

(No Model.)

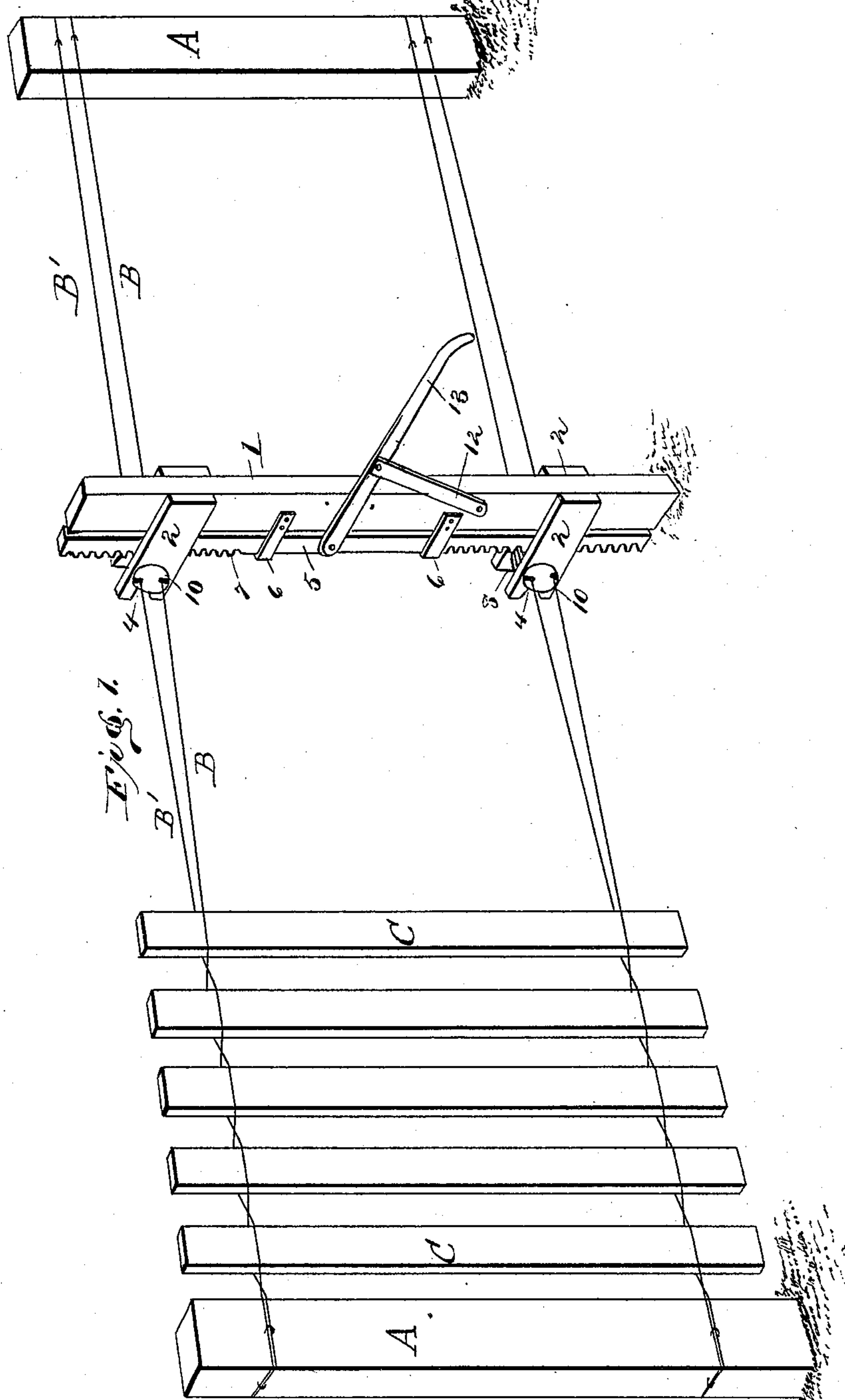
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. B. McKNIGHT & J. L. GARLAND.

WIRE FENCE MACHINE.

No. 494,589.

Patented Apr. 4, 1893.



