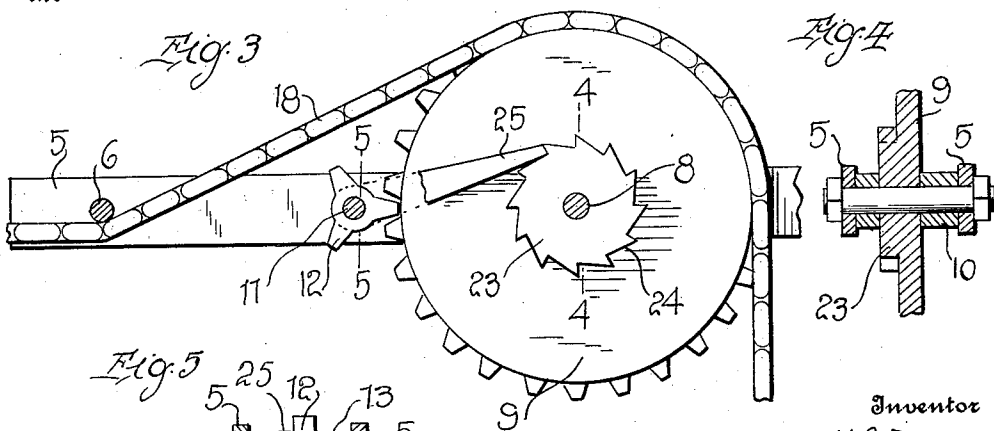
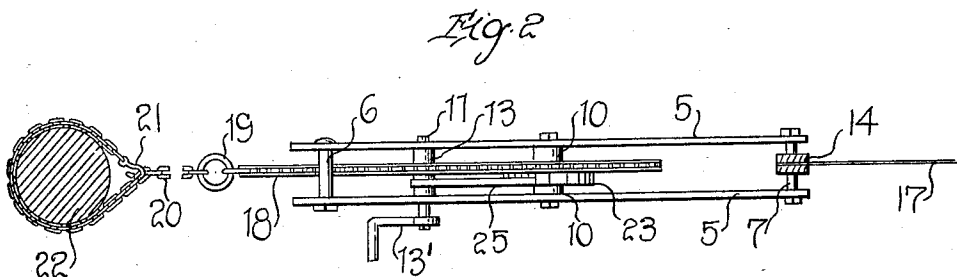
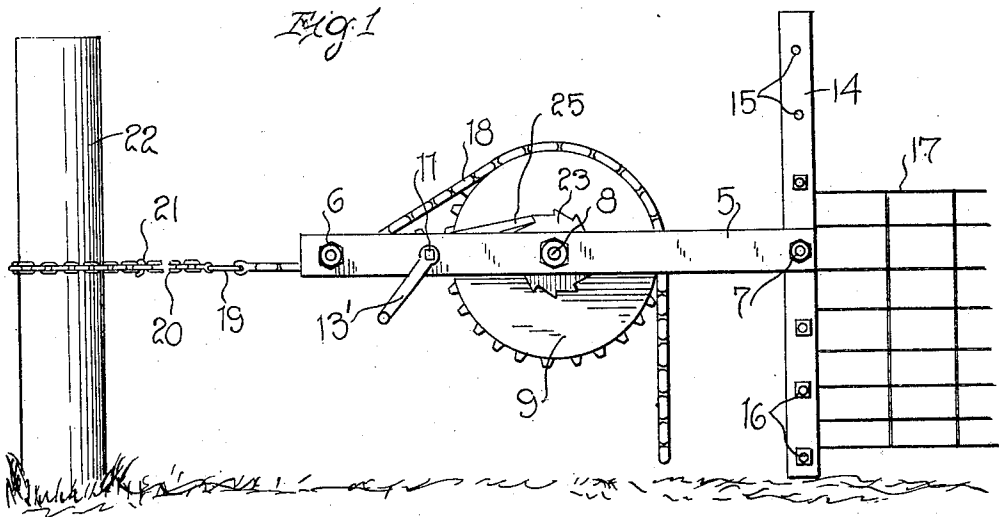


M. S. EOFF.
WIRE STRETCHER.
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1,108,981.

Patented Sept. 1, 1914.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILOUS S. EOFF, OF KINGSTON, ARKANSAS.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

1,108,981.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 1, 1914.

