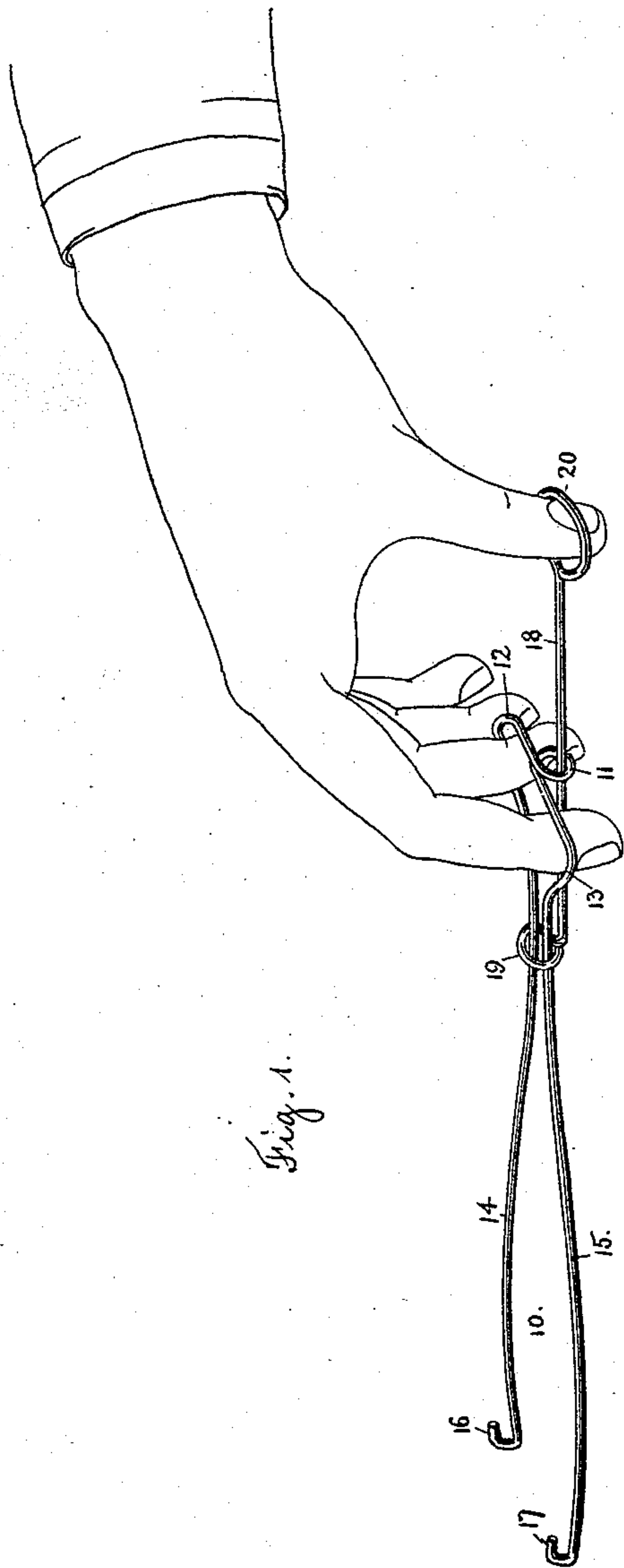


Fig. 2.

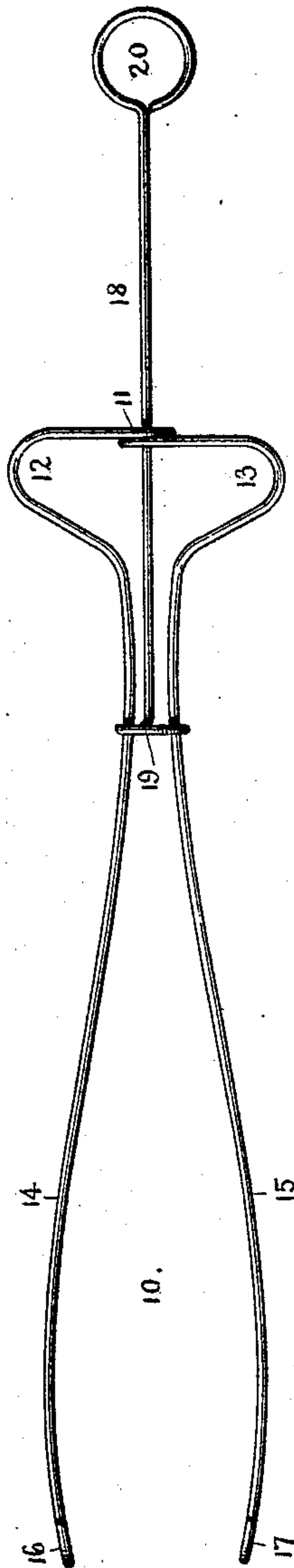
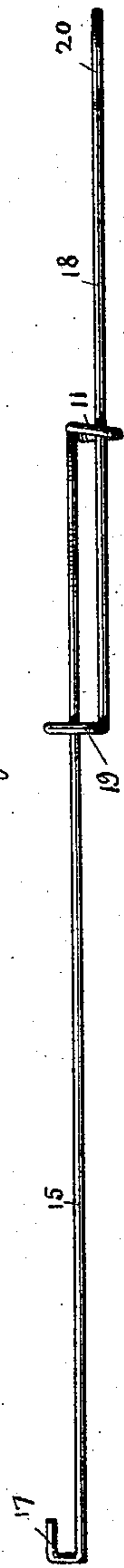