Witnesses

J. M. Fowler
Thomas Durant

Inventors

John B. McKnight
John L. Garland
By J. B. Sawyer
Attorney

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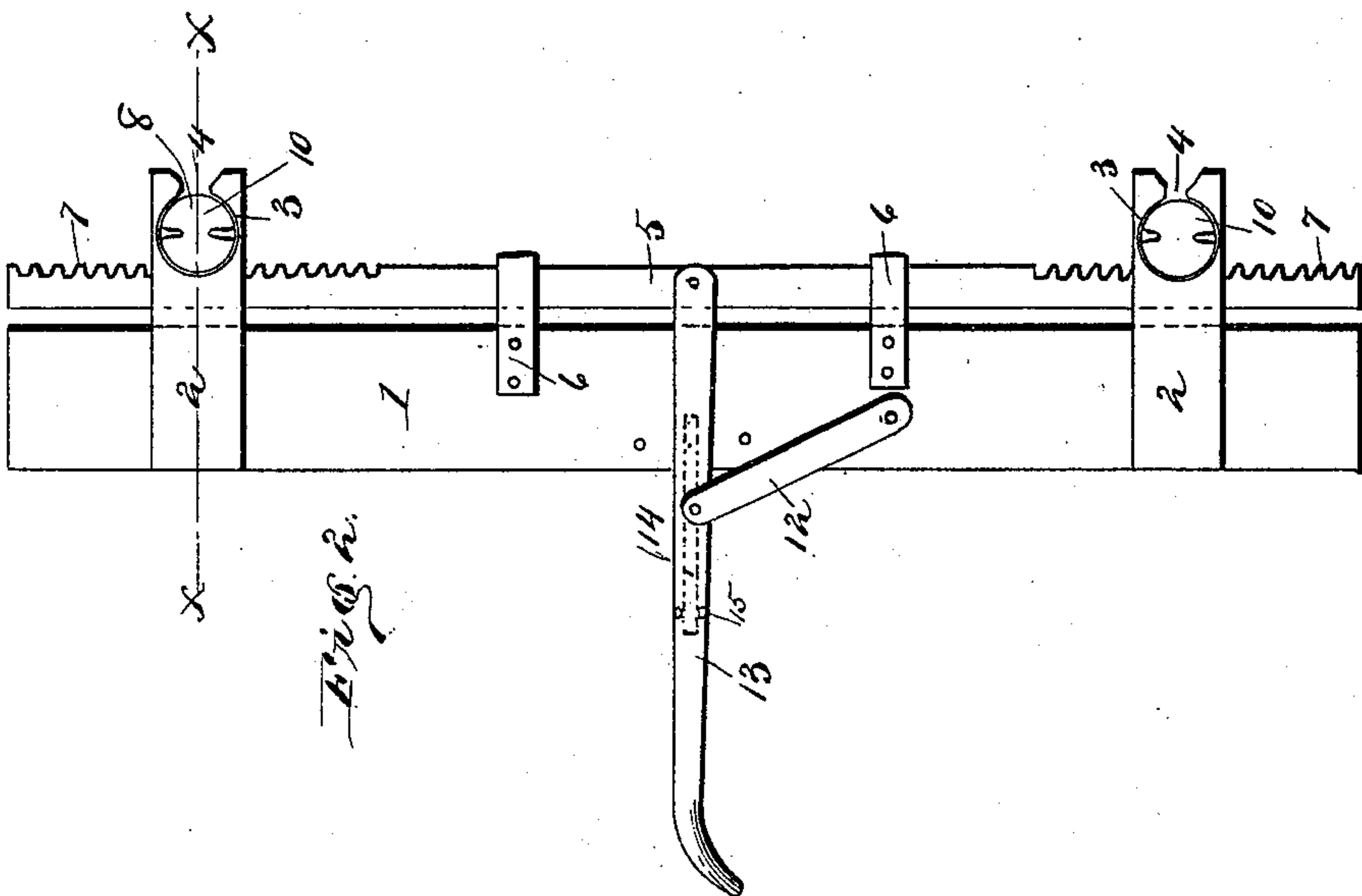
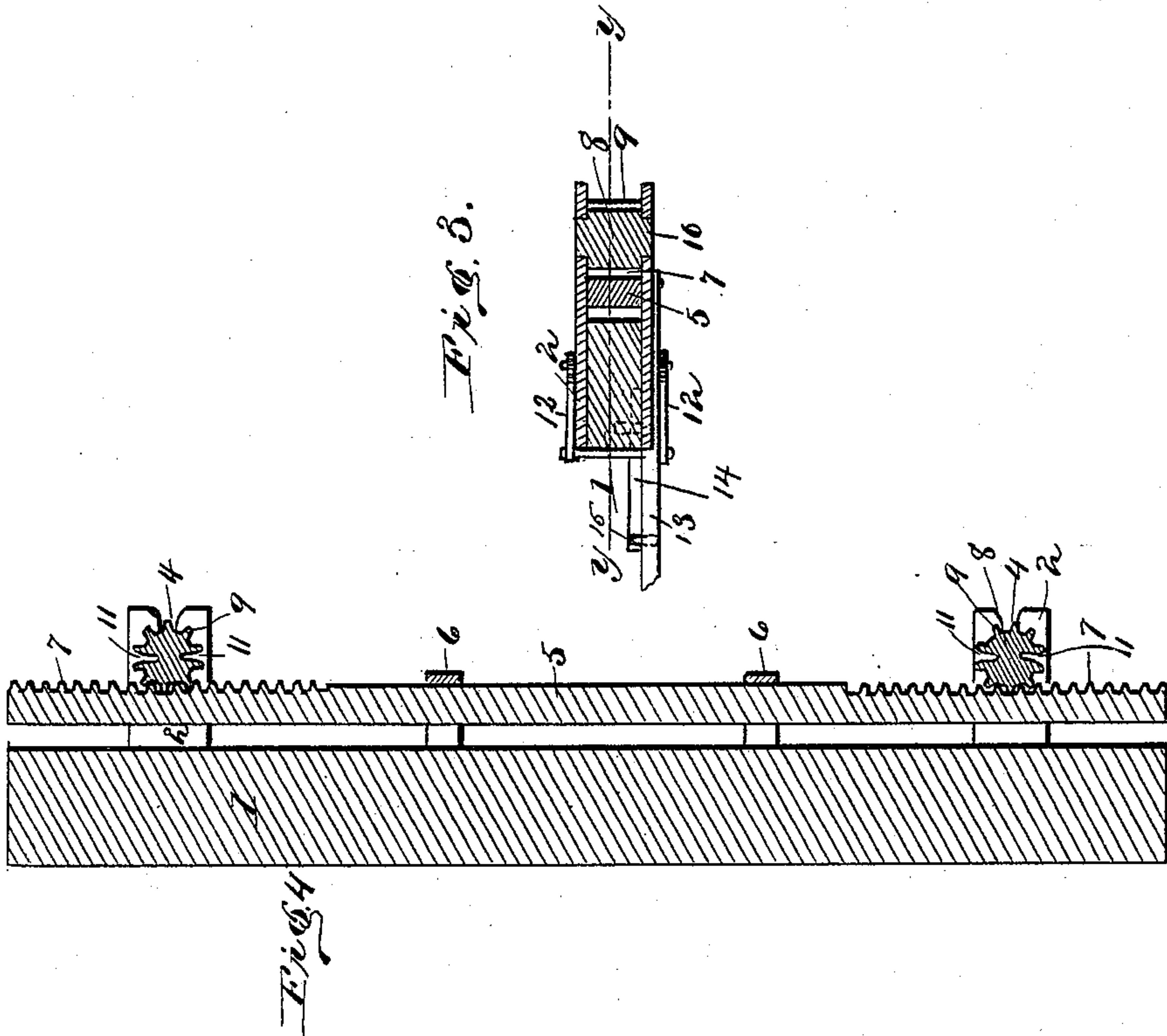
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. MCKNIGHT AND JOHN L. GARLAND, OF OTWELL, INDIANA.

