(No Model.)

Z. CRAMER.

TONGS FOR STRETCHING WIRES.

No. 605,081. Patented June 7, 1898.

Fig. 1.

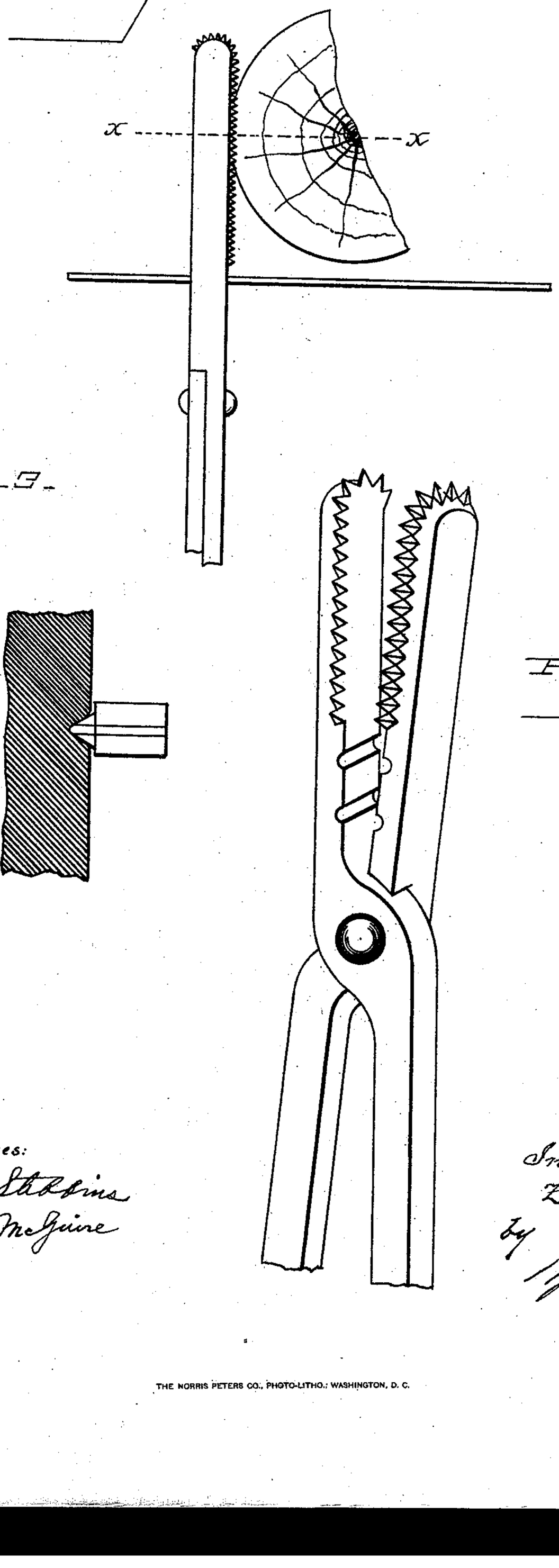

Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.

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TONGS FOR STRETCHING WIRES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 605,081, dated June 7, 1898.

Application filed November 18, 1897. Serial No. 658,929. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ZENAS CRAMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Danube, in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tongs for Stretching Wires, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a pair of simple, inexpensive, and efficient tongs for stretching wire and which will permit the operator to hold the wire in position without much effort while fastening the wire to the post. I attain this object by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of the tongs, showing same in position for stretching a wire. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the tongs with their jaws open. Fig. 3 is an enlarged cross-section taken through line X X, Fig. 1.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents two straight jaws pivotally connected to each other by means of a rivet B and provided with two legs or handles C. These handles are extended so as to form a lever by which the tongs are pulled back from the post with great force.

D represents two grooves which are formed on the inner faces of the jaws. These grooves which are adapted to hold the wire to be stretched vary in size in order to accommodate wires of different thicknesses.

Situated at the upper end and at one side on the jaws are a series of wedge-shaped teeth E, adapted to engage the post F and prevent the tongs from slipping. These teeth further serve the purpose of automatically closing the jaws when the same come in contact with the post and hold the wire firmly clamped without any exertion on the part of the operator. These teeth are formed integral with the jaws and are made flush with the inner faces thereof and tapering toward the top faces of the jaws. When the teeth are brought in contact with the post, they will make a triangular impression, as shown in Fig. 3, and cause the jaws to approach each other as the teeth sink into the wood.

In using the tongs I clamp the wire fast in one of the grooves in the jaws, place the toothed sides of the jaws against the post, as illustrated in Fig. 1, and then pull the extended handles away from the post, thus stretching the wire. As the teeth lock the jaws in a clamped position, the handles need not be clamped by the hands when stretching the wire. The operator can thus hold the tongs in one hand and utilize the other hand in fastening the stretched wire to the post by means of a staple or other fastening device.

The end portions of the jaws are made convex in order to permit the wire being carried around the post at a right angle to the normal direction of the wire.

I am aware that many changes may be made in my invention, and for that reason I do not desire to limit myself to the particular construction herein shown and described, but hold myself at liberty to make such changes as would fairly come within the scope of my invention.

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

1. A pair of tongs for stretching wire consisting of two jaws pivotally connected to each other and provided with two extended legs or handles, two opposing grooves formed across the inner faces of the jaws, said grooves being adapted to hold the wire, a series of wedge-shaped teeth situated on the upper end and on one side of the said jaws, said teeth being made flush with the inner faces of the said jaws and tapering toward the top faces of the jaws, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

2. A pair of tongs for stretching wires comprising two jaws pivotally connected to each other and provided with two extended legs or handles, two or more opposing grooves formed across the inner faces of the jaws, a series of teeth tapering toward the top faces of the jaws, located on one or more sides of the jaws, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:
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