

No. 640,575.

Patented Jan. 2, 1900.

H. LEE.

MOLDING OR TROUGH FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.

(Application filed Oct. 7, 1899.)

(No Model.)

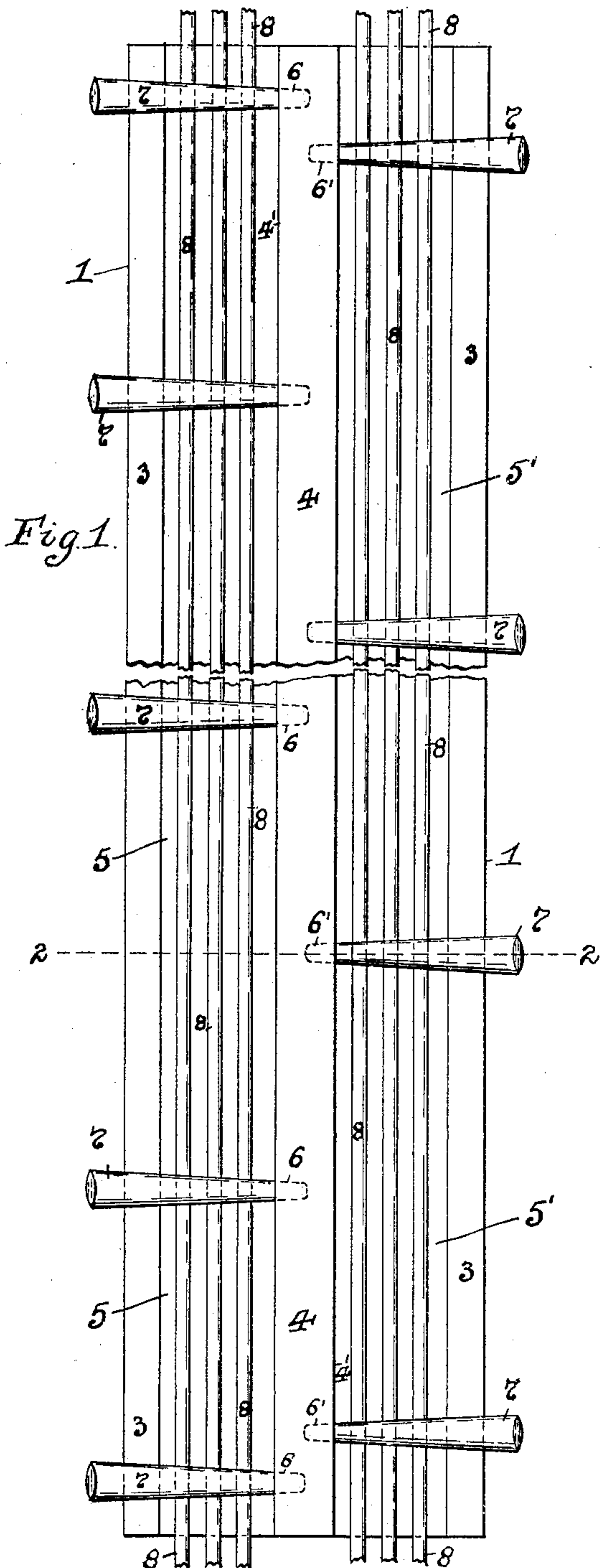


Fig. 1.

