

No. 656,993.

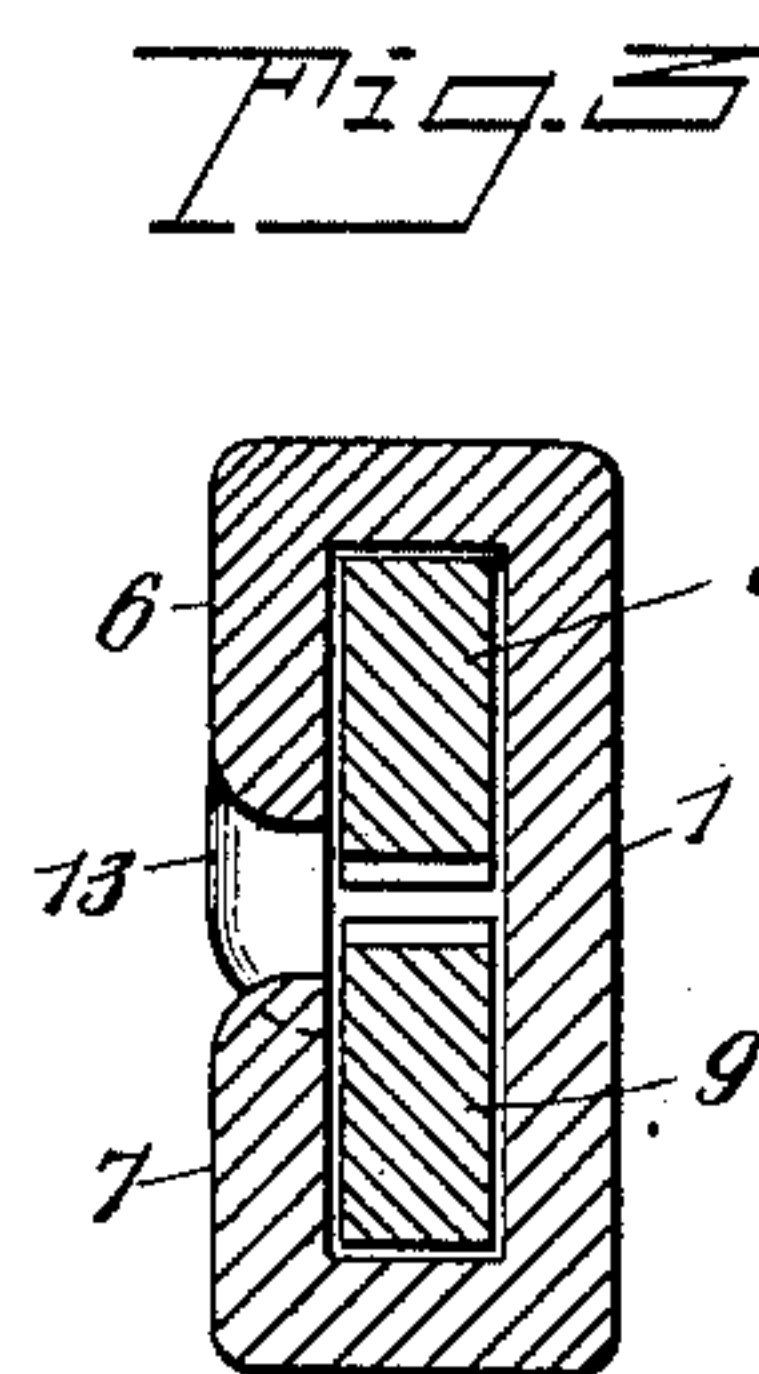
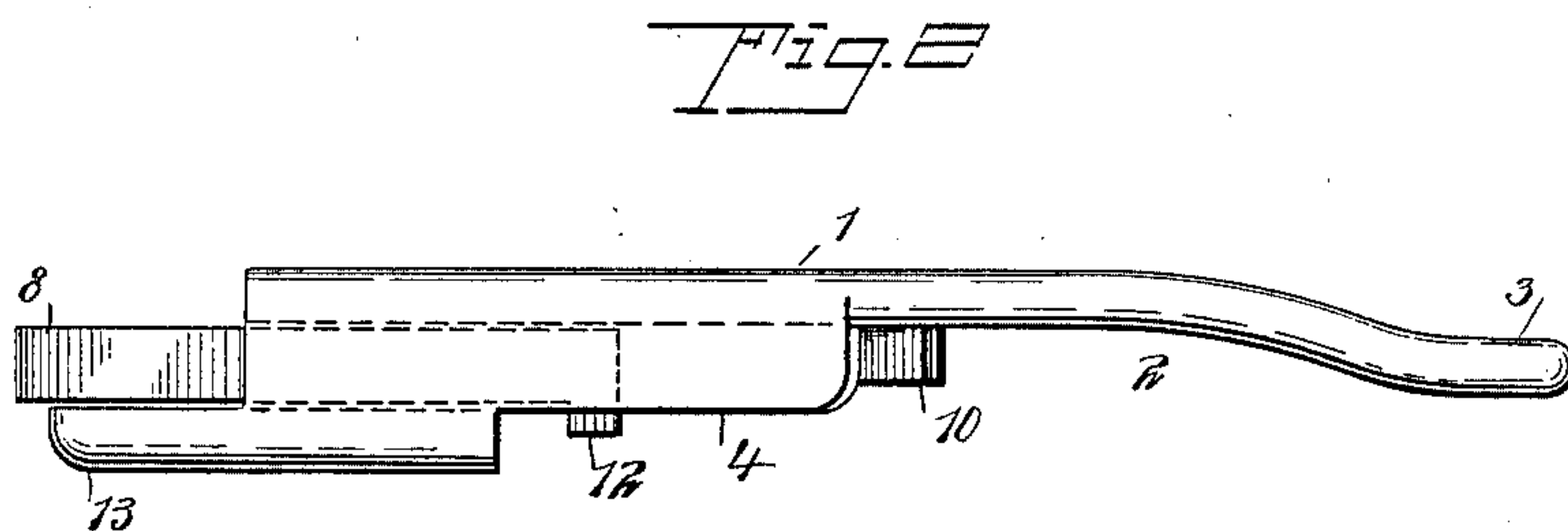
