No. 664,671. Patented Dec. 25, 1900.

F. J. OLMSTED.

WIRE STRETCHER.

(Application filed Aug. 29, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

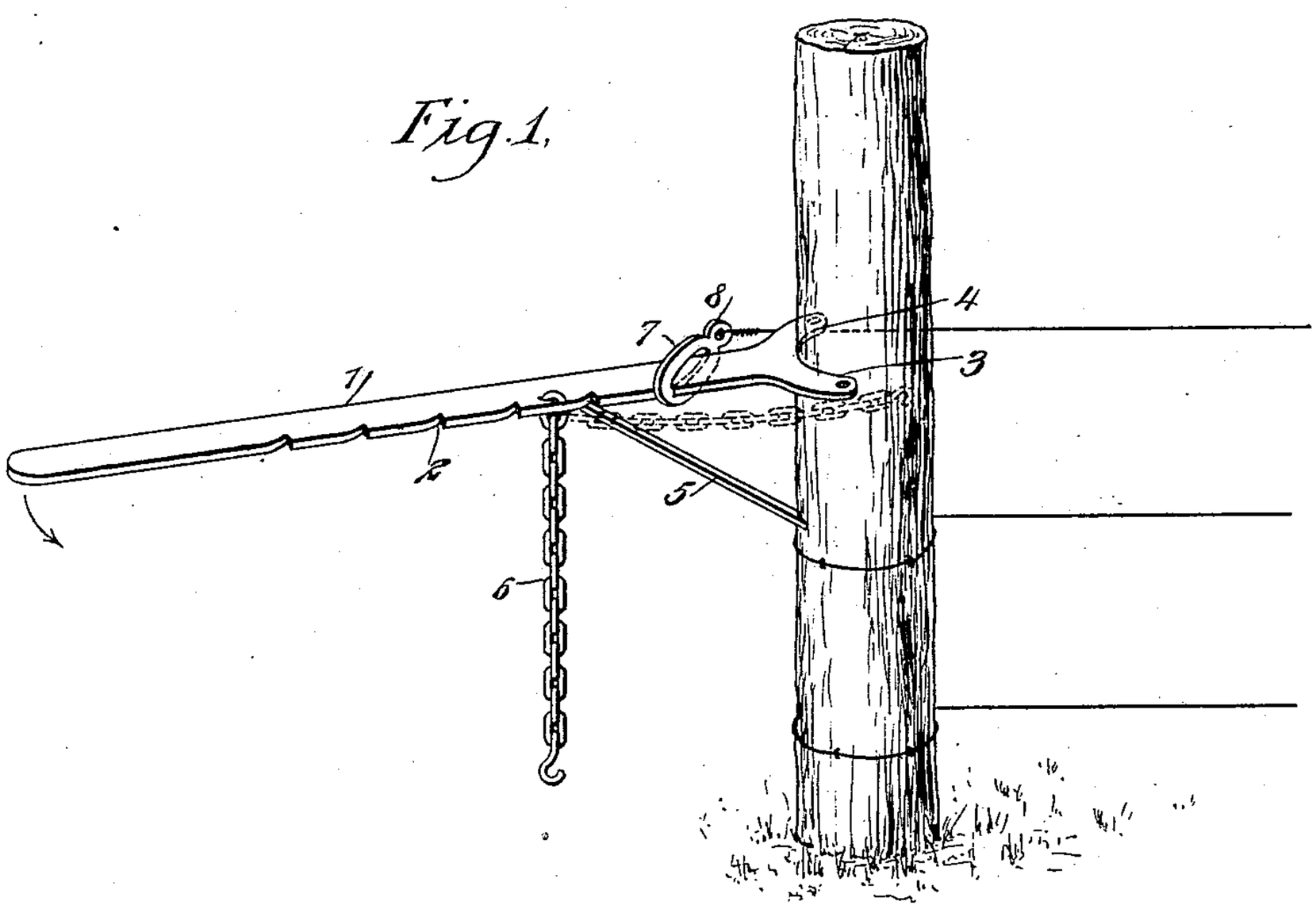
