(No Model.)

J. N. PYEATT.

APPARATUS FOR STRETCHING FENCE WIRES.

No. 590,164. Patented Sept. 14, 1897.

Fig. 1.

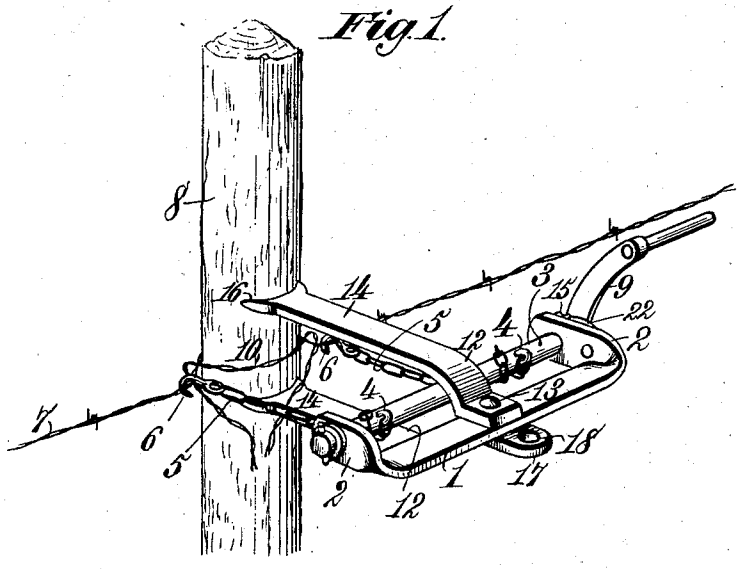


Fig. 2.

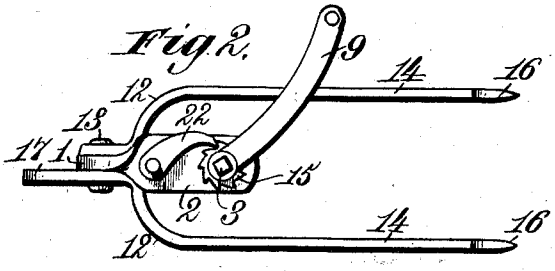
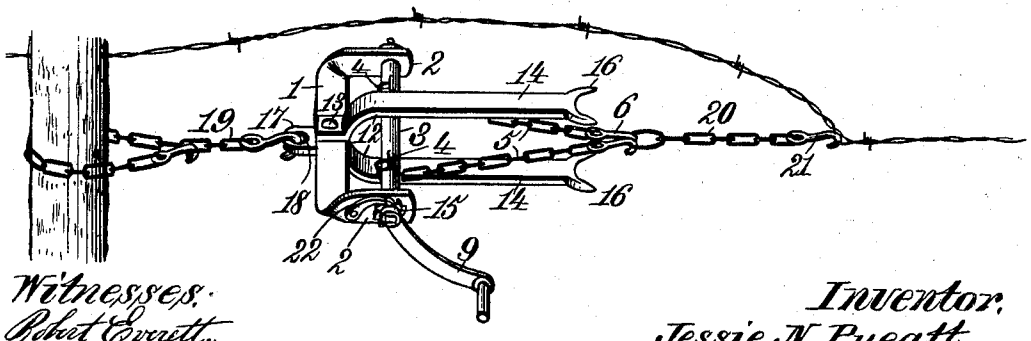


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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APPARATUS FOR STRETCHING FENCE-WIRES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 590,164, dated September 14, 1897.

Application filed June 29, 1897. Serial No. 642,821. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JESSIE NEWTON PYEATT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Putnam, in the county of Callahan and State of Texas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Stretching Fence-Wires, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices designed for stretching, tightening, and repairing wire-fence strands.

The chief object of the present invention is to provide a new and improved portable manually-operated apparatus by which a wire-fence strand may be stretched around a fence-post in a direction at right angles to the length of the strand to tighten the latter and enable it to be secured in its tightened condition without kinking or twisting the fence-strand or driving staples or analogous fastenings into the fence-post.

The invention also has for its object to provide a novel, simple, efficient, and economical apparatus which may be temporarily attached to a fence-post and be rigidly supported thereby while the attendant operates a windlass and chains to stretch a wire fence strand around a fence-post and secure such strand in its tightened condition.

The invention also has for its object to provide that type of fence-wire-stretching apparatus having a windlass for stretching and tightening the fence-strand with new and improved rigid supporting-arms designed to positively engage a fence-post and thereby support the apparatus without the necessity of the windlass-frame itself bearing against the post.

To accomplish all these objects, my invention consists in the features of construction and in the combination or arrangement of parts hereinafter described, and specifically pointed out in the claims, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved wire-stretching apparatus applied to a fence-post and having the two windlass-chains connected with a fence-strand at opposite sides of the post. Fig. 2 is a detail side elevation of the apparatus, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the apparatus applied for stretching a fence-strand in the direction of its length.

