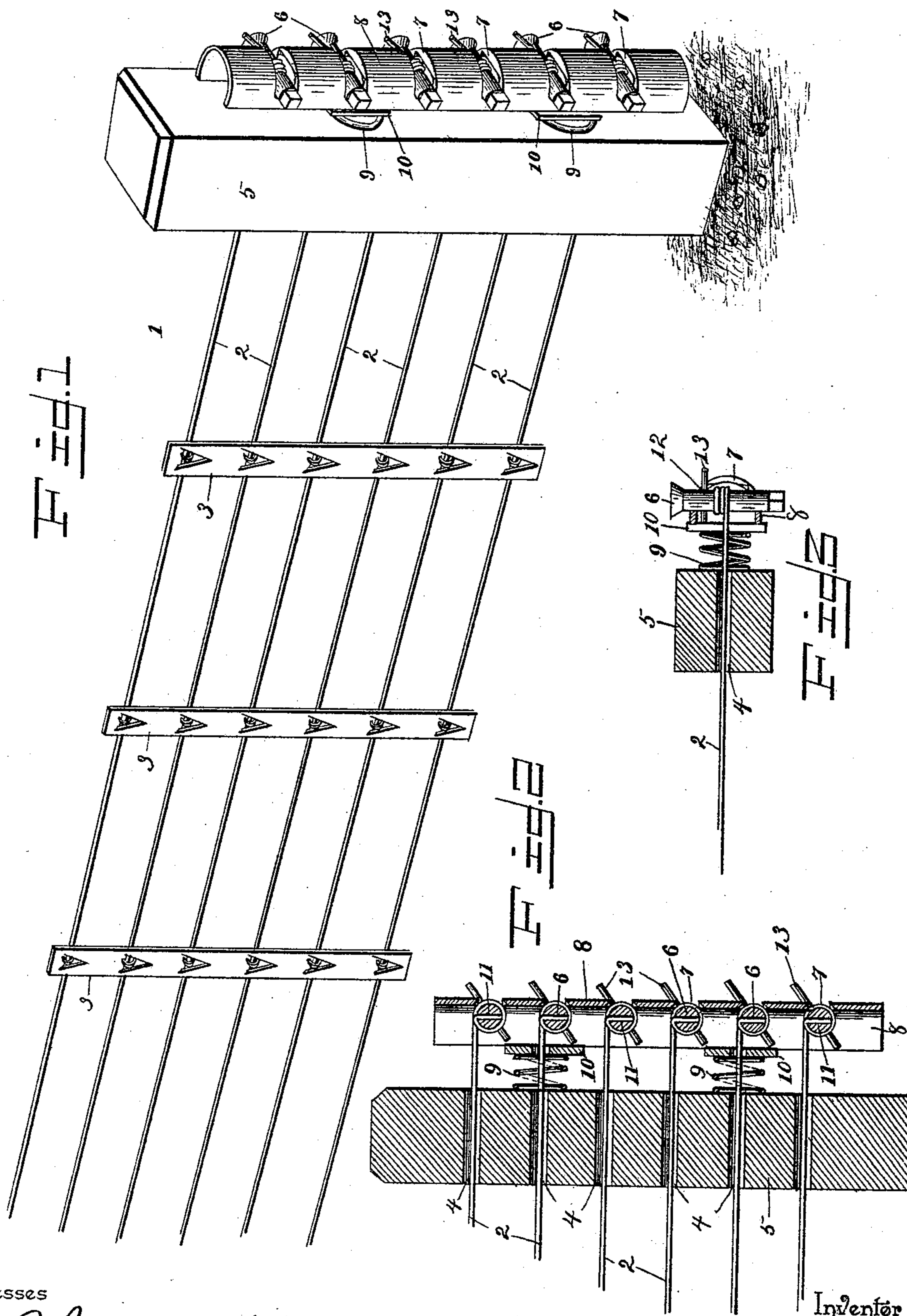


(No Model.)

S. W. HORST.  
WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 494,568.

Patented Apr. 4, 1893.



Witnesses

*W. B. Mattingly*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL W. HORST, OF HUMMELSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

## WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 494,568, dated April 4, 1893.

Application filed February 18, 1893. Serial No. 462,870. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SAMUEL W. HORST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hummelstown, in the county of Dauphin and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Wire-Stretcher, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in wire stretchers.

10 The objects of the present invention are to improve the construction of wire stretchers, and to provide a simple and inexpensive one capable of maintaining the wires of a fence at the desired tension, and of permitting the necessary contraction and expansion to prevent the wires breaking.

20 The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

25 In the drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fence provided with a wire stretcher constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the wire stretcher. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view.

Like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

30 1 designates a fence having a series of horizontal wires 2, connected by stays 3 and extending through perforations 4 of a corner post 5 and connected to a series of turning pins 6 of a wire stretcher. The turning pins are arranged in horizontal bearing slots 7 of a semi-cylindrical stretcher bar 8; and interposed between the latter and the fence post 5 are spiral springs 9, which are arranged on the fence wires 2 and bear against the fence post 5 and plates 10, extending across the open side of the semi-cylindrical stretcher bar and bearing against the edges thereof. The plates are provided with perforations to receive the adjacent fence wires; and the spiral springs are adapted to permit the necessary contraction and expansion for the fence wires to prevent their breaking in winter and to take up any slack incident to the expansion in summer.

Each turning pin is provided with perforations 11 and 12, and has one end squared to receive a wrench or other tool for tightening the wires. The perforation 11 enables the fence wire to be attached to the turning pin, and the other perforation 12 receives a locking pin or key 13, which prevents its unwinding.

55 It will be seen that the wire stretcher is simple and comparatively inexpensive in construction, that it will enable fence wires to be maintained at the desired tension, and that it will permit the necessary contraction and expansion to take up the slack in summer and prevent breakage in winter.

60 Changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

What I claim is—

1. In a wire stretcher, the combination with a fence post and fence wires, of a semi-cylindrical stretcher bar provided in its convex face with transverse bearing slots, turning pins arranged in the slots and receiving the fence wires, and springs interposed between the stretcher bar and the fence post, substantially as described.

2. In a wire stretcher, the combination with a fence post and wires, of a semi-cylindrical stretcher bar provided in its convex face with transverse bearing slots, turning pins arranged in the transverse slots and receiving the wire and provided with locking keys, plates arranged across the open face of the stretcher bar and resting on the longitudinal edges thereof and having perforations receiving wires, and spiral springs interposed between the plates and the fence post, substantially as described.

85 In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL W. HORST.

Witnesses:

JOHN P. MELICK,  
H. F. HOLLER.