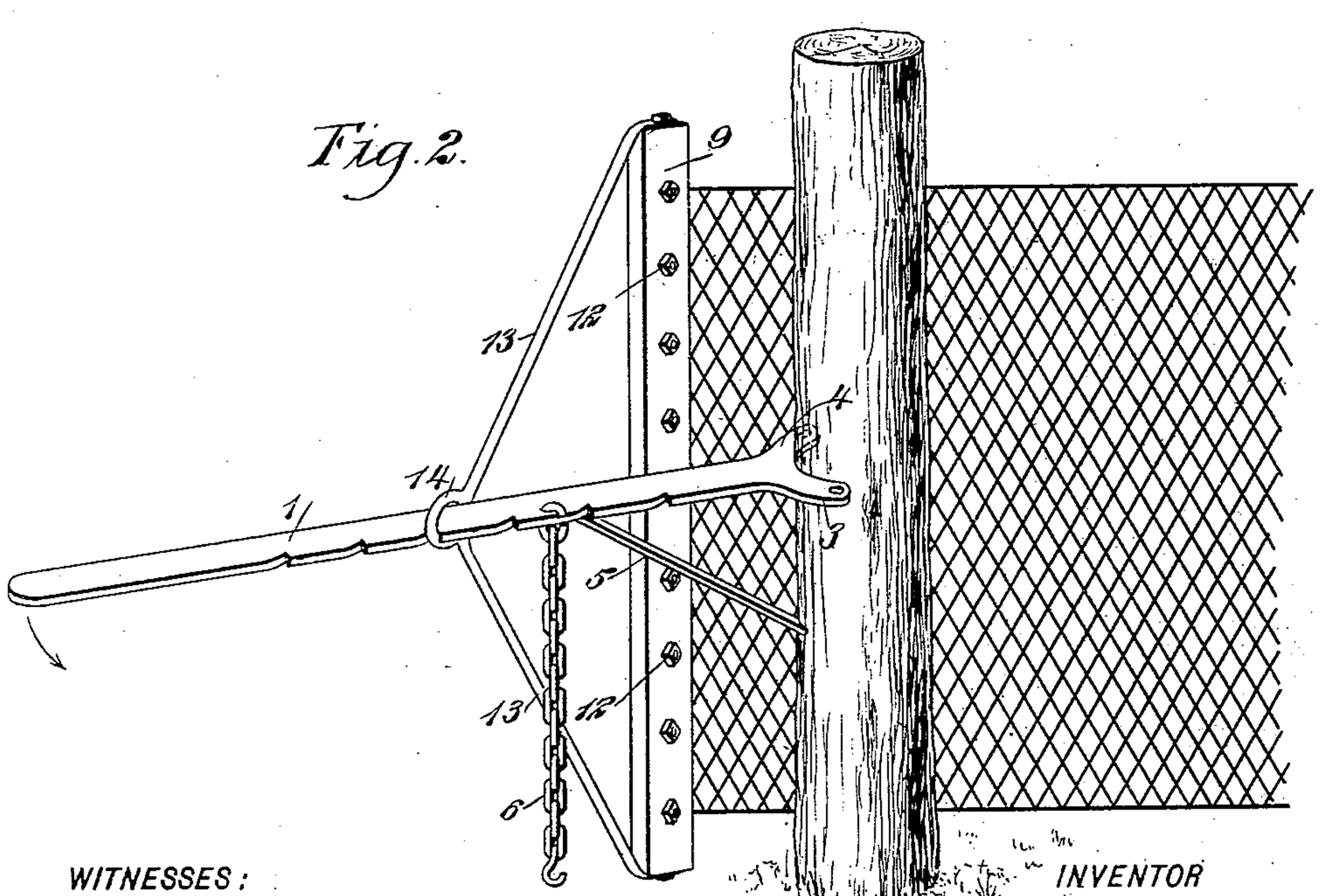


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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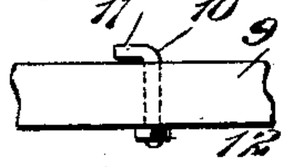
Fig. 3.



