(No Model.)

C. W. JEFFERSON.

LAWN TENNIS NET TIGHTENER.

No. 320,138. Patented June 16, 1885.

Fig. 1.

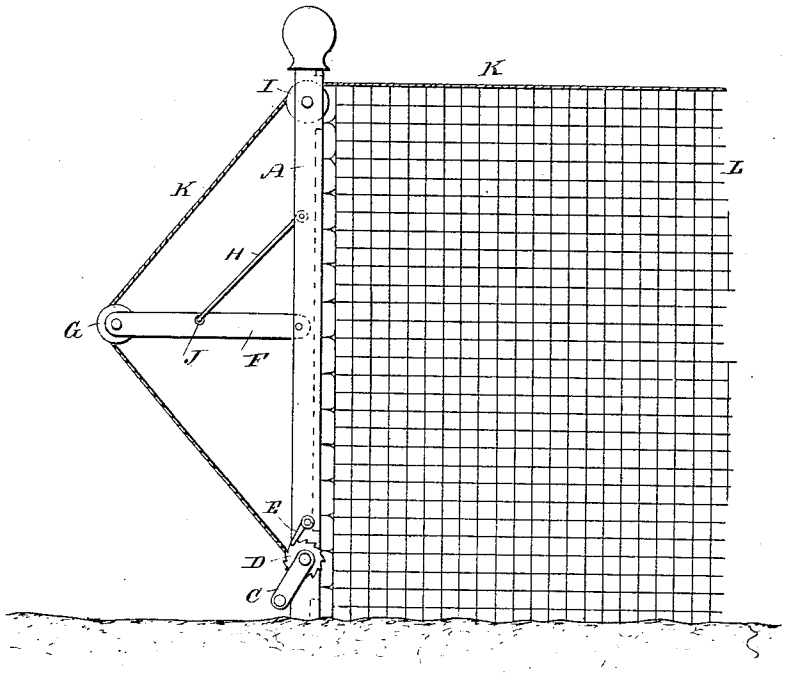
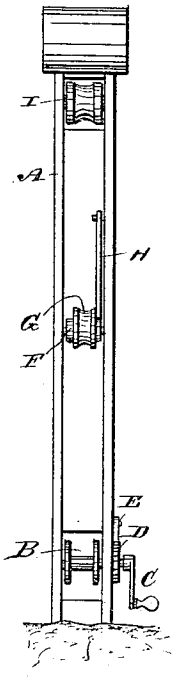


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. JEFFERSON, OF RUGBY, TENNESSEE.

LAWN-TENNIS-NET TIGHTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 320,138, dated June 16, 1885.

Application filed September 16, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. JEFFERSON, of Rugby, Morgan county, Tennessee, have invented a new and Improved Combined Lawn-Tennis Post and Net-Tightener, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide a new and improved post for a lawn-tennis net, which post is also provided with devices for tightening the net.

The invention consists of the combination of parts and their construction, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a face view of my improved lawn-tennis post and net-tightener, and Fig. 2 is a side view of the same.

The post A, which is preferably U-shaped or made of channel-iron, is provided at its top with a roller or pulley, I, and at the bottom of the post a reel, B, is arranged, which has a crank-handle, C, and a ratchet-wheel, D, with which a pawl, E, on the post engages. On the outer edge of the post an arm, F, is pivoted at about the middle of the height of the post, in the outer end of which arm a pulley, G, is pivoted. A brace-rod, H, is pivoted to the post, and is provided at its lower end with a hook, which can be passed into an aperture, J, in the arm F, for the purpose of holding the arm horizontal. The rope K, to which the net L is secured, is passed over the pulley I and the pulley G, and is secured to the reel B. The arm F is swung into a horizontal position, and is locked in place by a brace-rod, H, and then the rope K is drawn taut by winding it on the reel B. When the net is to be slackened, the arm F is swung down, and when the rope is to be tightened the arm F is swung up and locked in the horizontal position. If desired, two of the above-described posts may be used, or the other may be provided with a roller at the bottom; or a plain post may be used. The bottom of the net may be secured to a return-rope, whereby the bottom and top of the net are held taut. The net can be drawn taut in a moment by bringing the arm F into a horizontal position. The posts are preferably held in sockets, so that they can be removed easily. The rope and the arm F form a truss with the post, whereby the post is strengthened, and the strain is brought from the top to the middle and lower part of the post.

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

The combination, with the post A, of the pulley I at the top, the reel B at the bottom, the pivoted arm F, connected to about the middle of said post, and the roller G on the free end of the arm, together with the brace H, connected to the post and arm, substantially as herein shown and described.

CHARLES W. JEFFERSON.

Witnesses:
THOMAS FARDON,
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