(No Model.)

D. H. FOLK.

WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 564,065. Patented July 14, 1896.

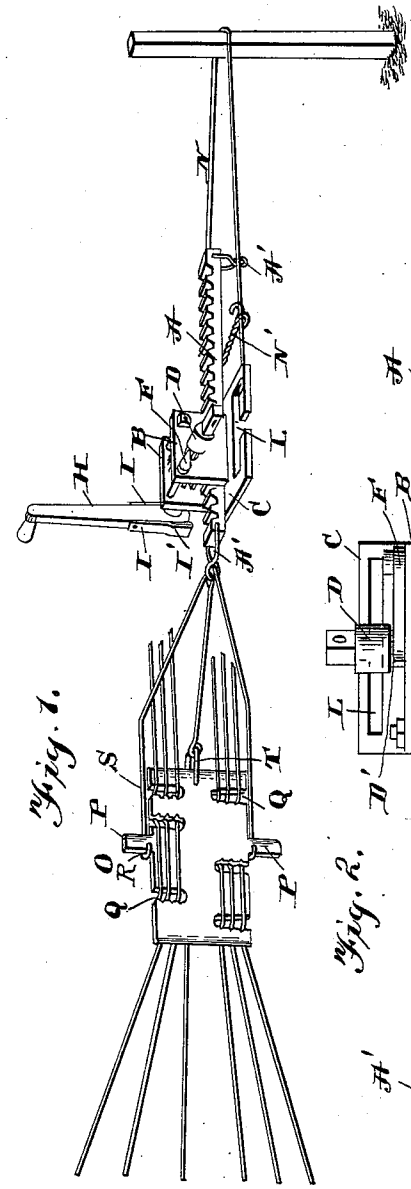

Fig. 1.

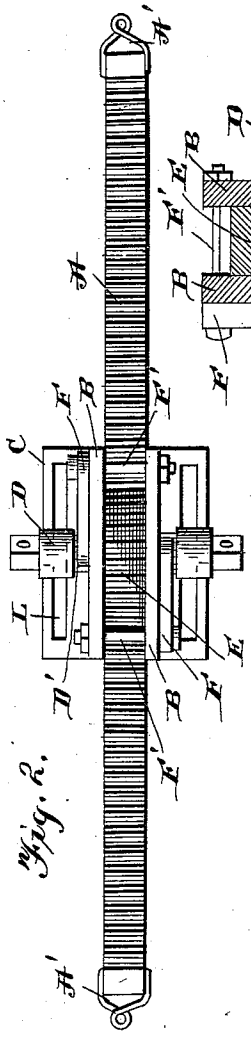

Fig. 2.

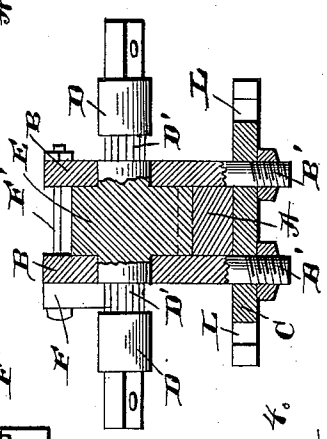

Fig. 5

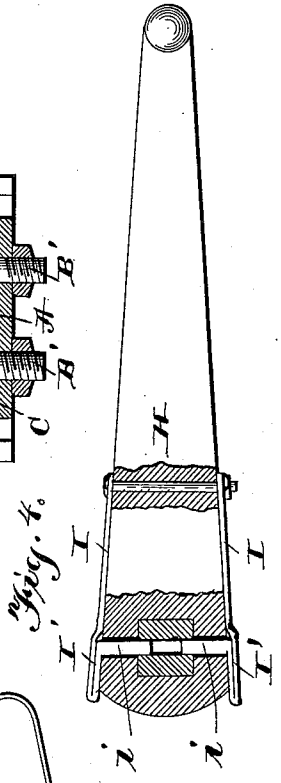

Fig. 4.

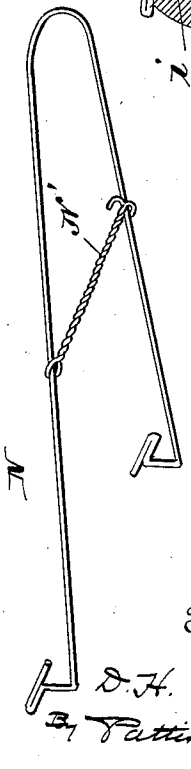

Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID H. FOLK, OF BREWER, TEXAS.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 564,065, dated July 14, 1896.

Application filed April 8, 1896. Serial No. 586,744. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID H. FOLK, of Brewer, in the county of Freestone and State of Texas, 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

This invention pertains to wire-stretchers; and its object is to provide a device of simple and improved construction for stretching wire fence-strands in a most effectual manner.

