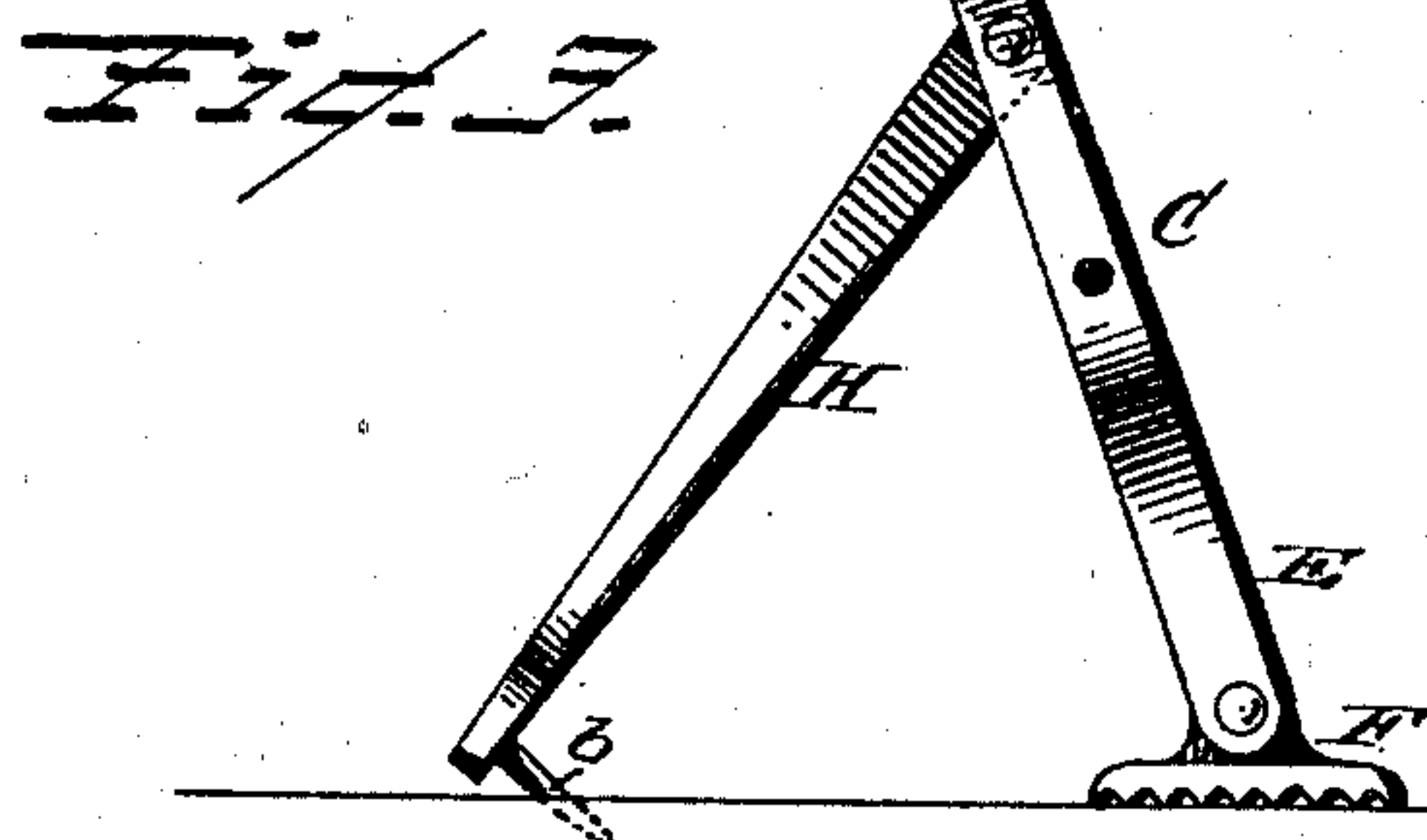
