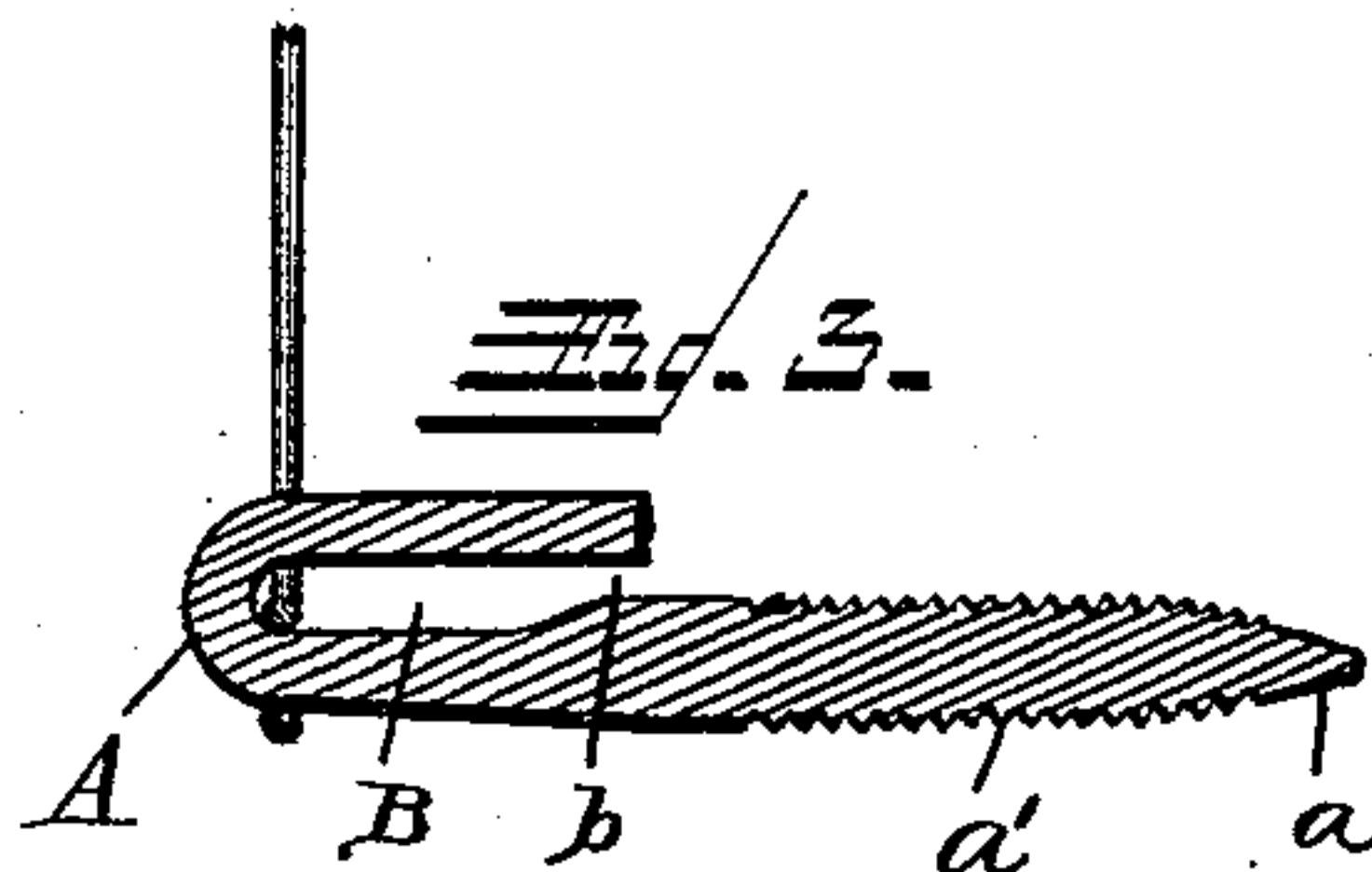
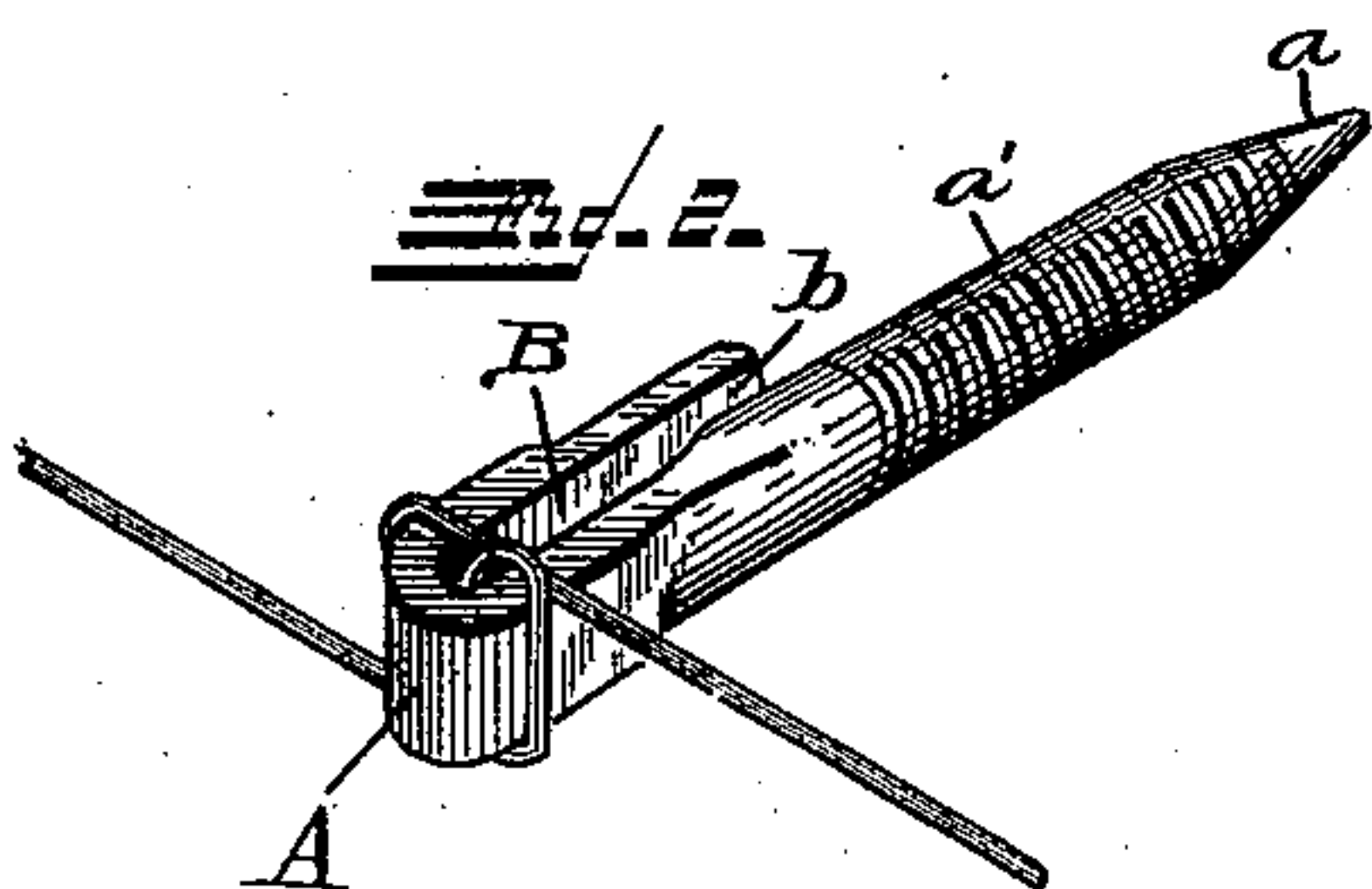
