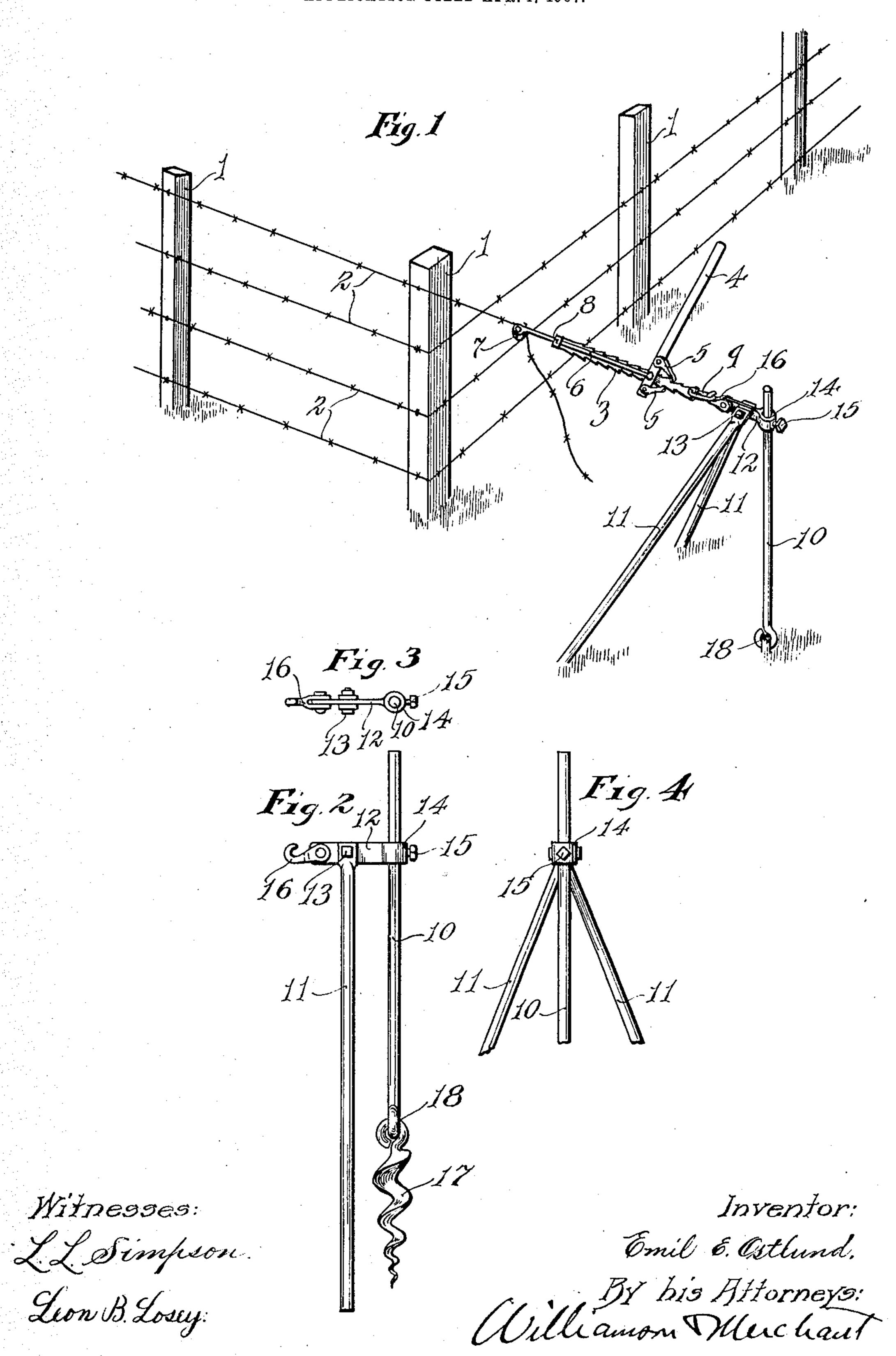
E. E. OSTLUND.