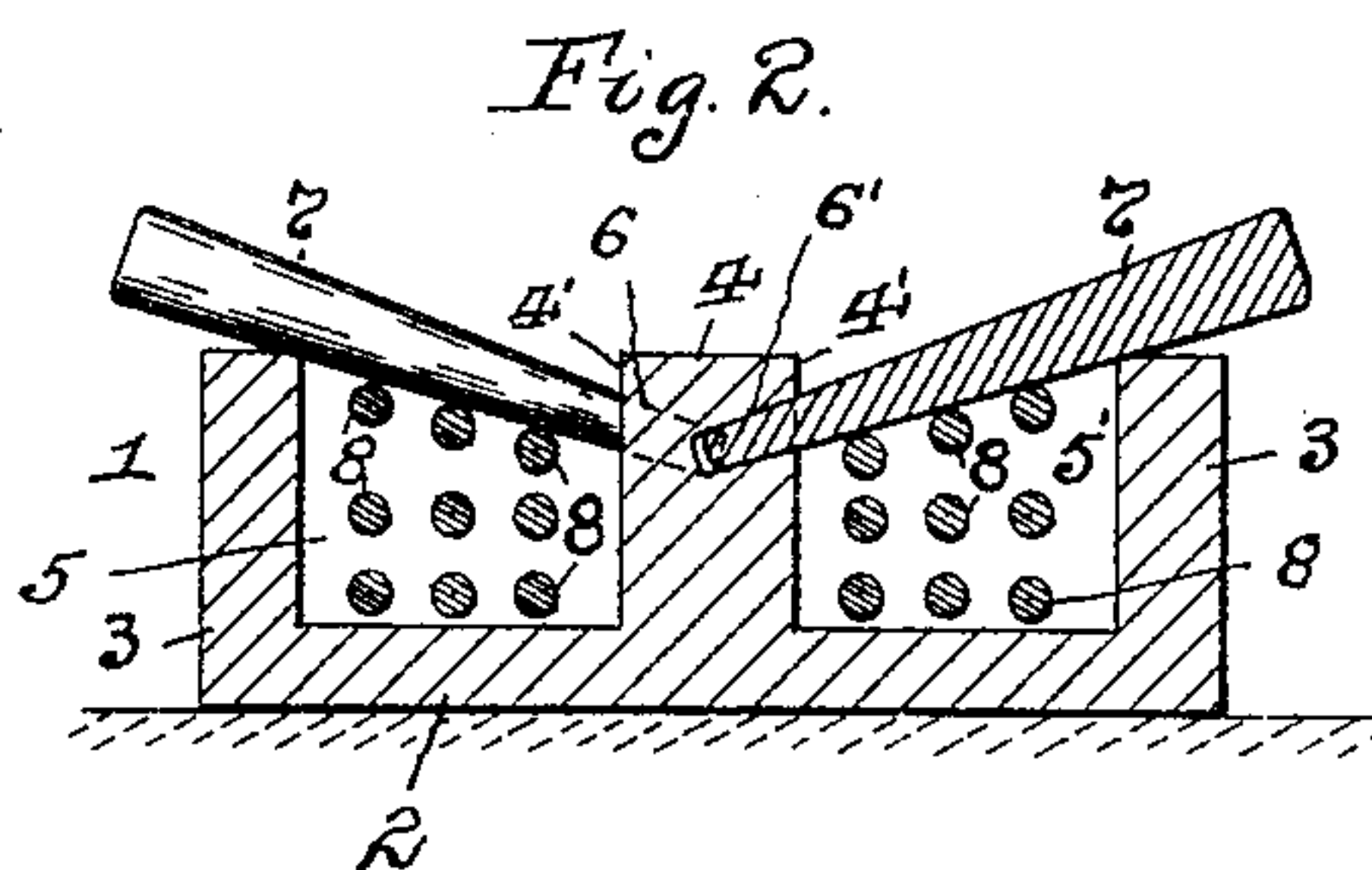


Fig. 2.



Fig. 4.

