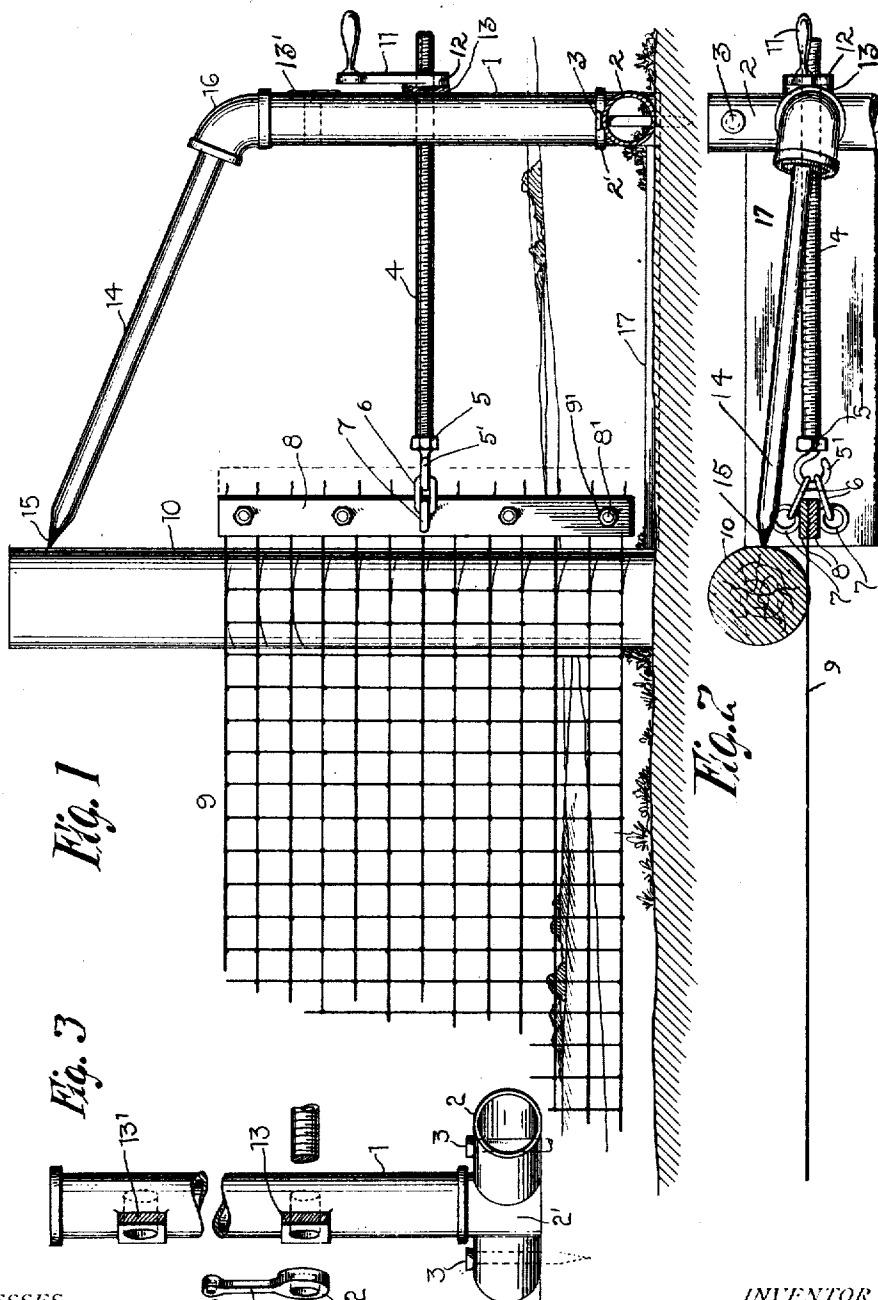


J. H. MATTHEWS.
WIRE STRETCHER.
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1,012,393.

Patented Dec. 19, 1911



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JOHN H. MATTHEWS, OF MONTICELLO, IOWA.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

1,012,393.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. MATTHEWS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Monticello, in the county of Jones and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

10 This invention relates to apparatus for stretching the wires of a wire fence preparatory to fastening the wires to the fence post.

The invention has for its object to provide an improved apparatus of this kind by means of which the wires of a wire fence 15 may be stretched and the apparatus prevented from becoming disarranged during such operation.

The invention further has for its object 20 to provide an improved apparatus for stretching all the wires of a wire fence simultaneously, which apparatus is composed of a small number of parts which may be readily assembled and taken apart, and which will 25 be thoroughly braced and held in firm position.

Referring to the accompanying drawing: Figure 1 is a view of a portion of a wire fence and fence post, and a wire stretcher 30 constructed in accordance with this invention, and shown in operative position. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the parts shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail view of a portion of the wire stretcher with parts broken away and 35 separated.

The apparatus constructed in accordance with this invention consists of a standard 1 composed preferably of a vertical metallic pipe and a short transverse brace 2 at its 40 lower end preferably in the form of a pipe, as shown, having a central coupling joint 2' secured to the lower end of the standard 1. The transverse brace 2 is fastened to the ground in any suitable manner as for example by means of the spikes 3 which extend 45 through holes in the transverse brace

2. A screw spindle 4 projects at one end through a hole in the standard 1 located at a suitable distance above the lower end of said pipe to bring the spindle 4 in the proper position for operation. The inner end of the screw spindle 4 is provided with suitable means for connecting it to the clamp which is secured to the wire fence and as here shown preferably consists of a head 5 having a hook 5' which is detachably connected 55 to a pair of rings 6 which in turn are connected to eye bolts 7 projecting laterally from a pair of strips 8 which serve as clamps for the wire fence and are clamped to a wire fence 9, as shown, by means of bolts 8' and 60 nuts 9'. The wire fence 9 is shown as bearing against a fence post 10 and is stretched over the same by means of the screw spindle 4 drawing on the clamps 8, the spindle 4 65 being operated by a crank handle 11 having a circular head 12 in threaded engagement with the spindle 4 and bearing against a boss 13 integral with the standard 1. The standard 1 is braced by means of a rod 14 70 having its outer end formed with a sharp point 15 adapted to engage the post 10, and has its inner end secured to an elbow joint 16 swiveled to the upper end of the standard 1 so as to permit of the rod 14 which is 75 located at an incline, as shown, to be adjusted to the proper position to engage the post 10 and act as a brace for the standard 1. The lower end of the standard 1 is braced preferably by means of a longitudinal strip 80 17 which lies upon the ground and has one end abutting against the post 10 and its other end against the coupling joint 2' of the transverse brace 2. The standard 1 may be provided with another hole and boss 13' 85 in order to permit the screw spindle 4 to be placed in a different position where it is to be used with a wire fence of different width than that shown.

It will be seen from the foregoing that a 90 wire stretcher is provided which is constructed with a small number of parts and

which will be strong and stable owing to the standard being formed of a metallic pipe with a transverse brace at its lower end.

Having described the invention, what I claim is:—

5 A wire stretcher comprising a standard, a coupling at the base of said standard, arms extending from opposite sides of said coupling, securing means passing transversely
10 through each of said arms, an inclined

coupling at the upper end of said standard, an upwardly inclined bracing arm extending from said inclined coupling, and a wire engaging means carried by said standard.

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

JOHN H. MATTHEWS.

Witnesses:

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CHAS. H. STOCKWELL.