DEVICE FOR STRETCHING FENCE WIRES.

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMIL EPHRIAM OSTLUND, OF PENNOCK, MINNESOTA.

## DEVICE FOR STRETCHING FENCE-WIRES.

No. 860,318.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMIL EPHRIAM OSTLUND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pennock, in the county of Kandiyohi and State of Minnesota, have in-5 vented certain new and useful Improvements in a Device for Stretching Fence-Wires; 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 10 use the same.

My invention has for its object to provide improved means for stretching the wires of wire fences, and especially for stretching the same at corner posts.

The principal feature of novelty of the invention 15 resides in a so-called tripod which when applied to the ground serves as a base of reaction for the wire stretching device proper.

The invention consists of the novel devices and combinations of devices hereinafter described and de-20 fined in the claims.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective 25 view showing a portion of a wire fence and a wire stretcher connected to one of the wires and to the improved tripod. Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation showing the tripod in its folded position. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the tripod as shown in Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 30 is a view in rear elevation of the tripod, as shown in Fig. 2, with the lower portion thereof broken away.

The numeral 1 indicates the posts, and 2 the wires of an ordinary barbed wire fence. As shown, a wire stretcher is connected to one of the wires of the fence, 35 and may be of the ordinary or any desired construction.

The numeral 3 indicates the notched bar of the wire stretcher, 4 the operating lever, 5 a pair of dogs pivoted to said lever for engagement with the notches of the bar 3.

40 The numeral 6 indicates a connecting rod pivoted at one end to the lever 4 between the dogs 5, and equipped at its other or free end with a grapple 7 for holding the wire to be stretched.

One end of the notched bar 3 is upturned and pro-45 vided with an eye 8 through which the rod 6 is guided, and the other end thereof has pivoted thereto a link 9 for engagement with the tripod.

The leg 10 of the tripod acts as a tension member, and the two legs 11 act as compression or thrust resisting members. A block 12 is pivoted between the 50 upper ends of the two legs 11, by a nutted bolt 13 which is passed through the legs 11 and block 12. The block 12 is provided with a seat 14 through which the tension member or leg 10 is adapted to slide. The leg 10 and the head 12 may be held in any desired set 55 position by a set screw 15 mounted in said head and projecting into the seat 14 for engagement with the leg 10. A hook 16 pivoted to the block 12 is adapted to engage the link 9 and support the wire stretcher, as shown in Fig. 1. An anchor 17, in the form of an 60 auger, is pivoted at 18 to the lower end of the leg 10, and is adapted to be screwed into the ground, thereby affording a base of resistance for the tension member. To screw the auger 17 into the ground, the leg 10 is first removed from the head 12, and by using the leg 65 10 as a lever, the auger 17 may be turned or screwed into the ground.

The device described, while simple and convenient, drawings, wherein like characters indicate like parts | has been found very efficient for the purpose had in view.

What I claim is:

1. The combination with a wire stretcher, of a tripod affording a base of reaction therefor, said tripod comprising a tension leg and a pair of compression legs, and an auger secured to the lower end of said tension leg, sub- 75 stantially as described.

2. The combination with a wire stretcher, of a tripod affording a base of reaction therefor, said tripod comprising a tension leg and a pair of compression legs pivotally connected at their upper ends, and an auger secured to 80 the lower end of said leg and adapted to be screwed into the ground, substantially as described.

3. The combination with a wire stretcher, of a tripod affording a base of reaction therefor, said tripod comprising a tension leg and a pair of compression legs, a block 85 pivotally connected to said compression legs and provided with means for holding said wire stretcher, and with a seat through which said tension leg works, means for adjustably securing said head to said tension leg, and au auger pivotally connected to the lower end of said tension 90 leg and adapted to be screwed into the ground by means of said tension leg, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EMIL EPHRIAM OSTLUND.

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Witnesses:

E. L. THORPE, JOHN OSTLUND.