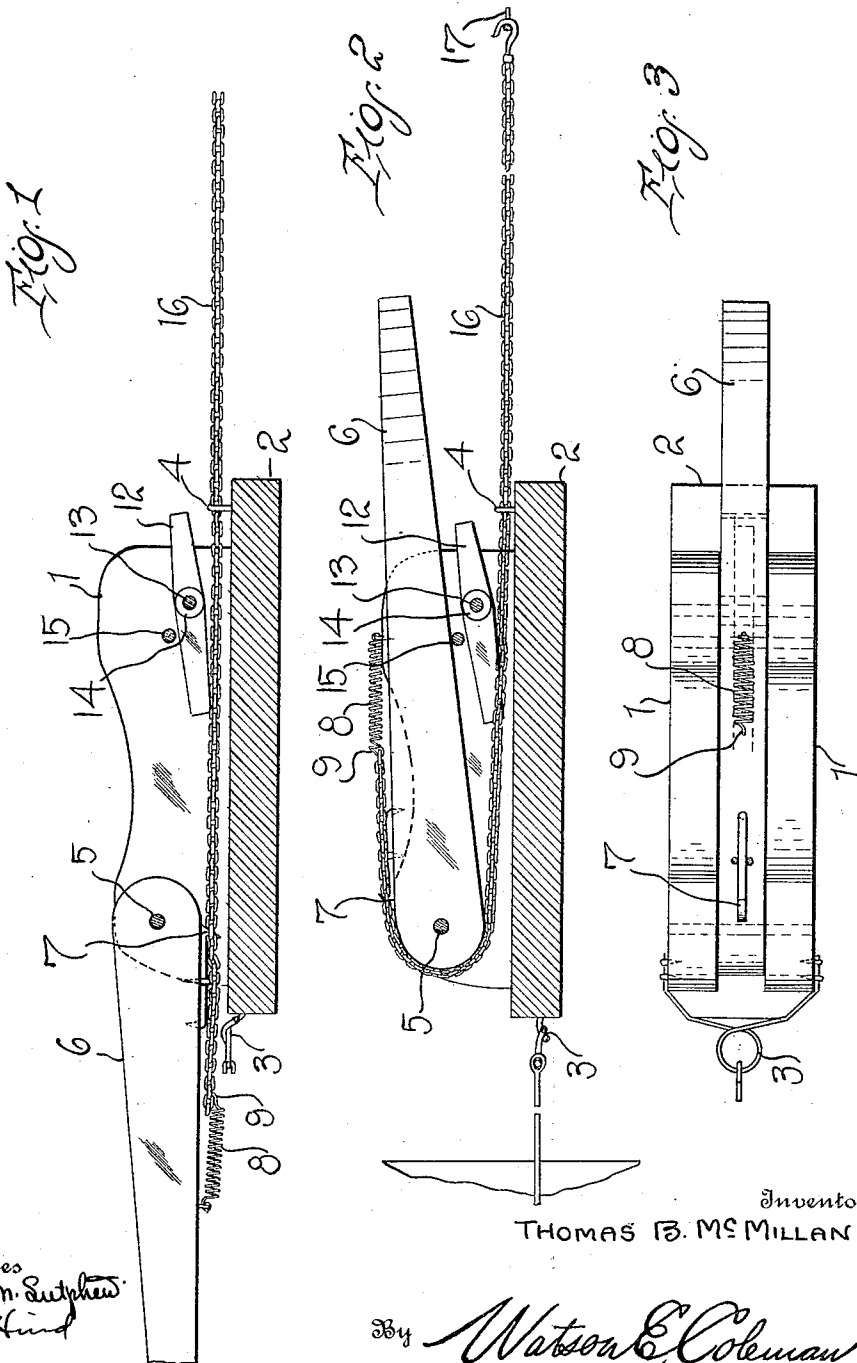


T. B. McMILLAN.
WIRE STRETCHER.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 17, 1914.

1,133,487.

Patented Mar. 30, 1915.



Witnesses
Robert M. Sutphen
A. I. Hind

Inventor
THOMAS B. McMILLAN

By *Watson E. Coleman*
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS B. McMILLAN, OF TORO, LOUISIANA.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

1,133,487.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 30, 1915.

