

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. BURDICK. WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 443,640.

Patented Dec. 30, 1890.

FIG. 1.

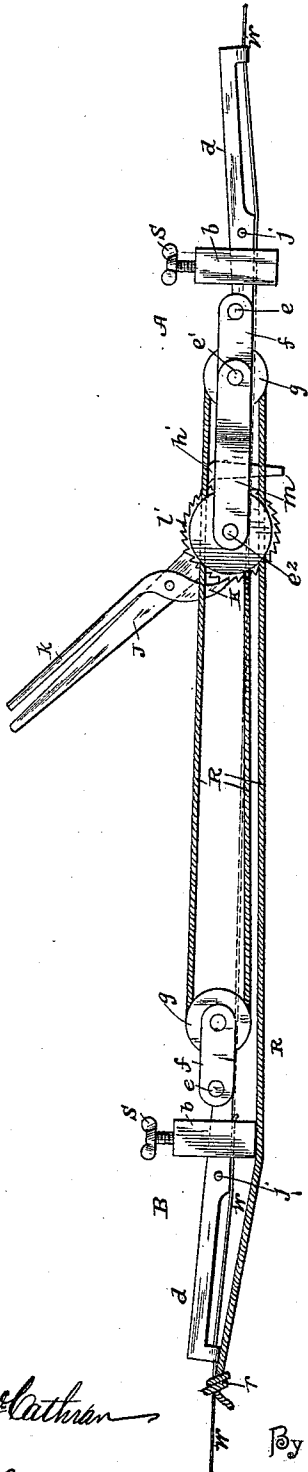
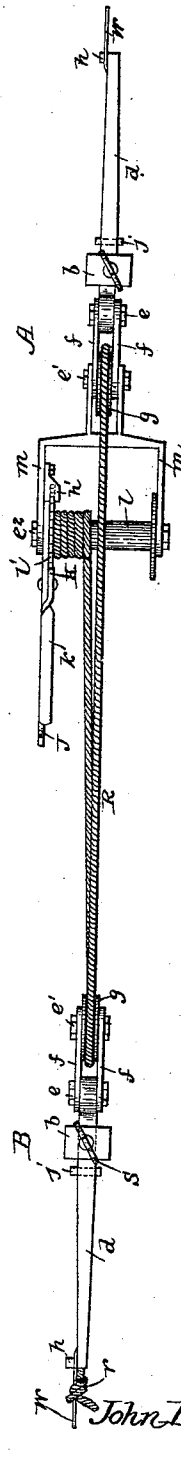


FIG. 2.



Witnesses

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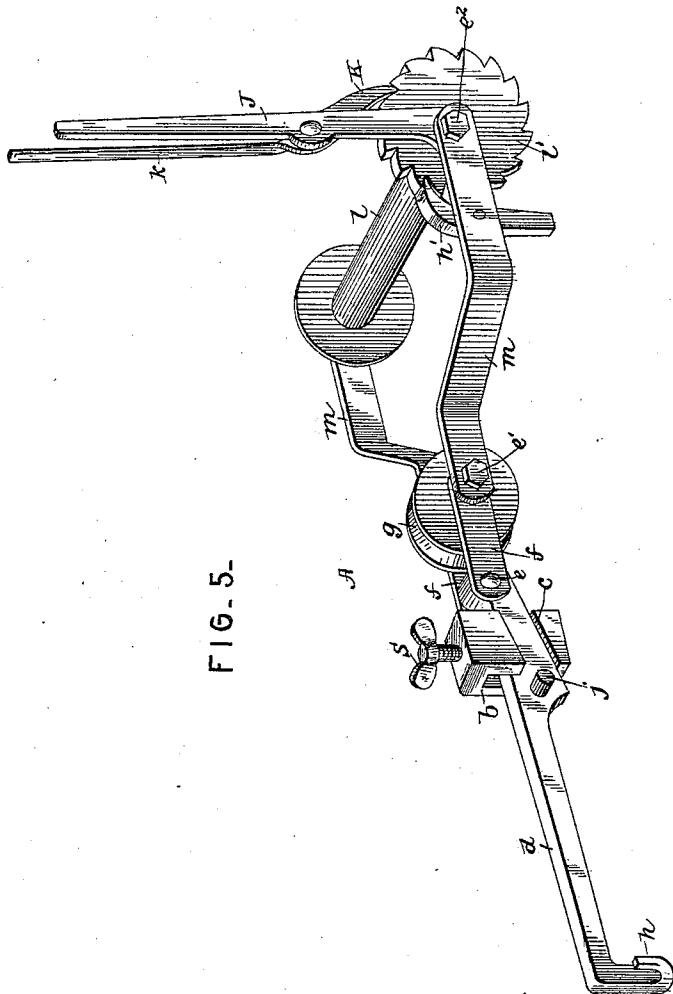


