(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

E. C. LOTT.

WIRE FENCE STRETCHER.

No. 598,526. Patented Feb. 8, 1898.

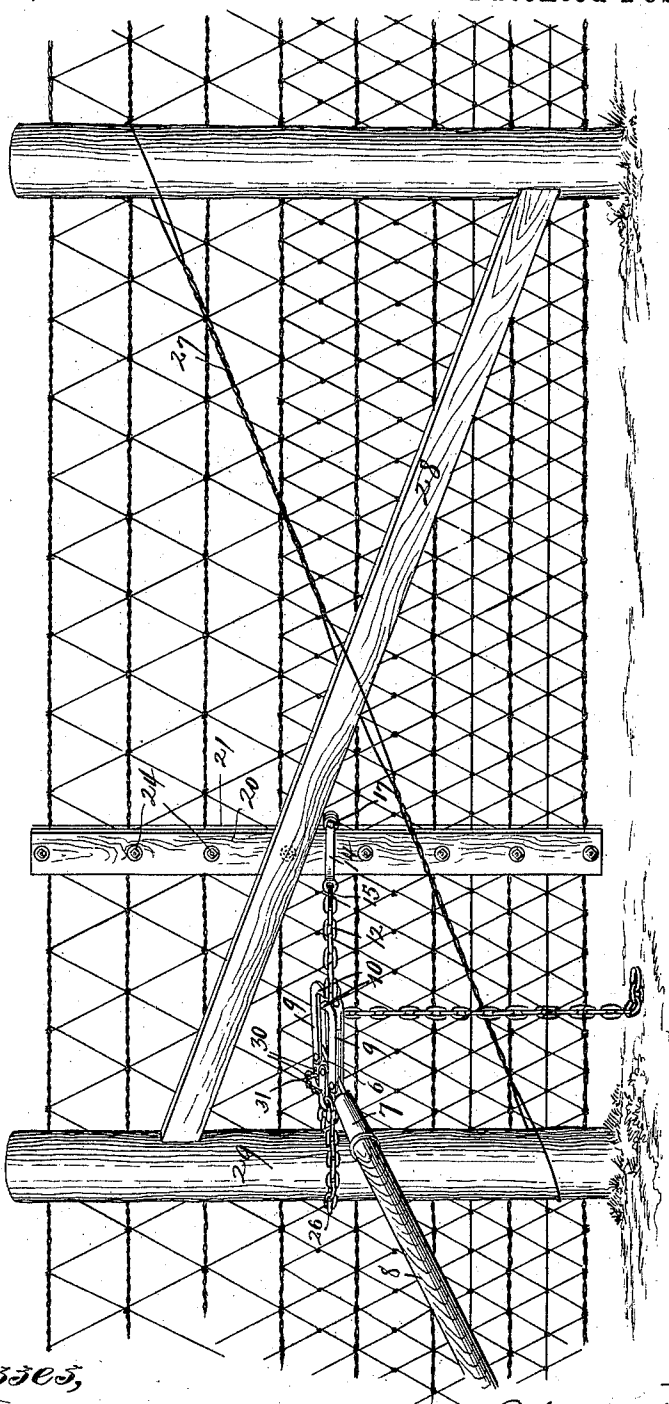


Fig. 1.

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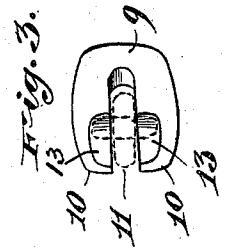
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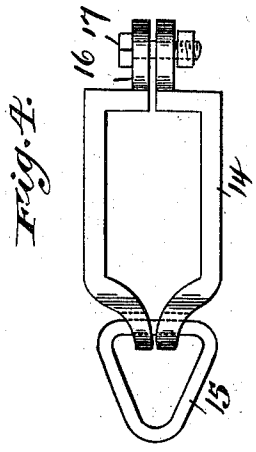
(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD C. LOTT, OF DE KALB, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO THE I. L. ELLWOOD MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

WIRE-FENCE STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 598,526, dated February 8, 1898.