Application filed August 17, 1914. Serial No. 857,215.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS B. McMILLAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Toro, in the county of Sabine and State of Louisiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in wire stretchers and has for its object the production of a simple and economic construction and very effective in operation.

With these ends in view my invention consists in the details of construction and operation hereinafter and in detail described.

In order that those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may know how to make and use my improved stretcher and fully appreciate its advantages, I will now proceed to describe the same referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing in which

Figure 1 is a central longitudinal section showing the stretcher in initial condition for stitching fence wire, but with the hook on the stretching chain omitted. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the device connected to a wire to be stretched and anchored at the opposite end and showing also the relation of all parts after the stretching lever has been vibrated to its full extent and the connecting chain caught and held by the trigger, and the slack of the chain ready to be taken up when the lever is returned for a second operation. Fig. 3 is a top or plan view with the operating lever in a vertical position.

Similar reference numerals indicate like parts in the several figures of the drawing.

1. 1. represent two side pieces spaced apart and secured permanently to, or formed integral with a base 2, which is somewhat longer than the sides. The rear end of the base 2 is provided with a suitable hook or chain 3 by means of which it may be secured to an anchoring post or tree, and at its forward end with a staple-like guide 4 for the pulling chain. Between the rear ends of the sides 1. 1. is vibratively connected by a bolt 5, a lever 6, the journaled end of which is rounded and spaced from the base 2 a sufficient distance to permit of the free passage of the pulling chain.

7 is a stout hook secured to the edge of the lever adjacent to its rear end and adapted to progressively grasp links of the pulling chain, and in the rear of this hook is secured a coil spring 8, provided at its free end with a hook 9, adapted to engage with the links of the chain to take up slack as will be presently explained.

Between the sides 1. 1. at the forward ends a trigger 12 is vibratively mounted upon a shaft 13 and maintained centrally of said shaft by suitable sleeves 14. The outer end of this trigger projects beyond the sides 1. 1. where it may be convenient for manipulation by an operator. The trigger is so journaled with reference to its length that its inner end will fall by gravity against the base 2 and the extremity is so fashioned as to engage with the links of the pulling chain.

15 is a transverse bolt through the sides 1. 1. to limit the movement of the trigger when it is successively released from the chain. In the use of my improved stretcher it is first anchored by the hook and chain 3 to a post or suitably located tree, and a chain 16 is then connected with the single or woven wire 17 to be stretched; the chain 16 is then passed under the guide 4 and drawn taut and one of the links passed over the hook 7 when the lever 6 is in the position shown in Fig. 1; the lever is now vibrated upon its journal toward the forward end of the base 2 to the position shown in Fig. 2, and the pulling chain traveling under and by the inner end of the trigger 12 when the inner end of the same will fall into a link of the chain and lock it against any retrograde movement while the lever is being returned for a further draft upon the chain, and at which time the hook 9 on the coil spring 8, is coupled with a link of the chain to take up the slack in the chain in an obvious manner.

I of course do not wish to be confined to any particular dimensions or to the character of material employed in the construction of my improved stretcher, and many variations may be made in the mere details of construction without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A wire stretcher, comprising a base having two parallel longitudinal spaced sides forming chain guides, means at one end of

the base for anchoring the base, a lever pivoted between the sides at one end thereof and having a rounded pivotal end and also having a hook disposed on its under surface in advance of the pivot, a gravity actuated trigger pivoted between the forward ends of the sides, a pulling chain passing between the sides at the forward end of the base and beneath the trigger and the rounded end of the lever and interlocking with the hook on the lever, and means mounted on the under face of the lever in advance of the chain hook for taking up slack in that portion of the chain disposed in advance of the chain hook.

2. A wire stretcher, comprising a base having two parallel longitudinal spaced sides forming chain guides, anchoring means at one end of the base, a pulling chain guide at the opposite end of the base, a lever pivot-

ed between the sides at one end thereof, having a rounded pivotal end and provided with a hook on its under face in advance of the pivot, a gravity actuated trigger disposed between the forward ends of the sides, a pulling chain passing between the sides and beneath the trigger and lever, and interlocking with the hook on the lever and means for taking up slack in that portion of the chain beyond said hook, said means comprising a coil spring secured at one end to the lever on its under face and having a hook at its free end adapted to engage one link of the chain.

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

THOMAS B. McMILLAN.

Witnesses:

J. M. MILLER,
ALFRED SLAY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."