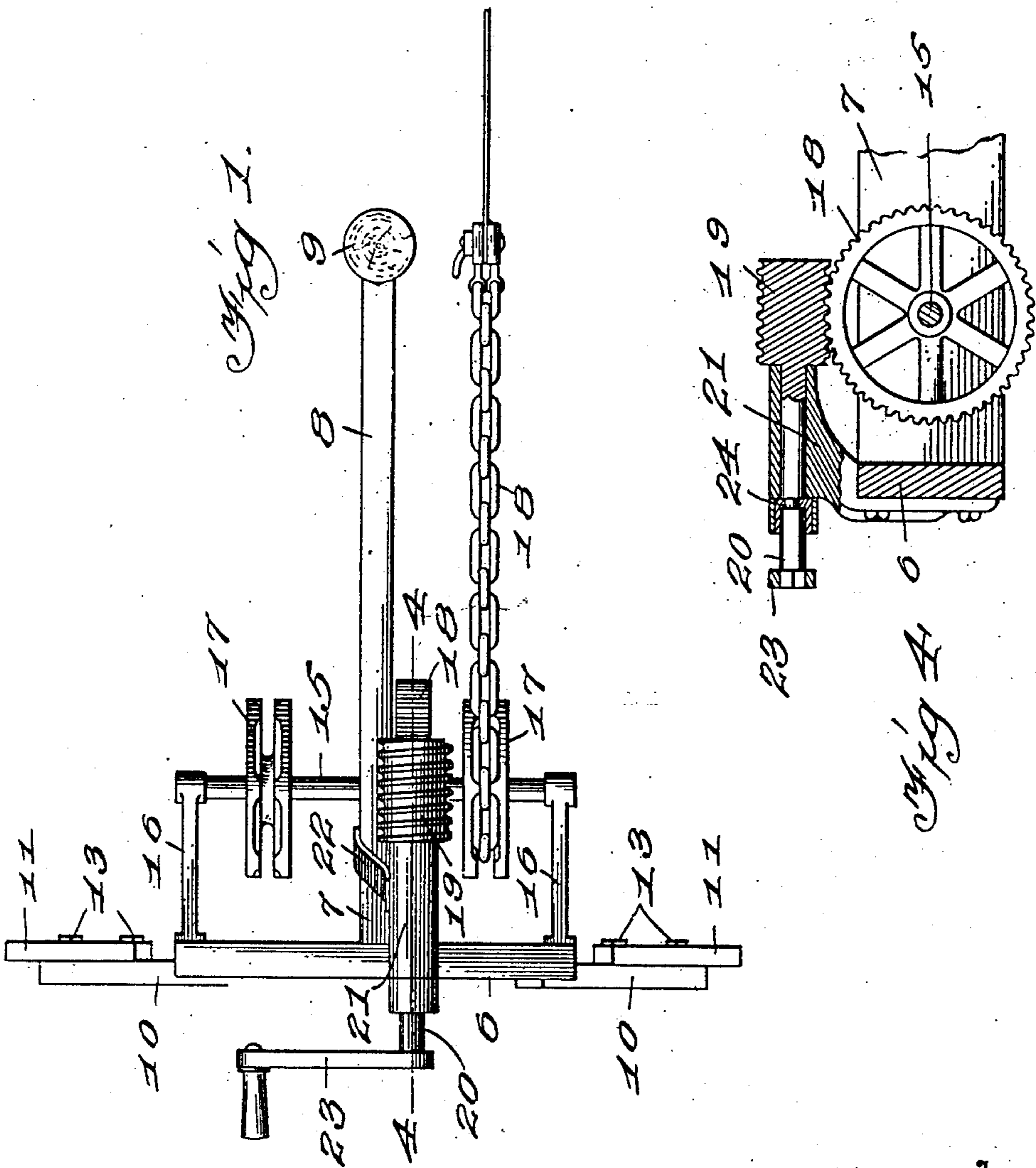


E. EDWARDS.
WIRE STRETCHER.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1908.

920,039.

Patented Apr. 27, 1909
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
Geo L. Thomas
Arthur Wesley

