

(No Model.)

C. D. SHELLABERGER.
FENCE STRETCHER.

No. 336,669.

Patented Feb. 23, 1886.

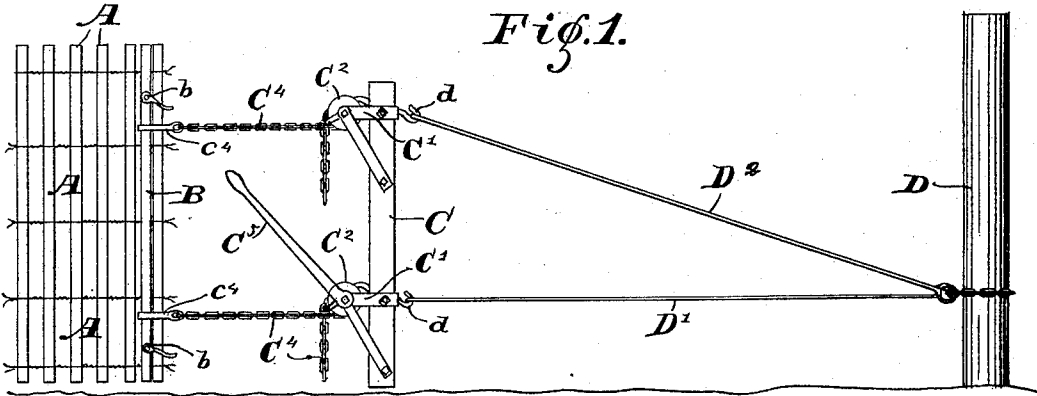


Fig. 1.

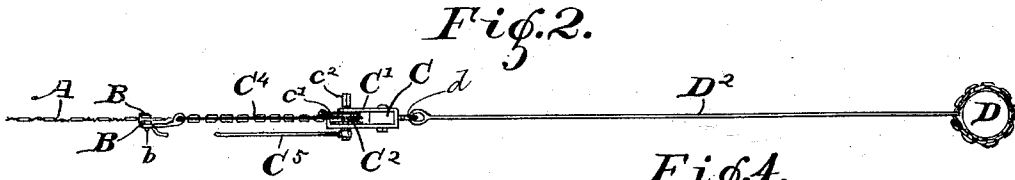


Fig. 2.

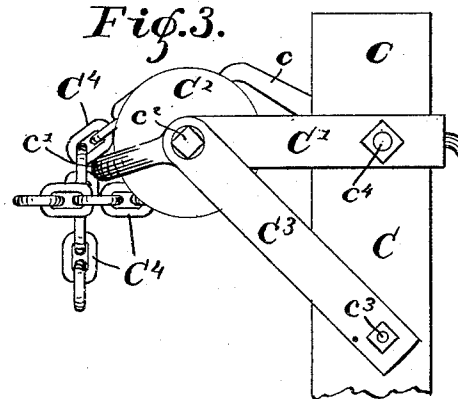


Fig. 3.

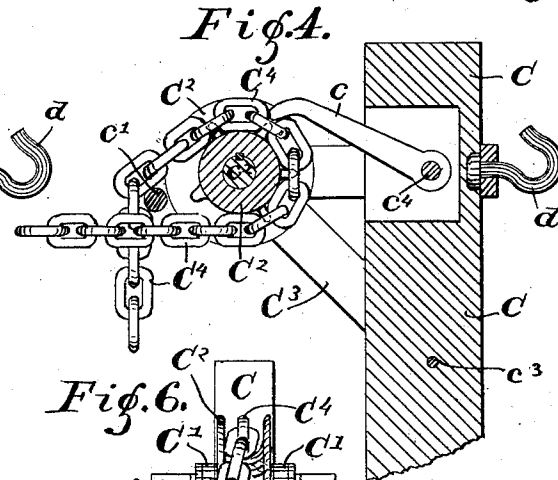


Fig. 4.

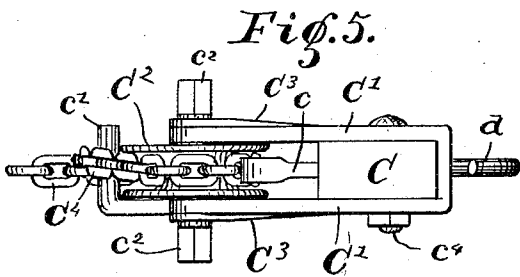


Fig. 5.

