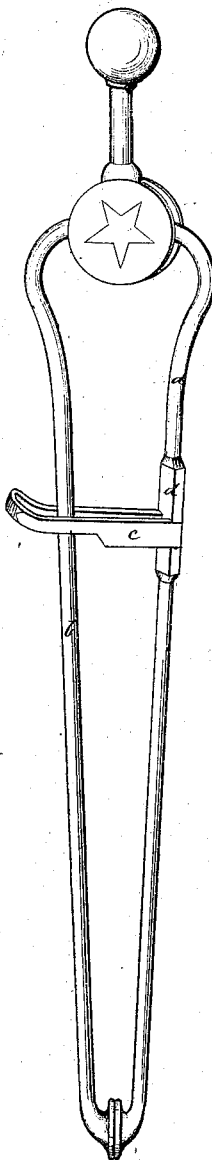


A. M. GEORGE.

Fire Tongs.

No. 111,054.

Patented Jan. 17, 1871.



Witnesses:

*H. J. Treacy*  
*C. A. Cotto*

Inventor:

*A. M. George*

PER

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# United States Patent Office.

ALFRED M. GEORGE, OF SAND FLY, TEXAS.

Letters Patent No. 111,054, dated January 17, 1871.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-TONGS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALFRED M. GEORGE, of Sand Fly, in the county of Bastrop and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fire-Tongs; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making a part of this specification, in which the figure is a perspective view.

This invention has for its object to prevent the legs of fire-tongs from lapping or crossing each other as they always do as soon as the joint is worn a little loose, which, overlapping, is a serious inconvenience in the use of tongs, and is entirely done away by my improvement.

The invention consists in a slotted guide, attached at one end to the stationary leg of a pair of tongs, and extending beyond and inclosing the movable leg, said guide being of sufficient length to give all necessary play to the movable leg, and compelling it to remain always in the same plane with the stationary leg.

Referring to the drawing—

*a* is the stationary leg of the tongs therein shown, and

*b*, the movable leg.

*c* is the slotted guide, securely attached at one end in any suitable manner to the enlarged portion *d* of the leg *a* sufficiently far from the rivet to make room for the hand, said guide being straight throughout

that portion of its length which extends to the movable leg when the latter is in contact with the stationary leg, and curved upward at its outer end to a degree that always conforms to the position of the movable leg when the latter is drawn away from the stationary leg.

The guide and slot are made long enough to enable the movable leg to swing as far from the stationary one as may ever be necessary in ordinary use.

By means of the guide the movable leg is entirely prevented from twisting or crossing the other, and, even when the guide is applied to a pair of old tongs, it renders them as good as new.

I am aware that it is not new to provide a slotted guide to each leg of the tongs, said guides extending inward and sliding one within the other, but I consider my plan superior to this one, and patentable notwithstanding it, for the reason that it is more simple, less expensive, and less liable to get out of order.

Having thus described my invention

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

The arrangement of the tongs *a b* and slotted guide *c*, when constructed and operating as specified.

ALFRED M. GEORGE.

Witnesses:

SOLOM C. KEMON,

THOMAS D. D. OURAND.