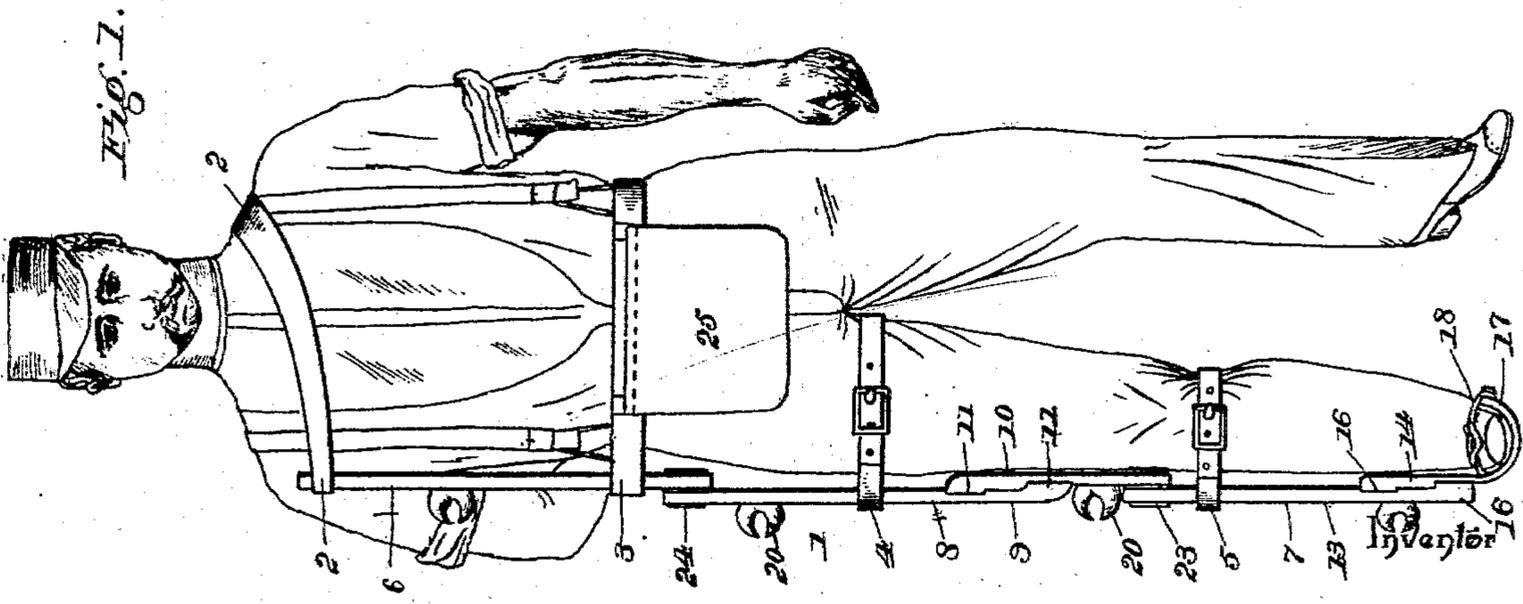
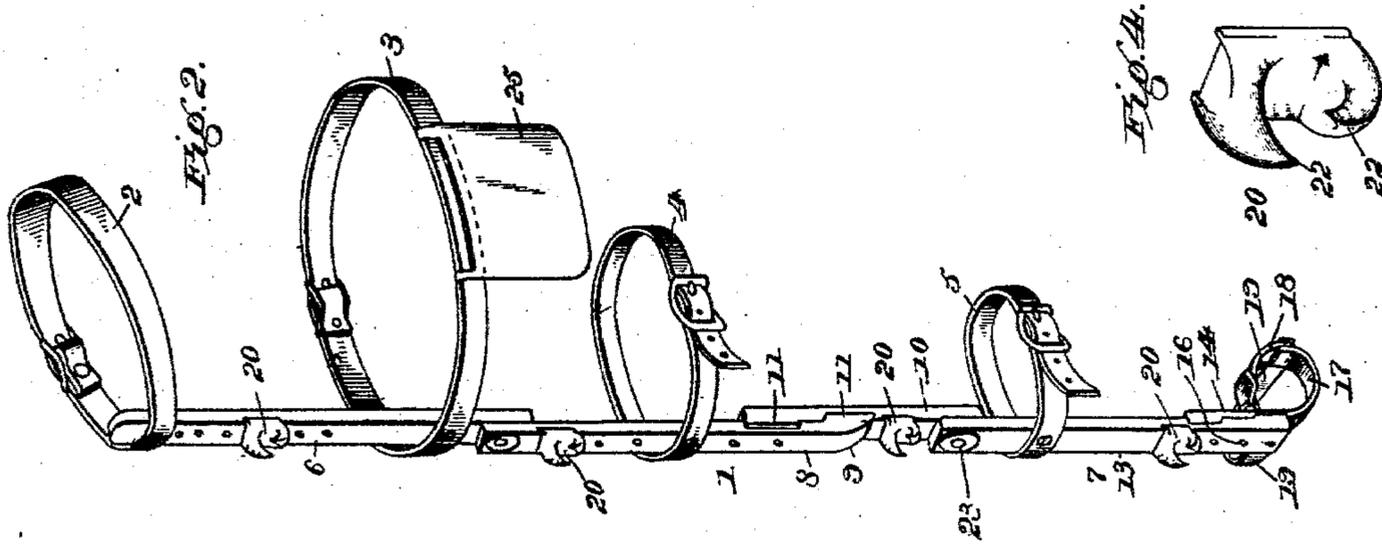
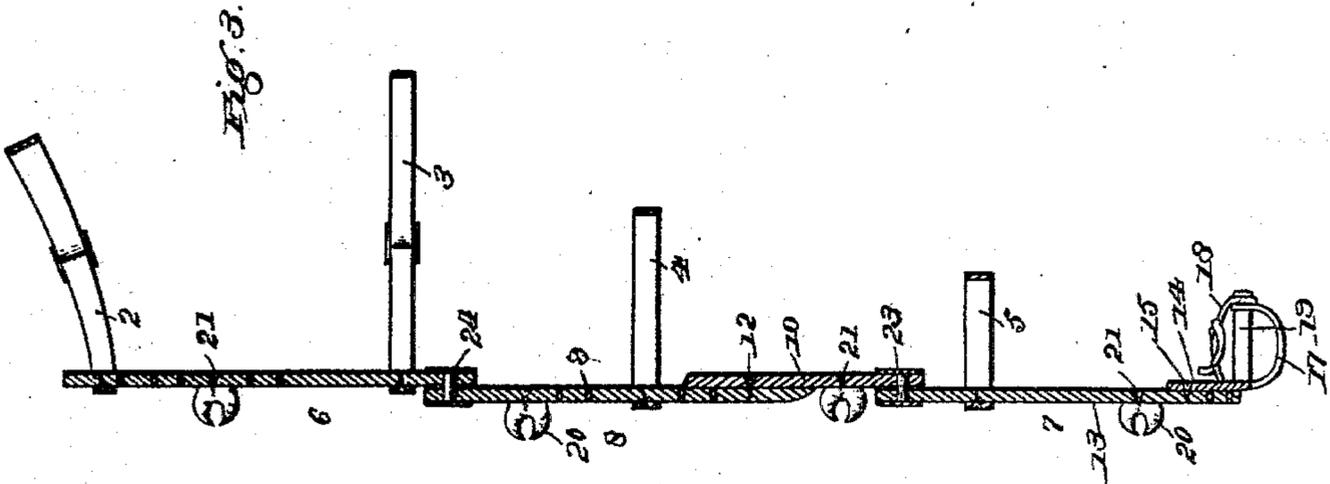