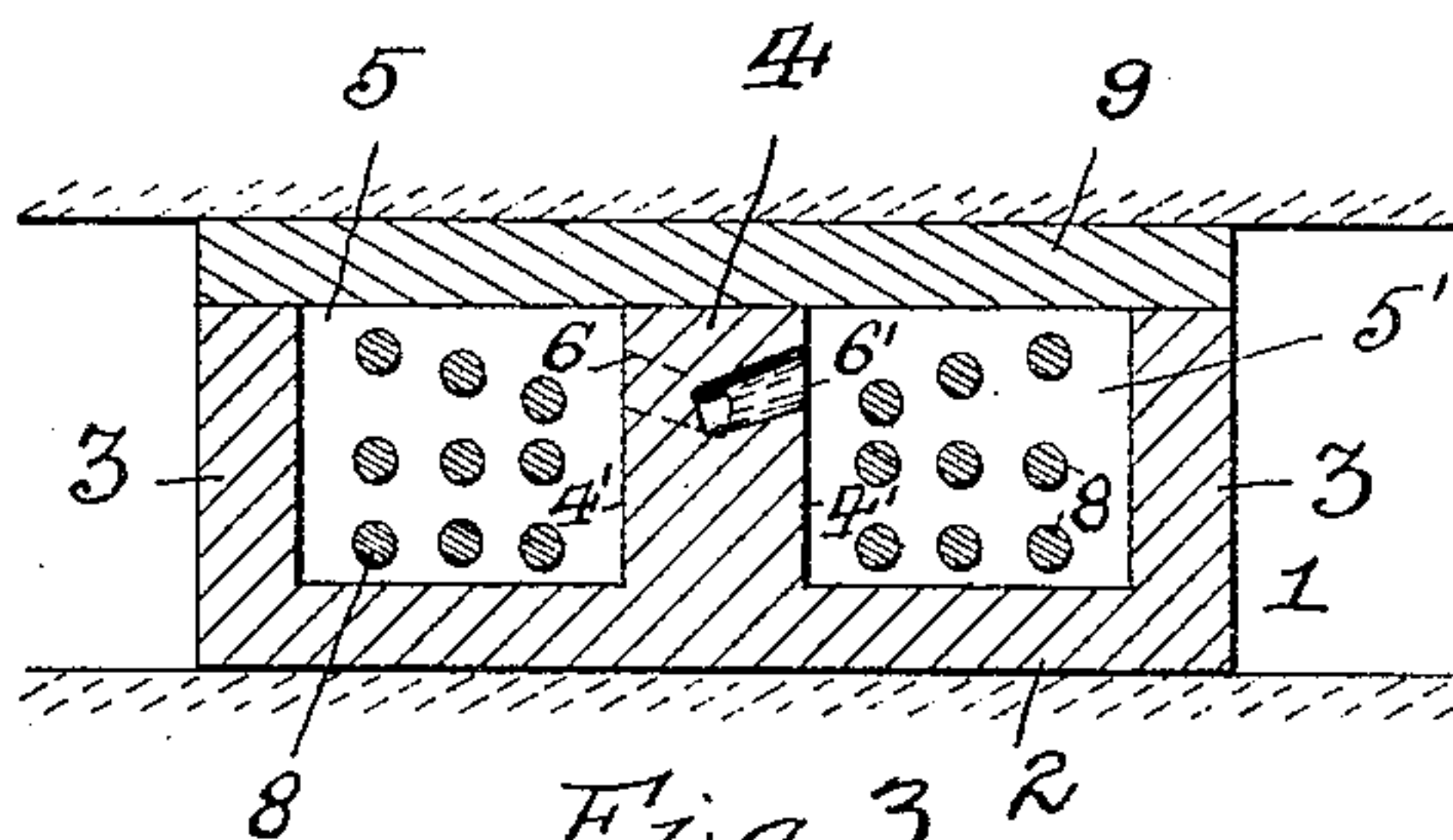


Fig. 3.

Witnesses:  
J. S. Trefaller.  
J. W. Fox and

Inventor:  
Harry Lee.  
By J. M. Cooke  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY LEE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF THIRTEEN-SIXTEENTHS  
TO RICHARD P. O'CONNOR AND WALLACE O'CONNOR, OF SAME PLACE,  
AND ERNEST W. BEACH, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

## MOLDING OR TROUGH FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 640,575, dated January 2, 1900.

Application filed October 7, 1899. Serial No. 732,894. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY LEE, a resident of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful  
5 Improvement in Moldings or Troughs for Electric Wires; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to moldings or troughs  
10 for electric wires, and has special reference to such moldings or troughs for holding the wires while they are being strung within the building, &c. Heretofore while such wires were being strung it was necessary to drive  
15 nails into the grooves of the moldings over the top of the wires in order to hold them in place within the grooves of the molding, and after the wires were strung the nails were removed and the cover placed over the mold-  
20 ing and wires. The main difficulty with the use of the nails was that they were required to be driven into the molding with force and were exceedingly hard to remove in order to afterward insert the cover on the molding.  
25 Another difficulty with the use of the nails was on account of the great liability of the nail to cut the insulation on the wire, which frequently happened, so rendering it liable to cause the wire to burn the molding at that  
30 point and start a fire within the building in which the molding was used.

