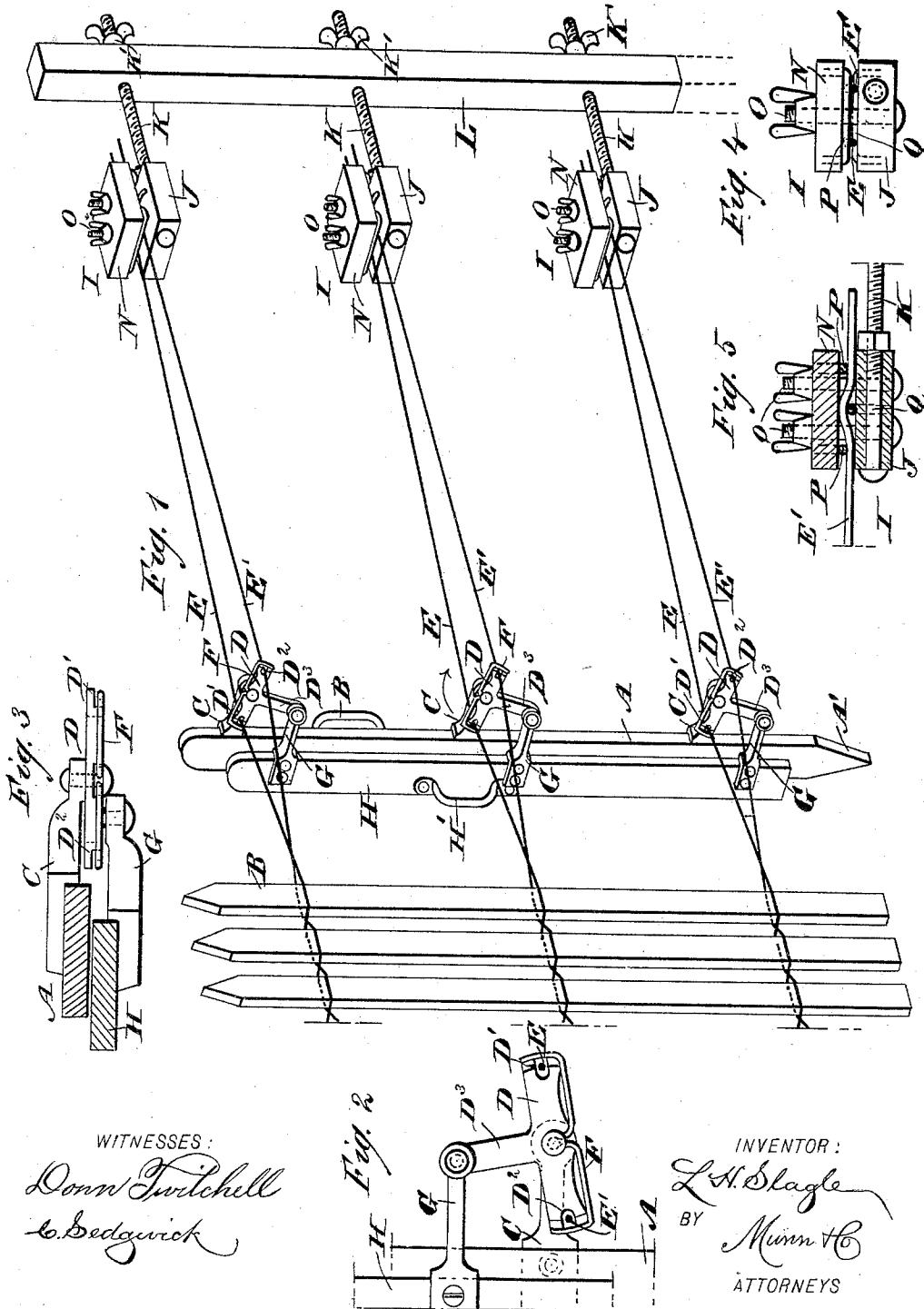


(No Model.)

L. H. SLAGLE.
MACHINE FOR WIRING FENCE PICKETS.

No. 473,792.

Patented Apr. 26, 1892.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEMUEL H. SLAGLE, OF EAST BRADY, PENNSYLVANIA.

MACHINE FOR WIRING FENCE-PICKETS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 473,792, dated April 26, 1892.

Application filed December 29, 1891. Serial No. 416,457. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEMUEL H. SLAGLE, of East Brady, in the county of Clarion and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Fence-Machine, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to machines for wiring fence-pickets; and its object is to provide a new and improved fence-machine which is simple and durable in construction and which in a simple and very effective manner crosses the wires after the picket is inserted, at the same time giving proper tension to the wires.

