

(No Model.)

M. S. CHAPMAN.

PICKET FENCE.

No. 274,173.

Patented Mar. 20, 1883.

Fig. 1

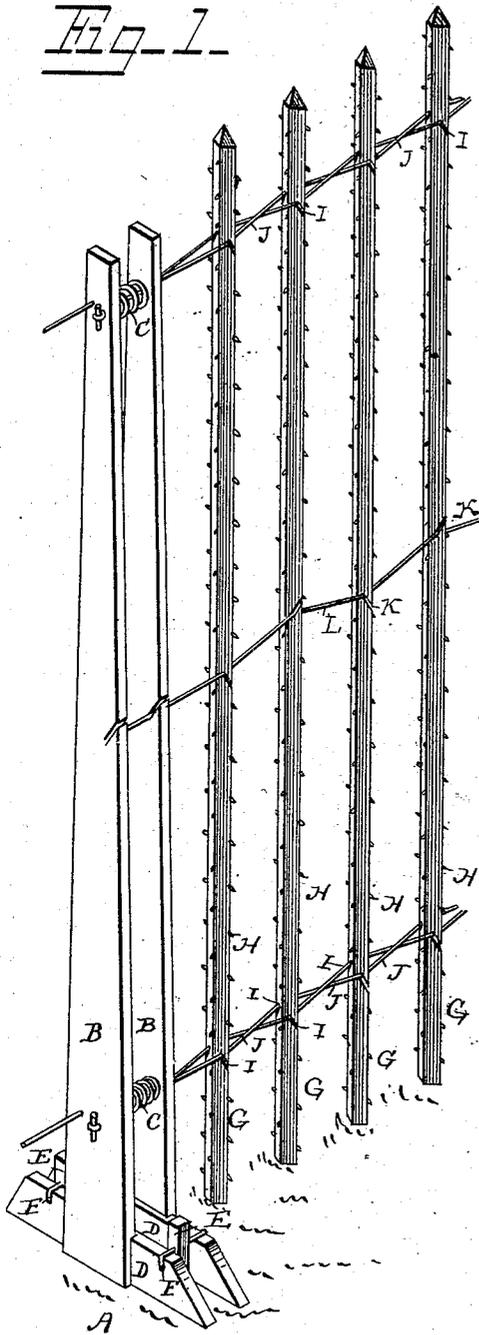
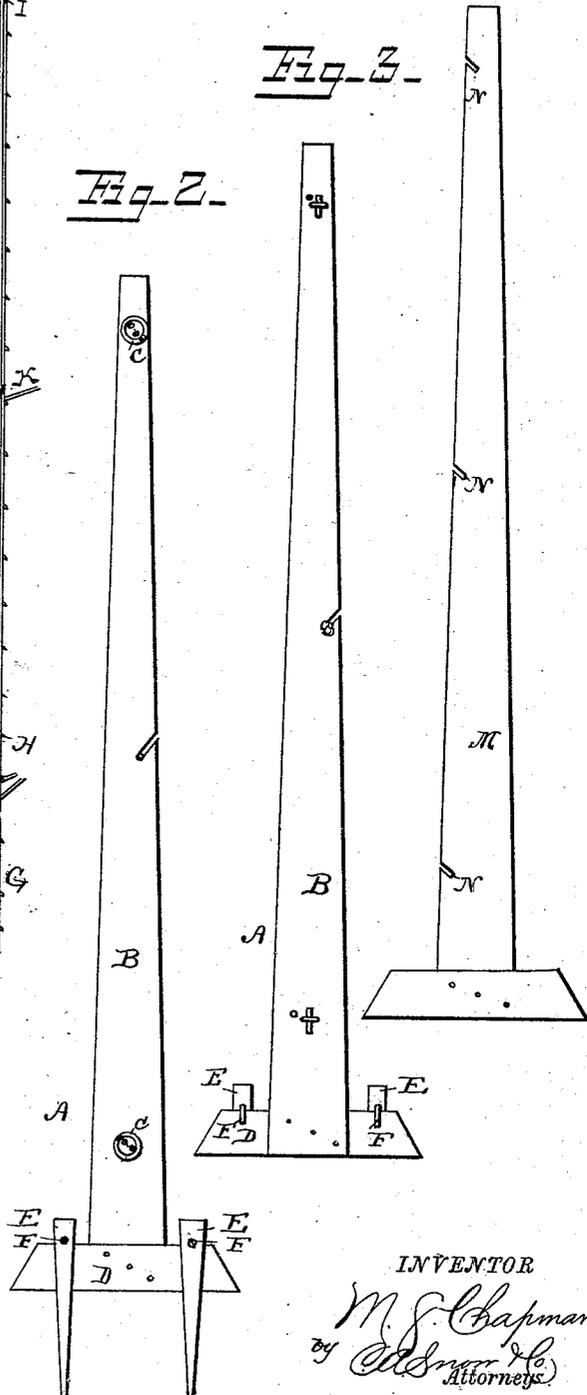


