(No Model.)

J. G. SCHILLER.

WIRE FENCE.

No. 363,003 Patented May 17, 1887.

FIG. 1.

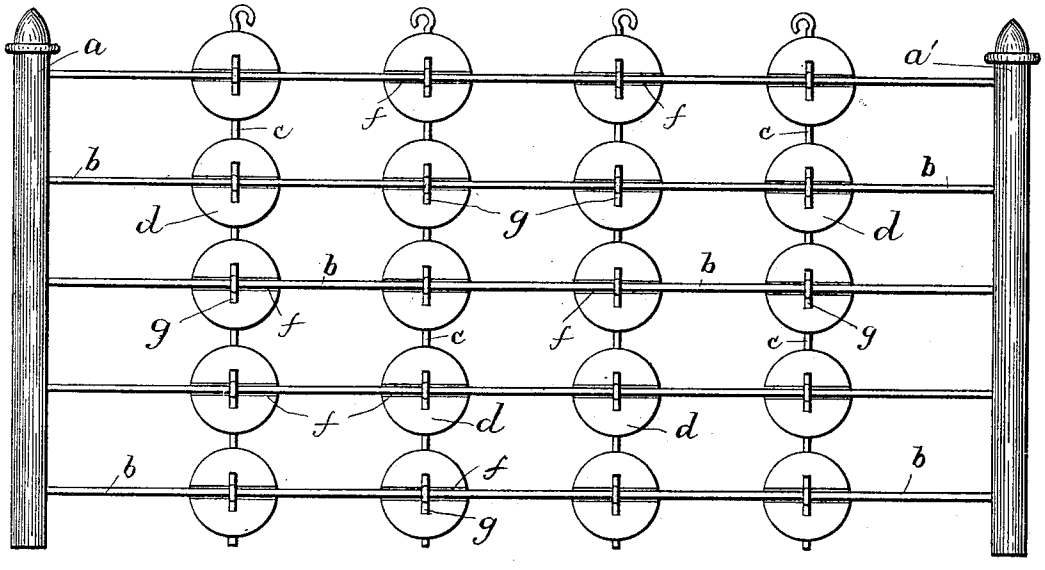


FIG. 2.

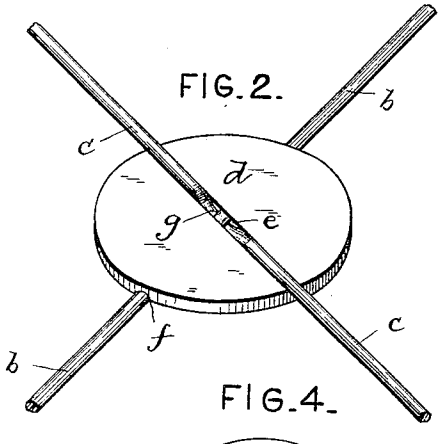


FIG. 3.

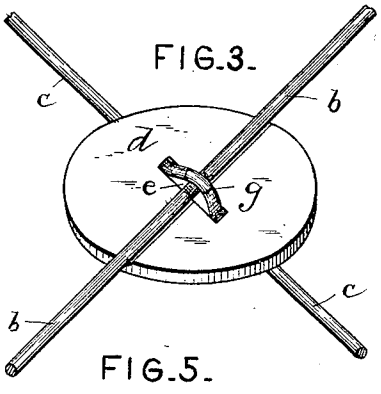


FIG. 4.

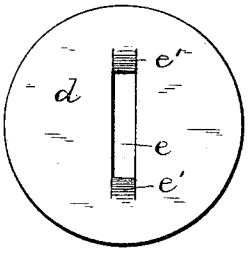
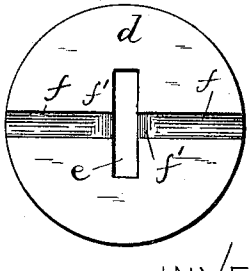


FIG. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN G. SCHILLER, OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO.

WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 363,003, dated May 17, 1887.

Application filed November 20, 1886. Serial No. 219,497. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. SCHILLER, of Youngstown, Mahoning county, Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire Fences, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part hereof; in which—

Figure 1 is a view in elevation of a panel of fence made according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the joints. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the opposite side thereof. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of one of the joint-securing plates, and Fig. 5 is a similar view of the other side.

Like letters of reference mark the same parts in all the figures of the drawings.

My invention relates to wire fences, and has for its object to simplify and cheapen them, as well as to render them more durable and less liable to get out of order.

My invention consists, first, in an improved joint-securing plate, and, second, in the improved construction, arrangement, and combination of parts forming an improved fence, as fully described hereinafter, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings by letter, *a a'* are the posts of any desired material and form; *b b*, &c., the horizontal or longitudinal wires of the fence; *c c*, &c., the vertical wires; and *d d*, &c., the joint-securing plates.

The wires *b* and *c* are of any desired material and any suitable shape in cross-section, preferably ordinary or galvanized iron or steel wire of No. 8 or 9 gage.

The junction-plates (or joint-securing plates) *d* are preferably circular in form, made of wrought sheets by stamping out, or of malleable cast-iron by casting. They are provided with a diametric rectangular slot, *e*, whose ends *e'* are chamfered or inclined, as shown. On their opposite sides these plates are provided with a semi-cylindrical groove, *f*, extending diametrically from edge to edge of the plate at right angles to the slot *e*. The edges of this groove *f*, at the sides of the slot *e*, are chamfered off or inclined, as at *f'*. (See Fig. 5.)

To construct my fence, each of the upright wires is provided with as many V-shaped bends or curved bends, as at *g*, as there are line-wires. These bends are thrust through the slots *e* in the joint-plates, the edges *e' e'* receiving the sides of the bends *g*, and the apices of said bends projecting through the slots sufficiently far to permit the passage of the longitudinal wires *b*. These wires *b* are then passed through said bends, and by placing a heavy hammer or weight behind the plate and giving a slight tap on the apex of the bend *g* the line-wires are slightly bent, sufficient to prevent any lateral displacement of the vertical wires, and making a very neat, smooth, and durable joint. The slots *e* are just sufficiently wide to allow the bends to pass through them, thus preventing any rattling from looseness in that direction, and are just sufficiently long to receive the bends and remedy similar evils in that direction.

The operation of bending the line-wires by tapping, as before described, causes the bends to more closely hug the chamfered ends of the slots, and makes a very tight, smooth joint.

I am aware that it is not new to provide sheet-metal barb-plates with indentations to receive the line-wires, and with slots to receive the keys for securing the plates to the wires.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A joint-securing plate for the vertical and horizontal wires of a wire fence, consisting of a metal plate having a diametric semi-cylindrical groove extending from edge to edge thereof, and an elongated diametric slot crossing said groove at the center of the plate, the outer ends of the slot and the inner ends of the two parts of the groove (at the point it meets the slot) being chamfered or inclined, as set forth.

2. In combination, a plate having on one face a diametric semi-cylindrical groove extending from edge to edge, and an elongated slot crossing said groove at the center, a wire provided with a V-shaped or curved bend projected through said slot, and another wire laid in said groove and passed through the apex of said bend, substantially as set forth.

3. A wire fence consisting of suitable posts, horizontal and vertical wires, and joint-plates, the joints of said fence each consisting of a plate having an elongated diametric slot hav-

ing chamfered or inclined outer ends, and a diametric semi-cylindrical groove crossing said slots and chamfered at the crossing, a vertical wire having a bend thrust through said chamfered slot, and a horizontal wire laid in said groove and passed through said bend, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN G. SCHILLER.

Witnesses:
S. BRASHEARS,
M. P. CALLAN.