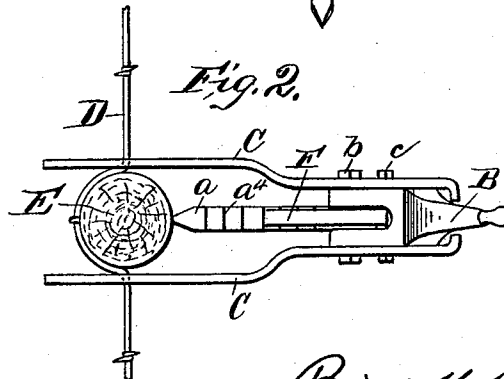
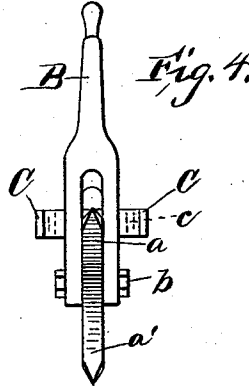
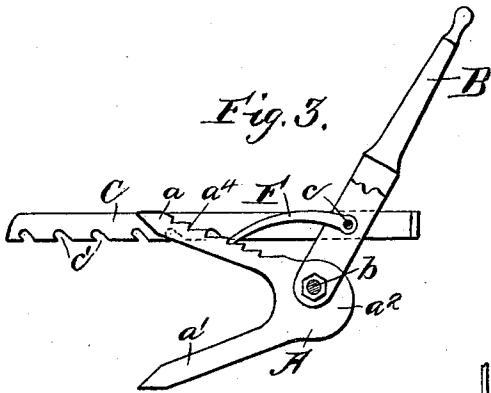
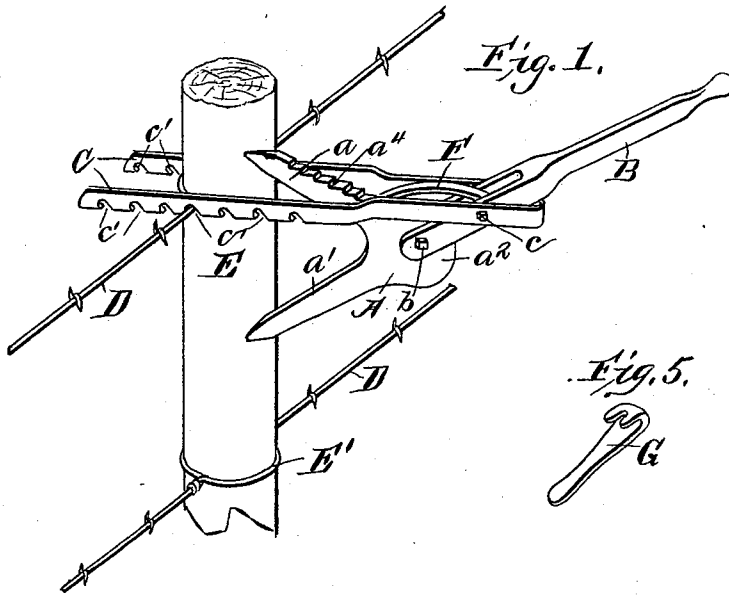


(No Model)

B. W. WHITWORTH.
WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 583,722.

Patented June 1, 1897.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BEVILL W. WHITWORTH, OF AULLVILLE, MISSOURI.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 583,722, dated June 1, 1897.

Application filed January 5, 1897. Serial No. 618,058. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BEVILL W. WHITWORTH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Aullville, in the county of Lafayette and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers; and I do hereby 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.

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved device in position for use. Fig. 2 is a top plan view. Fig. 3 is a side elevation, a portion of the lever being broken away. Fig. 4 is a front elevation, and Fig. 5 is a detail view of a twisting implement.

In the drawings, A designates the forked or V-shaped member of the stretcher, and B designates the handle or lever, which is pivoted to said forked support and is provided with arms C for engaging with a longitudinal strand-wire D of a wire fence.

All of the parts of the improved stretcher forming the subject of my present invention are preferably made of metal, the member A being a single casting having the diverging arms *a a'*, connected at their inner adjacent ends by a head or rounded body-piece *a²*. The outer ends of the arms *a a'* of said support A are pointed to enable them to be forced into the wood of the post E of the fence and support the other parts of the device. The lower end of the lever B is bifurcated to extend on opposite sides of the said head *a²*, to which it is pivoted at *b*, and to said lever, on opposite sides thereof, are connected, as aforesaid, the wire-engaging arms C. Preferably these last said arms are mounted on a common transversely-extending rod or bolt *c*, which extends across the bifurcation in the lever B near the upper or outer end thereof. The arms C being arranged on the outer sides of the lever B are adapted to extend on opposite sides of the post E, and each of said arms has formed in its lower edge a series of notches *c'* to receive the wire D to be tightened.

To hold the lever B and arms C in the desired relation with respect to the support A of the stretcher and the post E and maintain the wire D in a stretched or taut position while an additional stay-wire E' is being applied or the wire D is being otherwise secured

in place, a spring-arm F is employed. This spring-arm or lock-finger, which is preferably curved longitudinally somewhat, as shown, is supported on the aforesaid bolt *c* within the bifurcation formed in the lever B, and the free end projects outwardly beyond the face of the lever and is adapted to take into any of a series of notches or teeth *a⁴*, formed in the upper surface or edge of the arm *a* of the member A.

In case it is desired to secure the wire D, after being drawn taut by the above-described devices, in place by an additional stay-wire, as at E', a twister G of the form shown in Fig. 5 may be employed.

The operation of my improvements will be readily understood from the above description and the drawings.

The pointed ends of the forked support A are engaged with the post, and the wire D to be tightened is engaged by aligned notches *c'* in the arms C. By moving the free end of the lever B outwardly said arms C will act to draw the wire D about the post, taking up any slack that may be present, and the spring-arm F will hold the parts in this position until the wire D has been securely fastened.

It will thus be seen that I am enabled to provide a light but strong and powerfully-acting device, consisting of but few parts, not readily displaced or easily broken.

The arms C may be made of one piece, although, as shown in the drawings, I prefer to make them of two pieces of metal bent to extend around three sides of the lever B.

By providing each of the arms C with a series of notches I adapt the implement for use with posts of varying and different sizes and am also enabled to grasp a wire whether the body of the implement is arranged directly in line therewith or not.

What I claim is—

1. The herein-described wire-stretcher, it comprising the support, A, having the integral diverging arms, *a, a'*, the lever, B, having its lower end bifurcated and extending on opposite sides of and fulcrumed on the head or body connecting said arms, *a, a'*, the wire-engaging arms, C, arranged on opposite sides of the lever, and the locking-pawl pivotally mounted within the bifurcated portion of the lever and adapted to engage with the arm *a* of the support A to hold the lever and wire-

engaging arms in any of several adjusted positions, substantially as set forth.

2. The herein-described wire-stretcher, it consisting of a support, A, having the oppositely-inclined arms, *a, a'*, the lever, B, having its lower end bifurcated and extending on opposite sides of the support, A, a pivot-bolt connecting the lever with said support, wire-engaging arms, C, arranged on opposite sides of the lever, a bolt, *c*, connecting said arms and extending across the bifurcation in the lever, and a lock-arm mounted on said bolt

or cross-rod, *c*, and adapted to engage with one of the arms of the support, A, to hold the lever and wire-engaging arms in any desired position relative to said support, substantially as set forth. 15

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

BEVILL W. WHITWORTH.

Witnesses:

H. H. BRINKOETTER,
GEO. C. KLINGENBERG.