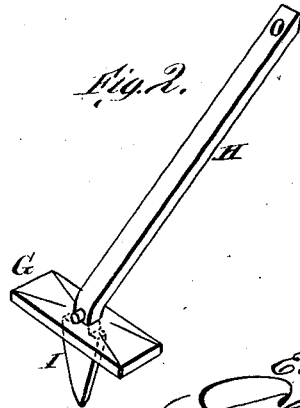
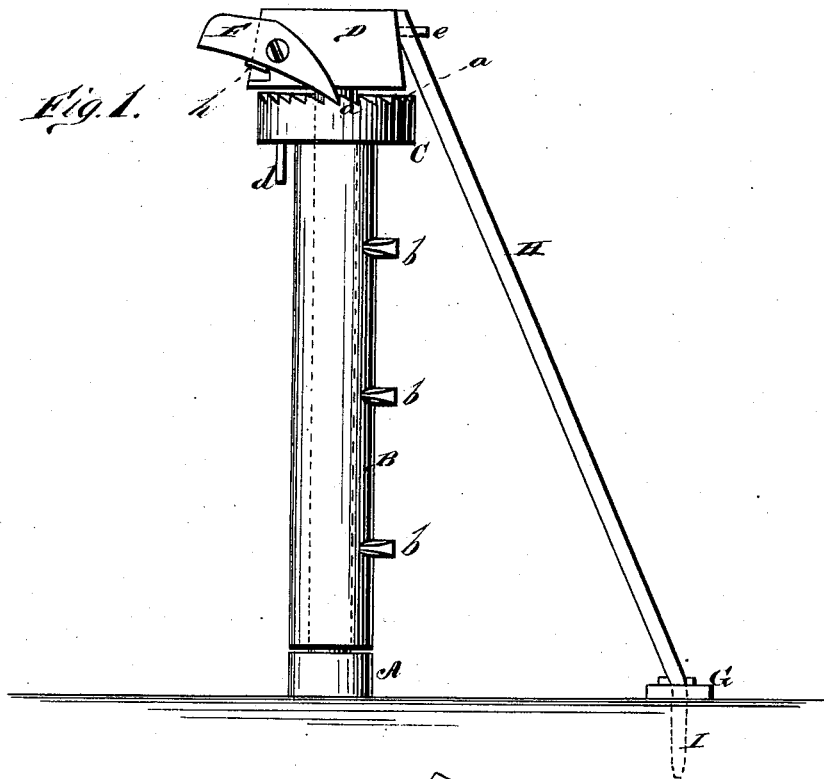


E. C. SEARS.  
Wire Fence Tightener.

No. 202,058.

Patented April 2, 1878.



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIJAH C. SEARS, OF CLINTON, IOWA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN WIRE-FENCE TIGHTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **202,058**, dated April 2, 1878; application filed February 9, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELIJAH C. SEARS, of Clinton, in the county of Clinton and State of Iowa, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Wire-Fence Tighteners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a side view of my wire-fence tightener, and Fig. 2 is a perspective detail of the same.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction of a device for tightening wire fence, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth, and pointed out in the claim.

The annexed drawings, to which reference is made, fully illustrate my invention.

A represents a round fence-post of any suitable dimensions, upon which is placed a thimble, B, having upon its outside a series of pins or hooks, *b b*, for the attachment of the wires.

On the upper end of the thimble B is formed or attached a circular head, C, projecting beyond the thimble, as shown, and on the upper face of said head are formed a series of ratchet-teeth, *a a*. A pin, *d*, also extends downward from the circular head C.

The post A extends above the head C of the thimble, and has fastened to it a head, D, on the side of which is pivoted a pawl, F, held

by means of a spring, *h*, in gear with the teeth *a* of the said head C.

The wires being fastened on the pins or hooks *b b*, a lever is applied to the pin *d* in such a manner that the thimble can be turned by it, thereby tightening the wires, the pawl F engaging in the ratchet-teeth *a*, holding the thimble from turning backward, and thus holding the wires tightened.

In connection with this device, I also use an iron brace, H, having a hole at its upper end, to fit on a pin, *e*, in the head or cap D of the fence-post.

The brace H is, at its lower end, provided with a V-shaped foot, I, set at an angle to the brace, and at the angle is secured a cross-bar, G. The foot I is passed into the ground, with the bar G lying down on the ground, the whole forming a firm and secure brace to the fence-post.

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

The means for tightening wires in fences, consisting of a loose thimble, B, with ratchet-cap *c* and fastening-pins *b*, arranged around a stationary fence-post provided with a spring-pawl, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

ELIJAH C. SEARS.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM LAKE,  
CHARLES WALLS.