

No. 649,887.

Patented May 15, 1900.

F. CANFIELD.

TONGS FOR KEYING FENCE CLIPS.

(Application filed June 6, 1899.)

(No Model.)

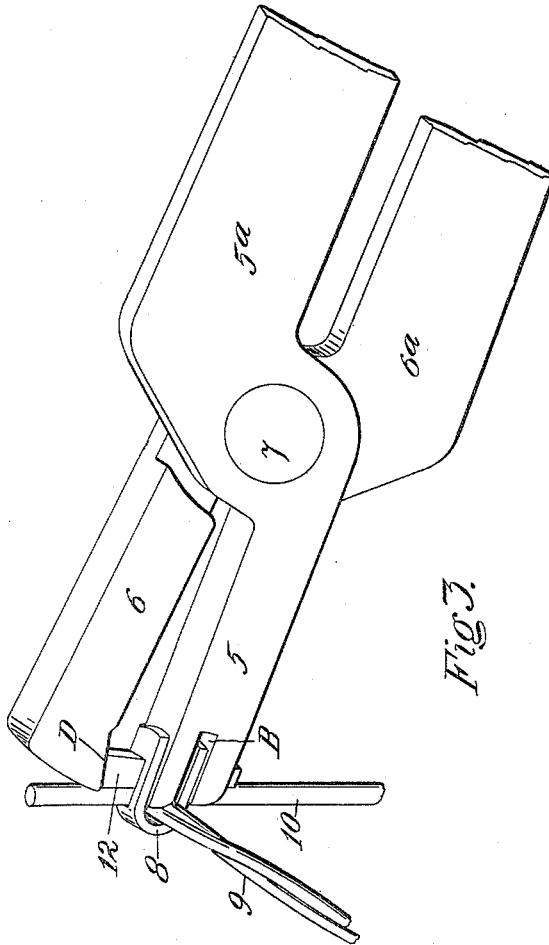


Fig. 3.

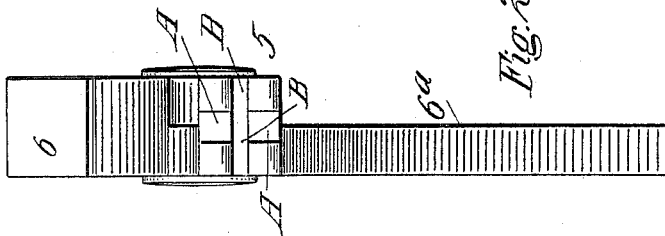


Fig. 2.

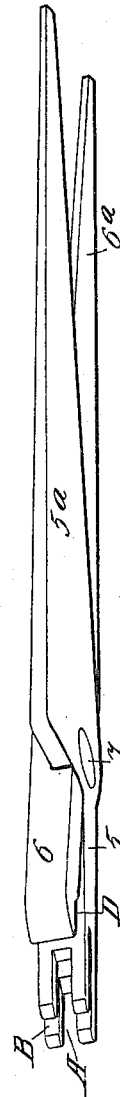


Fig. 1.

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK CANFIELD, OF BOULDER, COLORADO, ASSIGNOR TO THE AMERICAN WIRE FENCE COMPANY, OF COLORADO.

## TONGS FOR KEYING FENCE-CLIPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 649,887, dated May 15, 1900.

Application filed June 6, 1899. Serial No. 719,554. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK CANFIELD, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Boulder, in the county of Boulder and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tongs; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in tongs specially intended for inserting the wedge-shaped keys in the fastening-clips in wire-fence construction, my object being to provide a device of this class which shall be simple in construction, economical in cost, reliable, durable, and efficient in use; and to these ends the invention consists of the features hereinafter described and claimed, all of which will be fully understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which is illustrated an embodiment thereof.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device shown in detail. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the same with the jaws open and shown on a larger scale. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary perspective view of the tongs in use.

Similar reference characters indicating corresponding parts in the views, let the numerals 5 and 6 designate the jaws of the tongs, which are hinged or pivoted at 7 and provided with arms 5<sup>a</sup> and 6<sup>a</sup> of any desired length in order to obtain the required leverage. The jaw 5 will be termed the "lower" jaw and the jaw 6 the "upper" jaw in this specification. The lower jaw is provided with vertical and transverse slots A and B, intersecting or crossing each other at right angles. The cooperating face of the upper jaw is beveled to fit the top of the wedge, as shown at D.

The use of my improved tool will be fully understood by reference to Fig. 3 of the drawings, in which 8 designates a U-shaped fastening-clip, in the closed end of which is seated the wire 9. The arms of this clip are apertured to receive the stay 10 and the wedge-shaped fastening-key 12. The stay is inserted next to the wire and the wedging-key

outside of the stay. It is essential that this key be tightly inserted in the clip in order to properly perform its function—namely, the holding of the assembled parts in operative relation. My improved tongs is the instrument for accomplishing this end. When the tongs are applied, as shown in Fig. 3, the lower arm of the clip occupies the transverse or horizontal slot B of the lower jaw, while the wedge 12 and the stay 10 pass through the vertical slot A of said jaw. The upper jaw 6 then rests upon the upper extremity of the wedge, and by the use of the lever-arms 5<sup>a</sup> and 6<sup>a</sup> of the instrument the key may be forced into the clip and against the stay as tightly as necessary. It is evident that my improved tongs may also be used to equal advantage in removing the wedge from the clip. In this case the position of the jaws shown in Fig. 3 would be reversed, so that the jaw 6 would engage the lower or smaller extremity of the key 12.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A pair of tongs adapted for inserting wedge-shaped keys in U-shaped fastening-clips in wire-fence construction, said tongs comprising two jaws pivotally connected and provided with suitable lever-arms, one of the jaws being provided with a vertical slot extending from its outer end inwardly and adapted to straddle the wedge and stay, and provided with a horizontal slot extending from its outer end inwardly and intersecting the vertical slot, the horizontal slot being adapted to receive one arm of the clip whose other arm engages the top of the said jaw, the other jaw being adapted to engage one extremity of the wedge.

2. A pair of tongs provided with two cooperating jaws pivotally connected, one of the jaws having vertical and horizontal intersecting slots extending from the outer extremity of the jaw inwardly and respectively passing entirely through the jaw from top to bottom and from side to side.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANK CANFIELD.

Witnesses:

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