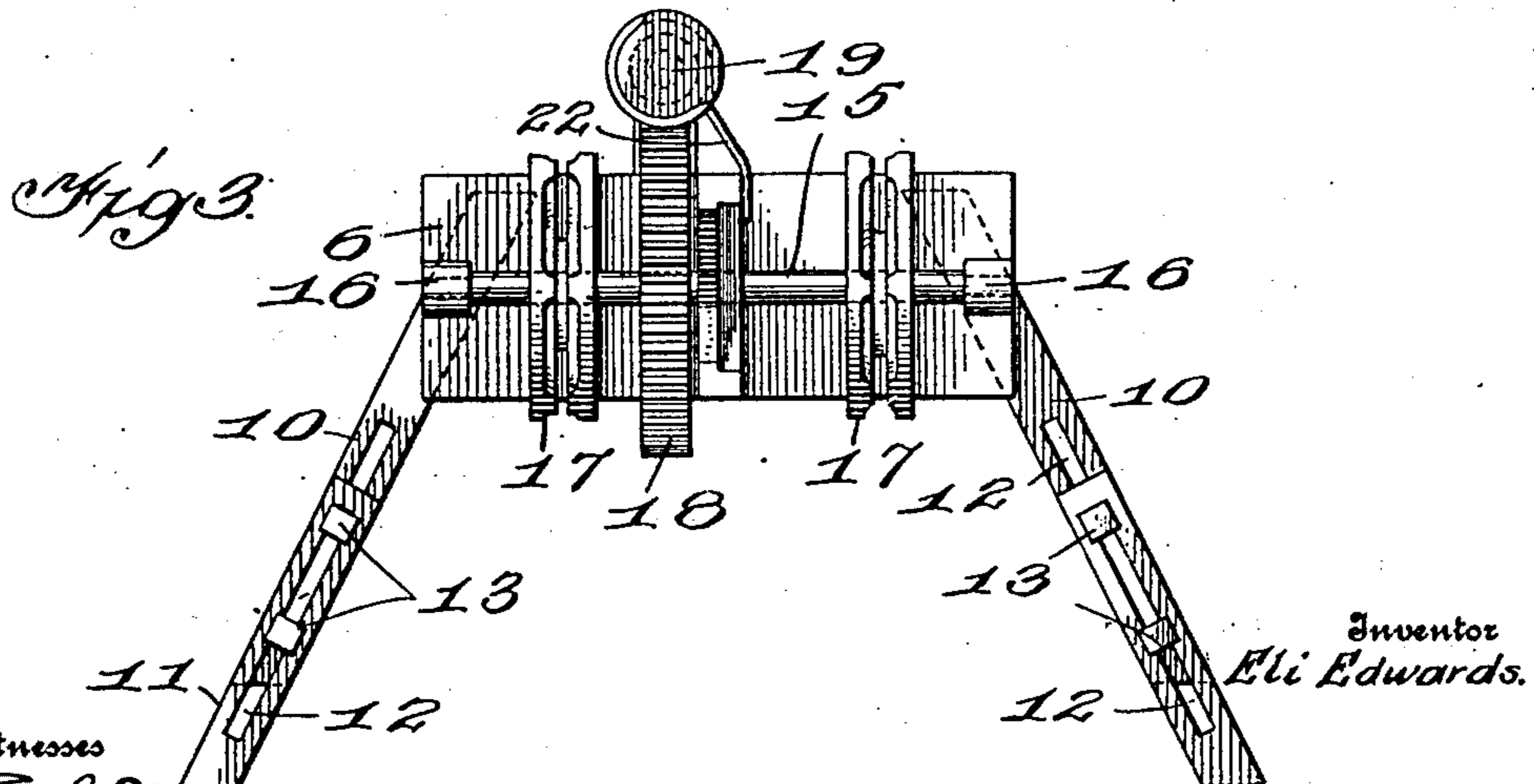
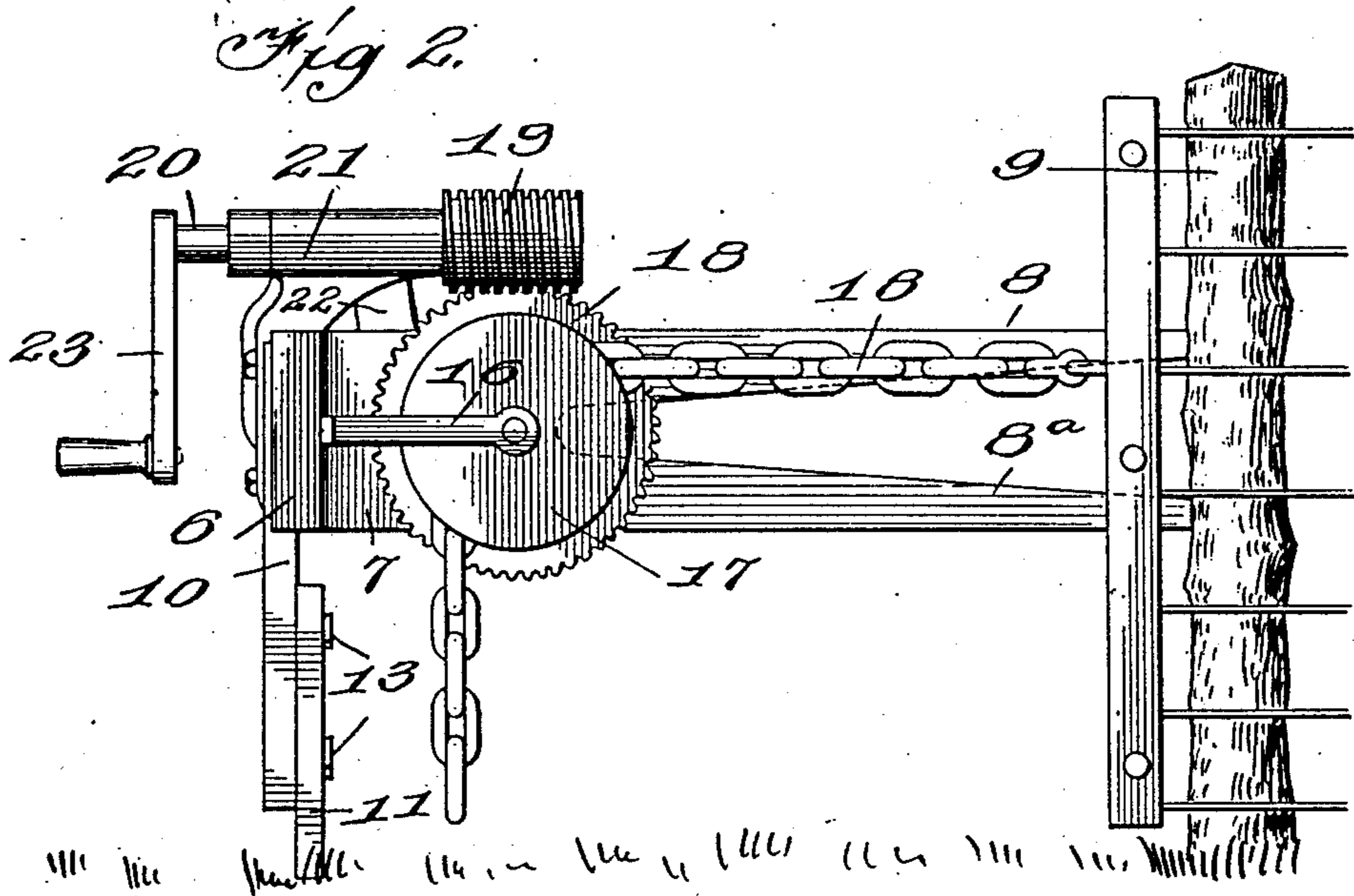
Inventor,
Eli Edwards