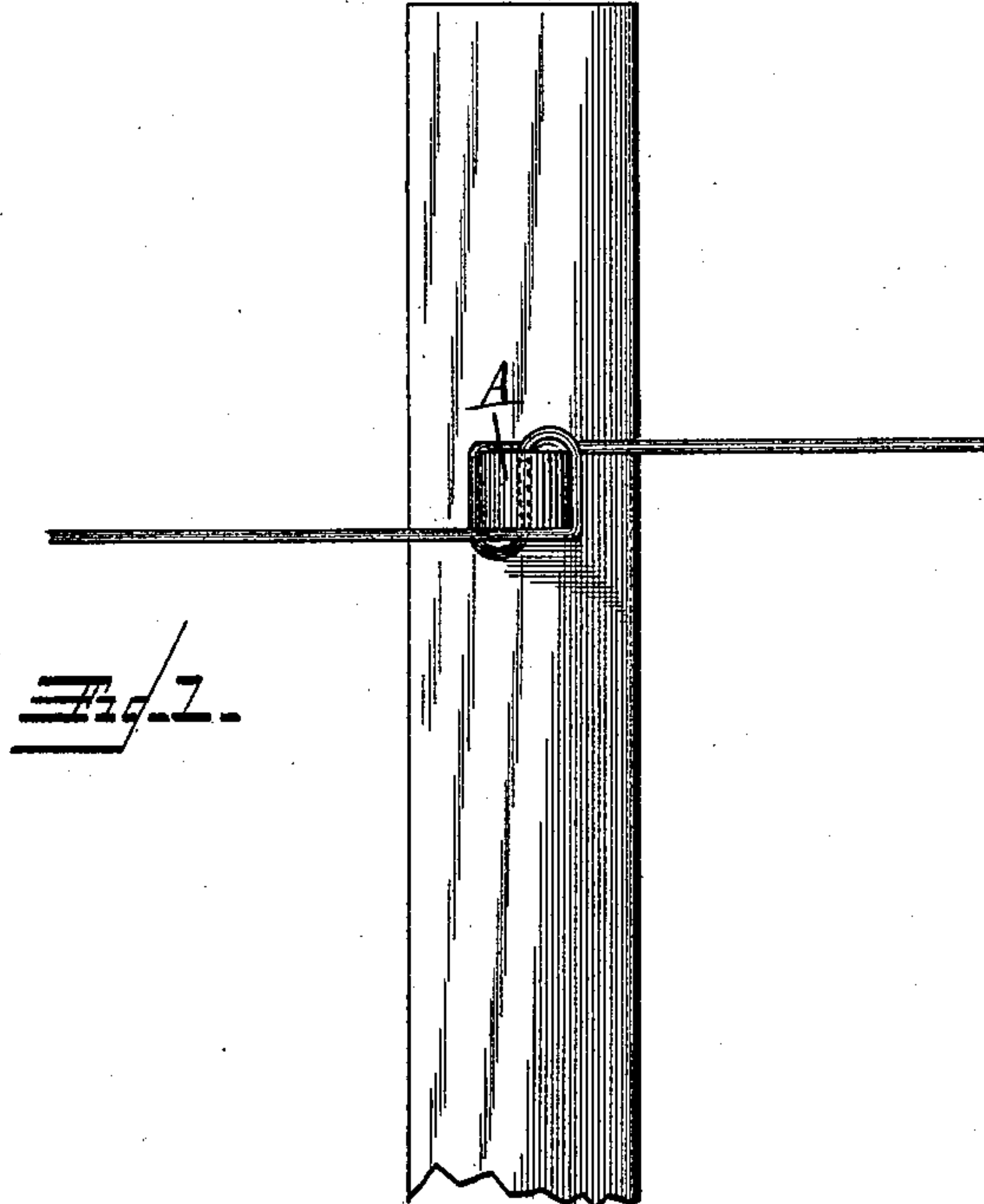