Application filed March 28, 1914. Serial No. 827,958.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILOUS S. EOFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kingston, in the county of Madison and State of Arkansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in wire stretchers, and an object thereof is the provision of an improved construction of the wire of fences which is simple in construction and which may be easily applied and operated.

Another object of this invention is the provision of a device of this character which may be easily carried from place to place, the device being attached at one end to a fence post or other suitable support and at its opposite end to the wires of a fence, means being provided to stretch the wires of the fence by drawing the same toward the post, means being also provided to hold the wires in a stretched position.

With these and other objects in view, my invention consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter more fully described, claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my device, showing it applied in a position for use; Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof; Fig. 3 is an enlarged elevation with one of the side plates removed; Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3; and Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, the numeral 5 designates the spaced side bars of the frame of the stretcher, the bars being connected at their inner ends by a bolt 6 and at their outer ends by a bolt 7. A shaft 8 is rotatably mounted in the side bars intermediate of their ends, and a sprocket wheel 9 is loosely mounted on the shaft intermediate of its ends, the sprocket wheel being maintained centrally on the shaft by the sleeves 10 which are mounted on the shaft on each side of the wheel 9 and engaged at their outer ends against the inner faces of the side bars 5. A shaft 11 is also rotatably mounted in the side bars 5, the shaft 11 being disposed adjacent the inner end of the frame, and a gear wheel 12 is mounted on the shaft 11 between the bars,

the teeth of the gear wheel being adapted to mesh with the teeth of the sprocket wheel. The gear wheel 12 is also maintained centrally on its shaft 11 by means of the sleeves 13 arranged on the shaft 11 on either side of the gear wheel, and one end of the shaft is provided with a crank 13 whereby the same may be easily rotated.

Mounted on the bolt 7 between the bars 5, is a pair of clamping bars 14, the bars being provided with registering openings 15 for the reception of bolts 16 by means of which the bars may be tightly clamped together to hold the wires of a fence 17 therebetween.

Mounted on the sprocket wheel 9 above the side bars, is a sprocket chain 18, the forward end of the chain extending downwardly between the bars 5, and the rear end of the chain being passed beneath the bolt 6 at the rear end of the frame, the rear extremity of the chain being connected to a ring 19. Connected at one end to the ring 19 is a link chain 20, the opposite end of the chain having a hook 21 connected thereto, so that the free end of the chain may be engaged around a supporting post 22, and connected thereto by engagement of the hook 21 with one of the links intermediate one end of the chain. To prevent rotation of the sprocket wheel 9 in one direction, an annular extension 23 is formed on one side thereof, the extension being formed on its periphery with a series of ratchet teeth 24, and a pawl 25 suitably connected at one end upon the shaft 11, the opposite end of the pawl being adapted for engagement against the periphery of the extension 23 in the path of the ratchet teeth 24 thereon.

In the operation of my device, the parts thereof being connected as heretofore described, the chain 20 is connected to a fence post or other suitable support 22, and the clamping bars 14 are connected to the wires of a fence, as illustrated in the drawing. The shaft 11 is then rotated so as to rotate the stretcher toward the post 22, and as the gear wheel meshes with the sprocket wheel 9, the sprocket wheel 9 is turned in a reverse direction so that the sprocket chain 18 is drawn over the sprocket wheel, thereby moving the wires of the fence toward the post 22. When the wires of the fence have been sufficiently stretched, rotation of the crank shaft 11 is ceased, and the wires are held in their stretched positions by engage-

ment of the pawl 25 with the ratchet teeth 24 formed on the annular extension of the gear wheel 9.

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

10 In a device of the class described comprising a supporting frame, said frame consisting of spaced side bars connected together at their opposite ends, clamping bars mounted in one end of said frame, a shaft rotatably mounted in said bars intermediate of their ends, a sprocket wheel having a ratchet formed therewith mounted on said 15 shaft between said bars, sleeves carried on

said shaft between the said sprocket wheel and said side bars, a crank shaft rotatably mounted in said bars adjacent one end of said frame, a gear wheel and a pawl carried on said crank shaft adapted to engage the 20 said sprocket wheel and ratchet respectively, and a sprocket chain engaged at one end with said sprocket wheel, the opposite end being connected to a suitable support.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my 25 signature in the presence of two witnesses.

MILOUS S. EOFF.

Witnesses:

WM. L. BUNCH,
THOS. LANE.

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