

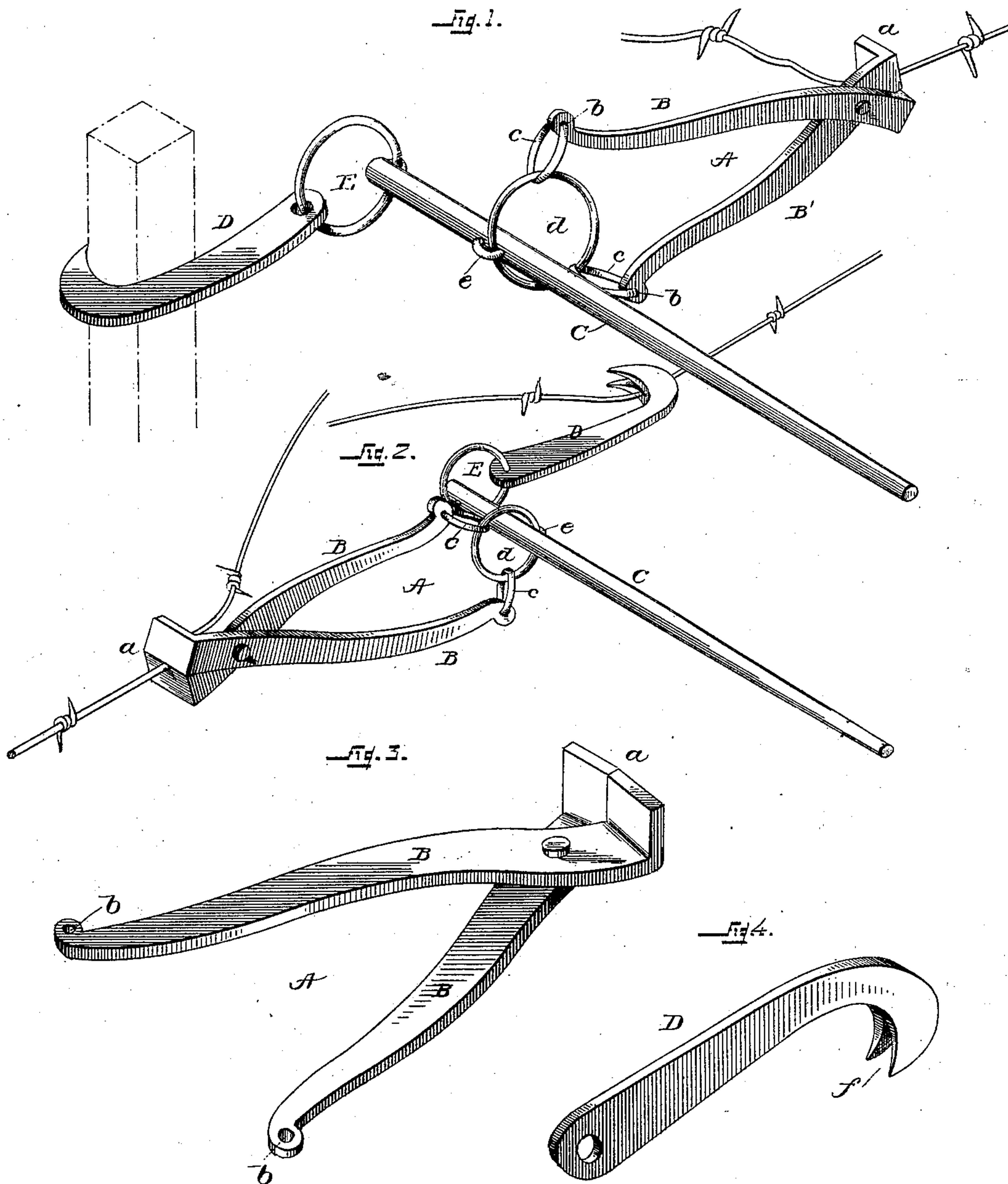
(No Model.)

H. M. BECKLEY.

WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 359,312.

Patented Mar. 15, 1887.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HEZEKIAH M. BECKLEY, OF RICH HILL, MISSOURI.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 359,312, dated March 15, 1887.

Application filed December 8, 1886. Serial No. 221,013. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HEZEKIAH M. BECKLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rich Hill, in the county of Bates and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to wire stretchers; and the object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which shall be simple in its construction, effective and easy of operation, one that will be strong and durable, and which may be manufactured and supplied at a slight cost.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved wire stretcher, showing the manner of operating the same. Fig. 2 is an elevation showing the manner of drawing the ends of the broken wire together so that they may be united, and Figs. 3 and 4 are detail views.

Corresponding parts in the several figures are denoted by the same letters of reference.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the gripping-tongs, which consist of two jaws, B B', pivoted together near one end, and having adjacent to the point at which they are pivoted each an outturned ear or lug, *a*, which may be serrated or roughened, so that they will effectively hold the wire when it is clamped between them. The other ends of said jaws are turned slightly outward, and are formed with holes or openings *b*. Secured in each of the eyes *b* is a small section of chain, *c*, which may consist of one, two, or more links, and said links are connected at their inner ends to a ring, *d*.

C represents a lever, one end of which ex-

tends through the ring *d*, and is pivoted thereto by means of a staple, *e*, entering the said lever.

D represents a gripping claw or hook, which is loosely connected with the ring E, which ring is loosely secured to the free end of the operating-lever C. The outer end of this gripping claw or hook is bifurcated, and the jaws curved, as shown at *f*, so that the wire will be firmly gripped.

The operation is as follows: When the wire is to be stretched, as in making a fence, one end of the wire is inserted between the gripping-tongs and the latter are drawn together. The free end of the lever is then placed against a stake driven in the ground, and the wire is stretched. When a broken wire is to be united, one end is grasped by the gripping-tongs and the other by the gripping claw or hook, the handle of the operating-lever lying alongside of and parallel to the gripping-tongs. The lever is then drawn to an opposite position, thus drawing the ends of the wire together, so that they may be united.

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

The combination of the gripping-tongs, the connecting-chain *c*, embodying the ring or loop *d*, the lever passing through said ring and pivotally connected therewith, the ring E, pivotally secured to the outer end of the lever, and the gripping claw or hook having the bifurcated outer end and pivoted upon the said ring, substantially as set forth.

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

HEZEKIAH M. BECKLEY.

Witnesses:

C. E. JONES,
L. LAMPKIN.