

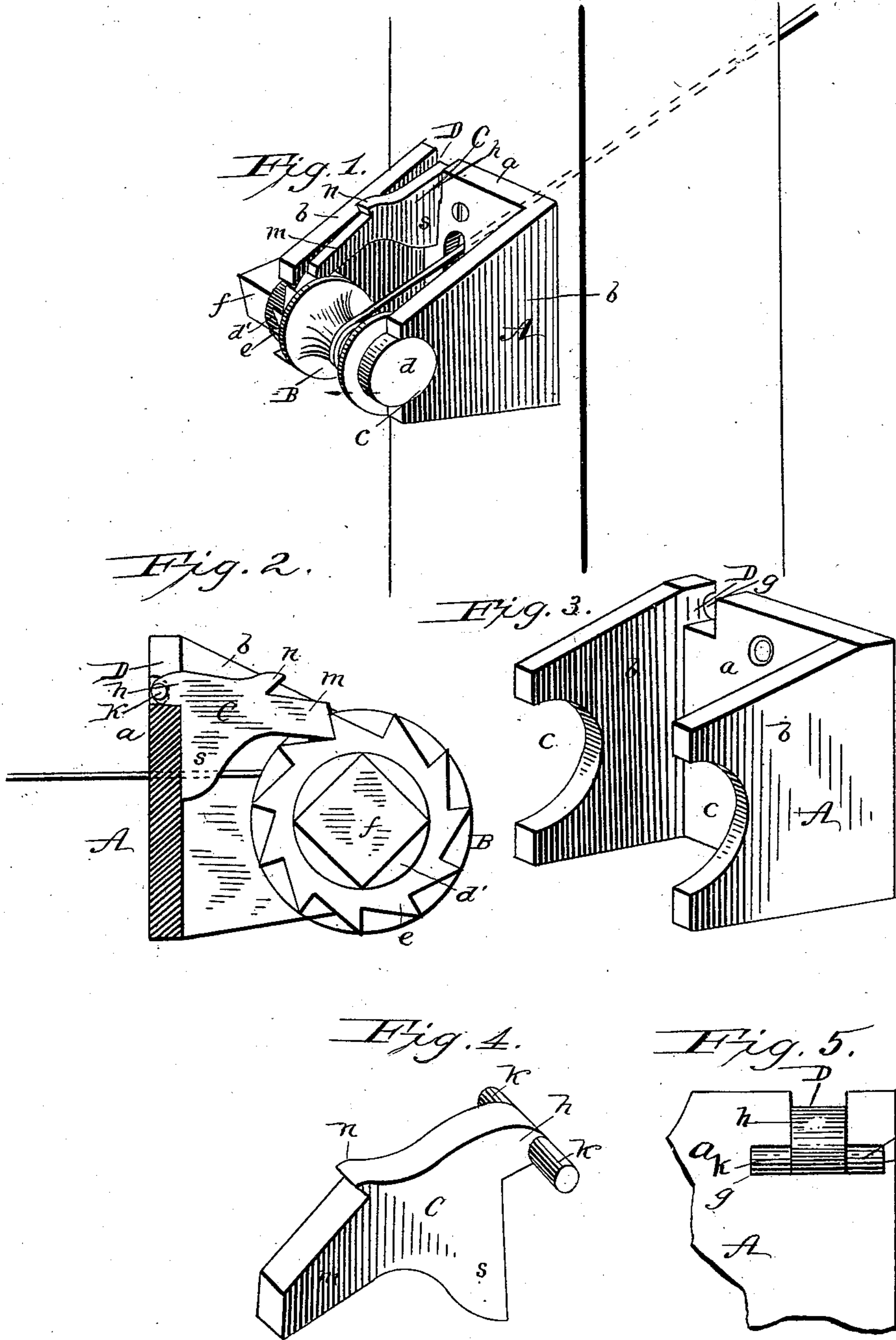
(No Model.)