FIG. 5-

FIG. 3 -

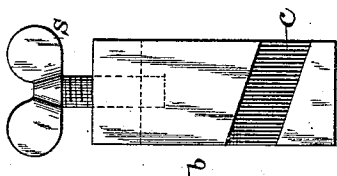
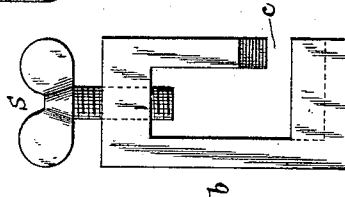


FIG. 4 -



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN BURDICK, OF FORT ELLIOTT, TEXAS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO HOMER W. WHEELER, OF FORT RENO, INDIAN TERRITORY.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 443,640, dated December 30, 1890.

Application filed August 20, 1890. Serial No. 362,508. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN BURDICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Elliott, in the county of Wheeler and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Wire-Stretcher, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to fences, and more particularly to the wire-stretchers used in the act of building the same; and the object thereof is to effect improvements upon devices of this same general character heretofore existing.

To this end the invention consists in the specific details of construction hereinafter more fully described and illustrated in the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 a plan, of this improved wire-stretcher at work. Figs. 3 and 4 are respectively a side and end elevation of the improved wire-clamp preferably used. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the lever member taken from the opposite side to that seen in Fig. 1.

Referring to the said drawings, the letter A designates one member and B the other member of my improved stretcher. Each of these members comprises a body *d*, having a hook *h* projecting downwardly and opening upwardly at its outer end. Through its inner end is a bolt *e*, upon which are pivoted two links *f*, and between the other ends of these links, upon a second bolt *e'*, is journaled a grooved pulley *g*, by which construction the device can be folded into compact position. Through the body *d*, at a suitable point, is a pin *j*, having projecting ends, and mounted loosely upon said body is a clamp *b*, which is retained in place upon the body by the pin *j*, said clamp having an inclined opening *c* through one side with an inclined seat, and carrying a set-screw *S* through its upper end adapted to bear upon the upper side of the body *d*, and to draw said inclined seat against the lower side of the body.

The member A, in addition to the parts above described, consists of a yoke *m*, whose outer ends are pivotally mounted upon the bolt *e'* outside the links *f* and whose inner ends are connected by a long bolt *e²*. Upon the latter is journaled a drum *l*, having teeth

upon one of its end flanges, and pivoted upon the long bolt *e²*, outside the toothed flange *l'*, is a lever *J*, having a pawl *K* pivoted thereto, adapted to engage the ratchet-teeth and operated by a long handle *k*, which extends up alongside the lever. Pivoted to the yoke *m*, adjacent to the ratchet-wheel *l'*, is a retaining-pawl *h'*, whose body is of L shape, its foot engaging the ratchet-wheel, as shown in Fig. 1. A rope *R* is attached to the drum *l*, led over the grooved pulley *g* of the member B, returned to and passed around the grooved pulley of the member A, and then led entirely below the member B and tied in a simple knot, as at *r*, around the wire.

In operation the ends of the wires *W* are passed through the hooks *h*, beneath the bodies *d*, into the opening *c* of each clamp *b*, and the set-screws *S* turned to hold the wire ends in this position, as shown in Fig. 1. The rope is then drawn as tightly as possible by hand and tied at *r*, as above described. The lever *J* is then manipulated to rotate the drum *l*, and in this manner the two members A and B are drawn toward each other, whereby the two wires *W W* are drawn tight. As the wire is tightened, the clamps slip slightly on the bodies and the wire is further and more tightly clamped between the inclined faces. If a wire has become slack, as is often the case, this improved tightener is applied to the wire in the same manner, the wire passing between the two clamps *b*, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, and after the wire has been drawn tight the loop or slack which stands between the two members is taken up in any preferred or well-known manner, after which the tightener is removed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a wire-stretcher, the combination, with the body *d*, having an inclined lower edge, and the pin *j* through said body, of the clamp *b*, loosely surrounding said body and having an opening in one side with an inclined seat *c* below the inclined lower edge of the body, and the set-screw *S* through the upper end of said clamp, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The herein-described wire-stretcher, the same comprising two similar members A and B, each consisting of a body *d*, having an up-

wardly-opening hook *h* at its outer end, a
wire clamp, substantially as set forth, on said
body, links *f*, pivoted to the inner end of said
body, and a grooved pulley *g*, pivoted between
5 said links, a yoke *m*, mounted on the shaft of
the pulley of one member, a drum journaled
in said yoke, an operating-lever therefor, and
a rope leading from said drum around the
opposite pulley, thence around the remaining
10 pulley, and thence connected to the opposite

end of the wire being stretched, the whole op-
erating as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as
my own I have hereto affixed my signature in
presence of two witnesses.

JOHN BURDICK.

Witnesses:

M. HEMAN,
J. D. ROSS.