(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. C. GHOLSON.

FENCE.

No. 580,784. Patented Apr. 13, 1897.

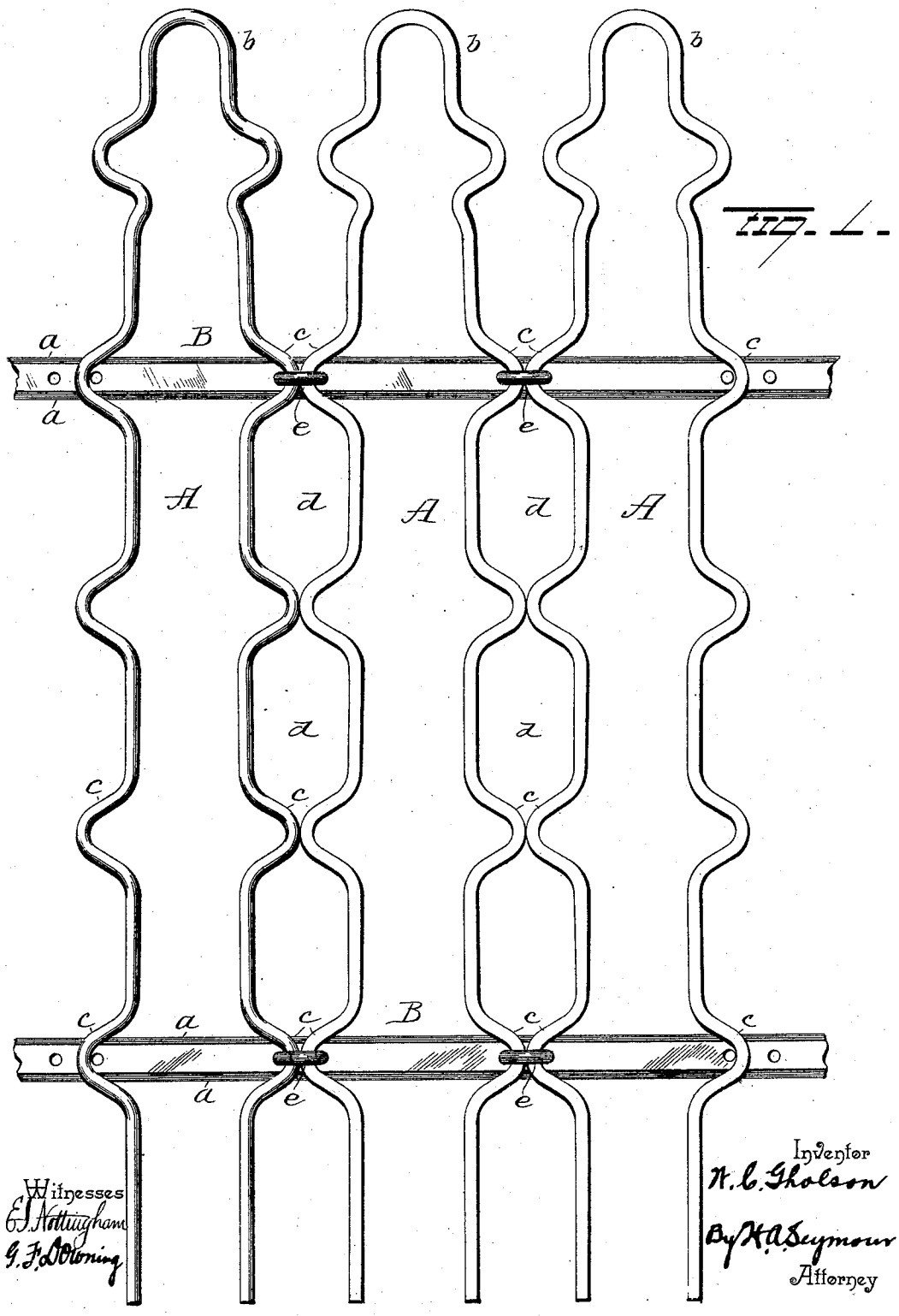

FIG. 1.