By *Geo. E. Tew*
Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELI EDWARDS, OF REA, MISSOURI.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

No. 920,039.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 27, 1909.

Application filed October 2, 1908. Serial No. 455,821.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELI EDWARDS, citizen of the United States, residing at Rea, in the county of Andrew and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to wire stretchers particularly adapted and intended for setting wire fences, and it comprises a power device of improved construction for applying the pull necessary to stretch wires and to hold the same while they are being fastened to the fence posts.

The device is so constructed that it will pull a fence on either side of the post, and it may be adjusted up and down to suit the required height.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the stretcher; Fig. 2 is a side elevation; Fig. 3 is a front end elevation; Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

The device is intended to be connected by the pulling chain to any suitable clamp for holding one or more fence wires while they are being tightened, such clamps usually consisting of uprights provided with hooks or other devices whereby they may be connected to a chain or cable operated by the stretcher.

The stretcher comprises a frame consisting of a back cross piece 6 to which a forwardly projecting arm 7 is attached, said arm being provided at the front end with upper and lower branches 8 and 8^a the front ends of which bear against the post 9 when the device is set up. The machine is supported by extensible legs secured to the rear cross bar 6, each leg consisting of upper and lower parts 10 and 11 which have registering longitudinal slots 12, which by means of wedges 13 or other suitable fastening devices inserted through the slots can be set any length desired, according to the height at which the machine is to be placed. These legs support the rear part of the machine and the front part thereof is supported by the forwardly extending branches 8 and 8^a which rest against the post. The legs are spread sufficiently to prevent lateral swing or movement of the machine, which may also be anchored to the ground by chains at the opposite ends of the cross bar 6, if desired.

The arm 7 has therein a supporting bearing for the horizontal cross shaft 15 which is carried at the middle thereof by said arm and the outer ends of which are braced by braces 16 connected between the outer ends of the shaft and the ends of the cross beam 6. The shaft carries a pair of chain pulleys 17 located on opposite sides of the arm 7, whereby the wire or fence can be pulled on each side of the post against which the stretcher rests. The links of the chain 18 are engaged by the pulley used, said chain being connected to the clamp heretofore referred to. The shaft also carries a worm-wheel 18 meshing with a worm 19 at the end of a shaft 20 carried by a bearing bracket 21 securely bolted or otherwise fastened to the cross beam 6. The arm 7 and bracket 21 are braced by a brace 22 extending therebetween. On the rear end of the shaft 20 is a crank 23 by means of which it is turned, and the shaft is properly supported in its bearings to prevent endwise movement thereof, as by a rib and groove at 24.

The device is used by setting the same up against the post in line with the fence or wires to be stretched and the chain is connected thereto, using appropriate wheels 17. Then, by turning the crank, the wheel is turned and the wire is stretched. In consequence of the worm gear it will hold itself while the fence is being stapled.

I claim:

A wire stretcher comprising a rear horizontal cross beam, an arm projecting from the middle thereof having upper and lower branches at its front end adapted to rest against a post, a cross shaft supported on the arm and extending on both sides thereof in front of and parallel to the cross beam and having a chain pulley and a worm gear thereon, a crank shaft supported on the beam and extending at a right angle thereto, and having a worm at its front end in mesh with said gear, and a crank at its rear end, and braces connecting the opposite ends of the beam and the corresponding ends of the shaft.

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

ELI EDWARDS.

Witnesses.

W. H. BAYNE,
J. F. SMITH.