

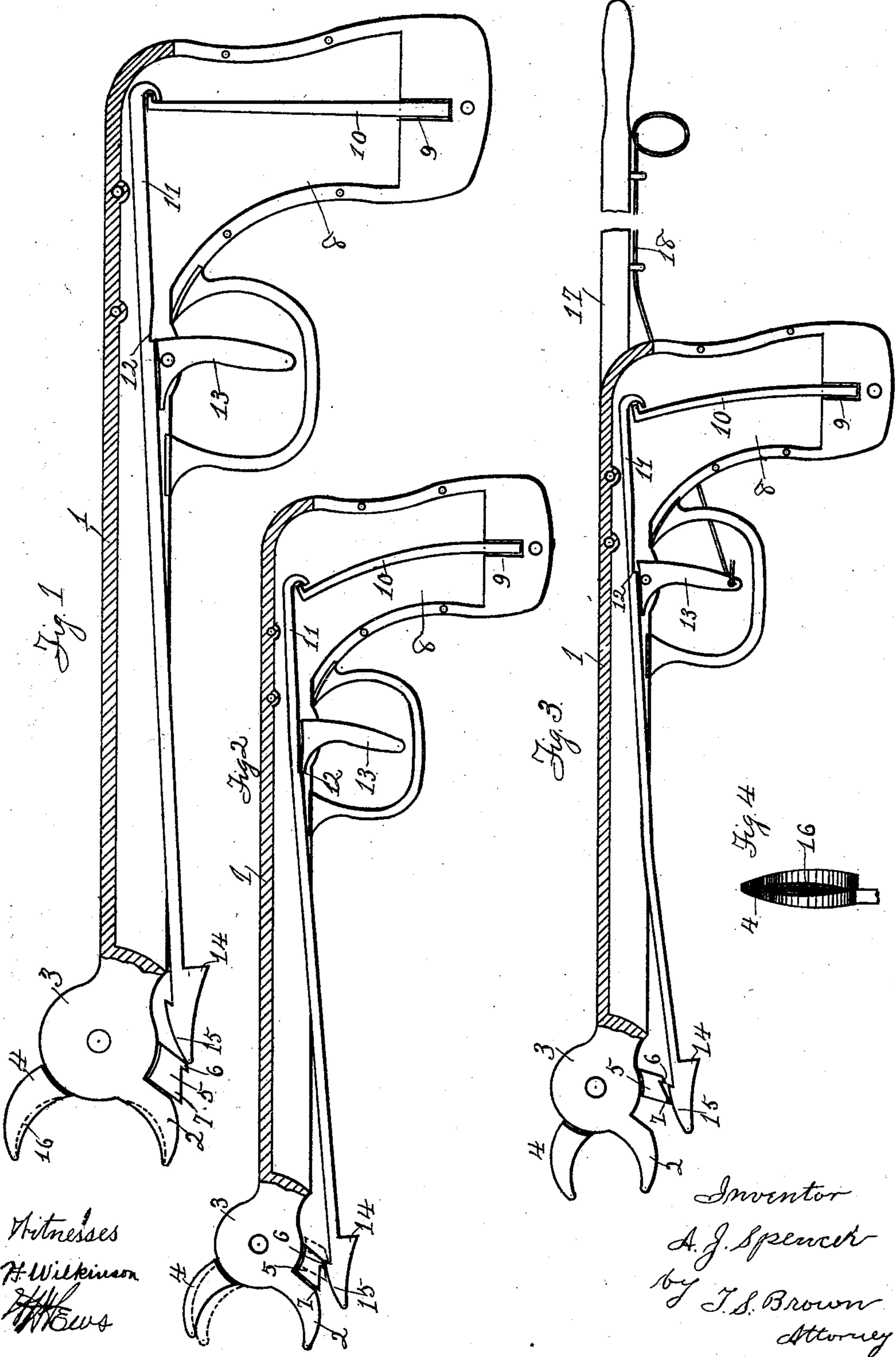
No. 697,559.

Patented Apr. 15, 1902.

A. J. SPENCER.  
STOCK RINGER.

(Application filed May 17, 1901.)

(No Model.)