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 2

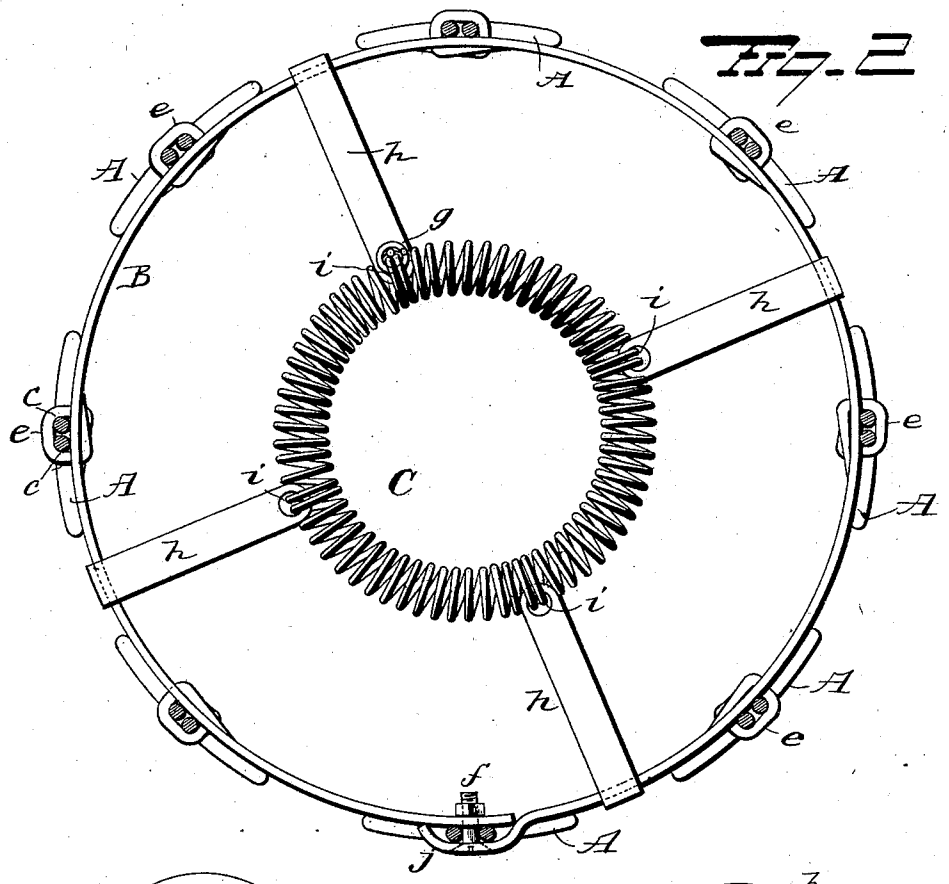
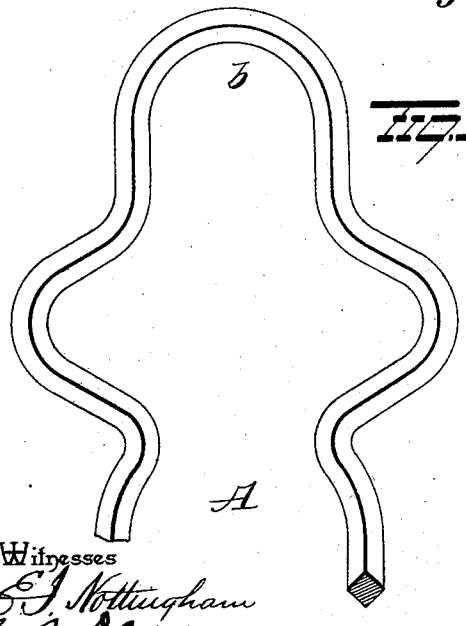
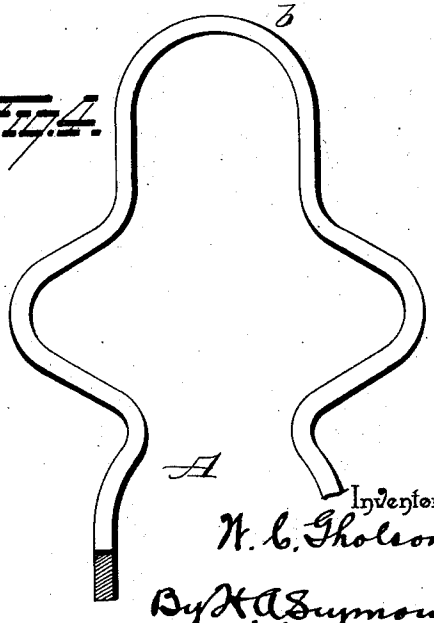


Fig. 3. Fig. 4.





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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM C. GHOLSON, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 580,784, dated April 13, 1897.

Application filed June 2, 1896. Serial No. 594,001. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. GHOLSON, a resident of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences or Guards; 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 it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improved fence or guard, the object of the invention being to construct a fence or guard which shall be substantial, light, not easily displaced, which can be employed in the construction of a straight fence or a fence or guard for a tree, and which shall be effectual in all respects in the performance of its functions.

