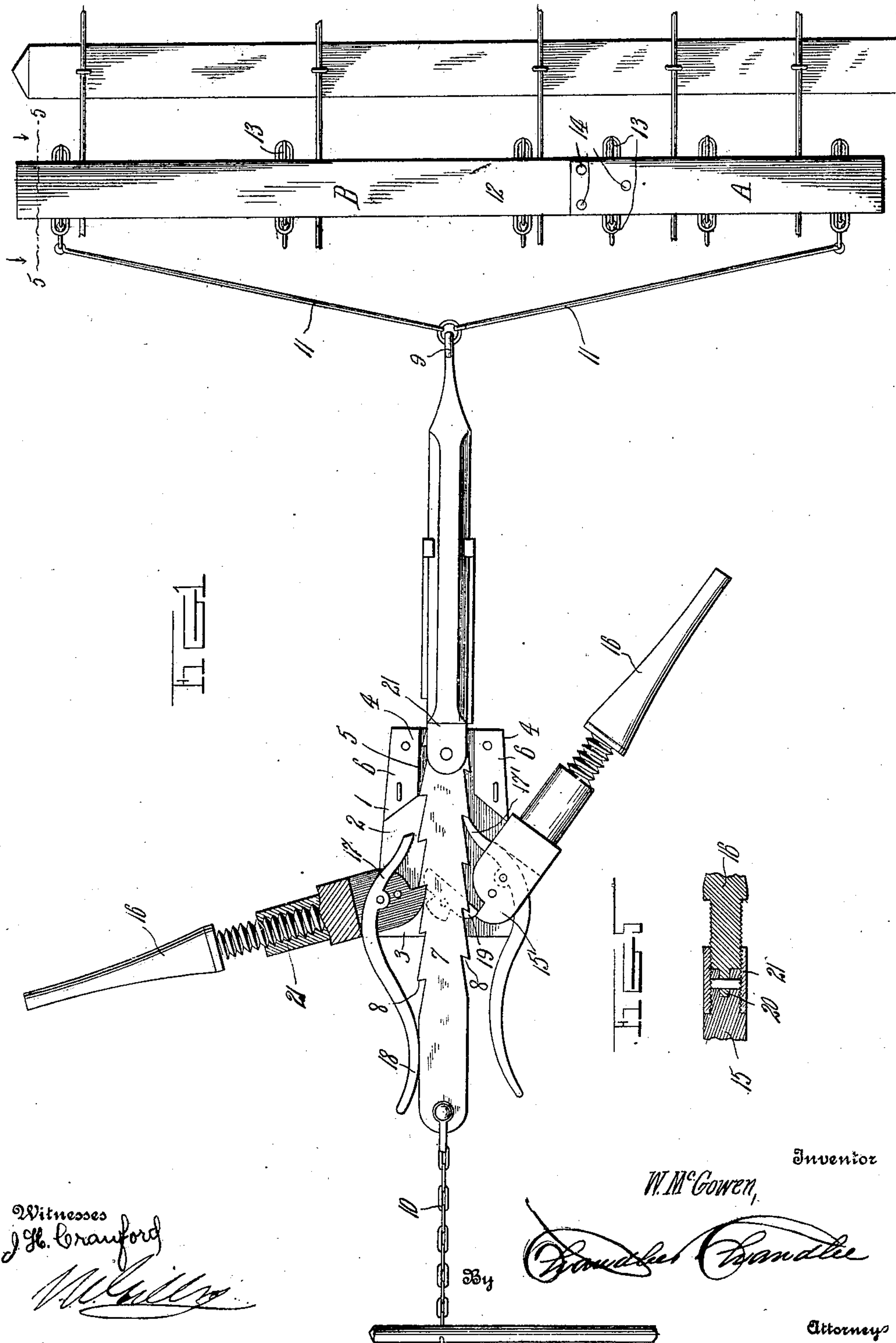


W. MCGOWEN.
WIRE STRETCHER.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 19, 1907.

921,872.

