

No. 639,869.

Patented Dec. 26, 1899.

J. G. SMITH.  
SNOUT SLITTER FOR SWINE.

(Application filed Sept. 15, 1899.)

(No Model.)

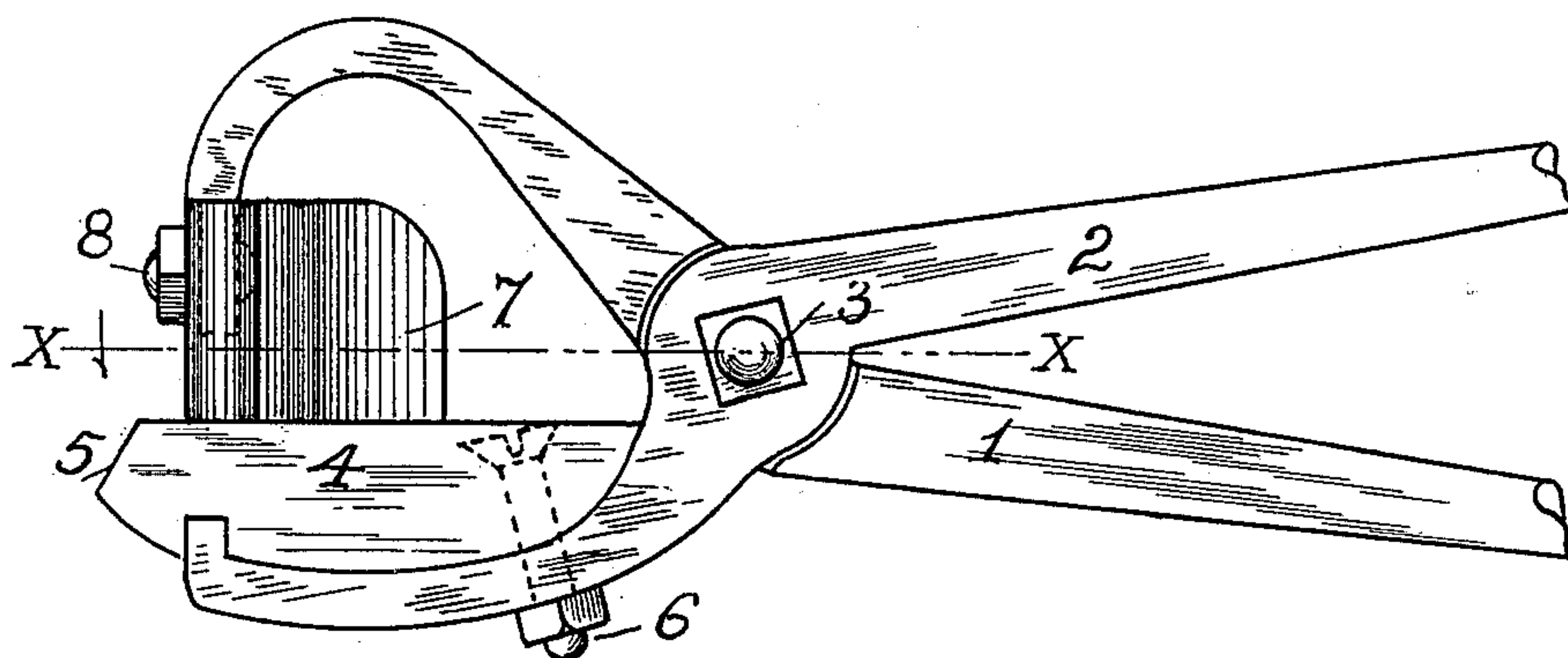


FIG. 1.