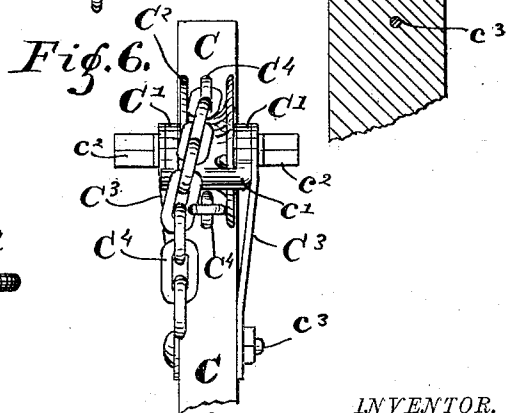


Fig. 6.

WITNESSES.

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CHARLES D. SHELLABERGER, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

FENCE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 336,669, dated February 23, 1886.

Application filed April 27, 1885. Serial No. 163,503. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES D. SHELLABERGER, of the city of Indianapolis, county of Marion, and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

My said invention relates to that class of devices by which, after a flexible fence is placed in position, it is stretched tightly between the posts, as hereinafter described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which are made a part hereof, and on which similar letters of reference indicate similar parts, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the end of a fence-section, an anchor-post, and my device connected thereto, as when in operation; Fig. 2, a top or plan view thereof; Fig. 3, a detail side elevation, on an enlarged scale, of a portion of my improved stretching device; Fig. 4, a central sectional view thereof; Fig. 5, a top or plan view of the same, and Fig. 6 a front elevation thereof.

In said drawings the portions marked A represent the fence; B, clamping-bars thereon; C C' C², my improved stretching device, and D an anchor-post.

The fence A may be any fence composed of material which it is necessary or desirable to stretch while erecting the same. The form shown is similar to that shown and described in Letters Patent of the United States No. 284,337, dated September 4, 1883.

The clamp B consists, ordinarily, of two bars, which are to be placed one on each side of the ends of the fence and secured together by clamp-bolts *b*, and when placed in position it forms the bar onto which the hooks *c'* of the chains running from the chain-wheels of my improved stretching device are placed.

The stretching device proper is composed of a bar, C, having stirrups C' bolted thereto, which carry chain wheels C². The bar C is also provided with dogs or pawls *c*, which enter mortises and are pivoted on the same bolts, *c'*, by which the stirrups C' are secured thereto.

The bar C is preferably a straight wooden bar, although it may of course be formed of metal.

The stirrups C', besides forming bearings or supports for the chain-wheels, are preferably

extended at their front ends, and have transverse fingers *c'*, over which the loose ends of the chains run, and are thus prevented from being drawn under or around the wheels. These stirrups are preferably held rigidly by braces C³, which run from the shafts *c'* to bolts *c'*.

The chain-wheels may be any ordinary chain or sprocket wheel, constructed to fit the form or variety of chain employed. They have square-ended shafts *c'*, on which the lever C⁵ is adapted to fit and operate.

The chains C⁴ may be any kind desired, but are preferably the ordinary small straight-linked chain, the links of which fit and engage with the chain-wheels. They are provided upon one end with hooks *c'*, which engage with the clamps B, and their other ends pass, preferably, under and up around over the chain-wheels C², as shown, the free ends falling outside the guard-fingers *c'*.

The anchor-post D is any ordinary post or other device of sufficient strength to withstand the strain put upon the fence by my style of stretcher, and said stretcher is secured thereto by stays D' D², which connect with the bar C or with hooks *d*, formed on some part of the device.

The operation is as follows: The several parts being in position, as shown in Fig. 1, the chains engaged with the fence or the clamps B thereon, and running over the chain-wheels, the lever C⁵ is applied to the ends of the shafts *c'*, on which the chain-wheels C² are mounted, and said shafts and chain-wheels thus revolved, pulling the chain and stretching the fence. As the chain is pulled through, the dogs or pawls *c* engage with the links, falling against the same by their own gravity, and hold the fence in stretched position until regularly secured to the posts.

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

1. The combination, with the chain-wheels of a fence-stretcher, over which the chains pass, of a guard or finger extending across in front of said wheels, whereby the free end of said chain is held out of contact therewith, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, in a fence-stretcher, of

a bar, C, stirrups C', carrying the chain-wheels and provided with fingers c', said chain-wheels, chains running therefrom, and pawls for engaging and holding them in position, substantially as shown and specified.

5 3. The combination, in a fence-stretcher, of a bar, C, mortised and provided with stirrups, chain-wheels mounted in said stirrups, chains running from said wheels to the fence,
10 a lever for operating said wheels, and pawls mounted in said mortises in said bar and adapted to engage directly with said chains as they are drawn along by said wheels through the

operation of said lever, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, in a fence-stretcher, of a bar, C, stirrups C', having the fingers c', wheels C², braces C³, chains C⁴, pawls c, and a lever, C⁵, substantially as shown and specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
20 hand and seal, at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 21st day of April, A. D. 1885.

CHARLES D. SHELLABERGER. [L. S.]

In presence of—

C. BRADFORD,

ERNEST W. BRADFORD.