

No. 662,133.

Patented Nov. 20, 1900.

B. H. PASSMORE.
WIRE STRETCHER.

(Application filed June 12, 1900.)

(No Model.)

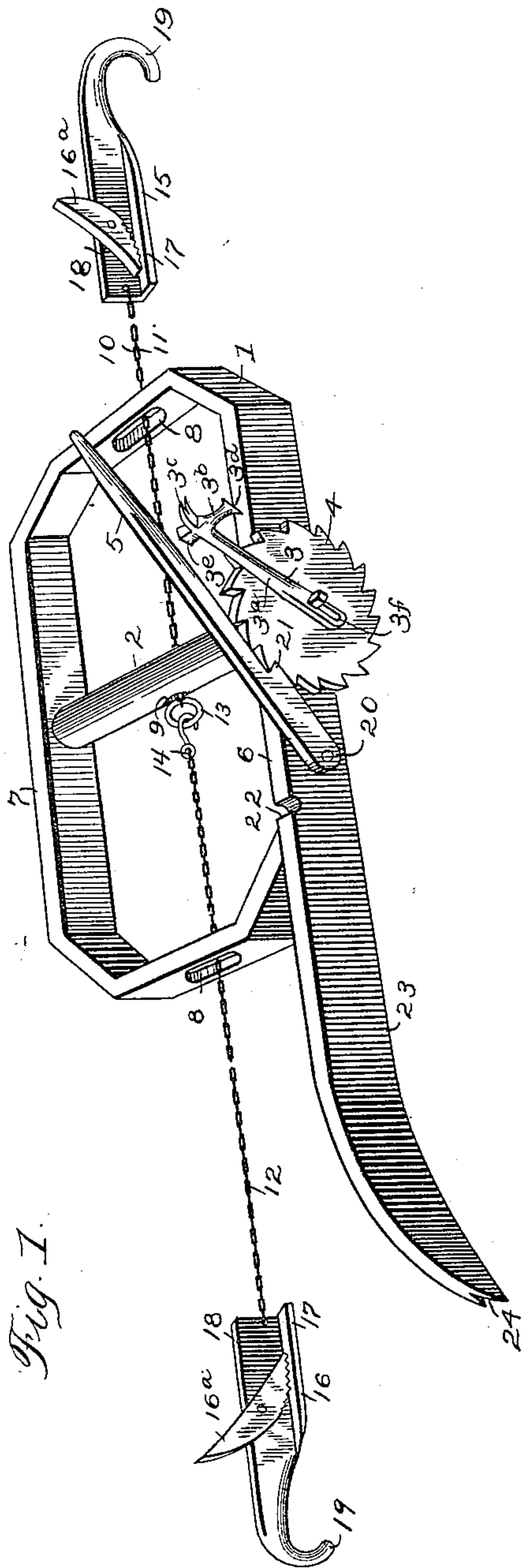


Fig. 1.

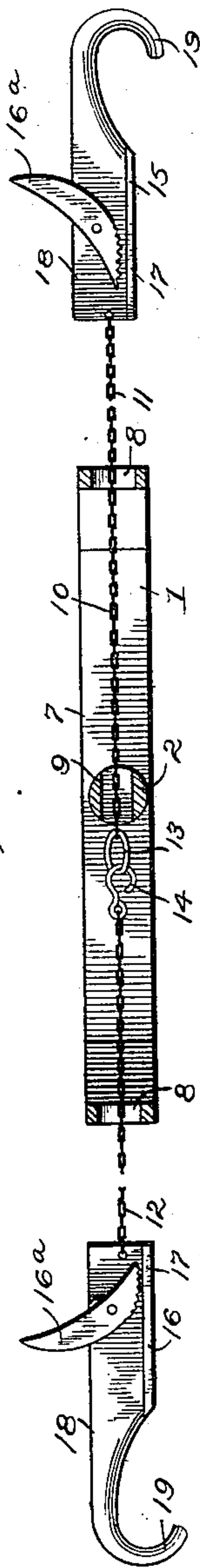


Fig. 2.

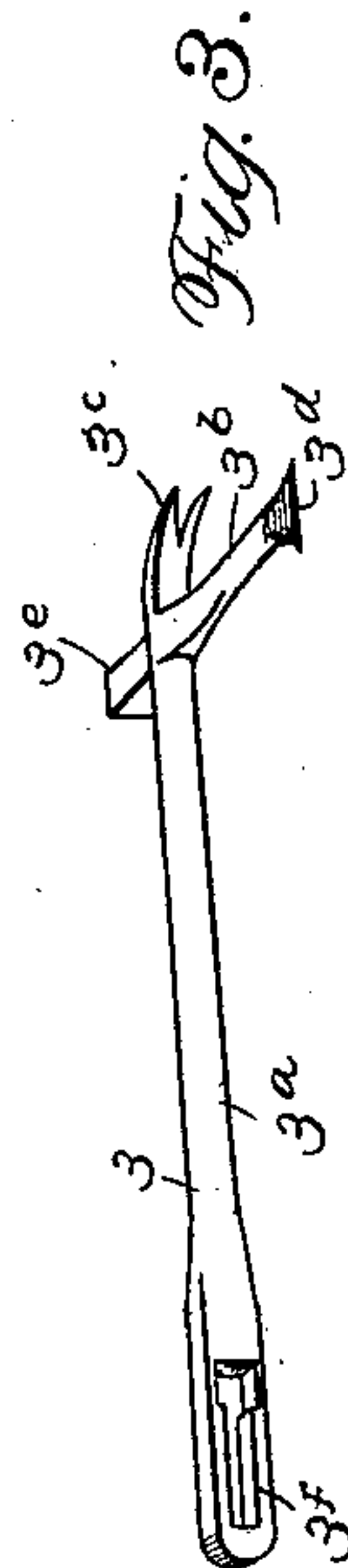


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMINE H. PASSMORE, OF STOCKDALE, TEXAS.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 662,133, dated November 20, 1900.