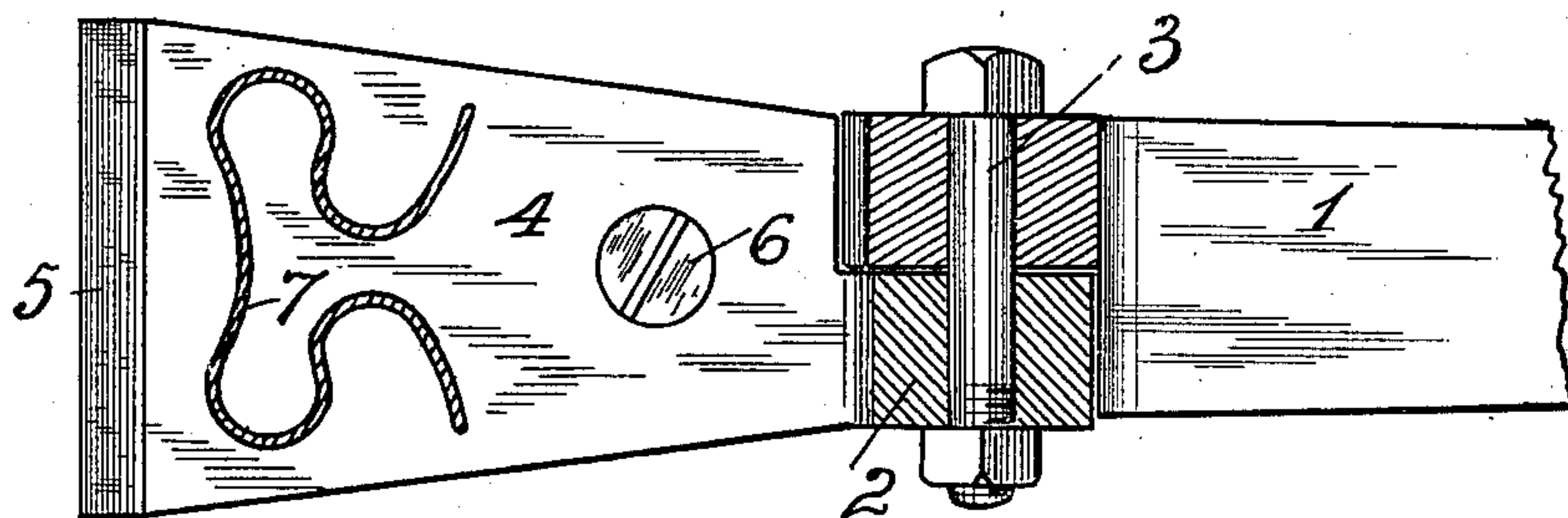


FIG. 2.

WITNESSES.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SNOUT-SLITTER FOR SWINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 639,869, dated December 26, 1899.

Application filed September 15, 1899. Serial No. 730,538. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN G. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pawnee, in the county of Sangamon and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Snout-Slitters, of which the following is such a full, clear, and exact description as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use my said invention.

My invention relates to devices for cutting off a portion of the cartilage in the snouts of swine to prevent them from rooting, and relates particularly to devices of that class which are in the form of pincers, having on one member a knife and having on the other member a block against which said knife cuts.

The purposes of my invention are to provide a device of the class described with a knife of novel and improved form adapted to cut the snout in such manner as to completely remove the central part thereof and leave on the snout lateral lobes connected for a part of their width with the side portions of the snout and for a part of their width separated from the snout by an open space, such as will effectually prevent the lobes from contacting with and growing again onto the snout, and to provide a cutting-block of improved form so constructed and arranged that a downwardly and forwardly inclined direction may be given to the cut, to the end that the cut may follow closely around the end of the bone in the hog's nose in such manner as to completely extirpate the central and effective part of the rooter.

With these ends in view my invention consists in the novel features of construction and combinations of parts shown in the annexed drawings to which reference is hereby made, and hereinafter particularly described, and pointed out in the claim.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the complete device, and Fig. 2 is an enlarged horizontal section on the line X X of Fig. 1.

Similar reference-numerals designate like parts in both of the views.

The device is in the general form of a pair of pincers, consisting of a knife member 1 and a block member 2, having a pivotal con-

nection 3. The member 2 is provided with a block 4, having an inclined front end 5, which is pressed against the end of the hog's nose when the instrument is in use, and having a flat upper surface, against which the knife cuts. The block 4 is preferably of wood and is preferably connected with the member 2 by a bolt 6; but the block may be integral with the member 2, and its upper surface may be covered with some yielding material, such as leather, to prevent injury to the knife, without departing from my invention.

The knife 7 is formed of a single piece of metal concavo-convex in its central part and concavo-convex at its sides and has concavo-convex wings extending rearwardly and laterally, which at their base merge into the concavo-convex sides, as shown. The lower edge of the knife is drawn down to a cutting edge and cuts against the upper surface of the block 4. In the preferable form of the device the knife 7 is secured to the member 1 by a bolt 8 or other suitable securing device. The knife 7 may be made integral with the member 1 without departing from my invention.

In practical use the pincers are opened and the end of the block 4 is pressed against the end of the hog's nose. The members are then pressed together to close the pincers, thereby causing the knife to make a downwardly and forwardly inclined cut through the cartilage of the hog's nose. This inclined cut follows closely around the end of the bone and cuts out and completely removes the central and effective part of the rooter, but leaves on each side of said cut lobes which for a part of their width are connected with the hog's nose, but for a part of their width are separated therefrom by a space equal to the distance between the wings and the concavo-convex front or central part of the knife. The intervening space between the lobes and the hog's nose effectively prevents the lobes from contacting with and growing again onto the hog's nose.

During the operation of cutting the instrument is turned somewhat downward on the inclined front end of the block 4, and thereby causes the knife to make a forwardly and downwardly inclined cut extending closely around the end of the bone in the hog's nose

instead of making a direct downward cut through the bone, as would be the case if the instrument were held rigidly.

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

A knife for snout-slitters consisting of a concavo-convex central part, concavo-convex sides merging into said central part and con-  
10 cavo-convex wings merging into said sides; in combination with a pincer member carry-

ing said knife, and a pincer member pivotally connected with said first-named pincer member and having a surface against which said knife cuts.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name, at Springfield, Illinois, this  
15 13th day of September, 1899.

JOHN G. SMITH.

Witnesses:

ELMER E. PARKS,  
A. T. BARNETT.