(No Model.)

H. CLEMONS.

WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 343,009. Patented June 1, 1886.

Fig. 1.

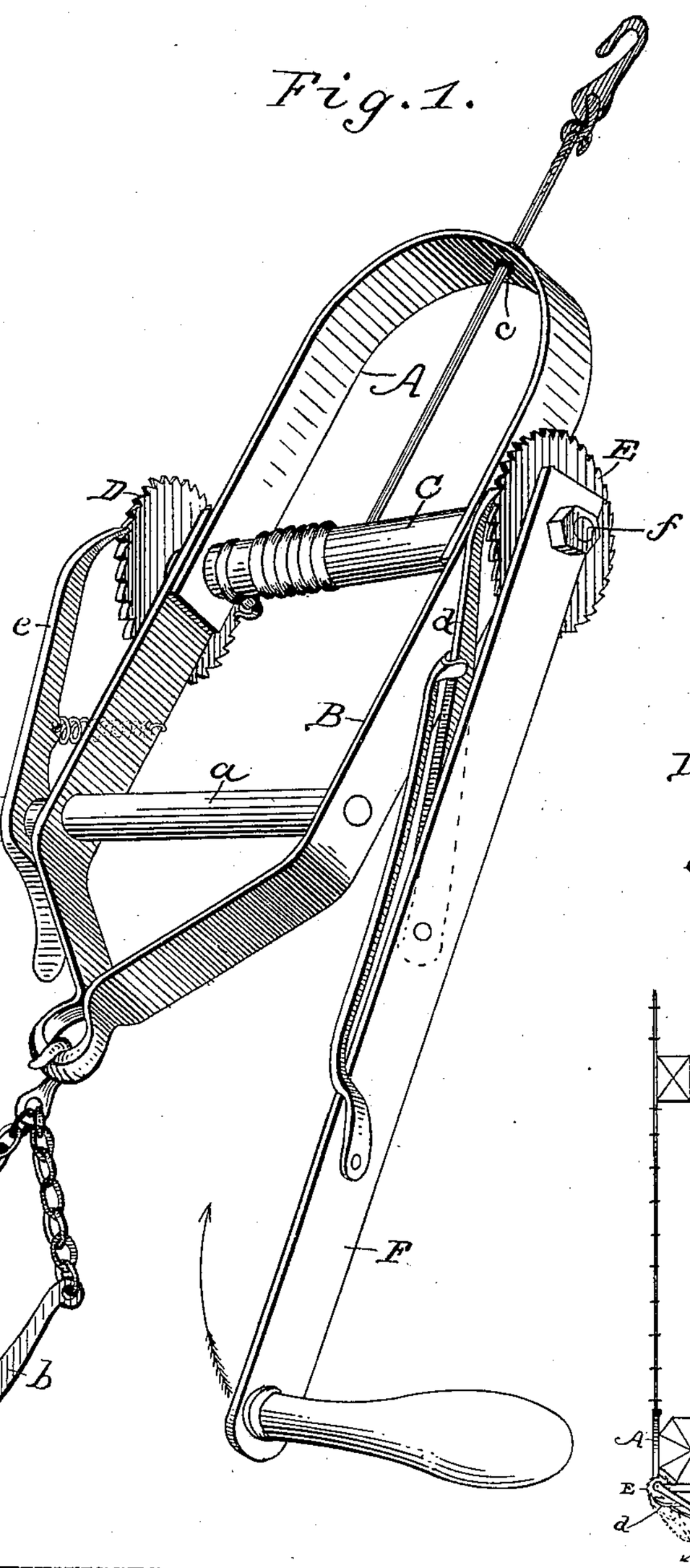

Fig. 3.

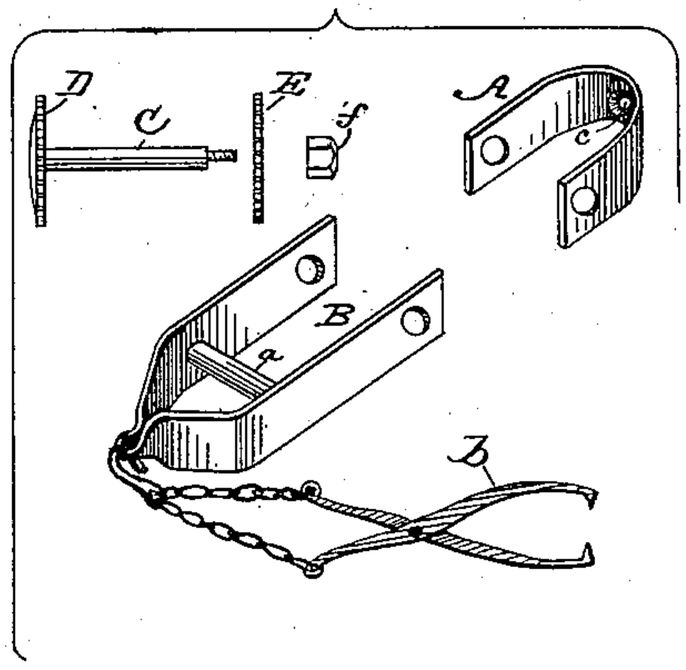

Fig. 2.