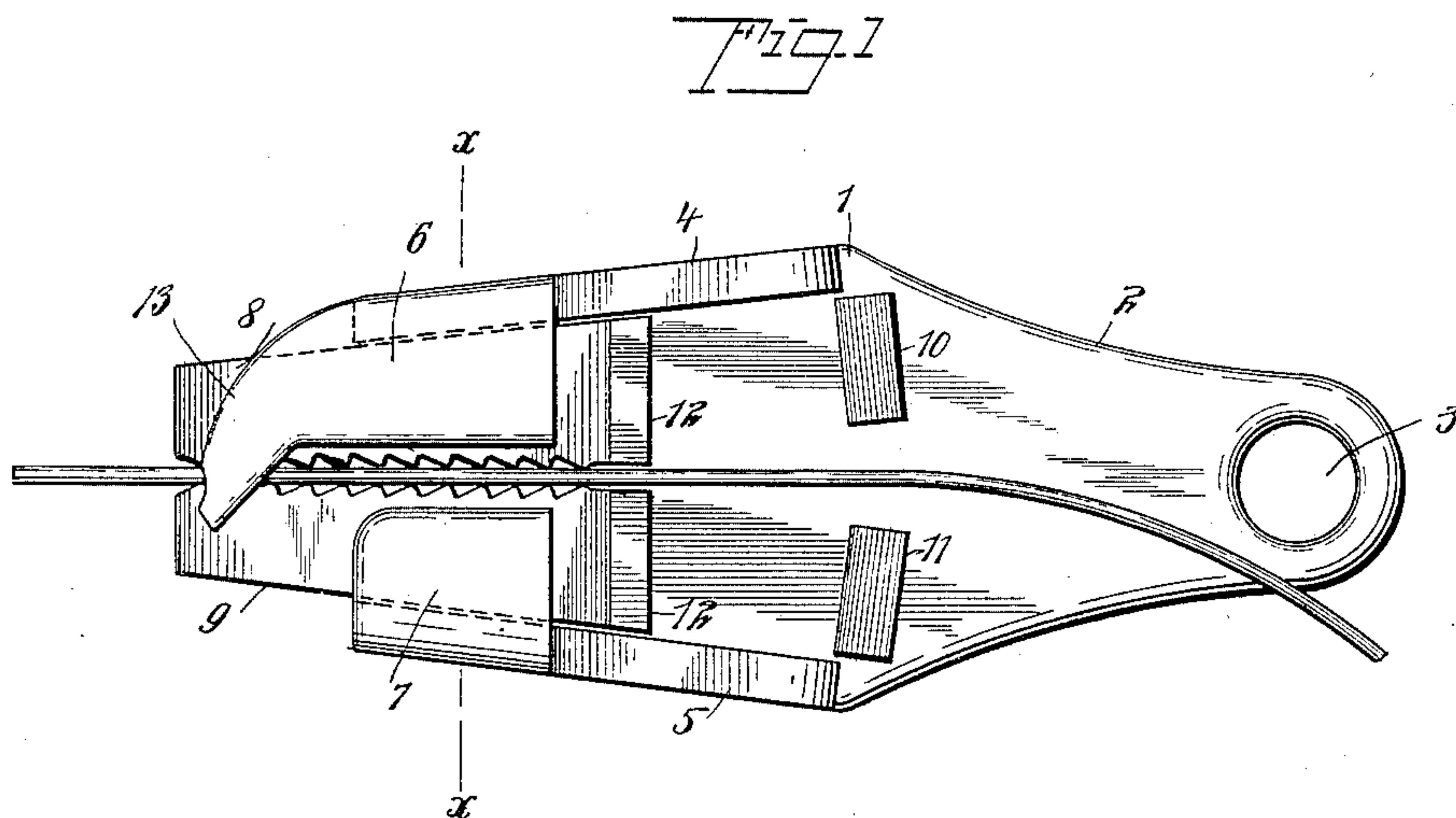
Patented Aug. 28, 1900.