With this object in view the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts, as hereinafter set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view showing my improved fence or guard fabric. Fig. 2 is a view showing my improved fence or guard, showing the same in position for protecting a tree. Figs. 3 and 4 are views showing slight modifications.

My improved fabric comprises a series of vertical pickets A, secured to a series of horizontally-disposed flat bands B of iron or other suitable metal, said bands being preferably beveled, as at *a*. Each picket A is composed of an iron rod, which is preferably bent so as to form a pointed top *b* for the picket, and the vertical members of said picket are bent so as to form lateral projections *c*.

In the drawings the pickets are shown provided with outward projections *c*, so that the projections *c* of one picket will approximate the projections *c* on the adjacent pickets and form angular spaces *d*. The bands or strips B of iron are placed against the pickets at two or more points between their ends and are so disposed as to aline with portions of the pickets where lateral projections *c* meet. Staples *e* are then passed through the bands or strips B, so as to embrace the adjacent rods of two pickets, and the inner ends of said staples are bent inwardly toward each other or otherwise fastened. Thus it will be seen that a single staple secures two pickets to a band or strip B. Instead of so bending the rods of which the pickets are composed as to form outward projections *c* they may be bent to form inward projections and a single staple be used to fasten both members of each picket to the band or strip.

The iron rods of which the pickets are composed may be made round in cross-section, as shown in Fig. 1, or they may be made diamond-shaped in cross-section, as shown in Fig. 3, or they may be made flat or elongated in cross-section, as shown in Fig. 4.

When the guard is made in the form shown in Fig. 2 for the purpose of surrounding a tree or other object for protecting the same, the ends of the bands or strips B will be secured together by means of bolts *f*, one end of each of which is provided with a head and the other end with a nut. The end of each band or strip is curved, as at *j*, so that when the nuts on the bolts *f* are screwed up the curved portions *j* of the bands or strips will embrace lateral projections *c* of the adjacent pickets and hold the same in place. A guide C is disposed within the fence or guard at a point between its ends for the reception of the tree and serves to prevent contact of the fence or guard with the tree. The guide C is composed of a coiled spring made annular in form and having its ends connected together by means of a small coil of wire *g*. The annular coil or guide C is supported by means of a series of arms *h*, each of which is secured at one end to one of the bands or strips B and provided at its inner end with a hole *i* for the accommodation of convolutions of the coiled guide C.

It is evident that the fabric herein described can be employed for straight fencing, for the manufacture of tree guards or boxes, and for other purposes. My improvements are simple in construction, light, ornamental in appearance, and effectual in all respects in the performance of their functions.

Various slight changes might be made in the details of construction of my invention without departing from the spirit thereof or limiting its scope, and hence I do not wish to limit myself to the precise details herein set forth; but,

Having fully described my invention, what

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

1. A fabric comprising two or more flexible bands, wires or rods folded to form pickets comprising two members and devices independent of the bands secured to the bands and around one member of two adjacent pickets whereby the several parts are held together but the several pickets detachably from the bands, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with flexible bands having curved portions *j* at one end, of pickets comprising two members, one member of one picket held in these curved ends, and devices for securing the pickets to the bands, substantially as set forth.

3. A guide or coupling comprising an expansible annulus, the ends of which are detachably secured together by means of a ring or loop, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination with an annular fence or guard, of an annular, coiled guide disposed within said guard at a point between its ends, and arms secured at one end to the guard and having holes at their inner ends for the reception of convolutions of the coiled guide, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination in an annular fence or guard, of a series of rods bent to form pickets, a series of strips or bands secured together at their ends, staples securing said rods to the bands or strips in pairs, an annular, coiled guide within said guard, and arms connected at their inner ends to said annular, coiled guide and at their outer ends to one of said strips or bands, substantially as set forth.

6. A guide or coupling consisting of an annular coil and supporting-arms attached thereto, substantially as set forth.

7. A guide or coupling consisting of a coil bent into annular form, a coupling connecting the ends of the coil and supporting-arms for said coil, substantially as set forth.

8. A guide or coupling bent to form an annular coil, a coil connecting the ends of said annular coil and supporting-arms, substantially as set forth.

9. A guide or coupling consisting of an annular coil, and supporting-arms, said supporting-arms having holes to receive convolutions of the annular coil, substantially as set forth.

10. In a guard, the combination with a series of pickets, of a strip secured thereto, a bolt passing through the ends of said strip, the ends of said strip being formed to receive and hold two pickets, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM C. GHOLSON.

Witnesses:
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