No. 692,412. Patented Feb. 4, 1902.

G. S. & W. D. AUSTIN.

WIRE STRETCHER AND REELING MACHINE.

(Application filed May 10, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

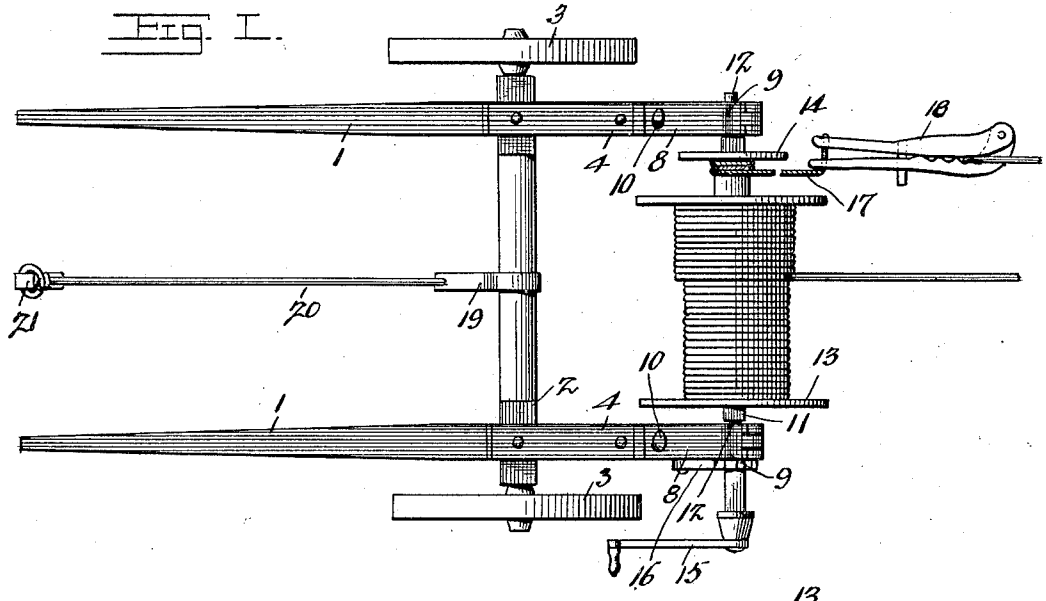


Fig. 2.

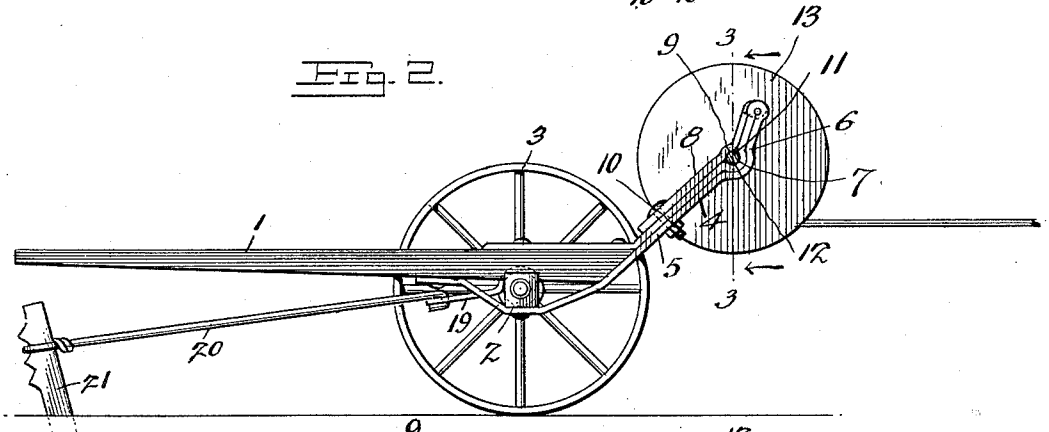
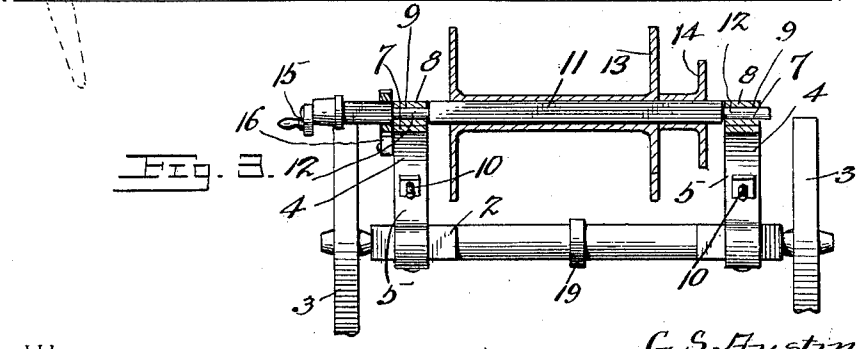


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
F. E. Alden.
Chas. S. Hoyer.

Inventors
G. S. Austin.
W. D. Austin.
by C. A. Snow & Co.
Attorneys

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE S. AUSTIN AND WILLIAM D. AUSTIN, OF CERULEAN, KENTUCKY.

WIRE STRETCHER AND REELING MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 692,412, dated February 4, 1902.