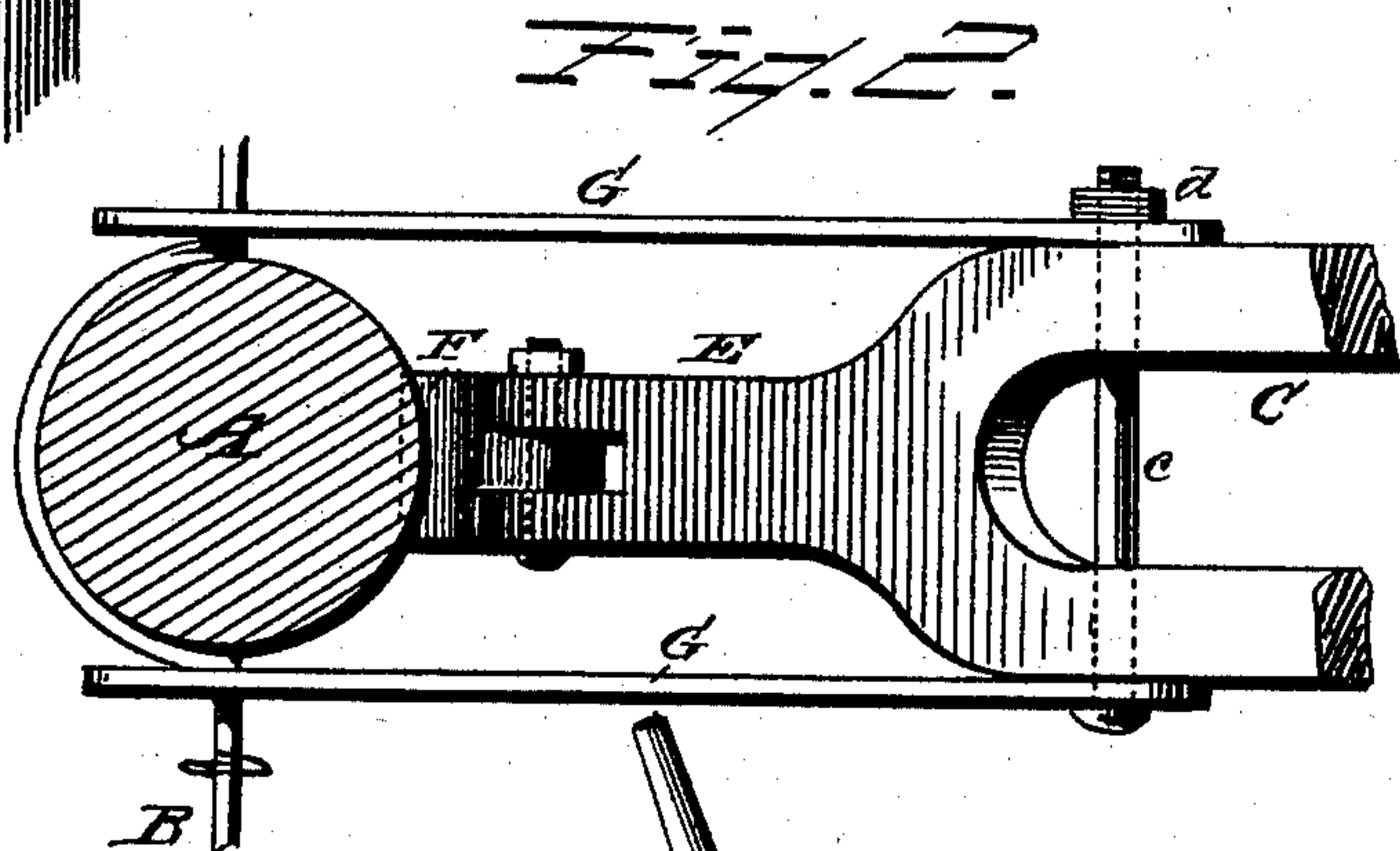
