J. DOBBS & W. P. WELBORN.

WIRE STRETCHER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 25, 1908.

902,565. Patented Nov. 3, 1908.

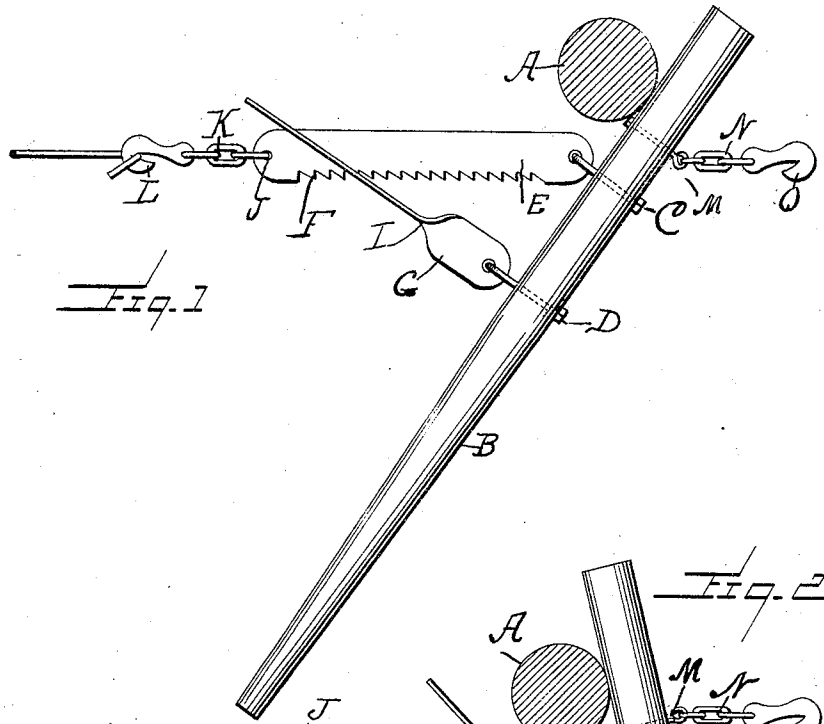

Fig. 1

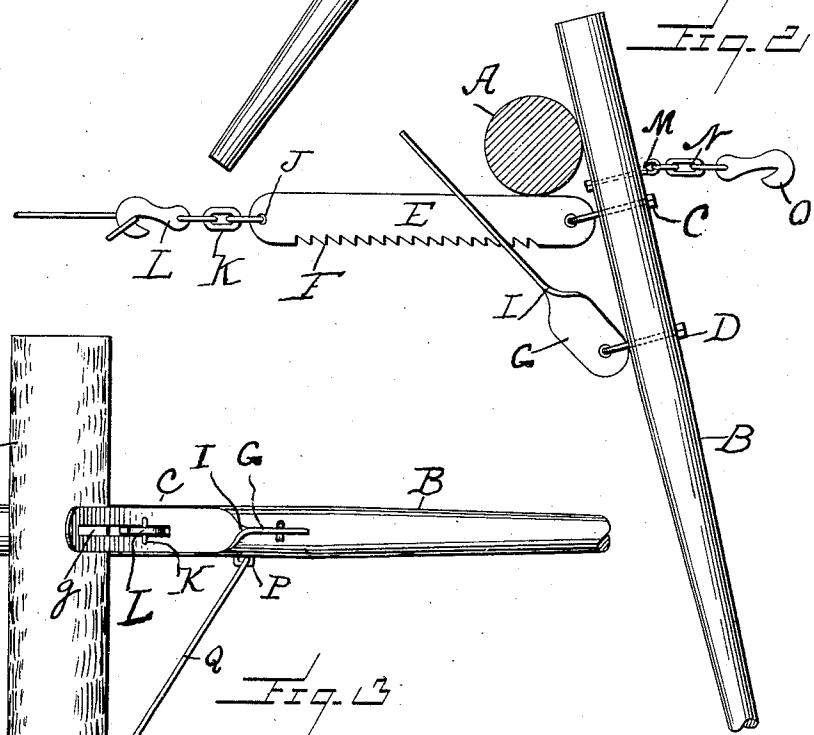

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN DOBBS AND WILLIAM P. WELBORN, OF PALESTINE, TEXAS.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

No. 902,565. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 3, 1908.