Application filed May 10, 1901. Serial No. 59,666. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GEORGE S. AUSTIN and WILLIAM D. AUSTIN, citizens of the United States, residing at Cerulean, in the county of Trigg and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Wire Stretcher and Reeling Machine, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to wire stretching and reeling machines; and the objects of the same are to provide a device of this class which can be either manually drawn and controlled or have a horse or other animal attached thereto, to provide a machine of this class which can be readily adjusted to adapt it for stretching wires at different elevations without requiring an adjustment of the individual parts composing the same, to have such machine capable of readily receiving a wire-reeling spool which is used for feeding out the wire as desired or taking up the slack wire or that not desired for use and to have the wire that is stretched run directly from said reel, to provide means for easily replacing one reel by another without delay or causing the operator to lift the same, and also to provide other convenient attachments that will fully equip the machine for general use in wire stretching and wire reeling, so that fence building and repairing may be rapidly carried on in an advantageous manner.

With these and other objects and advantages in view the invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of a machine embodying the features of the invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same with one wheel removed. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section on the line 3 3, Fig. 2.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The numeral 1 designates opposite bars shaped to serve either as hand-bars for manual operation of the machine or as shafts or thills for hitching up a horse or other animal thereto, the said bars being secured in a suitable manner to an axle-beam 2, provided with an axle or axle-stubs to give bearing to ground-wheels 3. Secured to and passing over opposite portions of the axle-beam and the upper and lower portions of the bars 1 are combined braces and supports 4, consisting of doubled lengths of suitable bendable metal straps having the two extremities of each engaging the axle-beam and bars, as set forth, and standing upwardly at an oblique angle to the rear ends of the latter, as at 5, and also having upper terminal bends 6 at an angle to the portions thereof immediately below. At the lower terminals of the bends 6 bearing-seats 7 are formed in the oblique portions of the combined braces and supports, and hinged to the upper ends of the said bends are latch bars or keepers 8, which are correspondingly shaped to fit closely against the upper sides of the oblique portions 5 of the combined braces and supports and also against the bends 6, the said bars or keepers having bends 9 therein to register with and complete the bearing-seats 7. The bars or keepers 8 are temporarily held closed by bolts, pins, or the like engaging the free ends thereof and the adjacent portions of the braces or supports, as at 10, whereby the said bars or keepers may be thrown open at any time desired. The supporting device of a wire-reel is adapted to be removably and rotatably held in the said seats 7, and by throwing the combined braces and supports downwardly to the ground by properly tilting the bars 1 upwardly a loaded or filled reel may be readily disengaged from or disposed on the seats and held within the latter without requiring the operator to lift said reels. The same course can be pursued with empty reels, and this operation will render the machine exceptionally convenient. The preferred form of reel shown comprises a shaft 11, which is squared except at one end and a portion near the opposite end, where it is reduced to form journals 12 to fit in the seats 7 to permit rotation of the same, but prevent movement thereof in a longitudinal direction. On the said shaft a reel proper, 13, is removably applied, so that it can be slipped off the said shaft and another of similar form substituted therefor, and on the said shaft an auxiliary reel 14 is fixed, so that one of the heads or disks of the reel 13 will close one end thereof. The shaft is adapted to be rotated by a handle or crank 15, removably applied to one

end thereof, and coacting with the said shaft is a ratchet-and-pawl mechanism 16 to prevent back movement of the reel when winding the wire thereon during the stretching operation. On the reel 14 a cable 17 or the like is wound and has a gripping tool or implement 18 attached thereto for engaging and stretching wires that are not carried by the reel proper, and in the operation of the improved machine the length of wire desired is run off from the reel proper and the slack then taken up by winding the wire thereon and at the same time stretching the wire to the necessary degree of tautness. By raising or lowering the bars 1 the combined braces and supports will be correspondingly elevated or depressed, and wires at different elevations may be operated upon, or after the wire is held against movement on the reel proper it may be drawn tighter after stretching by bearing downwardly on the bars 1, and thus elevate the braces and supports.

To hold the machine steady while manipulating or arranging the wire and to permit the operator to leave the machine, a clip 19 is loosely applied to the axle-beam and has a cable 20 or the like attached thereto at one end and adjustably and removably connected at its opposite end to a notched post 21, which may be driven in the ground, as shown. In conveying the machine for a long distance from one point to another the said post may also be employed for assisting in fastening the machine to the rear portion of a wagon or other analogous device.

The improved device is complete in its equipment for conveniently carrying on fence-building and may be readily transported from place to place.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. A machine of the class set forth comprising opposite side bars attached to an axle-beam having wheels thereon, combined braces and supports secured to the axle-beam and the rear portions of the bars and having upwardly-extending obliquely-arranged portions with bearing-seats therein, keepers hinged to the upper rear ends of said combined braces and supports to close forwardly and downwardly over the said seats and complete the latter, and a reel removably supported in the said seats to have a rotatable movement, the upwardly-extending obliquely-arranged portions of the combined braces and supports being adapted to be brought down to the ground-surface by tilting the axle-beam to permit an empty reel to be removed and another filled one to be rolled over into place without lifting the same up to the normal position of said obliquely-arranged portions.

2. A machine of the class set forth comprising opposite side bars attached to an axle-beam having wheels thereon, combined braces and supports secured to the axle-beam and the rear ends of the bars and formed with upwardly-projecting obliquely-arranged portions, keepers hinged to the upper ends of said latter portions and adapted to close down over the same, and a reel rotatably and removably held between said keepers and the obliquely-arranged portions of the braces and supports, the upwardly-extending obliquely-arranged portions of the combined braces and supports being adapted to be brought down to the ground-surface by tilting the axle-beam to permit an empty reel to be removed and another filled one to be rolled over into place without lifting the same up to the normal position of said obliquely-arranged portions.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereunto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE S. AUSTIN.
WILLIAM D. AUSTIN.

Witnesses:
J. M. BEVUM,
N. B. POLLARD.