

(No Model.)

C. H. VAN WAGONER.  
WIRE TIGHTENER.

No. 528,194.

Patented Oct. 30, 1894.

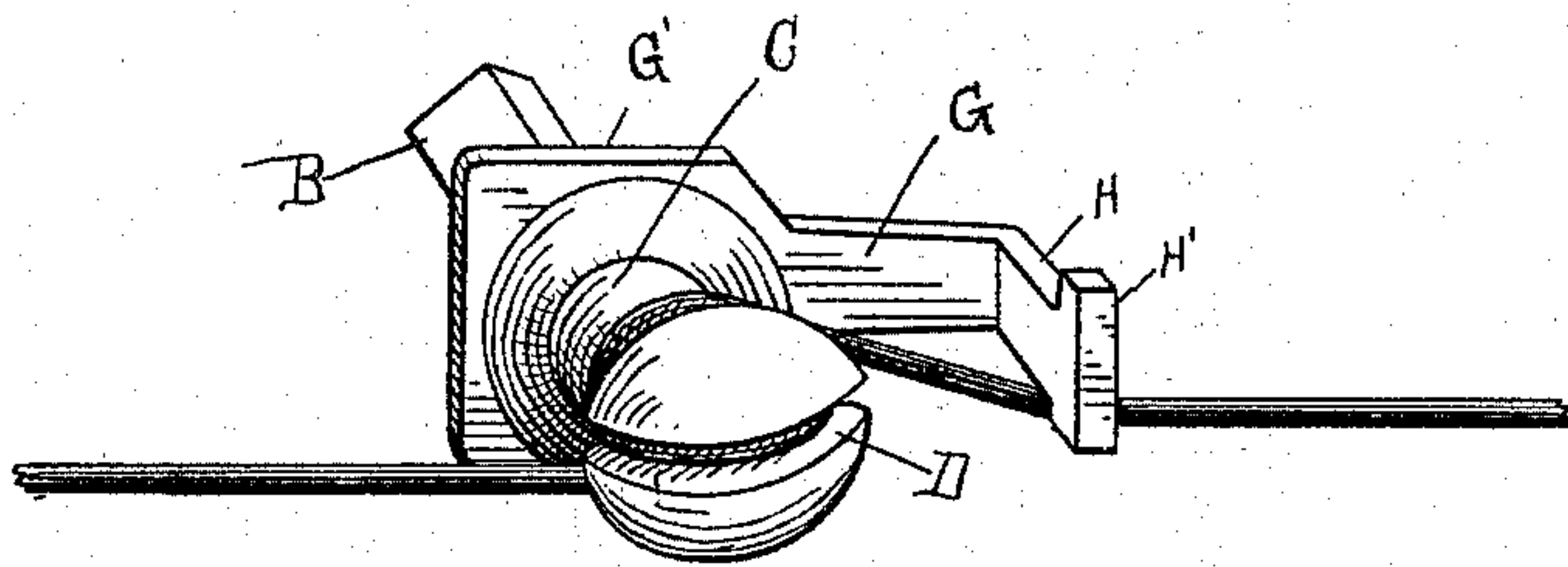


Fig. 1.