H. A. MOSSMAN.

WIRE GRIP.

(Application filed May 2, 1900.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY A. MOSSMAN, OF MANDERSON, SOUTH DAKOTA.

WIRE-GRIP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 656,993, dated August 28, 1900.

Application filed May 2, 1900. Serial No. 15,226. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY A. MOSSMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Manderson, in the county of Shannon and State of South Dakota, have invented a new and Improved Wire-Gripper, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in wire-grippers particularly for gripping and stretching fence-wires; and the object is to provide a gripper of simple construction in which a wire of any size may be tightly held without danger of slipping either lengthwise or laterally of the gripper.

I will describe a wire-gripper embodying my invention, and then point out the novel features in the appended claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a gripper embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an edge view, and Fig. 3 is a section on the line $x x$ of Fig. 1.

The gripper comprises a stock or body plate 1, and from the stock or body portion a tang 2 extends rearward and is provided with an eye 3, in which a stretching device may be engaged. The part of the tang containing the eye is preferably offset or raised, so as to bring the eye in line with the longitudinal center of the jaws, to be hereinafter described, whereby a straight pull may be had. Extended at right angles from the stock or body plate at each side are cheek-plates 4 5, converging toward the forward end. Extended inward from the cheek-plate 4 is a guide-plate 6, and extended inward from the cheek-plate 5 is a guide-plate 7. Movable against the inner surfaces of the cheek-plates 4 and 5 and underneath the guide-plates 6 and 7 are clamping-jaws 8 and 9. These clamping-jaws are substantially wedge-shaped and have their adjacent edges serrated or provided with teeth to grip the wire. To prevent the jaws from being detached by rearward movement, I provide stop-lugs 10 11, which are formed on the stock or body plate at the rear

ends of the cheek-plates, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1, and to prevent the jaws from being removed by forward movement I provide the rear end of each jaw with an outwardly-extended flange 12, adapted to engage with the rear ends of the guide-plates 6 and 7. A stop plate or lug 13 extends forward from the guide-plate 6 and is curved transversely of the device to extend over the adjacent edges of the gripping-jaws. This stop plate or lug is designed to prevent a wire from being detached from the device by lateral movement in one direction, while the stock or body plate will prevent said lateral detachment in the other direction.

In operation the jaws are to be opened by moving them rearward. Then the stop plate or lug 13 is to be placed over the wire, causing the wire to move between the jaws. After this the jaws are to be moved forward, and the inclined cheek-plates obviously will cause the jaws to move toward each other as they are moved forward to grip the wire. Then by means of a suitable stretching device drawing upon the gripper longitudinally the wire may be stretched, and the greater the pull on the device the greater will be the clamping effect of the jaws upon the wire.

When it is desired to remove the gripper from a wire, a slight tap on the forward ends of the jaws will cause them to release their hold.

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

A wire-gripper, comprising a stock or body portion, convergent cheek-plates on opposite edges of the stock, jaws movable against said cheek-plate, guide-plates extended from the cheek-plates over the jaws, and a stop-plate extended from one of the guide-plates over the two jaws and terminating forward of the other guide-plate, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HARRY A. MOSSMAN.

Witnesses:

E. G. BETTELYOUN,
L. S. BEAR.