The invention consists of certain parts and details and combinations of the same, as will be fully described hereinafter, and then pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement as applied. Fig. 2 is an enlarged side elevation of part of the crossers. Fig. 3 is a sectional plan view of the same. Fig. 4 is an end elevation of the tension device, and Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section of the same.

The improved fence-machine is provided with a post A, formed at its lower end with a point A', for conveniently driving the post A into the ground to hold the same in the proper position. Near the upper end of the post A, and on one side thereof, is arranged a handle B, to be taken hold of by the operator when operating the machine. From the front of the post A project forward a series of brackets C, on each of which is pivoted a lever D, formed on its ends with the forks D' and D², through which pass the wires E and E', respectively. A retaining-wire F is secured on the lever D and has its outer ends extending across the forks D' and D², so as to hold the wires E and E' in place, at the same time permitting of inserting a wire in the respective fork or removing it from the same whenever desired.

From the lever D and at the fulcrum thereof extends an arm D³, so as to make the lever three-armed, as is plainly shown in the drawings. This arm D³ is pivotally connected with

an arm G, secured on a bar H, arranged alongside of the post A and provided on one side with a handle H' for manipulating the said bar, so as to impart a swinging motion to the several levers D on the bracket C of the post A.

In order to hold the sets of wires E E' at the proper tension, a tension device I is provided having two plates, of which the lower plate J is supported on a bolt K, held in a post L, set temporarily in the ground a suitable distance from the post A. A nut K', screwing on the bolt K, serves to draw the tension device toward the post L, so as to give a proper tension to the set of wires of this adjusted tension device. The top plate N is connected with the bottom plate J by bolts O, and in the top plate are arranged two transversely-extending bars P, located near the sides, as is plainly shown in Fig. 5. In the bottom plate J and on the upper surface of the same is held a bar Q, extending transversely and arranged in the middle of the plate J between the bars P. The two wires E E' are passed between the two plates N and J at opposite sides of the bolts O, so that the said wires pass under the two bars P and over the bar Q. Now when the nuts of the bolts O are screwed up the wires are securely pressed in place and clamped between the two plates J and N by the bars P and Q. (See Fig. 5.)

The operation is as follows: When the sets of wires pass through the respective forked ends D' and D² of the levers D and a picket R has been inserted between the open wires E E', as shown in Fig. 1, and the operator moves the bar H upward by pushing on the handle H', then the several levers D swing on the brackets C, thus crossing the wires E and E' in front of the picket. The bar H is then in an uppermost position with the sets of levers D in the position illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3. A new picket is then inserted again in the open wires near the twist in front of the picket R, and then the bar H is swung downward to the position illustrated in Fig. 1, thus again crossing the sets of wires in front of the newly-inserted picket. The above-described operation is then repeated. When the pickets have been inserted close up to the post A, then the latter is shifted toward the post L. By adjusting the nuts K' on the ten-

sion device a proper tension can be given to the sets of wires to insure a proper twisting of the sets of wires at the newly-inserted pickets.

5 The clamping-plates N and J hold the wires sufficiently tight to form the proper twists when the bar H is moved up and down, as previously described.

10 Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

15 1. In a fence-machine, the combination, with a post, of a series of levers pivoted on the said post and each having its ends forked to receive the wires, a retaining-wire held on each lever and extending across the fork to hold the wires in place therein, and a bar pivotally connected with the said levers to impart a swinging motion to the same, substantially as
20 shown and described.

2. In a fence-machine, the combination, with a post provided with a series of brackets, of levers fulcrumed on the said brackets and each provided with forked ends, a retaining-

wire held on each lever and extending across 25 the forked ends, and a bar provided with arms pivotally connected with the said levers, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a fence-machine, a tension device consisting of a lower plate provided with a trans- 30 verse bar at about the center of its upper face and with a bolt for adjustably connecting it to a post, an upper plate provided with transverse bars on its lower face, one at each side of the center, and bolts for clamping the 35 two plates together, substantially as described.

4. A fence-machine provided with a three-armed lever, of which two opposite arms have their ends forked to receive the wires, and a 40 retaining-wire secured on the lever and extending across the forked ends to hold the wires in place, substantially as shown and described.

LEMUEL H. SLAGLE.

Witnesses:

R. ROBINSON

S. D. CRUM.