Application filed May 25, 1908. Serial No. 434,751.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN DOBBS and WILLIAM P. WELBORN, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Palestine, in the county of Anderson and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to wire stretchers and has for an object the production of an implement of the character which can engage a fence post as a fulcrum and by proper manipulation of the lever, the wire can be appropriately stretched and retained until the wire is secured by staples or the like.

A further object of the invention is to produce a wire stretcher that can be manipulated by inexperienced operators, said stretcher being light in weight, simple in construction, efficient and satisfactory in use and comparatively inexpensive to produce and maintain.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists in the details of construction and in the arrangement and combination of parts to be hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification wherein like characters denote corresponding parts in the several views, in which,

Figure 1, is a plan view of the stretcher in operative relation to the fence post; Fig. 2, is a similar view with the elements of the stretcher in different operative relation; and Fig. 3, is a view in elevation.

In these drawings A, denotes a fence post and B, a lever engaging the fence post. The lever has two eye bolts C and D, the former of which has the toothed rack E, pivoted to it. The toothed rack is preferably formed by utilizing a flat strip of metal and having the teeth F, struck thereon, for it has been found in practice that such an element can be produced quickly and inexpensively.

The pawl G, is pivoted to the eye bolt D, and has a longitudinally disposed slot *g*, to receive the toothed rack, which slot permits the pawl to travel longitudinally of the toothed rack. The pawl is preferably formed of a strip of metal having a quarter twist at I, which causes the outer end of the pawl to stand at right angles to the inner end of said pawl. It will be observed also that the inner end of the pawl and the end of the toothed rack are pivoted on the same plane.

The outer end of the toothed rack has a hole J, to receive a link of the chain K, to which the wire engaging member L, is connected.

The lever is also provided with an eye bolt M, to which the chain N, is attached, said chain having a wire engaging member O. This last mentioned device is utilized to stretch wire on the last panel, the lever engaging the post with the parts in a position reversed from that shown in the drawing.

The lever is also provided with a loop P, having an anchoring rod Q, loosely connected to it, said anchoring rod being adapted to have its end embedded in a post in order that said lever may be held at the proper elevation on the post while it is manipulated, thus insuring a proper positioning of the wires with relation to one another and with relation to the extremities of the posts.

We claim:

1. A wire stretcher comprising a lever, a toothed bar and a prop, both loosely connected to said lever, in alinement one with the other, said prop having a longitudinal slot for the reception of said toothed bar, with one end wall of said slot engaging the outer longitudinal edge of said bar and the other end wall of said slot adapted to engage the toothed edge of said bar.

2. In a wire stretcher, a lever, eye bolts therein, a toothed rack pivoted to one eye bolt, a pawl pivoted to the other eye bolt, said pawl comprising a strip of metal twisted intermediate its length and having its outer end standing at right angles to its inner end and slotted to receive the toothed rack, and a wire engaging device connected to the toothed rack.

3. A wire stretcher comprising a lever, a toothed bar and a pawl, said latter members having pivotal eye bolt connections with said lever in alinement one with the other, said pawl member having its outer portion

at right angles to its inner portion and provided with a longitudinal slot receiving said toothed bar member edgewise, with one end wall of said slot adapted to engage one longitudinal edge of said toothed bar member and the other end wall of said slot adapted to engage the toothed edge of said bar.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses this 19th day of May, 1908.

JOHN DOBBS.
WILLIAM P. WELBORN.

Witnesses:
P. N. SPRINGER,
C. H. J. WEIR.