J. F. INMAN.

WIRE FENCE FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 19, 1917.

**1,314,808.** Patented Sept. 2, 1919.

Fig. 1.

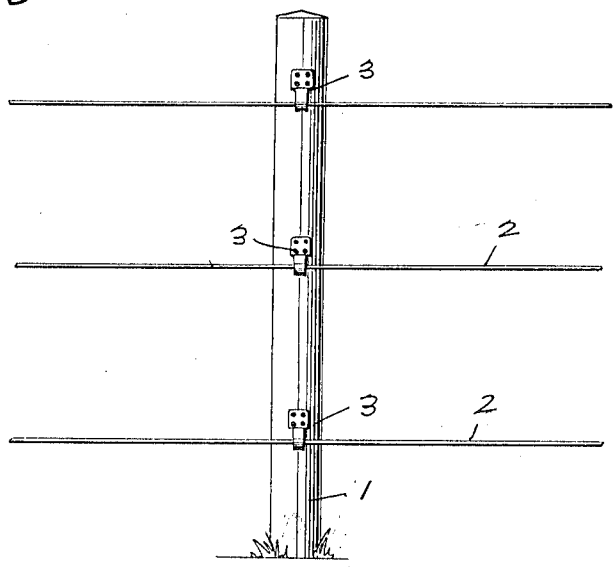



Fig. 2.

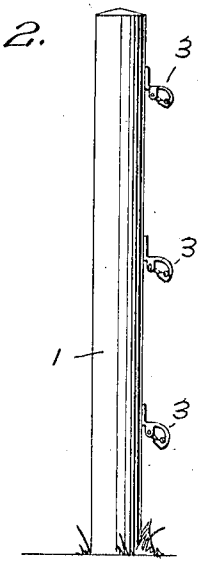
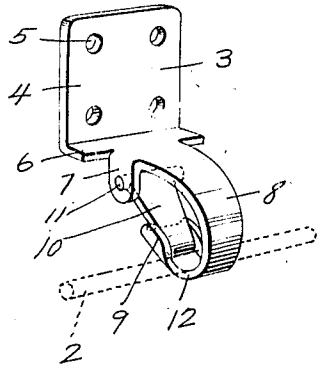



Fig. 3.




WITNESSES

G. Hennessy

L. B. Middleton

INVENTOR

John F. Inman,

BY Richard B. Owen,

ATTORNEY

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN F. INMAN, OF COLOFLATS, COLORADO.

## WIRE-FENCE FASTENER.

1,314,808. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 2, 1919.

Application filed April 19, 1917. Serial No. 163,249.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN F. INMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coloflats, in the county of Las Animas and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Fence Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a wire fence fastener, and the principal object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which will hold the fence wire to the post so the same can be easily and quickly removed from the post, thereby allowing access to the fenced-in area.

Another object of the invention is to provide means whereby the wire is prevented from being released from the fastener by the stock pushing against the same.

Another object of the invention is to make the device of but two parts, a main part and a movable part and to make said movable part of heavy material so it will remain closed by its weight, thereby rendering unnecessary the use of springs.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which is simple and durable in construction, reliable and efficient in operation and one which can be manufactured and placed upon the market at a minimum cost.

The invention also consists in certain other features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, to be hereinafter fully described and specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In describing my invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings, wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:

Figure 1 shows the invention applied to a post.

Fig. 2 is a side view of a post supplied with the fasteners.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged view of the fastener alone.

In these drawings, 1 represents a fence post and 2 the wires of the fence. 3 represents the fastener for securing the wires to the post. This fastener is made of one piece of material provided with a flat part 4 having holes 5 therein to receive the screws or nails for securing the fastener to the post. At the bottom this piece is bent at right angles, as at 6, and a pair of ears 7 is cut therefrom and bent downwardly, as shown. The material is then reduced in width and is curved downwardly in the form of a loop, as at 8, to form a support for the wire. The extreme end of this loop portion is enlarged and bent upwardly to form ears 9 to receive the free end of the tongue 10 which has journals 11 thereon engaging holes in the ears 7. As will be seen, the ears 9 also form a recess 12 between themselves and the downwardly extending part of the loop 8 and this recess receives the fence wire so as to hold the same therein against movement. If, however, the stock should rub against the wire so as to force the same out of the recess, said ears 9 would direct said wire over the tongue 10, thus preventing said tongue from being raised by the wire. As soon as the weight of the stock is removed from the wire, the same will pass back into the recess, owing to the inclined arrangement of the tongue 10.

When access is to be had to the fenced-in area, the wires can be quickly removed from the post by simply lifting up the tongue 10 with one hand and drawing the fence wire over the ears 9 and below the tongue out of the loop. The wires are then laid on the ground and after the vehicle passes said wires can be quickly and easily replaced on the post by simply placing the same against the tongues 10 and lifting upwardly, thus raising the tongues and allowing the wires to pass into the recesses 12.

I prefer to make the tongue 10 of heavy material so that the same will remain closed by its weight, thus rendering unnecessary the use of springs.

It is thought from the foregoing that the advantages and novel features of my invention will be readily apparent.

I desire it to be understood that I may make slight changes in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a fence post, a wire fence fastener comprising a plate adapted to be secured to said post, said plate having its lower end extended outwardly thereof at an angle thereto, said extended end of the plate being extended and curved to form a hook part

whereby the same will be spaced from said post, and a tongue pivoted to said plate for engagement with the free end of said hook.

2. In a fence post, a wire fence fastener comprising a plate adapted to be secured to said post, said plate having its lower end extended at right angles to said plate then extended to form a hook part whereby the free end of the hook will be spaced from said post, a pair of ears formed upon the longitudinal marginal edges of said hook adjacent the free end thereof and extended toward said plate, and a tongue pivoted to said plate for engaging the free end of the hook between said ears.

3. In a fence post, a wire fence fastener comprising a plate adapted to be secured to said post, said plate having its lower end extended outwardly at right angles to said plate then extended to form a hook part whereby the hook will be spaced from the post, the free end of said hook being extended toward said plate, and a tongue formed of heavy material pivoted to said plate whereby said tongue will normally engage the free end of the hook by its own weight.

4. In a fence post, a wire fence fastener, comprising a plate adapted to be secured to said post, said plate having its lower end projected outwardly thereof then extended to form a hook part whereby the hook will be spaced from said post, a pair of ears formed upon the lower outwardly extended portion of said plate, and a tongue pivoted between said ears whereby its free end engages with the free end of said hook.

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

JOHN F. INMAN.

Witnesses:
ROSS INMAN,
OLIVER L. MOLLOY.

**Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."**