(No Model.)

C. H. SALISBURY.

WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 255,032. Patented Mar. 14, 1882.

Fig 1.

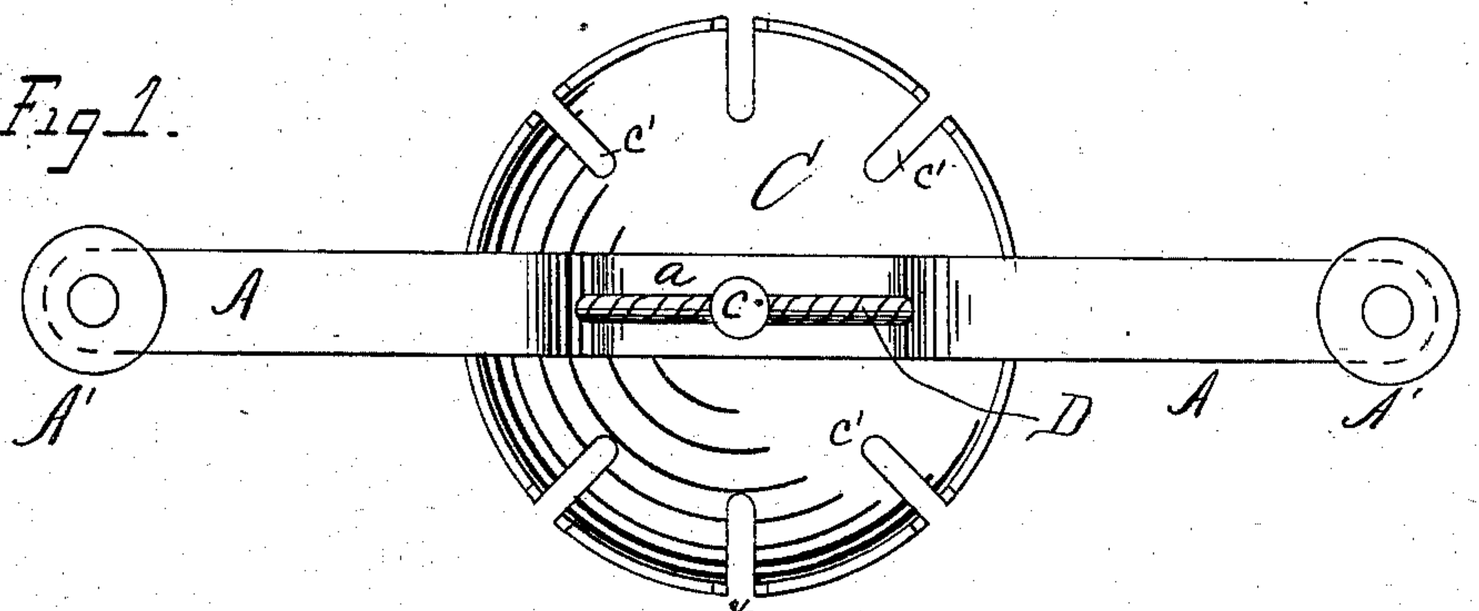


Fig 2.

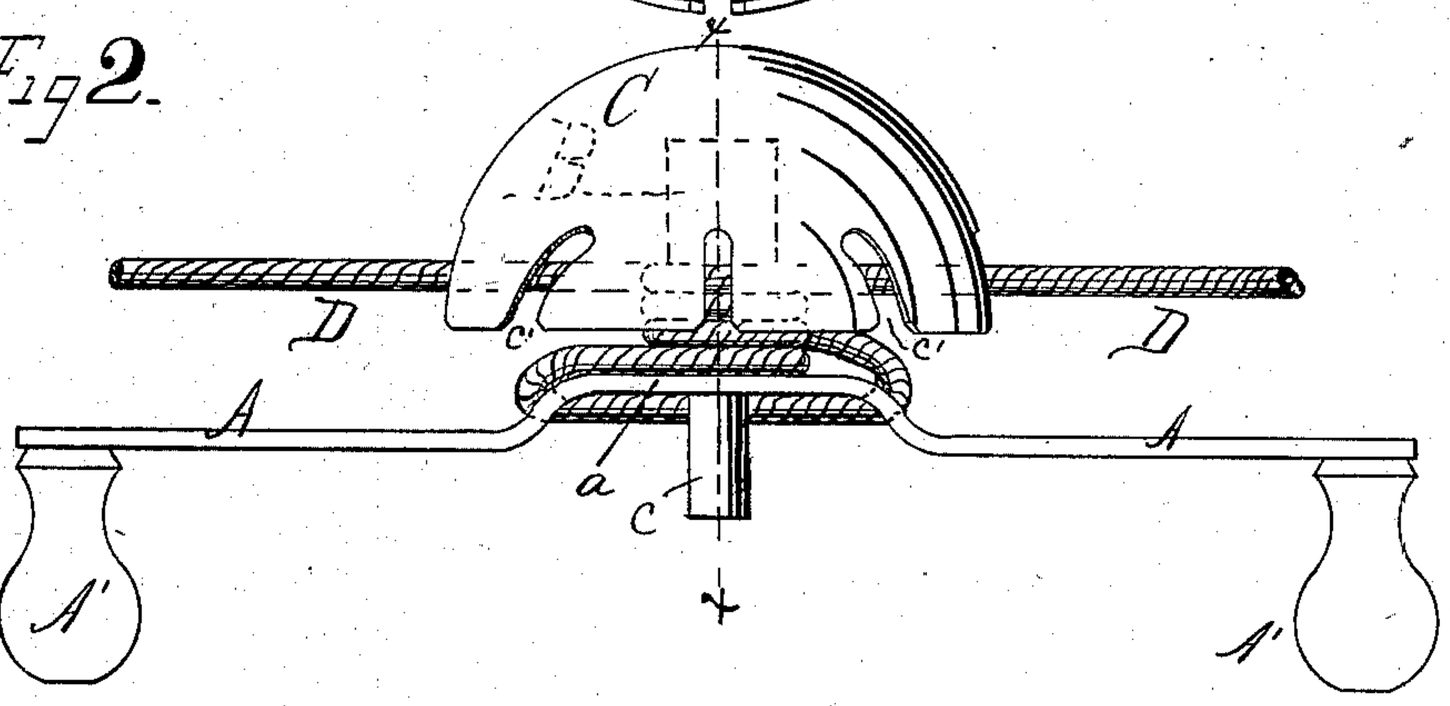
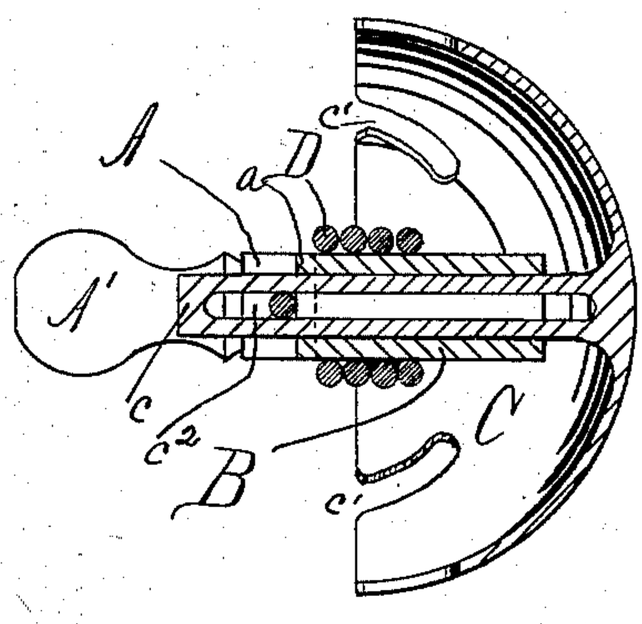


