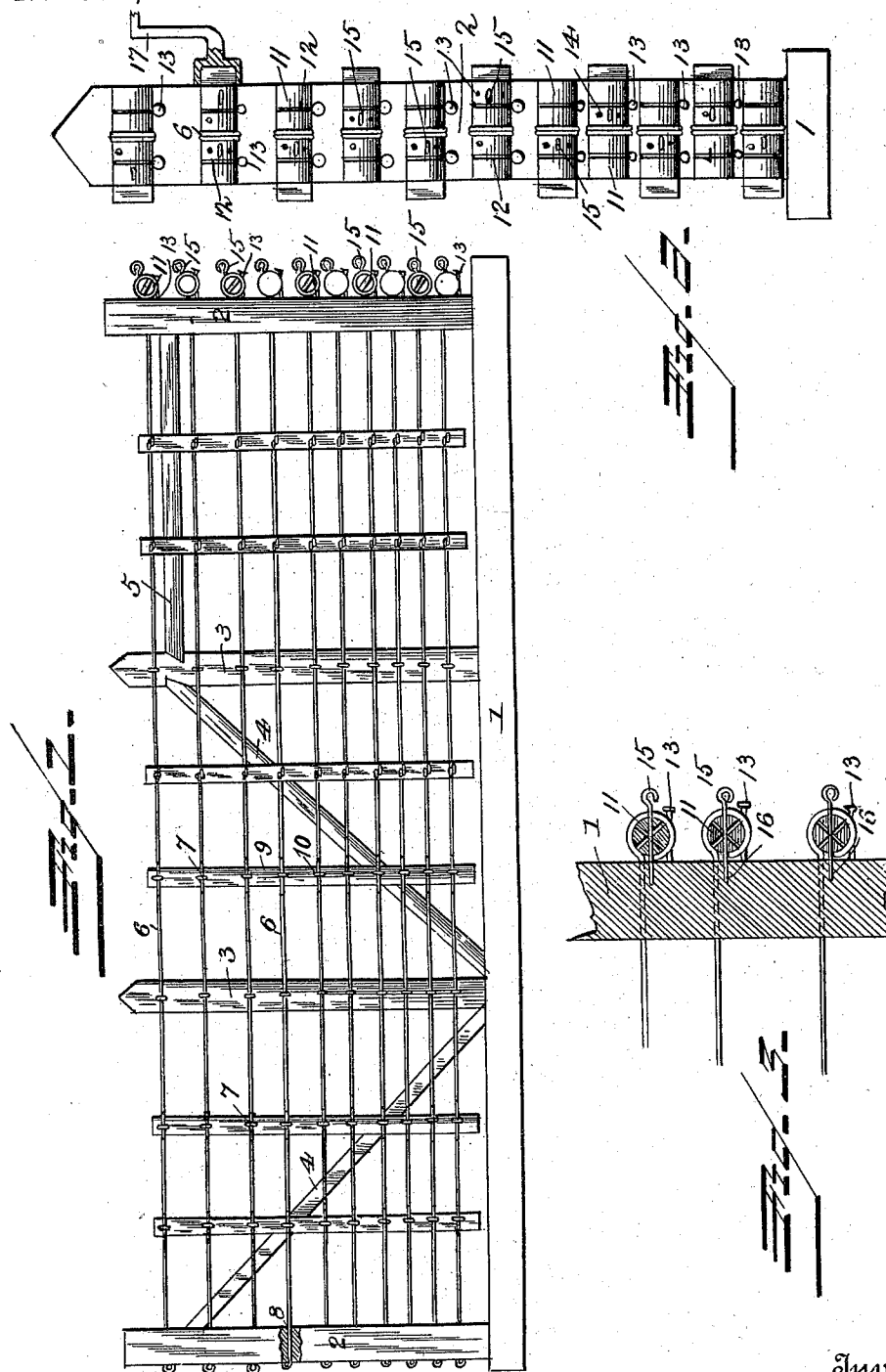


(No Model.)

D. MESSICK.
FENCE.

No. 552,616.

Patented Jan. 7, 1896.



Witnesses
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DAVID MESSICK, OF TIMBERVILLE, VIRGINIA.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 552,616, dated January 7, 1896.

Application filed April 23, 1895. Serial No. 546,864. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID MESSICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Timber-
ville, in the county of Rockingham and State
5 of Virginia, have invented certain new and
useful Improvements in Fences; and I do de-
clare the following to be a full, clear, and ex-
act description of the invention, such as will
enable others skilled in the art to which it ap-
10 pertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to fences.

The object of my invention is to provide a
simple and durable wire fence, and further-
more to provide simple means for stretching
15 the wires to take up the sag therein.

With these objects in view the invention
consists in certain features of construction
and combination of parts which will be here-
inafter fully described and claimed.

20 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is
a side view of my improved fence. Fig. 2 is
an end view of the same. Fig. 3 is a verti-
cal sectional view through one of the end
posts and the tension-rods for taking up the
25 sag in the wires.

In the drawings, 1 denotes the sill of the
fence.

2 denotes the end posts and 3 the interme-
diate posts.

30 4 denotes the diagonal braces and 5 a hori-
zontal brace for strengthening the end posts,
to which the wire-tightening devices are ap-
plied. The wires 6 are secured to one of the
end posts and passed through staples 7, se-
35 cured to the intermediate posts, thence
through holes 8 in the other end post, and
are spaced apart by the bars 9, having stap-
les 10, through which the wires pass.

A fence thus constructed is simple and is
40 also very strong and durable.

In order to take up the sag in the wires,
should they become stretched or strained, I
provide simple and novel tighteners, which
form a part of the fence. These tighteners
45 consist of short cylinders 11, having three
grooves 12, the two end ones of which are
adapted to engage pins 13, driven into the
fence-post below the cylinders to prevent the

latter from twisting, while the middle groove
is adapted to receive the end of the wire to
50 be tightened and allow the same to be coiled
therein. A series of holes 14 are formed
around the cylinders and extend entirely
therethrough, and are adapted to receive pins
15, which pass through said holes and into
55 sockets 16 in the sides of the post. The ends
of the cylinders are squared, whereby a wrench
17 may be engaged therewith for the purpose
of turning the rods.

In operation, when it is desired to take up
60 the sag in the wires, the wrench 17 is placed
on the end of one of the rods and the cylin-
der is then rotated until the wire has been
sufficiently tightened, and one of the holes
therein is brought into alignment with one of
65 the sockets in the post. The pins 15 are now
inserted through the holes in the cylinder into
the sockets of the post and will prevent the
backward rotation of the cylinder.

Having thus described my invention, what
70 I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Pat-
ent, is—

A fence, comprising a sill, end posts and
intermediate posts, diagonal braces, one ex-
tending from the top of one of the end posts
75 to the bottom of one of the intermediate posts,
and the other extending from the bottom of
this intermediate post to the top of the other
intermediate post, a cross brace extending
from the latter intermediate post to the post
80 at the opposite end of the sill, wires strung
to said posts, spacing bars having staples,
through which said wires pass, pins project-
ing from the side of one of the end posts,
grooved cylinders supported by said pins and
85 having the ends of the wires wound in the
grooves, and removable pins inserted through
holes in the cylinders and the post to hold the
cylinders in place against turning and un-
winding the wires, substantially as set forth. 90

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

DAVID MESSICK.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH A. MCKELVEY,
JOHN S. NEFF.