Application filed June 12, 1900. Serial No. 20,064. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMINE H. PASSMORE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Stockdale, in the county of Wilson and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Wire-Stretcher, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in wire-stretchers.

One object of the present invention is to improve the construction of wire-stretchers and to provide a simple and comparatively inexpensive one adapted to draw the ends of a broken wire together to enable the same to be readily spliced or connected and capable of being readily arranged for stretching a wire to a fence-post.

Another object of the invention is to arrange the parts so that the means for engaging the ratchet-wheel will serve for cutting wire.

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 a perspective view of a wire-stretcher constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the crank-handle.

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

1 designates a frame which may be of any desired form and which is provided at opposite sides with bearings for the reception of a transverse shaft 2, and the latter, which is rotated by a crank 3, carries a ratchet-wheel 4, arranged to be engaged by a lever 5. The sides 6 and 7 of the frame are parallel, and the ends, which are provided with central openings 8, are composed of parallel central portions and have angularly-disposed corner portions, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. The crank, which is detachably mounted on the end of the shaft, consists of a bar or body portion 3^a and an arm 3^b, extending from the outer end of the body portion or bar and forming the handle or grip of the crank. The outer end of the body portion or bar 3^a is pro-

vided with a claw 3^c, and the outer end of the grip or arm 3^b is enlarged and provided with a cutting edge 3^d to form a hatchet, which is especially adapted for removing bark from posts previous to stapling or otherwise securing the fence-wires to them. The crank-handle is provided with a projection 3^e, arranged in alinement with the arm or grip 3^b, and forming a hammer-head for driving staples into fence-posts and the like. The inner end of the bar or body portion 3^a is provided with a slot 3^f, extending from the opening for the shaft and adapted to receive the ends of a wire, whereby the latter may be readily twisted together. After the ends of a broken wire have been drawn together by the wire-stretcher, as hereinafter explained, the crank-handle may be removed to enable the ends of the said wire to be twisted together. When the crank-handle is removed, the bar or body portion 3^a forms the handle for the hatchet and hammer and the projecting hammer-head or portion 3^e forms an efficient fulcrum when the crank-handle is employed as a lever for extracting staples or for other purposes. The shaft is provided with a central opening 9 to receive the chain 10, which is composed of two sections 11 and 12, the section 11 being provided adjacent to the shaft with a ring 13 and the section 12 being provided at its inner end with a hook 14 for engaging the ring 13. The chain extends through the central openings 8 of the ends of the frame and is provided at the outer ends of the sections with clamps 15 and 16 for engaging the ends of a broken fence-wire, and when the shaft is rotated the chain is wound around the same and operates to draw the ends of the wire together, so that the latter may be readily spliced.

Each clamp is provided with a clamping or cam lever 16^a, having a serrated engaging portion located adjacent to a flange 17 and mounted on the body portion 18 of the clamp. The body portion 18 is provided with a hook 19 and is adapted to engage the adjacent section of the chain when the wire-stretcher is arranged for stretching fence-wires to a fence-post. When it is desired to stretch a wire against a fence-post, the sections of the chain are uncoupled, and the section 12 may be employed as the means for securing the

frame to the post. The hook 14 is brought over the end of the frame and engaged with one of the links of the section 12 of the chain, and the said section 12 is passed around a post and is secured to the same by engaging the hook 19 of its clamp with it at the post. The other section of the chain is secured to the shaft, and its clamp is engaged with the wire to be stretched. The shaft is then rotated and the fence-wire is stretched to the desired tension. After the fence-wire is stretched to the desired tension it is locked in such position by the lever 5, which is fulcrumed at its end 20 on the side 6 of the frame, and it is provided between its ends with a tooth 21 for engaging the ratchet-wheel 4. The lever, which has its outer end shaped into a handle or grip, is located adjacent to a notch 22 and is adapted to swing past the same for cutting a wire placed therein.

The frame is provided at one side with an arm 23, terminating in a claw 24 and adapted to be used for extracting staples from fence-posts.

It will be seen that the wire-stretcher is exceedingly simple and inexpensive in construction, that it is easily operated, and that it may be readily arranged for drawing the ends of a broken wire together for splicing the same. It will also be apparent that the sectional chain or connection is adapted to be uncoupled, so that it may be employed for

anchoring the frame to a fence-post or other support.

What I claim is—

1. A wire-stretcher comprising a frame provided at each end with a guide-opening, a shaft arranged between the ends of the frame and having an opening, a flexible connection passing through the guide-openings of the frame and extending beyond both ends of the latter and also passing through the opening of the shaft, said connection being composed of two sections detachably coupled, whereby they are adapted for drawing the ends of a broken wire together and for anchoring the frame to a post to stretch a wire to the same, clamps arranged at the ends of the flexible connections and having hooks, and means for operating the shaft, substantially as described.

2. In a wire-stretcher, the combination of a frame, a shaft, a ratchet-wheel connected with the shaft, and a pivoted lever provided with a tooth for engaging the wheel and located adjacent to a notch to form a wire-cutter, substantially as described.

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

BENJAMINE H. PASSMORE.

Witnesses:

G. B. PALM,
J. C. CARR.