In order to enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will now describe the same in detail, referring to the drawings, wherein it will be seen that the frame of the apparatus is composed, essentially, of a metallic plate 1, having its end portions twisted and extended to form side arms 2 coequal in length and in which the windlass 3 is journaled. The windlass is composed of an ordinary rotary shaft provided near the side arms with eyes 4, to which two independent chains 5 are secured at one end. The other ends of the chains are provided with hooks 6, which may be made to engage a wire-fence strand 7 at opposite sides of a fence-post 8, so that by turning the windlass through the medium of a crank-handle 9, applied to one end thereof, the two chains will be separately wound upon the windlass and the fence-strand will be drawn around the fence-post in a direction at right angles to the length of the strand, after which the stretched and tightened strand may be secured by a tie-wire 10, passed around one side of the post and engaged with the bends in the strand, formed by pulling the latter in a direction around the post.

In order to support the windlass-frame upon the fence-post during the time the windlass is being operated and the stretched and tightened wire strand is being secured, I provide the plate 1 of the frame centrally between the side arms 2 with upper and lower rigid arms 12, which are firmly and fixedly attached at one end to the center of the plate by a rivet, pin, or bolt 13. The rigid arms 12 are angular in shape and respectively project upward and downward from the plate 1 and horizontally in substantially parallel lines to provide parallel members 14, which are constructed with pointed extremities 16, adapted to be driven into the fence-post at points above and below the fence-strand which is to be operated upon, as will be understood by reference to Fig. 1. The substantially parallel supporting-arms enable the windlass-frame to be supported on the fence-post without such windlass-frame being extended to firmly bear against the fence-post.

One of the supporting-arms is provided

with a heel-piece 17, having an eye 18, or otherwise constructed, so that it can be engaged with a chain 19, Fig. 3, passing around a fence-post, so that by connecting another chain 20 with the hooks 6 of the windlass-chains 5 a fence-strand can be stretched longitudinally of its length, as will be clearly understood by reference to Fig. 3. The chain 20 is provided at one end with a hook 21 to engage the fence-strand, which is to be pulled longitudinally. By rotating the windlass 3 through the medium of the crank-handle 9 in the use of the wire-stretching apparatus in the manner illustrated in Fig. 3 the heel-piece 17 is important in that it enables the windlass-frame to be connected with a chain passing around a fence-post, so that the windlass may be operated to wind the windlass-chains 5 and thereby pull the fence-strand lengthwise.

The construction of windlass-frame from a flat metal plate having its end portions twisted to form flat side arms in which the windlass is journaled enables the apparatus to be very economically manufactured, and the extension of the angular supporting-arms 12 from the center of the plate 1 to provide parallel members 14, having pointed extremities 16, enables the windlass-frame to be very firmly and substantially supported by the fence-post without so constructing the windlass-frame that it must bear against the fence-post, as has heretofore been proposed.

The two independent windlass-chains 5, with their hooks 6, enable the apparatus when applied to a fence-post, as shown in Fig. 1, to stretch the wire-fence strand around the fence-post in a direction at right angles to the length of the strand, so that the stretched and tightened strand can be secured by a simple tie-wire, thereby avoiding the kinking or twisting of the wire-fence strand and also avoiding the necessity of driving staples or analogous fastenings into the fence-post to secure the strand after it has been stretched.

The windlass 3 is provided at one end with a ratchet-wheel 15, engaged by a pawl 22, pivoted to one of the arms 2, whereby the windlass is locked against back motion.

The improved apparatus may be used to repair a broken strand, as the hooks 6 can be engaged with the ends of the strand and then by turning the windlass the broken ends will be brought together, so that they can be easily tied or connected.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination, in a fence-wire-stretching apparatus, of a frame having a windlass, two chains connected at one end with the windlass and having hooks at the other end to engage a fence-wire at opposite sides of a fence-post to draw the wire around the post in a direction at right angles to the length of the wire, and angular arms rigidly secured, respectively, to the upper and lower sides of the windlass-frame and constructed with pointed extremities to penetrate the fence-post, and thereby support the apparatus on the post without the windlass-frame bearing against the same, substantially as described.

2. The combination, in a fence-wire-stretching apparatus, of a windlass-frame composed of a metallic plate having its end portions twisted and bent to provide side arms, a windlass journaled in said side arms, two independent chains connected at one end with the windlass and having hooks at the other end to engage a fence-wire at opposite sides of a fence-post to draw the wire around the post in a direction at right angles to the length of the wire, angular arms rigidly secured, respectively, to the center of the metallic frame-plate, and constructed with parallel members having pointed extremities to penetrate the fence-post and thereby support the windlass-frame without the latter bearing against the post, substantially as described.

3. The combination, in a fence-wire-stretching apparatus, of a windlass-frame composed of a metallic plate having its end portions twisted and bent to provide side arms, a windlass journaled in said side arms, two independent chains connected at one end with the windlass and having hooks at the other end to engage a fence-wire at opposite sides of a fence-post to draw the wire around the post in a direction at right angles to the length of the wire, angular arms rigidly secured, respectively, to the center of the metallic frame-plate, and constructed with parallel members having pointed extremities to penetrate the fence-post and thereby support the windlass-frame without the latter bearing against the post, one of said angular arms having a heel-piece constructed to engage a chain passing around a fence-post, substantially as and for the purposes described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JESSIE NEWTON PYEATT.

Witnesses:
J. T. McCOLLUM,
M. R. SURLES.