H. F. MERRILL.

STAPLE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 26, 1909.

959,369. **Patented May 24, 1910.**

Fig. 1.

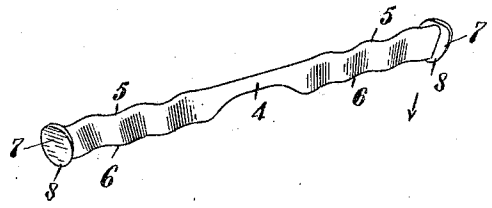


Fig. 2.

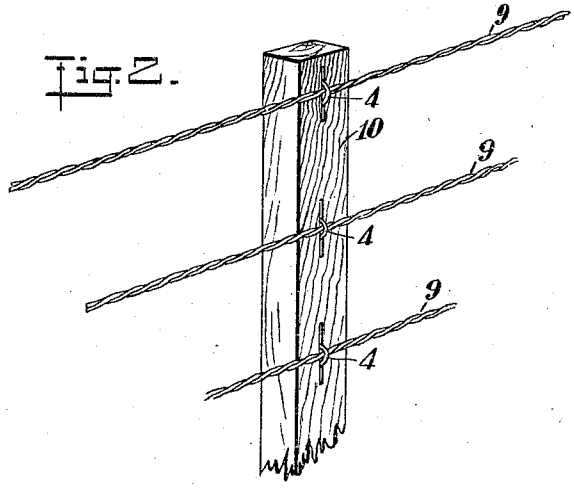
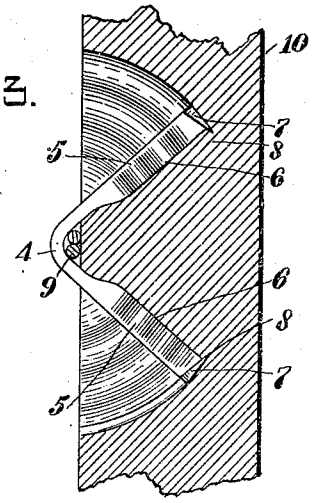


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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STAPLE.

959,369. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented May 24, 1910.**

Application filed June 26, 1909. Serial No. 504,505.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HORACE FRANKLIN MERRILL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Williston, in the county of Williams and State of North Dakota, have invented a new and Improved Staple, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Among the principal objects of this invention are to provide a device having two anchoring extensions adapted to be driven into wood to form the grooves extended laterally from the path of the insertion of the device, and to produce a fastening device which is economical in structure, and durable and efficient in operation.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a staple bar constructed according to the present invention; Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing a fence post, and twisted wire strands being secured thereto by staples constructed in accordance with the present invention; and Fig. 3 is a sectional fragment of a post showing a staple as driven into a wooden post.

The device is manufactured and placed upon the market in the shape of a bar, such as shown in Fig. 1 of drawings, having a middle section 4 which is adapted to be bent when the ends are turned in the direction shown by the arrows in said figure. From the middle portion are extended corrugated sections 5—5. The sides 6—6 of the sections are drawn to a cutting edge. The corrugations may be shallow or deep as preferred.

At both ends of the device are formed the heads 7—7, which are drawn to a cutting edge 8—8 to correspond with the cutting edges 6—6 of the extensions 5—5. The metal is flattened along the one edge of the extensions 5—5 and the heads 7—7 adjacent to said flattened edge. The purpose of flattening the metal extensions and heads, as stated, being to provide a surface to receive the impact of a driving instrument, the "top" referring to the side removed from the cutting edges 6—6 and 8—8.

With a device such as shown and described the operation is as follows: The wire strands 9—9 are stretched across the post 10. While holding the same in position, the staples are placed across the strands, the section 4 resting directly over the said strands. The extensions 5—5 are now driven down past the strands and into the wood of the post, the middle section 4 being prevented from being inserted in the wood by reason of its shape, and by the further reason of the position of the strands 9—9. In practice, I use a special driving tool not shown in the present drawings and not essential to the operation of this invention. Any tool or number of tools which will drive the extensions 5—5 and the heads 7—7 in the manner as illustrated in Fig. 3 of drawings, will serve the purpose. The staples are driven to any depth desired, that preferred by me being shown in Fig. 3 of drawings. When a fence constructed of wooden posts and wire strands is thus formed it may be observed that it is exceedingly difficult to draw the staples from their grasp of the wood, by reason of the fact that the corrugations and the lateral extensions of the heads 7—7 are embedded in the structure.

While I have here shown and described this invention as applied to the securement of strands of a wire-constructed fence, I wish to be understood as also claiming the use of the device for the construction of fences where the rails are formed from pickets or wood runners. In such use it would be understood that the lengths of the staple irons are extended, particularly at the middle section 4.

While I have herein shown a staple as constructed from forged or wrought iron or similar ductile metal, I wish to be understood as also including within the scope of this invention the use of sheet metal which may be stamped and twisted to form a flat, bending middle section 4, with edgewise cutting corrugated sections 5—5, the ends of these sections being turned at an angle thereto to form substitutes for the heads 7—7.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A staple, comprising an elongated device having extensions from the middle section formed with a cutting edge adapted to be driven edgewise into wood, and having lateral extensions therefrom.

2. A staple, comprising a device having end extensions from a middle section flat-

tened to form a cutting edge and joined by a middle extension bendable in the direction of the flattened dimension of the said extensions, and lateral extensions set out from said end extensions.

3. A staple, comprising a device having end extensions flattened to form a cutting edge and corrugated lengthwise of the flattened extension, said extensions being joined by a middle section bendable in the direction of said flattened dimension of said extensions.

4. A staple, comprising a device having flattened corrugated end sections adapted to be driven edgewise into wood, and having projections extended from the ends thereof.

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

HORACE FRANKLIN MERRILL.

Witnesses:
H. V. SMITH,
FORNA ZIHN.