(No Model.)

J. W. NADELHOFFER.

STRETCHER FOR WIRE FENCES.

No. 303,312. Patented Aug. 12, 1884.

Fig. 1.

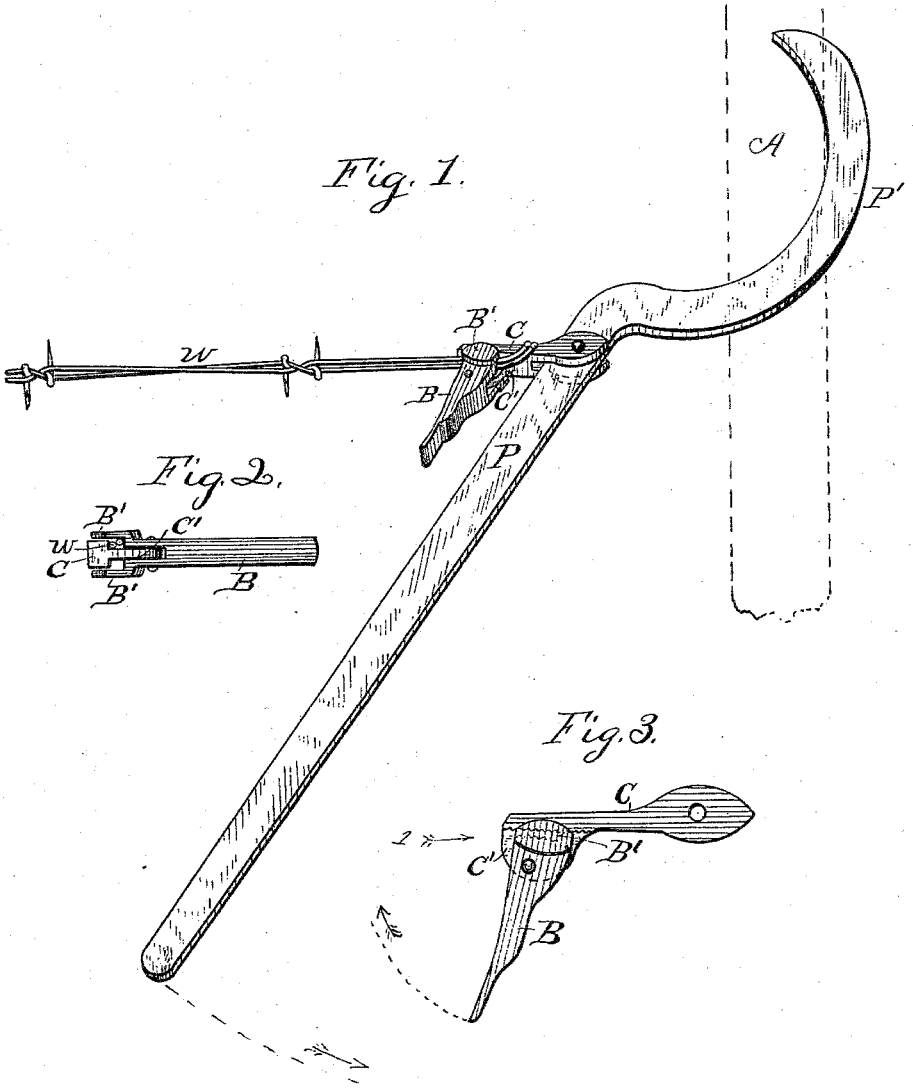

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. NADELHOFFER, OF JOLIET, ILLINOIS.

STRETCHER FOR WIRE FENCES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 303,312, dated August 12, 1884.

Application filed January 29, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. NADELHOFFER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Joliet, in the county of Will and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Stretcher for Wire Fences, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a perspective view; Fig. 2, a front view of the link C and dog B, and Fig. 3 a plan view on the top of said link and dog detached from the lever P.

This invention relates to certain improvements in wire-stretchers for wire fences, which improvements I will proceed to explain.

Referring to the drawings, P represents a lever having a curved point or end, P′, to hook around a fence-post, A. A link, C, is pivoted to the lever P, as shown in Fig. 1. To the outer end of link C, at one side, is eccentrically pivoted a dog, B, at C′. The pivoted end of dog B is provided on either side with serrations to stand opposite similar serrations on the side of link C, between which serrations the fence-wire W is held by compression between the eccentrically-arranged end of dog B and link C. After the fence-wire W is thus secured, the curved end P′ of lever P is passed behind the fence-post A for a leverage to pull on the wire W to stretch it, so that it can be nailed to the posts. The hook P′ will slide around behind the post, and the joint formed by pivoting or hinging the link C to the lever P, as shown, will permit the fence-wire to be brought up and in contact with the face of the post, so that it can be readily secured by a nail, staple, or otherwise, without crimping or bending the wire at the place where it is held by the dog, which would have a tendency to break the wire at that place; also, by having the link C jointed or pivoted to the lever, as shown, the device may be used on an old fence at any intermediate post between the ends, and the wire may be grasped and pulled forward in a straight line without bending or crimping it to injure it. The overhanging lips B′ prevent the wire from falling out from between the dog and the link. While the hook P′ is being passed around the post, the wire W is held aloof from the posts until the slack is taken up in the wire, so as not to break or displace the barbs; also, in stretching the wire no vertical motion is given the wire; but it is stretched in a horizontal direction, so that when it is fully stretched it can be at once nailed or fastened to the post at which the stretcher is applied.

The dog and link are provided with the double serrations for holding the wire, so that the stretcher can be used on either side of the post, as such arrangement makes it handy to insert the wire on the upper side of the lever, as shown on either side of the post.

The great object of having the lever P terminate in the hook P′ and pivoting the link C back a distance from the heel of said hook is to prevent the lever from sliding on the post and letting the link C come up in contact with the post until the wire has been stretched, which prevents the wire from being crimped and broken where it is grasped by the dog B, as before stated. If the lever were straight at the place where it is curved, this object could not be accomplished.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows, to wit:

A wire-stretcher formed of the lever P, having the curved or hooked end P′, link C, pivoted to said lever P a little distance from the heel of said hook, and dog B, having the lips B′ and pivoted to said link near its outer end, all adapted to operate in connection with each other, substantially as herein shown and described.

JOHN W. NADELHOFFER.

Witnesses:

B. H. KING,

THOS. H. HUTCHINS.