

E. W. SCOTT.  
 WIRE STRETCHER.  
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1,016,785.

Patented Feb. 6, 1912.

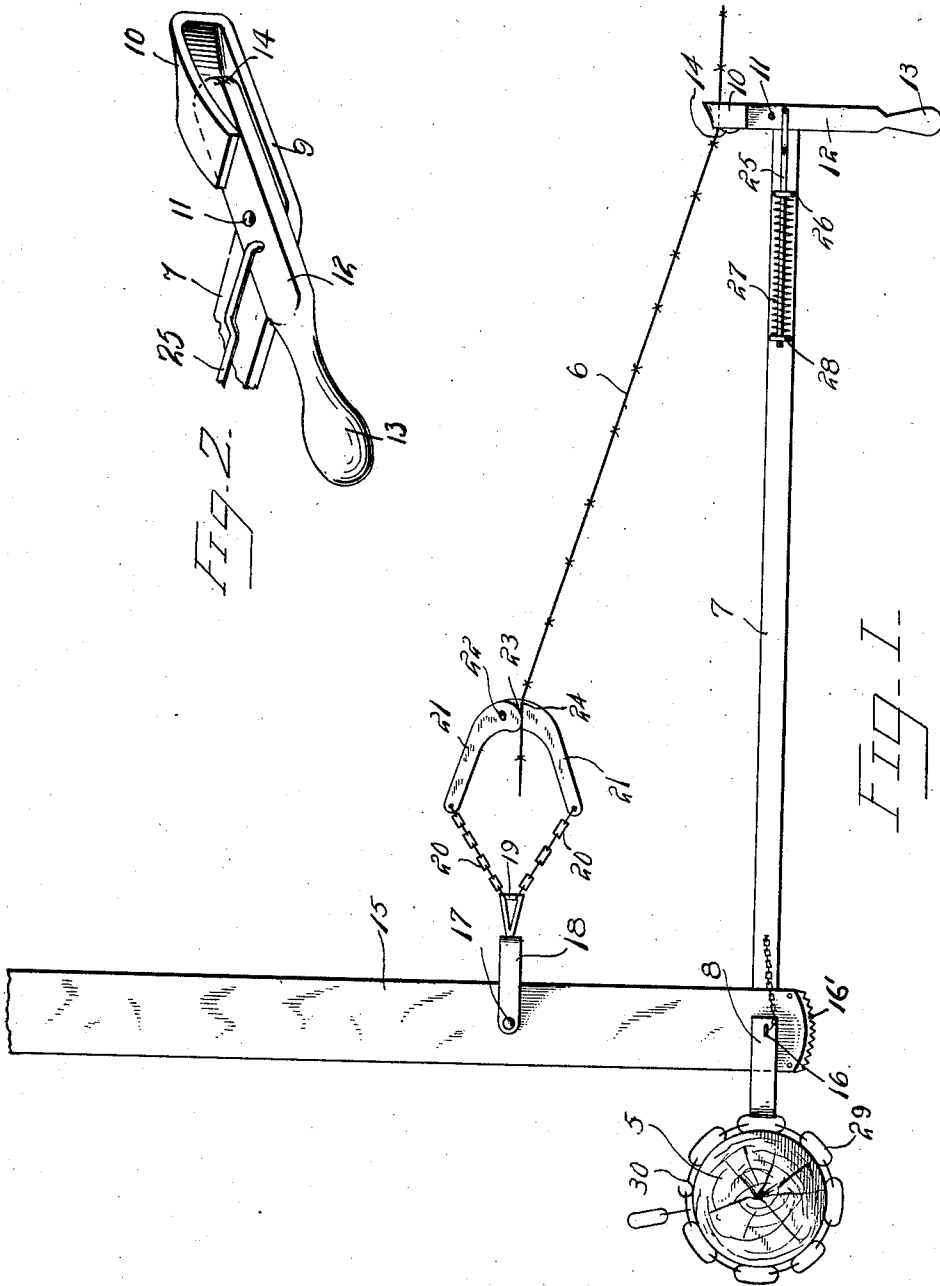


FIG. 2.

FIG. 1.

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Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## WIRE-STRETCHER.

1,016,785.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDMUND W. SCOTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Simpsonville, in the county of Howard, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers; and I do hereby 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.

The invention relates to a wire stretcher and more particularly to that class designed for its primary object to effect a stretching operation so as to conveniently and effectually take up the slack in barbed or other wires of fence structures.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a wire stretcher in which an automatic grip is had upon a wire, while the same is being drawn taut so as to overcome any possibility of the wire accidentally becoming released from the clamps of the device while in operation.

A final object of the invention is the provision of a wire stretcher which is simple in construction, thoroughly reliable and efficient in operation, and inexpensive in manufacture.