Application filed March 23, 1896. Serial No. 584,401. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD C. LOTT, of De Kalb, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in implements of that class which are used in stretching wire fence, and is shown as applied to the stretching of a woven-wire fence.

The object of the invention is to produce a device of this class at such economy of cost as will enable it to be sold in competition with less efficient devices now upon the market and of such construction as enables it to be readily and quickly applied and adequate to stretch tightly along a strip of fence.

My invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the stretcher applied with the fence tightly stretched. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the lever mechanism of the stretcher, showing also the holding-chain and a pulling-chain to be connected to a fence. Figs. 3 and 4 are details, the former being an end view of one of the claws of the take-up members and Fig. 4 a plan view of a clamp to be secured to the clamping-bars which are applied to the fence. Fig. 5 is a broken plan view of the clamping-bars.

The stretcher comprises a head block or body 6, having a socketed shank 7 to receive a handle bar or lever 8. Pivoted upon the head-block are two pulling-hooks 9, terminating in bifurcated claws, the jaws of which are marked 10 and which have between them a central slot 11 to receive the link of a pulling-chain 12. The jaws 10 are recessed on the lateral faces, as shown at 13, to receive the rounded ends of the link adjacent to the one embraced by the claw. The pulling-chain is connected to a divided clamp 14 by means of a loop or ring 15, and the clamp members have perforated lugs 16, through which a bolt 17 may pass to tighten them around the clamping-bars 20 21. Said clamping-bars may be strips of wood, the member 20 having bolt-apertures 22 and the member 21 having elongated slots 23, which may be slipped over the shank of the bolts 24 to avoid the necessity or removing all of the bolts in order to clamp or unclamp the fence.

The stretcher is anchored by means of a yoke or shackle 25, the holding-chain 26, and one of the line-posts, as 27. A bracing-timber 28 may be arranged diagonally between the holding-posts and the adjacent post on the line in the direction of pull, and as a further means of maintaining the posts in perpendicular position the double-tie wire 29 may be employed, formed with loops in its ends adapted to slip over the upper ends of the posts. The bracing may be omitted.

In the operation of this stretcher, after the clamps have been secured to the fabric or wires to be stretched, the chain 12 is engaged by one of the take-up hooks 9, and then the lever is swung on its pivot until the second hook is made to engage with the link intermediate to the point of engagement of the other hook and the clamp, and by alternately swinging, hooking, and unhooking the fabric is tightly stretched. The arc of movement is small and the leverage proportionately great, and until the fabric is very tightly stretched the hook may be made to engage every alternate link. When the fabric has been tightly stretched, as is desired or possible, it may occur that the free hook cannot be made to engage one of the links of the chain, owing to the limitation in the throw of the lever, and to provide for this the head 6 is furnished with a series of perforations 30, in which a pin, as 31, may be inserted, so as to hold the fabric in the most tightly-stretched position until it can be secured to one of the line-posts back of the stretcher.

I claim—

1. A fence-stretcher comprising in combination, a head-block, an operating-handle rigidly secured thereto, two pulling-hooks pivotally connected to one edge of the head-block and maintained and adapted to swing in the plane of the head-block, a yoke embracing the head-block and pivoted thereto between the pivots of the pulling-hooks, means on the head-block for locking said yoke in different angular positions with reference to the head-block, and means for anchoring the stretcher, substantially as described.

2. A fence-stretcher, comprising in combination a head-piece having a series of perforations adjacent to one edge thereof, a yoke embracing the head-piece and pivoted thereto near its edge opposite said perforations, pulling-hooks pivoted to the head on opposite sides of the yoke-pivot and adapted to swing in a plane parallel to the sides of said head, a flexibly-supported locking-pin and means for anchoring the stretcher, substantially as described.

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