(No Model.)

T. M. GUEST.
WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 563,481.

Patented July 7, 1896.



Witnesses
Joe Gregory
John H. Hays

Inventor
Theodore M. Guest
By *John Wedderburn*
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE M. GUEST, OF MORAVIA, NEW YORK.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 563,481, dated July 7, 1896.

Application filed January 2, 1896. Serial No. 574,064. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE M. GUEST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Moravia, in the county of Cayuga and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers; and I do hereby 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.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in devices for securing fence-wires and for tightening the same, and it has for its objects, among others, to provide a simple and cheap device by which the wires may be easily and quickly placed in position and by which the same may be tightened and the slack taken up and held as may be required.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

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—

Figure 1 is an elevation showing a portion of a fence with the wires held by my improved device. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the holder and tightener removed. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section through the same.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in the several views.

Referring now to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates the nail or holder having a tapered point *a* and a screw-threaded shank *a'*, which is bent upon itself and backward, forming the slot or passage B, the outlet to which is contracted, as seen at *b*. The nail may be of any desired length

and the slot or opening of a size in accordance with the size of wire with which it is to be used.

In practice, a hole is bored into the post to receive the bolt or nail, and the latter is inserted and the wire placed in the slot and then, with a crank or wrench or other device, the nail or holder is screwed up until the wire is as tight as desired. If the wire becomes slack, all that is necessary to do is to give the nail one or more turns, as may be desired, and take up the slack which is wound upon the portion of the nail beyond the threaded shank, as will be readily understood.

In the fall of the year the bolt or nail may be turned back to loosen the wire, so as to prevent its breaking by the contraction caused by the cold.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

As an improved article of manufacture, a wire-holding nail having a threaded shank, the point of which is unthreaded and tapered, and a head extending from the shank, the general direction of the length of the nail bent upon itself substantially parallel with the shank forming a bend, with a slot open at one end and adapted to receive the wire, which may be twisted about the two legs of the staple formed by said slot, the shank opposite the free end of the shorter leg being formed upon an incline to form a contracted entrance to said slot, substantially as herein shown and described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THEODORE M. GUEST.

Witnesses:

J. A. THOMAS,

W. E. GREENFIELD.