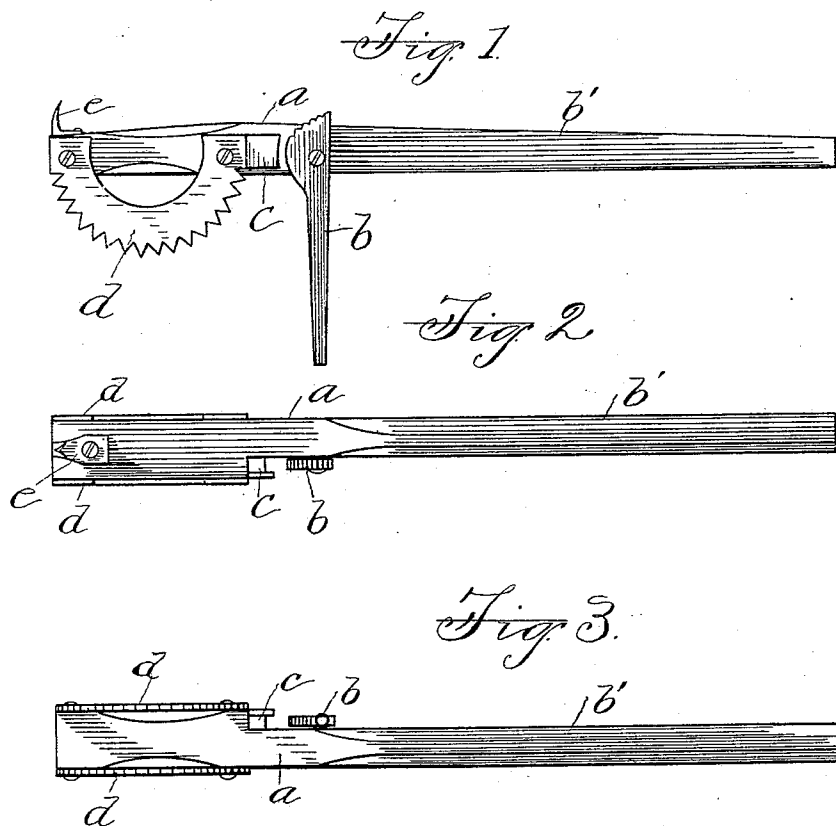


(No Model.)

G. F. PRATT.
WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 569,229.

Patented Oct. 13, 1896.



Witnesses
W. H. Butler,
Andrew Ferguson.

Inventor
George F. Pratt
By W. E. Simonds
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE FRANKLIN PRATT, OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO SHERMAN E. BROWN, OF COLLINSVILLE, CONNECTICUT.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 569,229, dated October 13, 1896.

Application filed March 9, 1896. Serial No. 582,359. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE FRANKLIN PRATT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Canton, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

10 Figure 1 is a side view of a stretcher embodying said improvement. Fig. 2 is a top or upper edge view of same. Fig. 3 is a bottom or under edge view of same.

15 The object of the improvement is the production of a simple, cheap, and efficient device specially useful in stretching the wires in the erection of a wire fence.

In the accompanying drawings the letter *a* denotes the main lever, which does the stretching, *b'* being the handle end thereof.

20 The letter *b* denotes a pinching-lever borne upon the side of the main lever, and *c* denotes a pinch-block cooperating with the pinching-lever. In the stretching operation 25 the wire is grasped between the pinching-lever and the pinch-block, and their opposed edges are serrated to make the grasp a firm one.

30 The letter *d* denotes a serrated and rocking fulcrum attached to the main lever on the other side thereof from the handle end. It is shown in the drawings as composed of two separate parts. This serrated and rocking

fulcrum rests against one of the sides or faces of a fence-post during the stretching operation. The serrations give a firm and unslipping contact with the fence-post, and the circular or curved contour gives the desired fulcrum action meanwhile.

The letter *e* denotes a claw for pulling out 40 staples, nails, or the like.

I claim as my improvement—

1. The improved wire-stretcher herein described, comprising the lever *a*, pinching-lever *b*, pinch-block *c*, and curved segmental 45 plate *d*, serrated on the outer circumference, constituting a rolling or changeable fulcrum for the lever, all substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a wire-stretcher, the combination of 50 lever *a*, pinching-lever *b*, pinch-block *c*, and curved segmental fulcrum-plates *d d*, lying in planes outside of the plane of the pinch-block and pinching-lever, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. The combination of lever *a*, pinching-lever *b*, pinch-block *c*, abutting against a raised shoulder integral with lever *a*, and curved segmental fulcrum-plates *d d*, lying 55 in planes outside of the plane of the pinch-block and the pinching-lever, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

GEORGE FRANKLIN PRATT.

Witnesses:

KATE E. BROWN,
SHERMAN E. BROWN.