The object of my invention is to overcome these objections and to provide a molding for electric wires which is cheap and simple in  
35 its construction and one in which the wires can be easily and securely held while being strung within the molding, as well as one in which the wires can be rapidly strung within the molding without injury to the wires with-  
40 in the grooves of the same.

My invention consists, generally stated, in the novel arrangement, construction, and combination of parts, as hereinafter more specifically set forth and described, and par-  
45 ticularly pointed out in the claims.

To enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to construct and use the molding, I will describe the same more

fully, referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan or face view of the mold-  
ing, showing the wires within the grooves of  
the same. Fig. 2 is a cross-section thereof on  
the line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a like view  
showing the pegs removed and the cover in  
4 place on the molding over the wires, and Fig.  
4 is a view of one of the pegs removed.

Like numerals herein indicate like parts in each of the figures of the drawings.

As illustrated in the drawings, 1 represents  
60 the molding, which is generally formed of wood and is provided with the bottom or back  
2 thereon. Extending out from the bottom  
or back 2 are the sides 3 and partition-wall 4,  
which are adapted to form the grooves 5 5'  
65 within the molding 1. Extending along each  
side 4' of the partition-wall 4 within the  
grooves 5 5' are a series of tapered seats 6 6',  
which project downwardly at an incline to-  
ward the bottom or back 2 of the molding 1,  
70 and within which slots 6 6' are adapted to fit  
a series of tapered plugs 7, which extend out  
beyond the sides 3 of the molding 1. These  
plugs 7 act to hold the wires 8 within the  
grooves 5 5' and are preferably formed of  
75 wood, being preferably circular in cross-section and provided with rounded corners at each end thereof.

The use and operation of my improved  
molding for electric wires are as follows: The  
80 molding 1 is secured to the wall of the building, &c., by screws engaging with the bottom  
or back 2 of the molding and wall or in any  
other suitable manner, and the wires 8 to be  
strung are placed within the grooves 5 of the  
85 moldings singly or in numbers. After this is accomplished the operator can by hand insert  
the small end of the tapered plugs 7 within  
the tapered seats 6 to hold the wires 8 in  
place, after which the wires 8 can be inserted  
90 singly or in numbers within the groove 5' of  
the molding 1 and the small end of the tapered  
plugs 7 placed by hand within the tapered  
seats 6' to hold the wires 8 within the  
groove 5'. After the wires 8 have thus been  
95 secured and strung within the grooves 5 5' of



the molding the operator can then by hand remove the tapered plugs 7 from engagement with the tapered seats 6 6', when the cover 9 can be placed over the top of the molding 1, and so secure the wires 8 within the grooves 5 5' of the same.

It will thus be seen that my improved molding for electric wires is cheap and simple in its construction and operation and will do away with the use of nails to hold the wires within the grooves of the molding while being strung. In the use of these tapered plugs they can easily and rapidly be inserted within and removed from their seats in the molding without force and by hand, and all liability of injury to the insulation of the wires is overcome, thereby preventing fires within the building in which these moldings are used.

Various modifications in the material, construction, and design of the various parts of the device may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A molding for electric wires having

grooves therein, and removable plugs fitting over said grooves for holding the wires in place while being strung.

2. A molding for electric wires having grooves therein, seats within said grooves, and removable plugs fitting in said seats over the grooves for holding the wires in place while being strung.

3. A molding for electric wires having grooves therein, tapered seats within said grooves, and tapered removable plugs fitting in said tapered seats over the grooves for holding the wires in place while being strung.

4. A molding for electric wires having grooves therein, tapered seats extending within the sides of said grooves at a downward incline, and tapered removable plugs fitting within said tapered seats over the grooves for holding the wires in place while being strung.

In testimony whereof I, the said HARRY LEE, have hereunto set my hand.

HARRY LEE.

Witnesses:

RICHARD O'CONNOR,  
MARTIN C. KOEBEL.