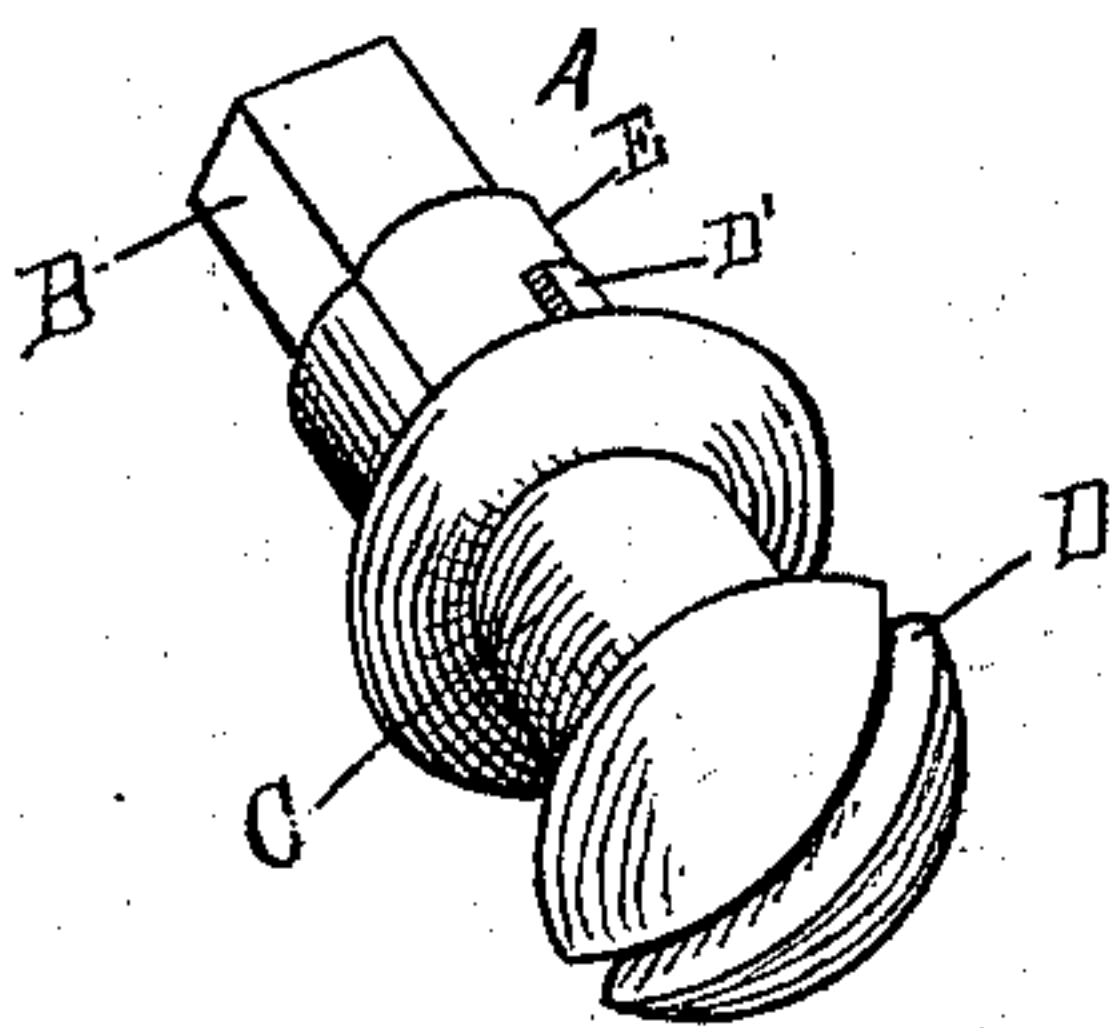


Fig. 2.