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR L. OWEN, OF WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS.

## TONGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 572,564, dated December 8, 1896.

Application filed April 10, 1896. Serial No. 586,964. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, OSCAR L. OWEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Whitinsville, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tongs, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and efficient form of tongs which may be readily and cheaply constructed.

To these ends my invention consists of the parts and combinations of parts, as hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the claims at the end of this specification.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the manner in which my tongs may be employed. Fig. 2 is a plan view of a pair of tongs constructed according to my invention, and Fig. 3 is a side view of the same.

A pair of tongs constructed according to my invention comprises a body portion having spring-arms which normally stand in a spread or open position and an operating-rod which is arranged to force said arms together.

The body portion is provided with finger-sockets, and the operating-rod is provided with a thumb-socket, said sockets being so arranged that a pair of tongs constructed according to my invention may be employed and adjusted with one hand.

Referring to the drawings and in detail, 10 designates the body portion, which consists of a single piece of wire bent to form a central eye or guide 11, with loops or finger-sockets 12 and 13 at each side thereof. Extending from the loops or finger-sockets 12 and 13 are the normally open spring-arms 14 and 15. At their ends the spring-arms 14 and 15 are bent back to form engaging or clamping sections 16 and 17.

If preferred, the ends of the spring-arms may be simply bent in to form engaging points, or may be provided with flattened or other desired form of engaging sections.

The wire operating-rod 18 fits into the cen-

tral eye or guide 11 of the body portion, and is provided at one end with a clamping-section or loop 19, which fits over and engages the normally open spring-arms 14 and 15. At its opposite end the operating-rod 18 is provided with an eye or loop 20, which forms a socket for receiving the thumb of the operator.

When a pair of tongs constructed according to my invention are to be used, the operator inserts a thumb into the loop or eye 20 and the two first fingers of the same hand into the loops or finger-sockets 12 and 13.

When the operating-rod 18 is pushed down, the clamping-section 19 will force the spring-arms 14 and 15 together. When the operating-rod is withdrawn, the arms 14 and 15 will be moved apart by resilience.

Tongs constructed according to my invention have been employed to form desirable table articles for serving olives, pickles, &c., but my tongs can also be employed with advantage for laboratory and other uses.

I am aware that changes may be made in my device by those who are skilled in the art without departing from the scope of my invention as expressed in the claims. I do not wish, therefore, to be limited to the form which I have shown and described; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a pair of tongs, the combination of a body portion formed of a piece of wire bent to form an eye or loop substantially in the middle of said piece, finger-sockets at each side of said loop, and integral, normally open spring-arms, and a wire operating-rod extending through said eye, and having a clamping-section at one end for engaging the spring-arms, and a loop or thumb-socket at the opposite end, said parts being arranged so that the spring-arms can be controlled and operated with one hand, substantially as described.

2. In a pair of tongs, the combination of a body portion having spring-arms 14 and 15, which normally stand in a spread or open position, a central guide or eye 11, finger-sockets 12 and 13 at each side of said guide or eye,



and an operating-rod 18 extending through  
said guide, and having a clamping-section 19  
at one end, and a loop or thumb-socket 20 at  
the other end, the parts being arranged so  
5 that the spring-arms can be controlled and  
operated with one hand, substantially as de-  
scribed.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set  
my hand in the presence of two subscribing  
witnesses.

OSCAR L. OWEN.

Witnesses:

LOUIS W. SOUTHGATE,  
PHILIP W. SOUTHGATE.