Fig 3.



WITNESSES—

J. Everett Brown

H. W. Munday

INVENTOR—

Charles H. Salisbury,

per Munday, Evarts and Adcock

his Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. SALISBURY, OF DE KALB, ILLINOIS.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 255,032, dated March 14, 1882.

Application filed August 4, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. SALISBURY, of De Kalb, county of De Kalb, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the construction of portable stretchers or strainers for straining fence-wires, and will be fully understood from the description given below, when viewed in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein Figure 1 is a side view, and Fig. 2 is a top view, of my improved device. Fig. 3 is a cross section of the same on the line *x x*.

My improved stretcher consists of a double crank, A, of flat metal, having its central portion, *a*, bent so as to stand in a plane lateral to that of the end portions, as illustrated, and handles A′ at each end, a hollow windlass or winding shell, B, secured to said bent portion *a*, and a hemispherical or bell-shaped locking device, C, mounted on a central interior stem, *c*, inserted in the windlass B, and having slots *c′* in its edge to engage the rope D, which rope passes through the crank at each side of the center, and also through a slot, c^2, in the stem *c*. In this construction the stem *c* is free to slide inward or outward in the windlass B, the slot c^2 preventing interference by the rope with such movement; but the outward movement is limited by the rope, so that the stem cannot become detached. At the same time, by passing the rope through said stem the locking device is made to rotate with the windlass and prevented from independent rotation, being thus held firm and stationary when the windlass is stationary.

The operation of the device is as follows: The grappling devices with which the rope is provided at each end, but which are not shown, as their presence will be understood, having been made fast to the fence-post and wire, the operator begins to wind, and as he proceeds he withdraws the windlass from off the stem of the locking device, so that the coiling upon the windlass may continue without interruption thereby until the fence-wire is brought to the proper tension. When this point is reached the locking-bell is slipped upon the rope, which enters slots *c′* upon each side, and thus said bell, in conjunction with that portion of the rope passing through the stem, prevents any unwinding.

The locking-bell may be kept away from the rope during the winding operation by pressing upon the end of the stem *c*, which projects through the crank.

Instead of using a single rope, two ropes, each secured to a branch of the crank, may be substituted, and in lieu of passing the rope through the stem *c* a stationary or metal stop attached to the crank may be used.

Instead of the locking-bell, a forked-ended lever may be employed.

My stretcher has great advantages in that it is very simple, light, and strong, and inasmuch as the rope is wound from both ends at the same time, it takes up the same amount of slack with one-half the number of turns required with the ordinary stretcher.

The winding portion of the windlass is made of a shell. It is thus rendered light, and room is obtained for the other parts of the stretcher.

I am aware of the construction shown in patent to Edward M. Crandal, No. 217,200, and hence do not claim broadly a stretcher provided with a double crank; but as my crank does not slide longitudinally, and always remains in the same position relative to the axis of the drum, it possesses important advantages over Crandal's construction.

I claim—

1. The fence-stretcher consisting of the crank, the hollow windlass secured to the crank, a locking device mounted upon a stem inserted in the windlass and having a sliding movement therein, and the rope passing through the ends of the crank and the stem of the locking device, substantially as specified.

2. In a fence-stretcher, a locking device adapted to engage with the rope, mounted upon a stem held in the windlass, and secured so as to rotate therewith, in combination with the windlass and rope, substantially as specified.

3. In a fence-stretcher, a locking device secured to the windlass so as to rotate therewith, and movable toward and from the rope and adapted to engage the same at both sides of the windlass at the same time, in combination with the windlass and rope, substantially as specified.

4. The fence-stretcher provided with a non-sliding double crank, substantially as set forth.

CHARLES H. SALISBURY.

Witnesses:
PAUL H. HOLM,
BENJAMIN S. WHITE.