

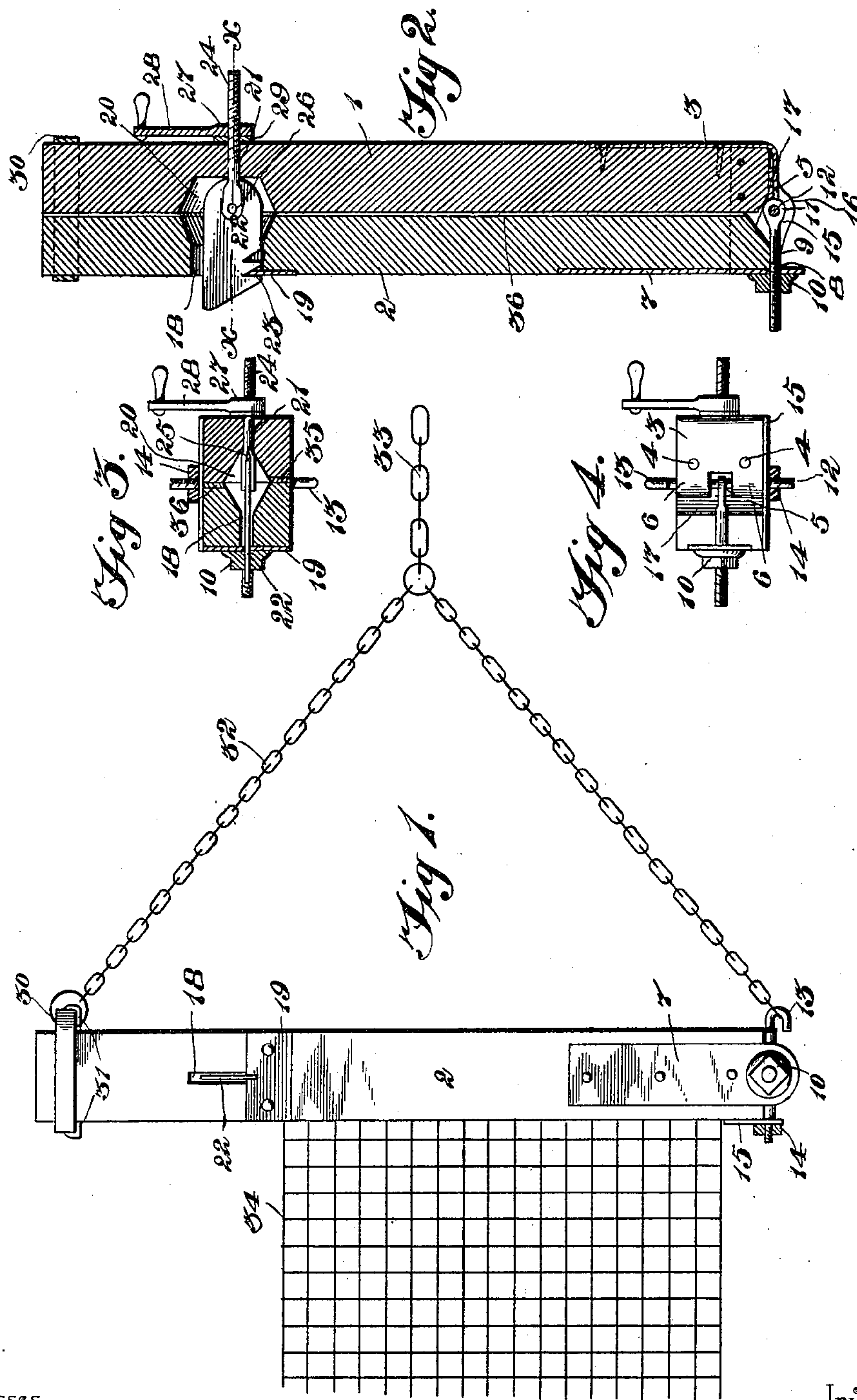
No. 658,402.

Patented Sept. 25, 1900.

J. M. RUBART.
WIRE STRETCHER.

(Application filed Nov. 29, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JASPER MILTON RUBART, OF URBANA, OHIO.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 658,402, dated September 25, 1900.