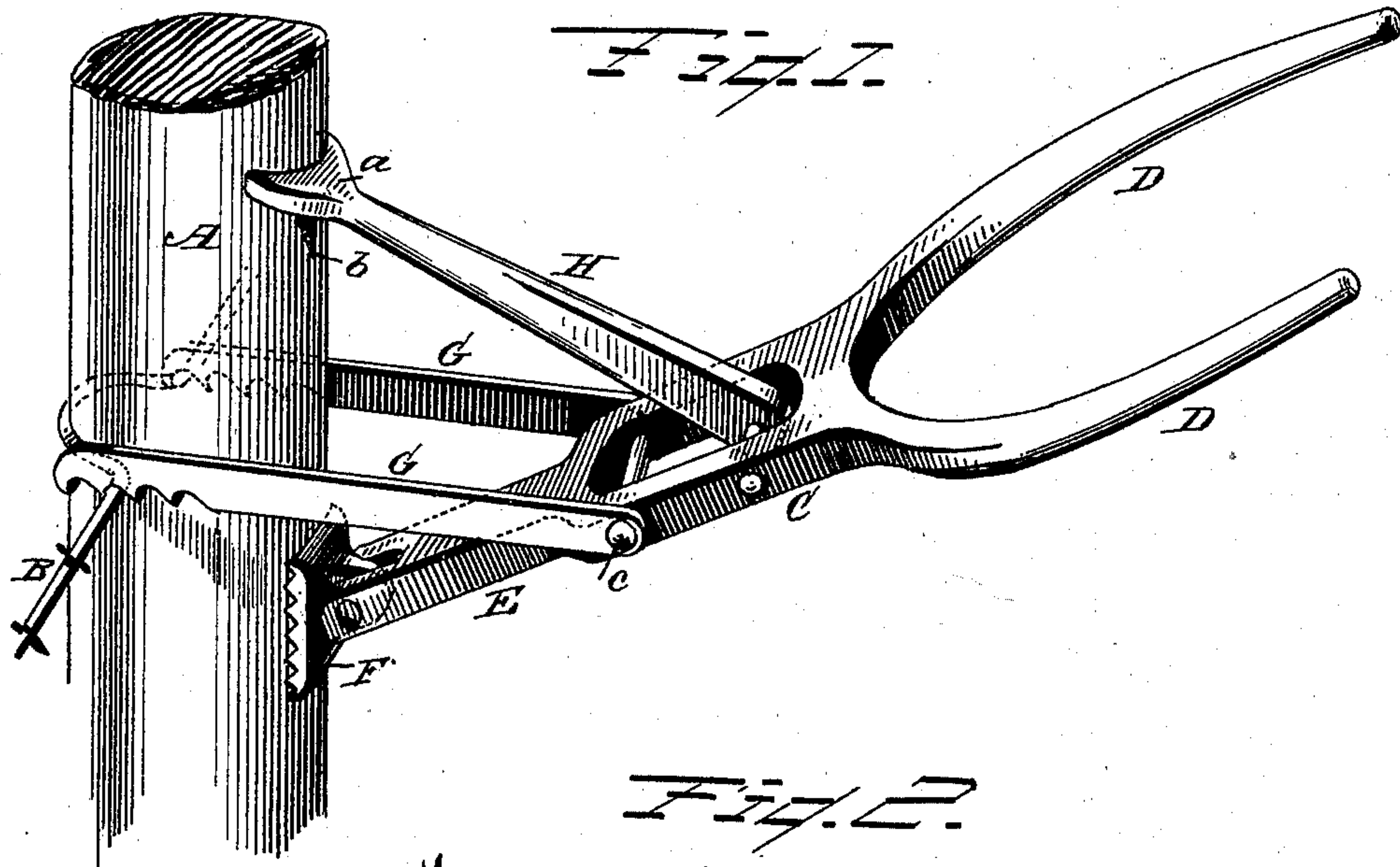