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW J. SPENCER, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

## STOCK-RINGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 697,559, dated April 15, 1902.

Application filed May 17, 1901. Serial No. 60,705. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. SPENCER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Kansas City, in the county of Jackson, in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stock-Ringers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in stock-ringers of that class intended to be used for placing a ring in a hog's nose to prevent rooting and which may also be used to place the tags in the ears of cattle or the like; and my invention consists in certain features of novelty hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my improved stock-ringer with the jaws open, one side of the handle or stock being removed. Fig. 2 represents a like view showing the jaws partly closed to receive and hold the ring preparatory to placing it in a hog's nose. Fig. 3 represents a like view showing the jaws closed to close the ring. Fig. 4 represents a detail view of one of the jaws, showing groove therein for holding the rings.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

1 represents a stock or handle upon which is provided a curved jaw 2, adapted to receive and hold one part of an open hog-ring of usual and familiar form and not shown. Upon the head 3 of the stock, upon which is carried the jaw 2, is pivotally mounted an opposing jaw 4, the open ring being held between the two jaws, and upon said jaw 4 is provided a lug 5, provided with an indented catch 6 and a projection 7 in advance of said catch. The stock 1 is hollow throughout and is provided with a hollow butt 8. In a recess 9 in said butt of the stock is mounted a spring 10. A latch 11 engages the free end of said spring and extending longitudinally through the stock is adapted to engage the catch 6 on the lug 5 of said pivoted jaw 4 when the latch is drawn forward against the tension of said spring. In the latch-bar is provided a notch or stop 12, adapted to engage the forward end of a trigger 13 when the latch is drawn forward, and thus hold the spring under tension

while the catch of the jaw 4 is engaged with the latch. Said latch-bar is also provided with a step 14, adapted to be engaged with some fixed and stationary object to draw the latch forward against the tension of said spring into engagement with the trigger 13.

In using the device the step 14 is engaged with some fixed object and the latch drawn forward until the stop 12 engages and sets the trigger, as shown in full lines in Fig. 2. As there shown, this movement does not quite bring the latch into engagement with the catch on lug 5; but in this position there is no danger of accidental discharge, and the ring may with safety be placed between the jaws, and the jaw 4 being pressed down upon the ring the catch is brought into engagement with the latch, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, and the ring securely held between the jaws ready for operation. Then pulling on the trigger the forward end is withdrawn from the notch or stop and the latch released, when under the action of the spring the jaw 4 will be driven forward toward the jaw 2, closing the ring. Said latch-bar is provided with an extension 15, which as the bar moves backward under the action of the spring is adapted to engage the projection 7 on the lug 5 at that point in the movement at which the jaw 4 has closed the ring to the required degree and release the latch from the catch, as shown in Fig. 3, and with the further backward movement of the latch-bar the inclined faces of the extension 15 and projection 7, acting upon each other, will throw the jaw 4 back, opening the jaws and releasing the ring. This action of closing the ring and opening the jaws and releasing the ring therefrom is so quickly performed by the retractile action of the spring that it avoids any danger that any jerk or movement of the animal will displace the ring after being closed.

A groove 16 (shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 and in detail in Fig. 4) may be provided in the jaws to retain the ring in the jaws and prevent it slipping therefrom as the jaws are closed.

The device may be used with very great advantage in fastening the tags in the ears of cattle to be thus tagged after inspection or when otherwise necessary or desired. As usually practiced this is accomplished with

very serious difficulty and danger, as the cattle must be caught and held while the tag is fastened in the ear. By fastening the ringer upon a pole 17 and leading a wire or string 5 18 from the trigger out upon the pole, whereby the latch may be released, the operator is enabled to stand at a distance and with facility and without danger place a tag in the ear of the wildest steer in the corral.

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

1. The combination substantially as described of oppositely-disposed pivotally-connected jaws, a stock upon which said jaws are 15 mounted, a spring mounted in said stock, a latch connected with said spring, a trigger adapted to engage said latch to hold the spring under tension, a step on said latch for effecting the engagement of said latch with the 20 trigger, a lug upon one of said jaws provided with a catch adapted to engage said latch and a projection on said lug adapted to engage said latch and release the catch therefrom, 25 as the jaws are closed.

2. In a stock-ringer, the combination of a

stock, oppositely-disposed, pivotally-connected jaws mounted upon said stock, a spring mounted in said stock, a recessed latch connected with said spring, a trigger mounted in 30 said stock and arranged to engage said recess in said latch to hold said spring under tension, and a catch on one of said jaws arranged to be brought into engagement with said latch to set said jaw upon the ring after 35 the spring is set; substantially as set forth.

3. In a stock-ringer the combination of a stock, oppositely-disposed, pivotally-connected jaws on said stock, a spring mounted in said stock, a latch connected with said spring 40 and arranged to be engaged by one of said jaws, a trigger mounted in said stock and arranged to engage said latch to hold the spring under tension, a pole upon which said stock is mounted, and a wire extending along said 45 pole and connected with said trigger for releasing the same from said latch; substantially as set forth.

ANDREW J. SPENCER.

Witnesses:

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