The invention consists in the novel features of construction hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated by the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the rack-bar mechanism. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the anchor-loop. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the crank. Fig. 5 is a vertical cross-sectional view of the rack-bar-adjusting mechanism.

A designates the rack-bar, adapted to move longitudinally between the uprights B, secured to the base C. The uprights are reduced at their lower ends to form bolts B′ and are secured by nuts, as will be readily understood. Extended transversely through uprights B is shaft D, carrying between the uprights pinion E, which engages and moves bar A when the shaft is rotated. Dogs F are pivoted on the outer sides of uprights B to rods F′, extending transversely to the latter, and are adapted to engage notches D′ of shaft D and thus hold the shaft and rack-bar at the desired adjustment. The rack-bar carries a loop A′ at each end, and the uprights B are arranged so that their position may be reversed in base C, and thus a mechanism is provided which may act in either direction, as well as being adapted to be operated by right or left hand turning of the shaft.

The ends of shaft D are squared, and adapted to fit either end is a removable crank H. Spring-plates I are secured to opposite sides of the crank and have their free ends turned backward, as at I′. The extremities of the plates are then turned laterally at right angles, as indicated at *i*, and adapted to project through opening in the wall of the crank-eye and engage the shaft end, thereby securing the crank thereto. For removing the same the pins are released from the shaft by springing outward the plates at their free ends.

Base C is formed on its opposite edges with elongated slots L to receive the hooked and headed ends of anchor-loop N. These slots extend to each end of the base, thus making the same reversible in operation. Anchor-loop N carries the tie-rod N′, adapted to be slipped thereon to a point adjacent to the base and thus hold the extremities of the loop from separating from and disengaging the base.

The grip consists of a piece of flat metal O, having oppositely-projected handles P. Each longitudinal edge of the grip is indented with slots Q, and the edges of the said slots are notched, whereby three strands may be entwined in the manner shown in each side of the grip, the notches referred to serving to hold the fence-wires properly in place. It will be seen that the slots and intervening ribs alternate upon the opposite edges of the respective ends or extremities of the grip, thus adding thereto strength and durability.

The inner extremities of the grip-handles are notched at R, where they are engaged by the hooked ends of loop S, which is adapted to engage the same and extend in either direction and be secured through the intervention of intermediate hooks or links to the loop A′ of rack-bar A. An additional connection is afforded by the connection T at the extremity of the grip.

The handles afford ready securing-points for loop S, and also render the grip conveniently operative by hand.

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

1. The combination of the shaft, the crank having the eye to embrace the shaft, the elongated springs arranged longitudinally of the crank and at one end secured thereto, and the inwardly-projecting pins at the free ends of the springs extended through the pin-openings in the eye and held normally in engagement with the shaft by the springs, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination of slotted base C, the wire-stretching mechanism carried by the base, and the anchor-loop having the hooked ends for engaging the slots of the base, substantially as shown and described.

3. The combination of the base formed with the internal elongated slots, the wire-stretching mechanism carried by the base, the anchor-loop hooked at its ends to engage the slots of the base, and the tie-rod for the anchor-loop, for the purpose substantially as shown and described.

4. The combination of the base C, uprights B having reduced lower ends to form bolts which are projected through the base, nuts on the projected lower ends of the uprights, the shaft journaled transversely in the uprights, the pinion carried thereby between the uprights, the wire-stretching rack-bar movable longitudinally by the pinion, and the dogs for holding the shaft in the desired adjustment, substantially as shown and described.

5. The combination of a grip, handles projected oppositely therefrom, a stretching mechanism, and a connection between the same and the oppositely-arranged grip-handles, substantially as shown and described.

6. The combination of the shaft, the crank having an eye adapted to embrace the shaft, the spring-plates secured to the crank and projecting in line with the eye, said plates being turned backward upon themselves, and the pins formed of the rounded extremities of said plates, said pins projecting laterally from the plates and adapted to pass through the eye-wall and normally engage the shaft to hold the crank thereon, substantially as shown and described.

7. The combination of a grip, handles projected from opposite sides thereof, a stretching mechanism and a loop hooked at its ends to engage the grip-handles and connect the grip with the stretching mechanism, substantially as shown and described.

8. The combination of the grip formed with the wire-receiving slots or notches on its opposite edges, the handles projected from the grip, said handles being recessed at points adjacent to the grip, a stretching mechanism, and a loop leading from said mechanism and adapted at its extremity to engage the recesses of the handles, substantially as shown and described.

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

DAVID H. FOLK.

Witnesses:

E. HEADLEE,

J. Y. ATMOR.