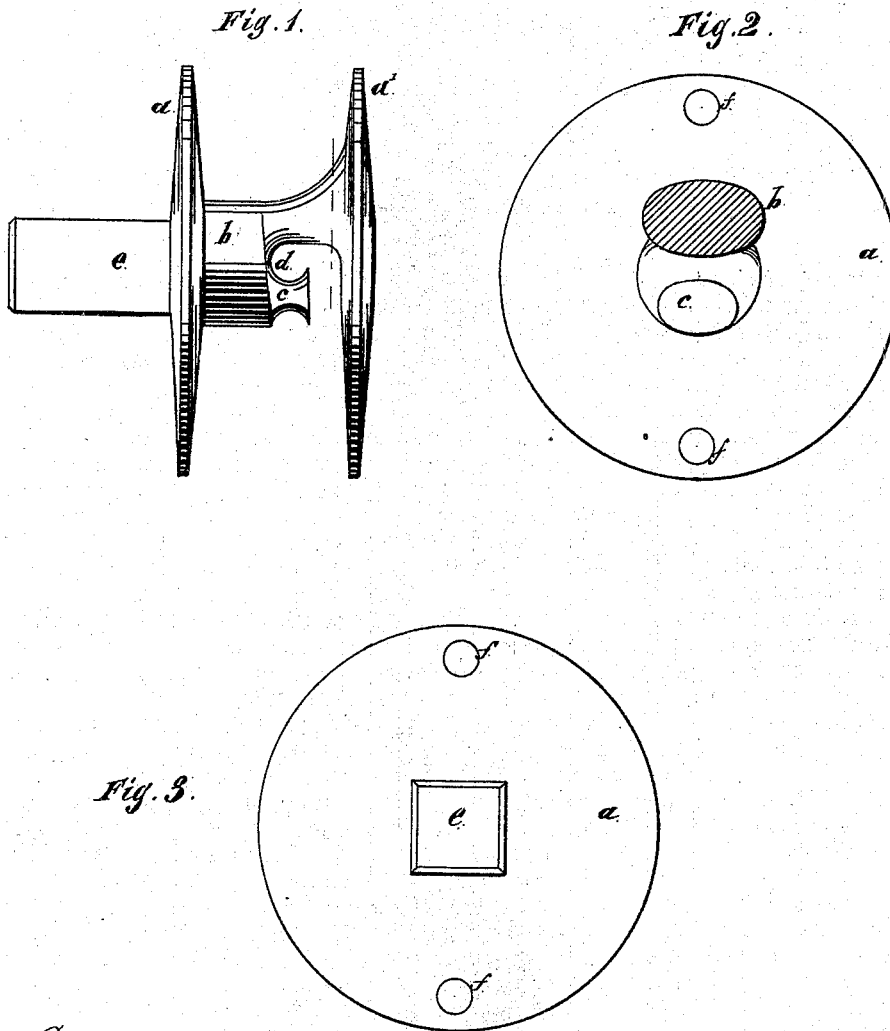


R. ELLWOOD.  
WIRE STRETCHER.

No. 182,651.

Patented Sept. 26, 1876.



Witnesses:  
O. W. Bond  
A. F. Brunns.

Inventor:  
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Attys.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REUBEN ELLWOOD, OF SYCAMORE, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN WIRE-STRETCHERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 182,651, dated September 26, 1876; application filed July 3, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, REUBEN ELLWOOD, of Sycamore, De Kalb county, State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wire-Stretchers, of which the following is a full description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view; Fig. 2, a cross-section; Fig. 3, an end view.

The object of this invention is to produce a cheap, durable, and efficient stretcher for fence-wires; and its nature consists in constructing the stretcher with two flanges or disks, with a hook or catch between them, an angular shank for applying a detachable wrench, and one or more sets of holes for locking the device across the wire.

In the drawings, *a a'* represent the flanges or disks; *b*, the central connecting-piece; *c*, the hook; *d*, the wire space; *e*, the angular shank or projection, to which the wrench is applied; and *f*, the holes, for the insertion of a nail, a piece of wire, or other locking device.

The device shown is cast in a single piece. A sufficient space is left between the end of the hook *c* and the flange *a'* for the insertion of the wire into the space *d*. The central connection *b* is reduced a little over one-half of its diameter, so as to form a part of the hook, as shown in Fig. 1. The holes *f* are cast or

drilled in, and are located opposite to each other in each of the flanges.

The device is placed over a fence-wire, so that the wire will enter the space *d*. A wrench is then applied to the shank *e*, when the device is given a sufficient number of turns to make the wire as taut as desired. An ordinary nail or piece of wire is then inserted through the holes *f*, above the wire on one side, and below on the other, according to the direction in which it is turned, which locks the device when the wrench is removed, and the device is left upon the wire.

The fence-wires may be slacked by taking out the cross or locking wires or nails, or tightened by the device after the wires or nails are removed.

I prefer two sets of holes, *f*, as shown; but it is obvious that the device may be locked with one set.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

The herein-described wire-stretcher, provided with flanges *a a'*, central connection *b*, hook *c*, shank *e*, and holes *f*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

REUBEN ELLWOOD.

Witnesses:

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