L. W. LINDLEY.

WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 370,631.

Patented Sept. 27, 1887.



Witnesses

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LAFAYETTE W. LINDLEY, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 370,631, dated September 27, 1887.

Application filed June 30, 1887. Serial No. 242,998. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAFAYETTE W. LINDLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to that class of wire-stretchers which are usually permanently attached to a post in line with a wire fence and connected to the wires thereof, one stretcher to each line of wire of the fence being employed, for the purpose of taking up the slack of the wires caused by expansion, &c., whereby perfectly taut wires are always maintained.

The invention consists of certain novel features of construction of the pawl and the bracket to which it is attached, and which supports the ratchet-drum, whereby a very compact and durable device is provided, as will be fully hereinafter specified, and particularly pointed out in the claim appended.

Referring to the drawings annexed, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my device attached to a post; Fig. 2, a view partly in section and partly in side elevation; Fig. 3, a perspective view of the bracket for supporting the ratchet-drum; Fig. 4, a perspective view of the pawl employed in this device; and Fig. 5, a detail view of a portion of the bracket, showing the manner in which the pawl is pivotally secured thereto.

Referring to the drawings by letters, A designates the bracket or support, one of which is attached to the post, in line with each wire of the fence, by means of screws or otherwise, and which consists of the base-piece *a* and the two extended side pieces, *b*, the outer ends of which latter are provided with open bearings *c* for the ratchet-drum.

The ratchet-drum B has formed on one end, preferably integral with it, a short spindle, *d*, and on its other end a ratchet-wheel, *e*, another short spindle, *d'*, and a squared portion, *f*, for the attachment of a crank or wrench, with which to revolve it, as is usual with this class of devices, the short spindles *d* *d'* being journaled in the semicircular or open bear-

ings *c* in the ends of the extended sides of the bracket, as shown. The line of wire from the fence is passed through the post and a slot in the base of the bracket, and is wound on the drum B, after it has been attached thereto, by means of a wrench or crank, the drum being held against backward rotation by the gravity-pawl C engaging the ratchet-wheel *e*.

In the upper edge of the base-piece *a*, at one side next to one of the side pieces of the bracket, is formed a short vertical slot, D; and in the rear face of this base-piece, or the side that is contiguous to the face of the post when secured thereto, and on each side of the vertical slot and communicating therewith are formed short lateral grooves or recesses *g*, for the purpose presently stated. In this short vertical slot D is pivotally secured the gravitating pawl C, which is constructed with a rearwardly-extending projection or arm, *h*, which fits the recess formed by the slot D, and which has two lateral pins or pivots, *k*, cast integral with it, the said pins being pivotally held in the lateral recesses *g* in the rear side of the base-piece by the simple act of securing the bracket to the post, as is evident. This pawl is also constructed with a forwardly-extending arm, *m*, which engages with the ratchet-wheel on the drum, a thumb-piece, *n*, for disengaging the pawl from the ratchet-wheel, and a downwardly-extending enlargement or shoulder, *s*, formed at right angles to the arm *h*, so that when the pawl is in engagement with the ratchet-wheel the said shoulder will bear against the face of the bracket and relieve the pivotal pins of the pawl from the heavy strain due to the pull of the wire upon the drum.

Being aware that it is not new to construct wire-stretchers with a bracket or support to be attached to a fence-post and provided with open bearings to support a ratchet-drum, and a gravitating pawl attached or held to this bracket in such a manner as to engage with the ratchet-drum, I do not claim such features as my invention.

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

A wire-stretcher comprising a bracket—

frame having scored side cheeks and notched
vertically and horizontally at one corner of
its back, in combination with a ratchet-drum
and a pawl having pintles *k k*, an abutting ex-
5 tension, *s*, a beveled engaging portion, *m*, and
a beveled thumb-piece, *n*, all substantially as
shown and described.

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

LAFAYETTE W. LINDLEY.

Witnesses:

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CHRIST. HERRMANN.