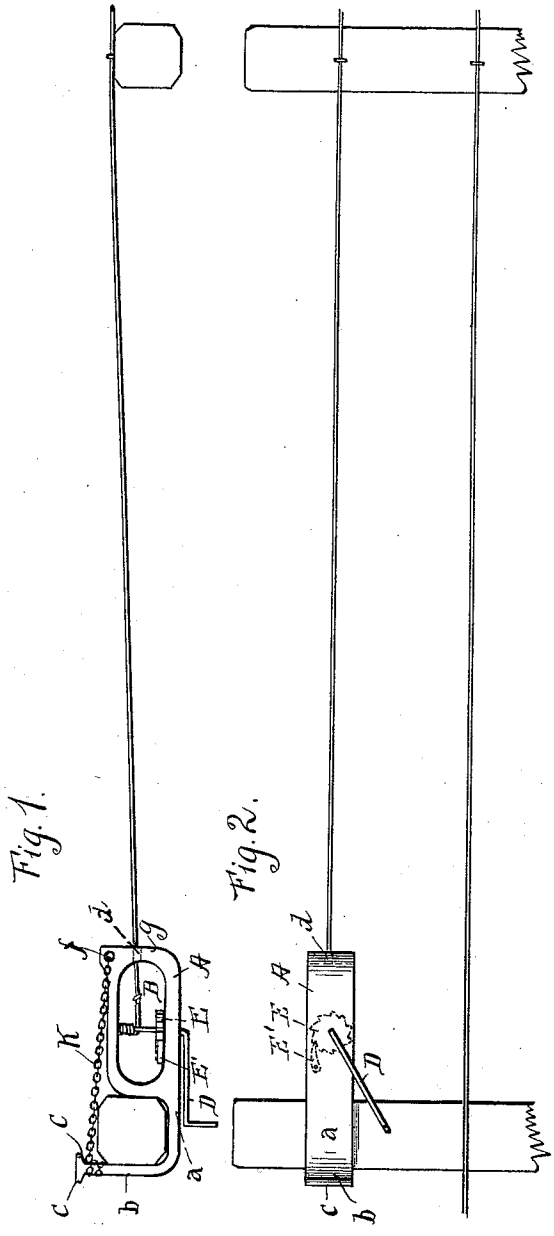
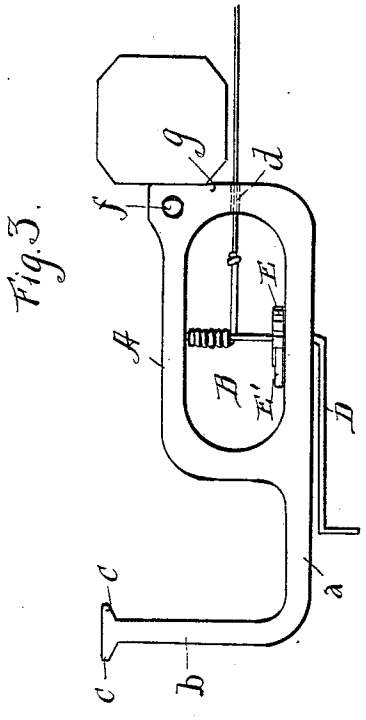
(No Model.)

J. M. MYERS.

WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 525,962. Patented Sept. 11, 1894.





WITNESSES

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JOHN M. MYERS, OF COTTON GIN, TEXAS.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 525,962, dated September 11, 1894.

Application filed May 10, 1894. Serial No. 510,718. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN M. MYERS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Cotton Gin, in the county of Freestone and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers; 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 letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a plan view showing the invention applied. Fig. 2 is an elevation of same with posts partially broken away. Fig. 3 is an enlarged plan showing the invention applied to a corner post.

This invention has relation to a certain new and useful device for stretching wire, my object being to provide a device of this character, which while extremely simple in construction, is very effective in operation, enabling the wire to be stretched tightly and secured to the same post to which the stretcher is applied.

With this object in view the invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, all as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the frame of the stretcher, which is formed in one integral piece, the body of which is cut away to form a large vertical aperture B. Said body portion is formed with a longitudinal extension *a* in line with its rear edge, where it leaves said body portion, but curving laterally until at its end portion it extends transversely to the said body portion, forming a claw which projects beyond the line of the forward edge of the body portion. At the end portion of said claw are flanges *c c*.

Journaled transversely across the aperture B is a shaft or spool provided with a crank D, a ratchet wheel E, and a pawl E′ for engagement with said ratchet wheel. Through the end of the body portion farthest from the claw is a horizontal aperture *d*, and to one side thereof a vertical aperture *f*.

In operating the device, the claw *b* is engaged with the post in the manner shown in Fig. 1, the stretching rope to which the wire is attached being passed through the opening *d* and secured to the shaft or spool. The crank is turned, and the wire stretched, the tension being maintained by the ratchet and pawl. This operation is usually repeated from post to post for the intermediate posts, but at the corner or end post, the squared end of the stretcher may be applied to the post and the wire be stretched by, and secured to, the same post.

I usually prefer to employ a chain *k*, one end of which is made fast to the stretcher by means of the opening *f*, the chain passing partially around the post, as shown in Fig. 1 and fastened to the claw behind its flanges *c*.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A wire stretcher comprising the frame A formed in one integral piece, and having its body portion cut-away to form a large vertical opening B, an opening through an end portion of said frame, an extension projecting from said body portion and curving transversely thereto to form a claw, a spool or shaft journaled transversely of said opening B, a crank therefor, a ratchet wheel, and a pawl, substantially as specified.

2. A wire stretcher comprising the frame A formed in one integral piece, and having its body portion cut-away to form a large opening B, an opening *d* through one end portion of the frame into said opening B, a curved extension of said body portion forming a claw, a chain attached to said body portion at one end by means of an opening *f*, and designed to be secured to said claw, a winding spool or shaft journaled transversely of said opening B, and its crank, ratchet and pawl, substantially as specified.

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

JOHN M. MYERS.

Witnesses:
D. PLATT,
C. N. SELVIDGE.