In the annexed drawings is shown the preferred form of embodiment of the invention, which to enable those skilled in the art to carry the invention into practice, will be set forth at length in the following detail description, while the novelty of the invention will be pointed out in the claim hereunto appended.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a top plan view of a wire stretcher constructed in accordance with the invention and showing its manner of application. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary detail perspective view of the other clamp.

Similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views in the drawings.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, 5 designates generally a vertical fence post which is of the ordinary type, and 6, a barbed wire adapted to be acted upon for the stretching thereof by the wire stretcher as will be hereinafter described.

The wire stretcher comprises a metal bar 7, having one extremity bent to form a U-shaped yoke terminal 8, while its opposite extremity is formed with a right angular

extension 9, provided with an offset jaw 10, and to this extension 9, is connected by a pivot 11, a movable clamp lever 12, terminating at one end in a handle 13, and its opposite end slightly rounded as at 14, to cooperate with the jaw 10, and thus serving as a cam for clamping in the jaw, the wire 6, for the stretching thereof.

Mounted in the yoke terminal 8, of the bar 7, is a pull lever 15, the same being connected by a detachable pivot pin 16, to the yoke terminal 8, of the bar. At a considerable distance removed from the pivot point of the lever 15, and connected thereto by a pivot 17, is a strap member 18, supporting an eye 19, having connected thereto chains 20, the latter also connected to the jaw members 21, of a wire clamp and these jaw members are connected to each other by a pivot 22. One of the jaw members 21 is formed with a cam terminal 23, cooperating with a gripping shoulder 24, on the other jaw member, so as to clamp therebetween the wire 6, for the stretching of the same.

Loosely connected to the clamp lever 12, at one side of the pivot 11, is a rod 25, the latter passed through and freely slidable in a guide eye 26, mounted on the bar 7, and surrounding this rod 25, is a coiled expansion spring 27, one end of which bears against the guide eye 26, while its opposite end has its bearing against a nut 28, threaded onto the rod 25. This spring 27, normally holds the lever 12, in position for positively clamping the wires 6, in the jaw 10, so that upon stretching of the wire it is prevented from slipping in the jaw 10, but the said wire is permitted to be stretched taut upon manipulation of the lever 15, in one direction.

Carried by the yoke terminal 8, is a chain 29, the latter being passed around the post 5, and joined at its ends by a hook member 30, carried by said chain and in this manner the stretcher is attached to the post.

In the operation of the device the chain 29, is secured to the post 5, and the two clamps are engaged with the wires 6, after which the lever is moved in one direction so as to pull upon the wire 6, to take up the slack therein and as this wire is being pulled it freely slides through the jaw 10, but should it be desired to take a new grip upon the wire 6, the clamp lever 12, will automatically operate to hold the wire in the jaw

10, until the wire clamp on the lever 15 has been properly engaged with the said wire for the further stretching thereof.

From the foregoing, it is thought the construction and operation of the invention will be clearly apparent, without the necessity of a more extended explanation and therefore the same has been omitted.

It will be noted upon reference to Fig. 1 of the drawings that when the handle 13 is swung to the right, to open the jaws of the wire clamp, the point of connection of the rod 25 with the portion 12 is carried around, behind and above the pivot 11 so that the spring 27 then serves to hold the jaws in open position.

It will be noted that the lever 15 is provided in its end with a toothed plate 16' so that in tightening a line of fence, it is not necessary to use the chain 29 about a post, as the lever may be disposed with these teeth against the face of a post so that the post will act as the fulcrum of the lever, the teeth of course preventing slipping of the lever on the face of the post.

What is claimed is:—

A wire stretcher comprising a bar having one end disposed at right angles thereto and provided with an upturned and inturned portion spaced from the bent portion to form a stationary jaw having a rearwardly curved working face, a manually operable

lever pivoted intermediate its extremities to said bar and contacting with the upper face of the jaw, said lever having a rounded forward corner at its inner end portion working against said curved face and contacted by the inturned portion of the body and with its opposite extremity extending beyond the bar, a guide eye rising from said bar spaced rearwardly of the lever, a rod slidable therethrough for a portion of the length of the bar and pivotally connected at its forward end to the lever adjacent to its pivot point, an adjusting nut threaded on the inner end of said rod, a coiled spring between the nut and eye for automatically gripping a wire between the lever and jaw, the opposite extremity of the bar being adapted for attachment to a supporting member against movement, a pull rod pivotally connected thereto adjacent to the supporting member and a wire engaging clamp connected with the bar removed from its pivot point for drawing the wire through the aforesaid gripping member when operated.

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

EDMUND W. SCOTT.

Witnesses:

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