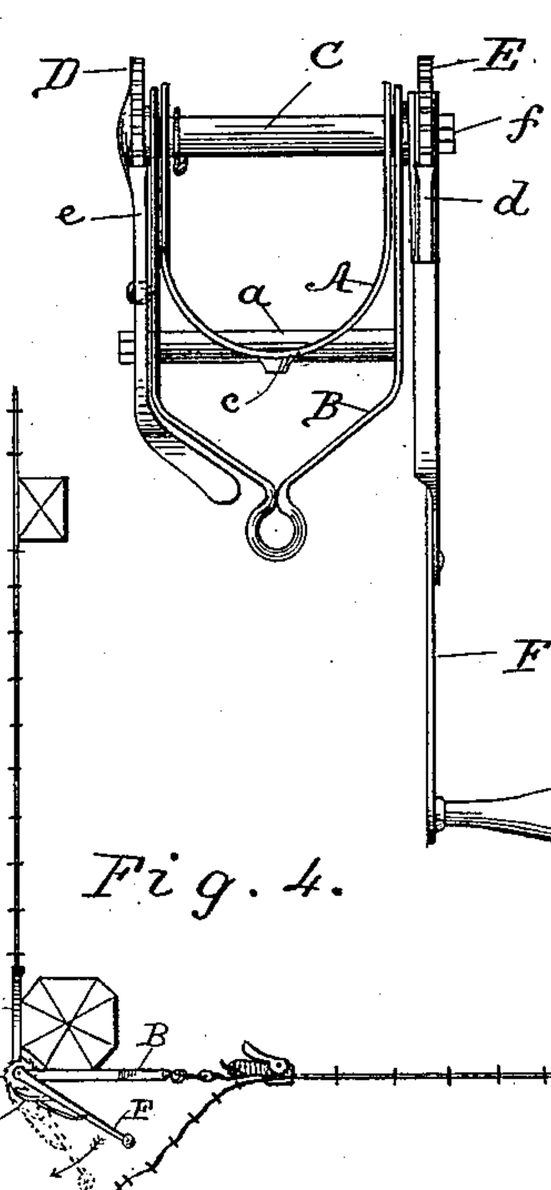

Fig. 4.

WITNESSES:

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Amos W. Hart

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ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY CLEMONS, OF DOWNING, MISSOURI.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 343,009, dated June 1, 1886.

Application filed December 2, 1885. Serial No. 184,513. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY CLEMONS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Downing, in the county of Schuyler and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention is an improvement in the class of portable wire-stretchers consisting, mainly, of an oblong iron frame having a shaft journaled therein, and provided with a handle, a ratchet, and a pawl for rotating it.

The invention consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts as hereinafter described and claimed.

In accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same folded. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the parts of the device separated from each other. Fig. 4 is a plan view illustrating one way in which the device is practically used.

The iron frame of the stretcher is formed of the U-shaped part A and the V-shaped part B, connected and jointed together by shaft C. The part B has a cross-brace, *a*, and is provided at its angular extremity with an eye, to which a rope or hook, *b*, may be applied, for attaching the frame to a post or other fixed object. The part A has a hole, *c*, in its convex end, to serve as a guide for the wire, rope, or chain attached to the wire to be stretched. The inner ends of the parts A B are lapped one on the other and have coincident holes to receive the cross-shaft C on which the wire is wound. On one end of said shaft is fixed a ratchet, D, and on the other is mounted, detachably, a similar ratchet, E. The pawl *d* of a crank-arm, F, engages with ratchet E, and said crank is mounted loose on shaft C, so as to rotate around it. A spring-pressed pawl, *e*, is pivoted on a projecting end of the brace *a* and engages the other ratchet, D, thus serving to hold or lock the latter while the crank-arm F is being rotated in the direction indicated by the arrow, for winding the wire on shaft C. A nut, *f*, is applied to one end of shaft C. By removing it the latter may be withdrawn and the parts A B of the frame separated from each other and from the ratchet E and crank-arm F. (See Fig. 3.)

The general operation of the stretcher will be obvious to those skilled in the art without further description.

The construction of the frame in two parts, which are jointed together, enables it to be folded in compact form, as shown in Fig. 2. It also enables the stretcher to be used in angles or corners, and to be applied to the side of a post, as illustrated in Fig. 4, which would be impracticable if the frame were rigid, as usual in this class of stretchers.

I do not claim, broadly, a wire-stretcher frame made in two parts jointed together; but

What I claim is—

The improved fence-wire stretcher composed of the two parts A and B, adapted for the functions specified, the winding-shaft C, which passes through the openings in the lapped ends of said parts, and thus pivotally connects them, the ratchets D E, attached to the respective ends of the shaft, the spring-pawl *e*, pivoted to part B, and the handle F and its attached pawl *d*, all as shown and described.

HENRY CLEMONS.

Witnesses:

WM. MCNULTY,

JOHN B. MUDD.