Application filed November 29, 1899. Serial No. 738,718. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JASPER MILTON RUBART, a citizen of the United States, residing at Urbana, in the county of Champaign and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Wire-Stretcher, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to wire-stretchers, and is primarily designed to provide a clamp for application to mesh or woven-wire fabrics or fencing, so that a firm connection may be had between any ordinary stretcher or tension device and the fencing. It is furthermore designed to provide an adjustable device, so as to accommodate the latter to different styles of fencing and to wires of different sizes; also, to provide means for securely connecting the clamp to the fencing and at the same time permitting of the convenient and ready removal of the device, and finally to provide means for connecting the clamp to a stretcher or tension device, so that an evenly-balanced strain may be placed upon the fencing.

To these ends the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device applied to a portion of fencing. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view thereof. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the device.

Corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings are designated by like characters of reference.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 and 2 designate the opposite members of the clamp and are formed of wood. Each member is substantially rectangular in cross-section, as best shown in Fig. 3, and both members being of equal length and of a size to accommodate the greatest width of fencing. The lower ends of the members are hingedly

connected by means of an adjustable hinge comprising a fixed member 3, formed from a single length of strap metal secured to the outer face of the member 3 and bent inwardly across the lower end thereof and secured thereto by means of suitable fastenings 4, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 4 of the drawings. The lower inner end of the strap is bent backward upon itself and secured between the latter and the adjacent end of the member, and is furthermore provided with a longitudinal slot 5, thereby forming opposite eyes 6. Secured to the outer side of the other member 2 is a metallic plate 7, the lower end of which projects beyond the lower end of the member and is provided with an opening 8, alined transversely with the bifurcation in the other hinged member. Fitted in the opening in the plate 7 is an eyebolt 9, having a suitable nut 10 bearing against the outer face of the plate 7 and having its eye 11 located within the bifurcation 5 and alined with the opposite eyes 6 of the hinge member 3. Passing through the opposite eyes 6 and the eye 11 of the bolt 9 is a pivot-pin 12, which is provided at one end with a hook 13, the opposite projecting end being threaded and provided with a nut 14, forming a stop-shoulder to prevent longitudinal displacement of the pin. A guide-plate 15 is secured to the lower end of the member 1 opposite the hooked end of the pivot-pin 12 and is provided with a pendent perforate ear 16, projecting below the lower end of the device and receiving the threaded projecting end of the pivot-pin. It will thus be apparent that the members are hingedly connected together and are capable of being thrown open or separated upon the pivot-pin 12 as a center, so as to receive the fencing laterally between the members. It will be understood that the nut 10 is intended to adjust the position of the member 2 upon the eyebolt 9, so as to vary the distance between the two members of the clamp for the purpose of accommodating the latter to fencing of different types and to wires of different sizes. As shown in Fig. 2, the lower inner edge of the member 2 is beveled or notched, as at 17, so as to accommodate the eyebolt 9.

Near the upper end of the member 2 there is provided a transverse slot 18, and extend-

ing across the lower portion of the slot is a plate 19, suitably secured to the outer side of the member. Located in the inner face of the other member 1 is a socket or recess 20, communicating with the inner end of the slot 18, and 21 designates a perforation or opening communicating from the outer side of the member 1 to the back of the socket or recess 20. Located in the socket is a catch 22, which extends into the slot 18 and projects at the outer end thereof and is also provided in its under edge with a plurality of notches 23, forming catch-heads for engagement with the plate or keeper 19, so as to secure the members upon the fencing. Projecting through the perforation 21 is a screw-threaded pin or shank 24, having its inner end located within the socket 20 and provided with a longitudinal bifurcation 25, in which is received the inner end of the catch 22, loosely connected to the pin or shank by means of a transverse pivot-pin 26. Fitted to the outer projecting end of the threaded shank or pin 24 is a suitable clamping-nut 27, having an operating-handle 28, whereby the catch may be drawn tightly against the keeper 19 for holding the members in their clamped position. It is preferable to interpose a suitable wear-plate 29 between the nut 27 and the adjacent outer side of the member 1, so as to protect the latter against the wearing action of the nut.

At the upper end of the clamp there is provided a collar or band 30, which embraces the members and rests upon suitable pins or shoulders 31, carried by each of the members. It will be understood that this collar or band is removable, so as to permit of the separation of the hingedly-connected members. A single length of chain 32 has its opposite ends connected to the collar or band 30 and to the hook end of the pivot-pin 12 at the opposite end of the device, respectively, and connected to an intermediate portion of the same is another chain 33 for engagement with a suitable stretching or tension device.