Fig. 4

Fig. 3

Fig. 2



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MELVILLE S. CHAPMAN, OF ELKHART, INDIANA.

PICKET-FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 274,173, dated March 20, 1883.

Application filed November 29, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MELVILLE S. CHAPMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Elkhart, in the county of Elkhart and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Picket-Fence, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to picket-fences, and has for its object to provide a simple, cheap, and efficient picket-fence suitable for orchards, gardens, or for any purposes for which this class of fences are now used. The construction of my improved fence is as will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims, reference being had to the drawings hereto annexed, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a section of my improved fence. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken through one of the posts. Fig. 3 is a side view of one of the posts, and Fig. 4 is a side view of an intermediate post or support.

The same letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

A represents the fence-post, which consists of two uprights, B B, connected by interposed coiled springs C C, which force said uprights apart from each other. The uprights B B are mounted upon cross-pieces or sills D, which keep them off the ground and support them in an upright position. Stakes E, which are driven between the sills D D, are provided with cross pieces or pins F, resting upon said sills and holding them securely in position.

G G are the pickets, which are made of wood, preferably square in cross-section, and equipped with points or barbs H, in order to discourage any attempt to break through or climb over the fence. Said pickets are provided near their upper and lower ends, on opposite sides, with upwardly-inclined notches I, to receive the wires J J, which are not twisted between the pickets, as is usual in this class of fences, but simply crossed, thereby retaining greater tensile strength of the wires. At the post A the

wires J J are passed through both of the uprights B B and coiled spring C, and made fast to the farthest upright, the wires J J of the adjoining section or panel being made fast in like manner, as shown. By this construction, when the wire expands by reason of change of temperature, the springs C will expand and take up the slack. When the wire contracts the springs will be compressed and keep the wires taut without danger of breakage.

The pickets G are provided on one side, near the center, with notches K, cut alternately in an upward and downward direction, to receive a single center-wire, L, which is strung through said notches and made fast to the post, as shown.

Between the main posts A intermediate posts, M, may be used, having notches N to receive the wires and prevent sagging.

I claim as my invention—

1. A fence-post consisting essentially of two uprights held apart by coiled springs, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a fence, the combination of the pickets having upwardly-inclined notches near their upper and lower ends, the connecting-wires strung in said notches and crossed between the pickets, and the posts, consisting each of two uprights held apart by coiled springs, the connecting-wires of each section or panel being passed through both of said uprights and made fast to the farthest one, as set forth.

3. In a fence, the combination of the pickets, the connecting-wires, the posts, consisting each of two uprights held apart by coiled springs and mounted upon sills, and the stakes having cross pieces or pins, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MELVILLE SOMERS CHAPMAN.

Witnesses:

HENRY P. CHAPMAN,
ANDREW C. ROGERS.