Patented May 18, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
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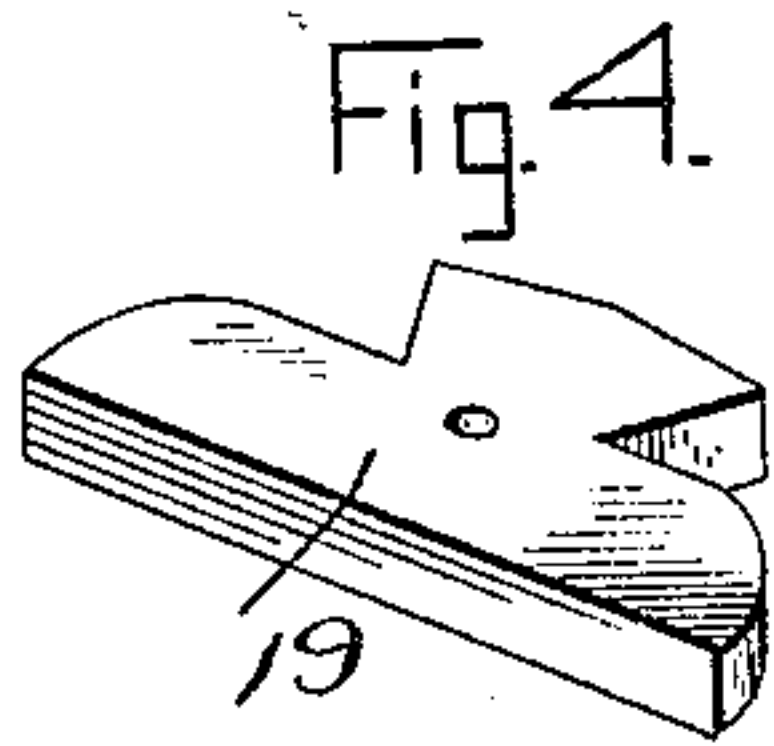
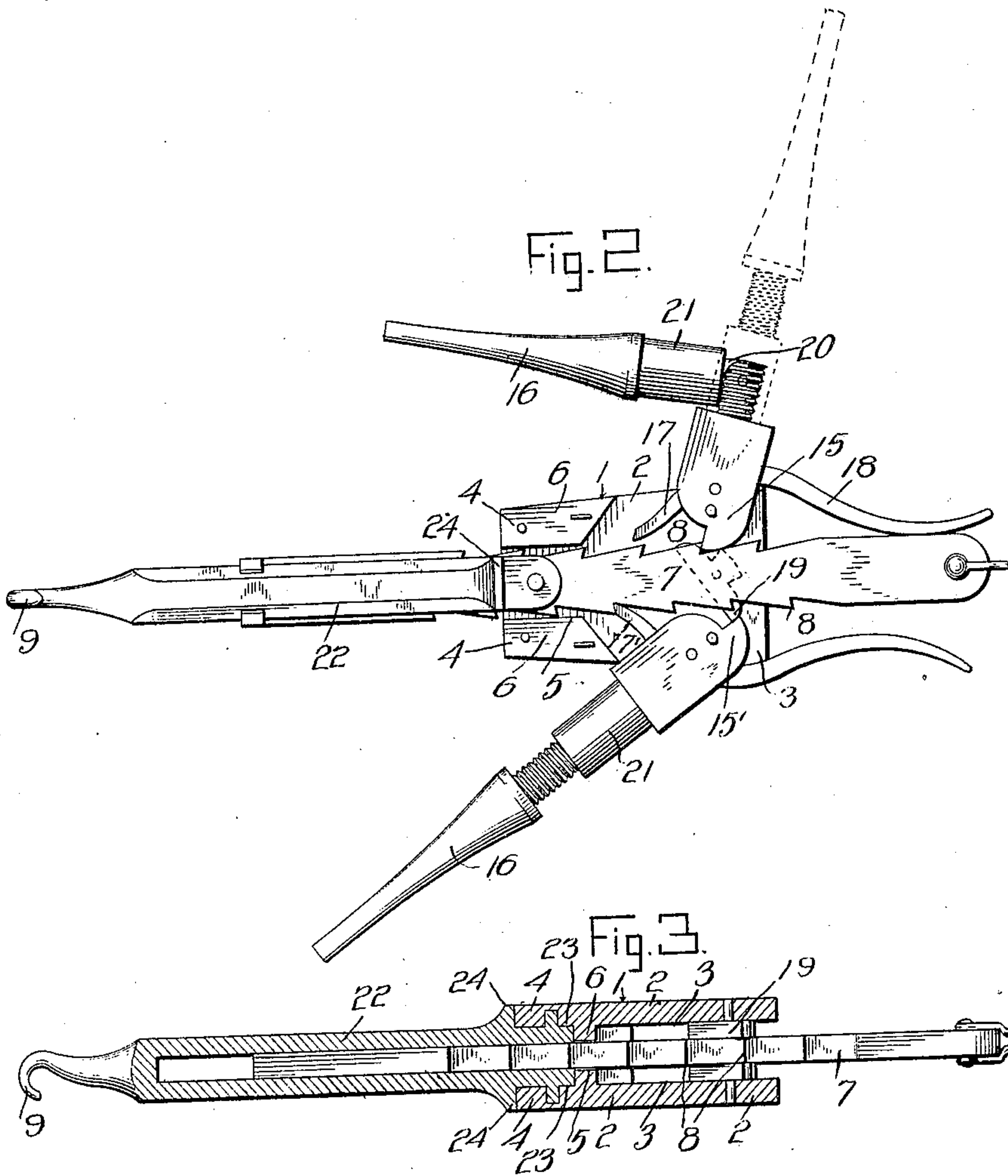
Attorneys

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER MCGOWEN, OF FANSHAWE, OKLAHOMA.

WIRE-STRETCHER.

No. 921,872.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 18, 1909.