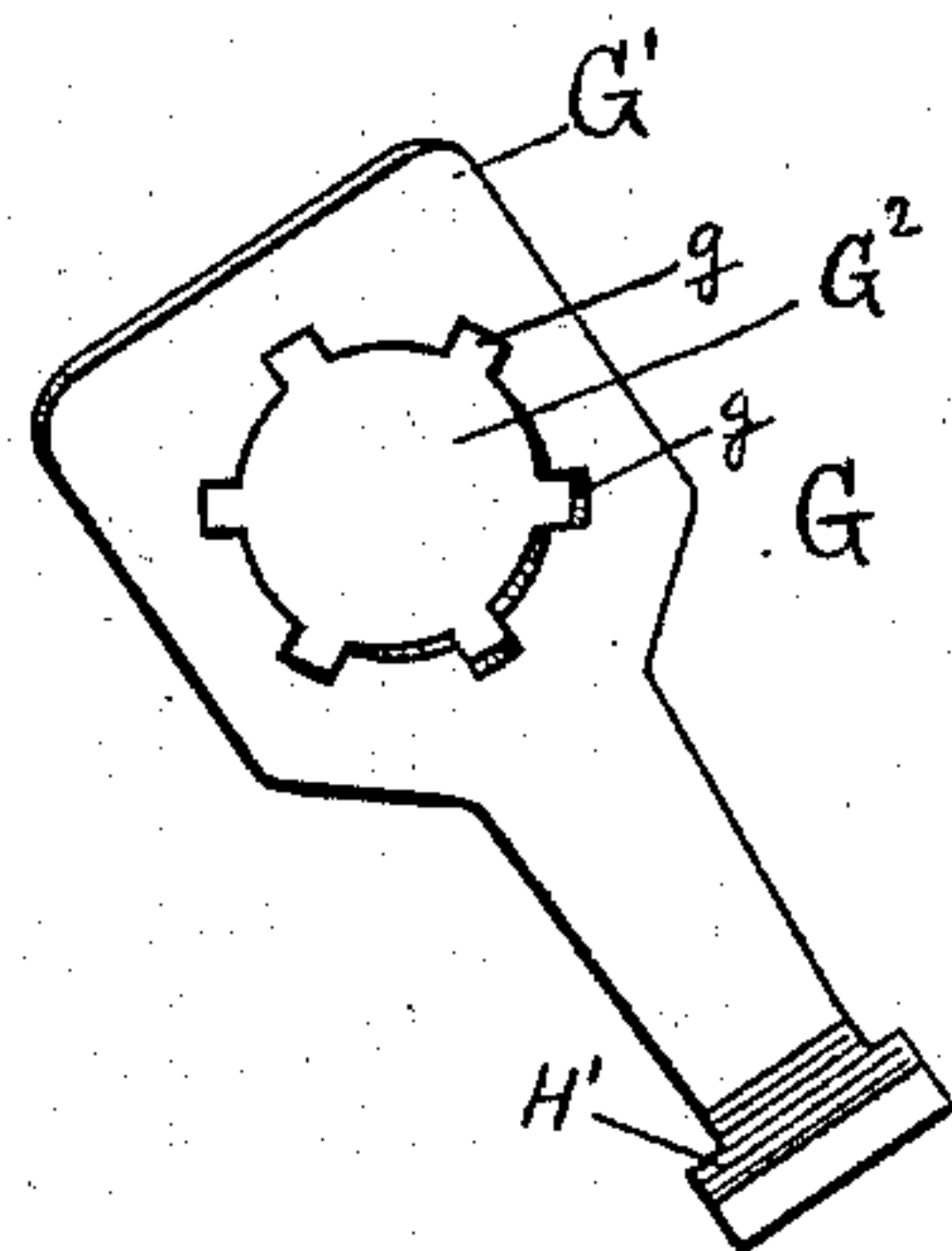


Fig. 3.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. VAN WAGONER, OF HOMER, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO THE HOMER STEEL FENCE COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

## WIRE-TIGHTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 528,194, dated October 30, 1894.

Application filed February 5, 1894. Serial No. 499,191. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. VAN WAGONER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Homer, in the county of Calhoun and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Tighteners; and I 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 of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in tighteners for fence-wires, and it has for its object to provide a device of this character which may be readily applied to the fence wire at any point and which will serve to tighten the wire and hold the same taut. The device is simple and cheap of construction and in use it has been found to be effective.

To these ends and to such others as the invention may pertain the same consists in the peculiar construction, and in the novel combination, arrangement and adaptation of parts, all as more fully hereinafter described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and then specifically defined in the appended claims.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which with the letters of reference marked thereon form a part of this specification, and in which drawings—

Figure 1, is a perspective view of my device, the same being shown as applied to a fence wire, as in actual use. Fig. 2, is a detail in perspective of the twister, and Fig. 3, is a like view of the locking-key.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter A designates the twister or tightener proper, which is made in a single casting and at one of its ends is provided with a squared portion B. The opposite end of the device is provided with a spool or drum C to receive the wire while the extreme end of the spool is provided with a groove D for a use which will presently appear. Between the inner end of the spool and the squared

portion B, is provided a round portion E and upon this rounded portion adjacent to the end of the spool, is provided a lug D'.

G is the locking-key or lever consisting of the body portion G' one end of which is enlarged and provided with a circular opening G<sup>2</sup> of a diameter corresponding with the diameter of the portion E of the tightener, and the outer edge of this circular opening is provided with a series of notches g, g, for a purpose which will presently appear. The opposite end of the locking-key or lever is provided with an arm H which is bent at right angles to the body portion and at its free end is provided with the cross-bar or head H' the ends of which extend for a short distance beyond the side edges of the arm.

In use the fence wire to be tightened is placed in the groove D, the locking-lever or key is placed over the square end of the tightener, and by the use of a wrench the tightener is rotated, thus winding the slack of the wire upon the spool. When the wire has been thus tightened the locking key is pressed against the end of the spool, the arm H engaging the wire, as shown in Fig. 1, of the drawings, while the lug D' engages one of the notches g of the locking-key. It will thus be seen that the wire may by the use of my device be quickly tightened, and that it may be securely held at any desired point.

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

In combination, the twister having one of its ends angular to receive a wrench, and carrying a spool having a groove D in its outer end and lug D' upon its opposite end, and the locking key or lever having a circular opening at one of its ends to engage the rounded portion of the twister, notches to engage the lug D' and arm H to engage the fence wire, substantially as described.

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

CHARLES H. VAN WAGONER.

Witnesses:

MARGARET ARTHUR,  
W. W. SNIDER.