INVENTOR
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK J. OLMSTED, OF BEAVER CITY, NEBRASKA.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 664,671, dated December 25, 1900.

Application filed August 29, 1900. Serial No. 28,458. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK J. OLMSTED, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Beaver City, in the county of Furnas and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and Improved Wire-Stretcher, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to devices for stretching wire designed to be fastened to posts, such as fence-wires; and the object is to provide a simple and comparatively inexpensive device of this character by means of which the wire can be quickly and tightly stretched, and, further, to so arrange the device that it may be conveniently employed for stretching and twisting together the ends of a broken wire.

I will describe a wire-stretcher embodying my invention and then point out the novel features in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a wire-stretcher embodying my invention and showing the same in connection with a single wire. Fig. 2 is a modification showing the device as used for stretching a woven-wire fence, and Fig. 3 is a detail of a part shown in Fig. 2.

The wire-stretcher comprises a lever 1, having a series of notches 2 formed in one of its edges. One end of the lever is provided with curved arms 3 4, designed to engage against a post, as will be hereinafter described, and the ends of these arms are provided with holes for a purpose to be described. Rigidly connected to the lever is an inclined brace-bar 5, the free end of which is substantially in vertical line with the end of the lever on which the arms are formed and is designed to be engaged with a post to prevent the lever from being moved downward by the pulling or tension of the wire. A chain 6 is also attached to the lever and is designed to be engaged around a post or with a nail or the like driven into the post to hold the lever in position after stretching the wire, so that the staple or other fastening device may be placed over the wire.

In connection with the lever I employ a stretching-head which is movable on the lever to engage in either one of the notches 3 and is designed to be engaged by and hold the wire or material to be stretched. In Fig. 1 I have shown the stretching-head as consisting of a ring 7, having an eye 8, into which the end of a single wire to be stretched may be twisted. In Fig. 2 I have shown the stretching-head as designed to receive a woven-wire fence. The head consists of a bar 9, in which is placed a series of bolts 10, having hook-shaped ends 11 to engage through the meshes of the wire fence, after which the bolts may be tightened by the nuts 12. From the bar 9 rods 13 extend and have at their meeting-point a ring 14 for engaging around the lever 1 and adapted to be engaged in either one of the notches 2.

In operation in stretching a single wire the wire is to be engaged with the stretching-head 7, which is to be placed upon the lever. Then by placing the arms 3 and 4 against the post the lever is to be swung circumferentially of the post, and when the wire shall have been sufficiently stretched the chain is brought into use to hold the lever, and consequently hold the wire taut until a staple or staples can be placed over the same. The operation of the device shown in Fig. 2 is the same as above described. Of course in this case the stretching-head will be connected with the woven wire. When it is desired to connect the two ends of a broken wire, the ends are to be passed through the perforations in the arms 3 and twisted. Then by turning the lever on a horizontal plane—say, from one side of the fence to the other—the two ends of the wire will be caused to overlap, and then the lever may be turned to a vertical position and rotated to twist the ends together.

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

1. A wire-stretcher, comprising a lever adapted to be engaged with and to be moved circumferentially of a post and having notches in one of its edges, a stretcher-head comprising a ring extending around and movable along the lever and adapted to engage in any one of said notches, a brace attached to one side of the lever and adapted to be engaged

with a post to hold the lever against the pulling strain of a wire, and a chain attached to the lever, substantially as specified.

2. A wire-stretcher, comprising a lever adapted to be engaged with and to be moved circumferentially of a post and having notches in one of its edges, and a stretcher-head comprising a ring movable along the lever and adapted to engage in any one of said notches, a bar arranged at right angles to the lever and having connection with the ring, hook-bolts mounted in said bar, and tightening-nuts on said bolts, substantially as specified.

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

FRANK J. OLMSTED.

Witnesses:

FANNIE MASON,

SARA R. OLMSTED.