(No Model.)

E. F. PITTMAN.  
DEVICE FOR APPLYING WIRES TO FENCE POSTS.

No. 510,933.

Patented Dec. 19, 1893.



Witnesses  
*A. Johnson*  
*W. H. Wiley*

By *his* Attorneys,  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD F. PITTMAN, OF CANTRIL, IOWA.

## DEVICE FOR APPLYING WIRES TO FENCE-POSTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 510,933, dated December 19, 1893.

Application filed August 29, 1893. Serial No. 484,298. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD F. PITTMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cantril, in the county of Van Buren and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Device for Applying Wires to Fence-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements for applying wires to fence posts.

The object of the present invention is to provide a device capable of serving as a gage for indicating the position of fence wires on a post to avoid the necessity of marking posts, and capable of holding a series of fence wires in position for stapling.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device designed to be applied to a person and capable of readily conforming to the movements of such person and adapted to leave his hands free for stapling wires.

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.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is an elevation of a device constructed in accordance with this invention, and shown applied to a person. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the device detached. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the wire holders.

Like numerals of reference designate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a gage designed to be secured vertically at the side of a person, as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawings, by means of a shoulder strap 2, a belt 3, and upper and lower leg straps 4 and 5, and designed to yield to the movements of the wearer and consisting of upper and lower sections 6 and 7, and an intermediate section 8 having its ends pivotally connected to the inner or adjacent ends of the other sections. In order to enable the device to be readily adjusted to the wearer, whether he be short or tall, the intermediate and lower sections of the gage are composed of bars adjustably secured together to permit these sections to be increased and diminished in length. The adjacent ends of the bars 9 and 10 of the intermediate section are provided with lugs

11, arranged in pairs and embracing the bars 9 and 10, which are secured together by a bolt or screw 12, adapted to engage adjusting perforations of the bars 9 and 10. The bars 13 and 14 of the lowermost section 7 are similarly connected by a bolt or screw 15 and are provided with lugs 16, constructed similarly to those above described, whereby the bars of the lower section are adjustably secured together by the bolt or screw 15 and are prevented from turning on such bolt or screw. The bar 14 of the lower section 7 is provided with a curved stirrup-like extension 17 to receive the adjacent foot of the wearer at the instep of the same; and the lower bar 14 is secured to the foot by a strap 18, which is arched over the curved extension 17 and which is composed of sections secured to the ends of the same, and which is provided with a buckle and a horizontally-disposed rearwardly-extending heel strap 19. This construction prevents the lower end of the gage slipping on the foot and becoming displaced.