(No Model.)

V. M. EVANS.  
FENCE WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 598,413.

Patented Feb. 1, 1898.



Witnesses  
O. Williamson  
W. E. Smith,

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Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VALENTINE M. EVANS, OF BROOKFIELD, MISSOURI.

## FENCE-WIRE STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 598,413, dated February 1, 1898.

Application filed October 14, 1897. Serial No. 655,121. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, VALENTINE M. EVANS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brookfield, in the county of Linn and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Wire Stretchers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The present invention has for its object to provide a simple and effective device for tightening the wires of fences, whereby a perfect stretching and tightening of the wire is attained, after which it is secured to the fence-post.

The invention consists in a device constructed substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of the device constructed in accordance with my invention and showing it in position against the fence-post and in engagement with the wire previous to stretching the same; Fig. 2, a top plan view on an enlarged scale. Fig. 3 is a side elevation showing the device in use as a carpet-stretcher.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents a portion of a fence-post, to which the fence-wire B is connected in the usual manner.

The device consists of the slotted body C, which terminates at one end in handles D and at its opposite end in a shank E, which shank is provided with a pivoted and serrated foot F. To the outer sides of the body C are pivoted the ends of notched arms G, which notches are adapted to engage with the fence-wire, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, the foot F pressing against the fence-post to form a fulcrum.

A brace-lever H, which is pivoted to the body C of the device, has a saddle *a* at its outer end which fits the convexity of the post and prevents lateral movement of the lever when in contact therewith.

To adapt the device for use as a carpet-stretcher, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, the underside of the saddle *a* is provided with a spur *b* to enter the floor, and to readily remove the notched arms G when the device is to be used as a carpet-stretcher the arms are

pivotally connected to the body C by means of a removable bolt *c*, with which engages a nut *d* upon the screw-threaded end thereof. 55

As a fence-wire stretcher the saddle *a* upon the end of the brace-lever H is considered of importance, as the convexity or curve in the saddle, in conjunction with the convexity in the fence-post, prevents the slightest movement in a lateral or sidewise direction of said saddle, and consequently there are no pins or spurs necessary to force into the wood to hold the outer end of the brace-lever from moving laterally. A further advantage is in the widening of the body C with relation to the shank E, so that the notched arms G may be made perfectly straight, with no elbows or bends which would tend to weaken the arms and render them less effective. 60 65 70

The double handles D are considered of importance in a device of this character, where great leverage power is required, as a more powerful and uniform pressure may be obtained and controlled much more effectively than with a single handle. 75

It should be understood that after the slack in the fence-wire is taken up a second and binding wire is used of sufficient length to reach around the post and with its ends twisted around the fence-wire, and any suitable tool or device may be used to twist the ends of the binding-wire around the fence-wire as found most practical, this being left entirely with the person who is using my improved device in taking up the slack of the fence-wire and need not be further described or illustrated. 80 85

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is— 90

1. A fence-wire stretcher consisting of a slotted body terminating at one end in double handles and at its opposite end in a shank of less width than the body, a serrated foot pivoted to the shank, pivoted notched arms to engage with the fence-wire, and a brace-lever pivoted to the slotted body, substantially as and for the purpose set forth. 95

2. A slotted body with double handles and a shank at its opposite ends, a pivoted foot upon the end of the shank, removable notched arms connected to the slotted body, and a brace-lever pivoted to the slotted body and provided 100



at its outer end with a spur, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The slotted body terminating at its opposite ends in double handles and a shank, a  
5 serrated foot pivoted to the end of the shank, pivoted notched arms to engage with the fence-wire, and a pivoted brace-lever having upon its free end a curved saddle to adapt itself to the convexity of the fence-post, sub-  
10 stantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. A fence-wire stretcher consisting of a slotted body with shank and double handles integral therewith, said shank being of less width than the body, a serrated foot pivoted

to the shank, notched arms removably se- 15  
cured to the slotted body, and a brace-lever pivoted to said body and having at its free end a curved saddle with a spur upon its under side, substantially as and for the purpose specified. 20

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

VALENTINE M. EVANS.

Witnesses:

J. Q. ABER,  
ERNEST PEER.