C. M. PEARRE.

BALE BAND-STRETCHERS.

No. 185,347. Patented Dec. 12, 1876.

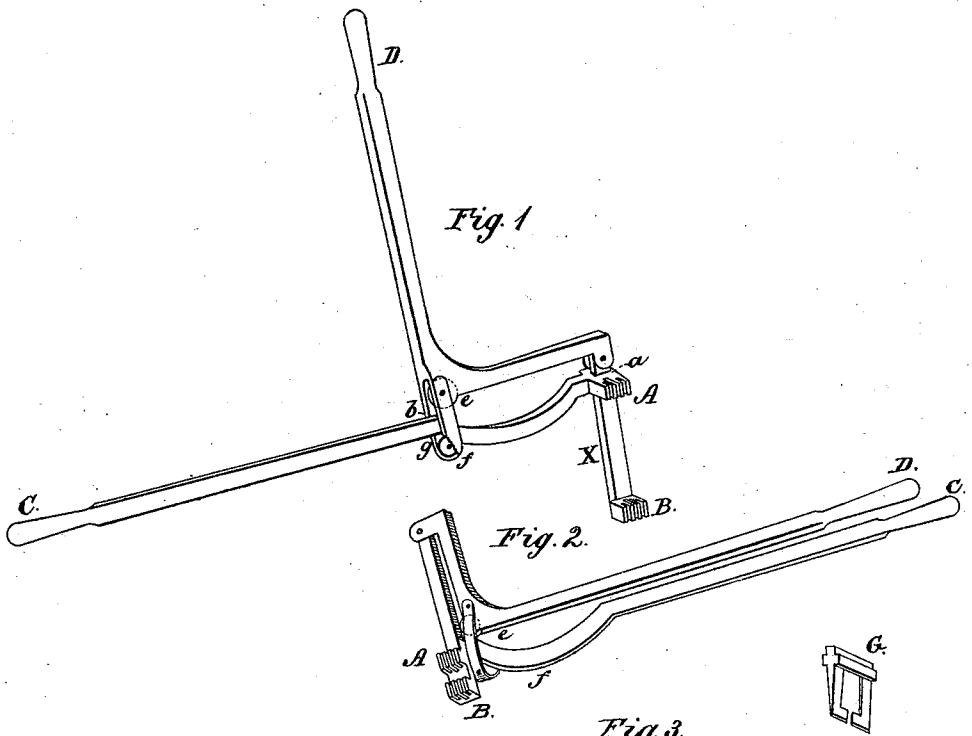
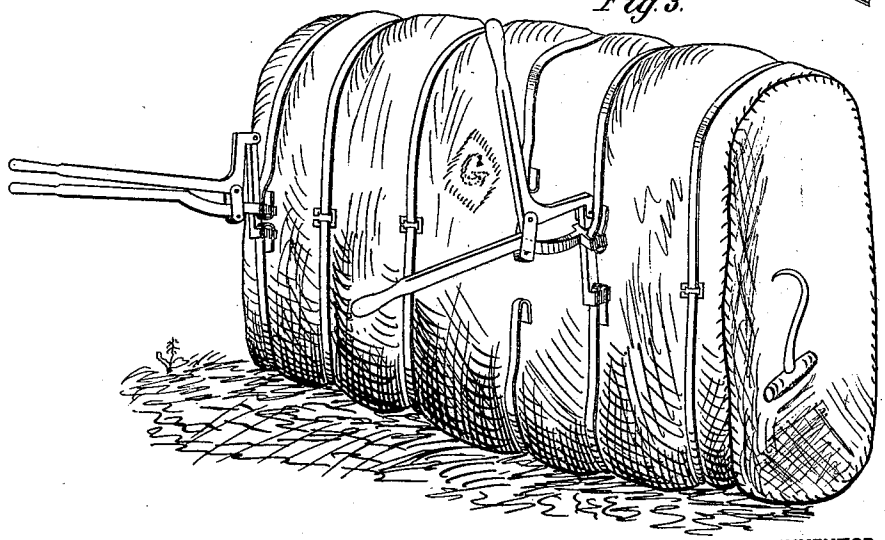


Fig. 1

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES M. PEARRE, OF GALVESTON, TEXAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN BALE-BAND STRETCHERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **185,347**, dated December 12, 1876; application filed October 11, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES M. PEARRE, of the city and county of Galveston, and State of Texas, have invented a new and Improved Bale-Band Stretcher; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the bale-band stretcher in its open position. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same in its closed position. Fig. 3 is a view of the device applied to a cotton-bale in both its open and closed position.