Application filed December 19, 1907. Serial No. 407,186.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER MCGOWEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fanshawe, Le Flore county, Oklahoma, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Stretchers; 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
10 it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention has relation to that class of wire-stretchers that employ a clamp to engage the ends of the longitudinal wires, a draft-bar articulated with the clamp-bar
15 for drawing the fence taut, so that it can be stapled in the progress of its construction to an advanced post, the draft-bar being provided with ratchet teeth on its edges, which teeth are engaged by pawls or dogs,
20 operated by levers, to advance the draft-bar.

The object of the invention is to improve the means that operate on the draft-bar to advance it; to improve the means for getting a hold on the longitudinal wires of the
25 fence, so that the latter can be uniformly stretched, and so that the fence-clamping means can be adjusted to suit different heights of fence; and to improve the machine generally, as will appear from the
30 specification and the annexed drawings forming a part of the same, to which reference is to be had.

Of the said drawings—Figure 1 is a side elevation of the machine applied, the plate
35 on the head, from the side viewed, being for the sake of clearness omitted. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing a somewhat different position of the parts, with the clamp-bar omitted. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section
40 of parts. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the trip dogs. Fig. 5 is a sectional detail showing the jointing of the pawl levers.

Similar characters of reference designate similar parts or features, as the case may be,
45 wherever they occur.

In the drawings, 1 designates what I may, for the purpose of this specification, term the "head", the sides 2 of which may consist of plates of cast metal reduced in thick-
50 ness at their rear parts 3 to make room for the pawls and levers, while they are thicker at their forward ends, 4 so as to reduce the interspace 5 through which the draft-bar 7 passes. The said draft-bar is composed of
55 steel of as great length and strength as may be desired. It is provided on its sides with

ratchet teeth 8, arranged in staggered relation to each other, for engagement by the dogs, as will presently appear. Furthermore, the draft-bar is provided at its forward end with a chain 10 by which it may be engaged with a stake or post, in drawing a section of the fence forward. A hook 9 is engaged with rods 11 that are in turn connected with the bars 12 between which a
60 section of the fence is clamped. The means last described may be varied in form, but that shown is considered very efficient by me for the purpose. These bars 12 are preferably made in two sections as indicated at
70 A and B and are provided with suitable devices 13 to secure the same together. The sections of these bars are preferably held together as shown at 14.

15 15' designate dogs that are pivoted on
75 the upper side portions of the head in such position that said dogs may engage the ratchet teeth 8 of the draft-bar 7 alternately, as they are operated by their handles 16, moving the bar along step by step at each
80 operation.

In the operation of this device the handles 16 and 16' are alternately worked. As these handles are worked their respective
85 dogs 15 and 15' engage with the teeth 8 on either side of the bar. Further, by means of the alternate working of the handles 16 and 16' the ratchets 17 and 17' are alternately caused to engage the teeth 8. By reason of this, when one of the handles is
90 being actuated to move the bar forward, the ratchet on the other handle is in engagement with the teeth and prevent the retraction thereof. This action is clearly shown by
95 reference to Figs. 1 and 2.

In order to fold the levers to the dogs 15 15' out of the way when they are not needed, the levers are jointed near their upper ends to the dogs by pivoting a reduced portion thereof in a bifurcation 20 and a sleeve 21
100 on the reduced end of the lever which is adapted to be moved back and forth thereon may be moved back on the reduced portion and the lever folded in out of the way. When it is desired to connect the lever rigidly with the dog, the sleeve 21 is screwed
105 over the reduced portion connected with the dog across the pivot joint all as will be readily understood by an inspection of the drawings.
110

The forward end of the draft-bar extends between the spacing blocks 6 as before stated,

also projects into a slot formed between two parts of the extension piece 22 provided with the hook 9 for attaching the bar to the stake as heretofore explained.

5 The rearward end of the extension piece is pivoted in recesses 23 formed in the sides of the head as shown so as to hold it rigidly in place, and a shoulder 24 is formed on the sides of the extension piece 22 so that the
10 pull on the said piece may come against the forward ends of the sides 2 as well as the forward portions of the spacing blocks 23.

Of course, all of the parts will be made as strong and heavy as may be necessary and
15 they will be so placed and timed in their operation as to effect what has been described as the general mode of operation of the machine.

What is claimed is—

20 The combination, with the head consist-

ing of two spaced side-plates; of the draft-bar, provided on its edges with ratchet teeth, extending through the interspace of the head; dogs, provided with handles pivoted in the head on opposite sides to be alternately engaged with the ratchet-teeth of the draft-bar to move it forward, holding
25 pawls pivoted in said dogs and adapted also to be engaged with the ratchet teeth of the draft-bar to hold it from being retracted, 30 and throw-out blocks pivoted on the inner sides of the head to be alternately engaged by one dog, when brought into requisition to throw the other dog out.

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

WALTER MCGOWEN.

Witnesses:

BRINT BRANNON,
JOSEPH LEWIS.