WIRE-FENCE MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 494,589, dated April 4, 1893.

Application filed August 12, 1892. Serial No. 442,936. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN B. MCKNIGHT and JOHN L. GARLAND, citizens of the United States, residing at Otwell, in the county of Pike and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Fence Machines; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Our invention relates to certain improvements in that class of fence building machines which are adapted to twist two strands of wire, first in one direction and then in another, suitable pickets being inserted between the strands after each twist, and it has for its object to provide an improved mechanism therefor, for which purpose it consists in the details of construction, arrangement and combination of the parts of which it is composed, as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings in which corresponding parts are designated by similar marks of reference:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a machine constructed in accordance with this invention, as it is applied in building a fence. Fig. 2 is a side view of the machine proper. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on line $x-x$ of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section on line $y-y$ of Fig. 3.

The upright 1 has projecting rearwardly from its two opposite sides, the oppositely placed brackets 2, each of which has a circular aperture 3 therein, in alignment with the corresponding aperture in the opposite bracket, a slot 4 extending rearwardly in each bracket from the aperture therein to its rear end, through which slots the wire strands may be introduced into the apertures.

It will be understood that although in the accompanying drawings we have shown two sets of oppositely placed brackets in order to twist two lines of fence wires that the number of brackets and the hereinafter described mechanism contained therein may be varied to correspond with the number of lines of

wire that it may be desired to simultaneously twist. A bar 5 is vertically mounted in the guides 6 projecting rearwardly from the upright 1 and extends along the rear face of the said upright, it passing between the opposite brackets 2, contiguous to which teeth 7 are formed on the rear surface of the bar 5. A disk 8 having on the central portion of its periphery gear teeth 9, has on each side of the said gear teeth a journal 10, which journals are contained in the bearings 3 of opposite brackets 2, the gear teeth 9 engaging with the teeth 7 upon the bar 5. Two recesses 11 are formed in each disk at diametrically opposite portions of its periphery, the said recesses extending from side to side of the disk and being adapted by a rotation thereof to be caused to register with the slot 4 in the brackets, and it will be evident that this rotation of the disk may be effected by a reciprocating motion of the rack bar 5.

In order to provide a convenient means for actuating the rack bar, arms 12 are pivoted to the opposite sides of the upright 1 and projecting forwardly therefrom have their upper ends pivoted to the central portion of the handle 13, the rear end of which is pivoted to the rack bar 5. The point of attachment of the handle to the rack bar is such that when the handle is horizontal the diameter connecting the recesses 11 in the disks are vertical as shown in Fig. 2, so that a quarter revolution in opposite directions is necessary to bring the opposite recesses in alignment with the slots 4. A flat spring 14 has its opposite ends attached to the handle by pins 15 and attached or sunk into the upright to normally hold the handle by its resistance against bending, in a horizontal position and prevent the untwisting of the strands that may have previously been twisted.

The operation of my invention is as follows: Two posts A having been erected on the line of the proposed fence at a suitable distance apart, two strands of wire B, B' for each line wire of the fence are drawn taut between them and fastened, and as the operations of twisting the strands of each of the lines of wire are similar and are carried on simultaneously, it will only be necessary to describe the operation of twisting one of them. For this purpose, the disk 8 corresponding to that

line of wire, is rotated until one of the recesses 11 therein registers with the slot 4 in the brackets, through which slot one of the strands of wire B is slipped into the recess and the disk rotated in a reverse direction until the opposite recess is in alignment with the slot, when the wire B' is correspondingly placed therein. A slat C is then placed between the two strands B and B' and the disks rotated in a reverse direction through another half revolution, when another slat C is introduced, it being evident that this may be continued until the panel of the fence between the two posts is completed, the twisting of the strands taking up any slack that may have previously existed therein.

Having thus described our invention and in what manner the same is to be used, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination with an upright having rearwardly projecting brackets thereon, the said brackets being apertured and slotted, of a disk having gear teeth upon the central portion of its periphery and having a journal on each side thereof contained in the said apertures, the said disk being provided with peripheral recesses, an upright rack bar movably mounted in the rear of the said upright and engaging with the gear teeth upon the

disk, a pivoted handle for actuating the said rod, and a flat spring having its opposite ends attached to the said handle and upright respectively, substantially as described.

2. The combination with an upright having rearwardly projecting brackets thereon, the said brackets being apertured and slotted, of a disk having gear teeth upon the central portion of its periphery and having a journal on each side thereof contained in the said apertures, the said disk being provided with peripheral recesses, an upright rack bar movably mounted in the rear of the said upright and engaging with the gear teeth upon the disk, an arm having its rear end pivoted to the said upright, a handle having its central portion pivoted to the forward end of the said arm and its rear portion pivoted to the said rack bar, and a flat spring having its opposite ends attached to the said handle and upright respectively, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN B. McKNIGHT.
JOHN L. GARLAND.

Witnesses:

THOMAS EDMONDSON,
GEORGE G. CRAIG.