In the operation of the device, the collar or band 30 being removed, the members are opened or separated, so as to receive a portion of fencing 34, as indicated in Fig. 1 of the drawings, after which the members are closed upon the fencing, the catch 22 being engaged with the keeper 19, and finally the members are clamped tightly upon the fencing by adjustment of the nut 27. The collar or band 30 is then fitted to the upper ends of the members and the opposite ends of the chain 32 are engaged with the band and the hooked end of the pivot-pin 12, respectively. By this arrangement of the chain it will be seen that the chain-section 33 is located midway between the upper and lower ends of the clamp, so that when the stretcher or tension device is operated the strain will be evenly balanced upon the clamp and the fencing, and the former provides a firm connection between the fencing and the tension device. It will be understood that any suitable or preferred

form of stretcher or tension device may be employed, and therefore it has not been deemed necessary to illustrate the same. Should the fencing be as wide as the length of the members 1 and 2, the catch 22 is inserted through one of the meshes of the fencing, whereby the entire width of the latter may be firmly clamped between the members.

As illustrated in Fig. 3, it will be seen that the inner contiguous faces of the clamp members are provided with wear-plates 35 and 36, each plate being let into the face of the respective member, but not flush therewith, and are only half as wide as the member. Also the opposite edges of these metallic plates are comparatively sharp, so as to bind tightly upon the fencing and prevent the device from slipping thereon.

What I claim is—

1. A device of the class described, comprising opposite members hingedly connected at one end, a detachable band located opposite the hinged end of the members, means for clamping the latter together, a chain or the like having its opposite ends connected to the hinged end of the device and to the band, respectively, and a connection located at an intermediate point of the chain and for application to a tension device.

2. In a device of the class described, the combination with a pair of members, of a plate provided upon one of the members, a threaded eyebolt passing through the plate, and having an adjusting-nut bearing against the outer side of the plate, opposite eyes provided upon the other member, and receiving the eye of the bolt therebetween, a pivot-pin passing through the eyes and the eye of the bolt, and a connection for application to a tension device.

3. In a device of the class described, the combination with a pair of members, of a hinge-plate carried by one of the members, a guide-plate carried by the same member and overlapping the other member, a threaded eyebolt passing loosely through the latter member, an adjusting-nut provided upon the bolt and engaging the outer side of the member, a transverse pivot-pin hingedly connecting the bolt to the hinge-plate, means for clamping the members together, and a connection for application to a tension device.

4. A device of the class described, comprising a pair of members, having a hinged connection at one end thereof, the pivot-pin of the hinge being provided with a hook located exteriorly of the members, a detachable band located at the opposite end of the device, a chain having its opposite ends respectively connected to the hook and to the band, means for clamping the members together, and a connection for application to a tension device.

5. In a device of the class described, the combination with a pair of members, of a plate fitted to one end of one of the members, said plate being bent upon itself into a loop, and provided with a slot intersecting the loop, a

plate fitted to the other member and projecting beyond the end thereof, an eyebolt passing loosely through the projecting end of the plate, the eye of the bolt being located in the bifurcation of the looped plate, a transverse pivot-pin passing through the loop and the eye of the eyebolt, an adjusting-nut provided upon the outer projecting end of the eyebolt and engaging against the adjacent member, means for clamping the members together, and a connection for application to a tension device.

6. A device of the class described, comprising a pair of pivotally or hingedly connected members, a clamping device, consisting of a latch, a threaded stem pivotally connected to the latch and passing loosely through one of the members, an adjusting-nut provided upon the stem and bearing against one side of the member, a keeper provided upon the other member and for engagement with the latch, and a connection for application to a tension device.

7. A device of the class described, comprising a pair of pivotally or hingedly connected members, one of the latter being provided with a recess or socket in its inner face, a latch located within the socket and projecting through the open end thereof, a threaded stem pivotally connected to the inner end of the latch and passing loosely through the member, an adjusting-nut provided upon the

projecting end of the stem, the other member being provided with a slot receiving the outer end of the latch, a plate extending across one end of the slot, and forming a keeper for engagement with the latch, and a connection for application to a tension device.

8. A device of the class described, comprising hingedly-connected members, a removable band or collar embracing the members and located at the opposite end from the hinge connection thereof, pins or shoulders carried by each member and supporting the band or collar, and a chain or the like having its opposite ends connected to the band and to the opposite end of the device, respectively.

9. A device of the class described, comprising a pair of opposite clamp members, clamping means therefor, wear-plates secured to the inner faces of the respective members, located at opposite sides of the device, and projecting outwardly from the adjacent inner faces, and means for connection with a tension device.

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

JASPER MILTON RUBART.

Witnesses:

JAMES MULDOWNNEY,
J. P. NORTHCUTT.