The gage is provided at intervals with wire holders 20 adjustably secured to the gage by screws or bolts 21, and each provided at its outer side with a pair of oppositely-disposed integral hook-like projections 22, which are arranged at the top and bottom of the holder. The hook-like projections taper and terminate in points and are disposed diagonally or at an inclination, and are curved to form a wire opening or space between them and to provide an inclined entrance opening whereby, when the wire is in a horizontal position and the gage is perpendicular to the wire, the latter will be retained in the holder until the entrance opening and the wire are brought in alignment. Each wire holder is provided with side flanges, which embrace the gage and prevent the wire holder turning on its screw or bolt.

The straps are provided with buckles or other suitable fastening devices; the strap 2 passes over the shoulders of the wearer; the leg straps 4 and 5 are arranged above and below the knee, the lower pivot 23 of the intermediate section occurring at the knee, and the belt 3 is arranged around the waist slightly above the upper pivot 24, which connects the upper end of the intermediate section to the lower end of the upper section and which is

arranged at the hip joint. The belt, which may be constructed of any suitable material, is provided with a fabric pouch or receptacle 25, adapted for holding staples within convenient reach of the operator.

The device greatly facilitates the building of wire fences, and enables the operator to work quickly on uneven ground where it is often necessary to draw down on the fence 10 wires with considerable force to bring them at their proper position on hollow ground. When the wires are arranged within the holders the operator may exert his entire weight in drawing wires down, and he may conveniently lift a series of fence wires with considerable force, which is often necessary at the crest of a hill.

In stapling fence wires the top 1 should be first secured, and after such fastening the top 20 holder readily releases the same when the operator slightly stoops or assumes an inclined position for stapling the next lower wire. The joints of the gage occur at the proper places, the knee and the hip, to enable the 25 device to yield readily to the movements of the operator.

It will be readily apparent that the device is simple and comparatively inexpensive in construction; that it is adapted to be readily 30 adjusted to suit the operator, and that it is capable of enabling him to construct rapidly and efficiently wire fences.

Changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing 35 any of the advantages of the invention.

Having described the invention, what I claim is—

1. A device for applying wires to fence posts, 40 comprising a vertical gage designed to be attached to the operator and provided with joints to occur at the knee and hip of the person, and a series of wire holders carried by the gage, substantially as described.

2. A device for applying wires to fence posts, 45 comprising a vertical gage having upper and lower sections, and an intermediate section pivotally connected to the adjacent ends of the upper and lower sections, a series of wire 50 holders carried by the gage, a shoulder strap connected with the upper section of the gage, the upper and lower leg straps designed to be arranged above and below the knee of the operator and attached to the intermediate 55 and lower sections of the gage, and a belt having a pouch or receptacle, substantially as described.

3. A device for applying wires to fence posts,

comprising upper and lower gage sections, an intermediate gage section pivotally connected 60 to the adjacent ends of the other gage sections, the lower and the intermediate gage sections being composed of bars adjustably secured together to increase and diminish the length of the sections, wire holders carried 65 by the gage sections, and means for attaching the sections to a person, substantially as described.

4. A device for applying wires to fence posts comprising the upper, the lower, and the intermediate gage sections pivotally connected, 70 the intermediate and the lower gage sections being composed of bars having adjusting perforations and provided at their adjacent ends with lugs arranged in pairs and receiving 75 the adjacent bars, bolts or screws arranged in perforations of the bars and adjustably connecting the same, wire holders carried by said sections, and means for attaching the sections to a person, substantially as described. 80

5. A device for applying wires to fence posts comprising a vertical gage having joints and designed to be secured to a person, and wire holders carried by the gage and each provided with upper and lower oppositely-disposed 85 projections arranged at an inclination and forming a wire opening and providing an inclined entrance, substantially as described.

6. A device for applying wires to fence posts comprising a jointed gage provided with 90 means for attaching it to a person, and a series of adjustable wire holders carried by the gage, each provided with oppositely-disposed inclined curved hook-like projections and having parallel side flanges embracing the 95 gage, substantially as described.

7. A device for applying wires to fence posts comprising a vertical gage having upper, lower, and intermediate sections pivotally connected, the intermediate and lower sections 100 being provided with adjustable bars, and the lower section having a curved stirrup-like extension to receive the adjacent foot of the operator, the straps 18 and 19 connected to the extension, a series of wire holders carried by the gage, the shoulder strap, the upper and lower leg straps, and a belt, substantially as described. 105

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in 110 the presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD F. PITTMAN.

Witnesses:

SIMEON TETER,  
HENRY T. COX.