The object of my invention is to provide a convenient and effective bale-band stretcher to be used in baling cotton, hay, &c., for the purpose of taking out the slack of the band that cannot be taken out by hand, while the bale is under the press; to which end my invention consists in a bar, carrying at its end a griping device for one end of the band, and a guide-socket, in combination with an elbow-lever, pivoted at its end to a slide-bar moving through said guide-socket, and carrying also a griping device for the other end of the band, which two griping devices are adapted to be brought together by bringing the handles of the elbow-lever and bar together, and tilting the elbow-lever upon its angle, at which point it is attached to the bar by a keeper, and slides over an inclined portion of the same upon rollers, as hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawing, A B represent the griping devices that hold the bent ends of the band, the first of which, A, is located upon the side of the end of bar C, while the second, B, is located upon the side of the lower end of slide-bar X. These griping devices consist of four projecting plates or lugs, having three intervening slots, of which the two outside slots are intended to receive the bent ends of the band, while the central slot is made deeper than the rest, and is intended to accommodate the bale-tie, which is slipped into the same, so as to connect the two bent ends of the band when brought together. D is an elbow-lever, the outer arm of which is pivoted to the top of the slide-bar X, which latter passes through the guide-socket *a* formed in the end of the bar C beside the griping device A, so that the two griping devices A and B are brought together in alignment. The said elbow-lever is provided with a keeper or strap, *b*, that embraces the bar C, and carries upon opposite sides of said bar friction-rollers *e g*, which move upon a curved or inclined portion, *f*, of the bar C.

In making use of the bale-band stretcher, as thus described, it is applied to the bale of cotton, as shown in Fig. 3, with the bar C at right angles to the side of the bale, and the handle of the elbow-lever D nearly vertical, in which position the griping devices are farthest apart. The ends of the band are then passed through the outside slots of the griping devices, and after being bent around are turned inwardly next to the bale, and passed through the inside slots, so as to have the free ends of the band inside, and next to the bale. The handle or elbow-lever is then brought down to bar C, bringing the griping devices together, and tightening the bale-band, while a tie, such as is shown in detail at G, is inserted in the deep central slot of the griping devices, and around the bent ends of the band, so as to securely hold the same after the stretcher is removed.

In bringing the handle of the elbow-lever down it will be seen that its outer arm rises with the slide-bars X, while its angle moves upon the rollers along the incline *f* of the bar C until the arm of the elbow-lever is parallel with the bar X, as shown in Fig. 2; and I am thus enabled to avail myself of the greatest advantages of leverage at the end of the movement, and at the time when it is most required, the incline co-operating to give a greater throw to the bar X and griping device at the end of the movement, and an easier movement at the start.

In Fig. 3 four of the bands are shown with the slack all taken out, and the band secured by means of my improved stretcher, while the rest represent those in which the slack has been partially taken out by hand, and to which my stretcher is shown applied in both its open and closed position for completing the tightening and securing of the tie.

By means of my improved stretcher I am

enabled to take from eight to fourteen inches of slack out of a band more than can be done by hand, whereby the bale may be reduced in dimension, so as to occupy a much smaller space.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The gripers A and B, arranged to be separated or brought together, and having projecting lugs or plates forming a central deep slot for the reception of the bale-tie, and shallower slots for the band, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The bar C, carrying a griping device at its end, and a guide, in combination with the slide-bar X, having a griping device, and moving in said guide, and the elbow-lever D, having one arm pivoted to the bar X, and moving at its angle upon bar C by means of rollers and keepers, substantially as described.

3. The bar C, curved or inclined at *f*, and carrying socket *a*, and a griping device, in combination with the bar X, carrying a griping device, and the elbow-lever D, substantially as and for the purpose described.

CHARLES M. PEARRE.

Witnesses:

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