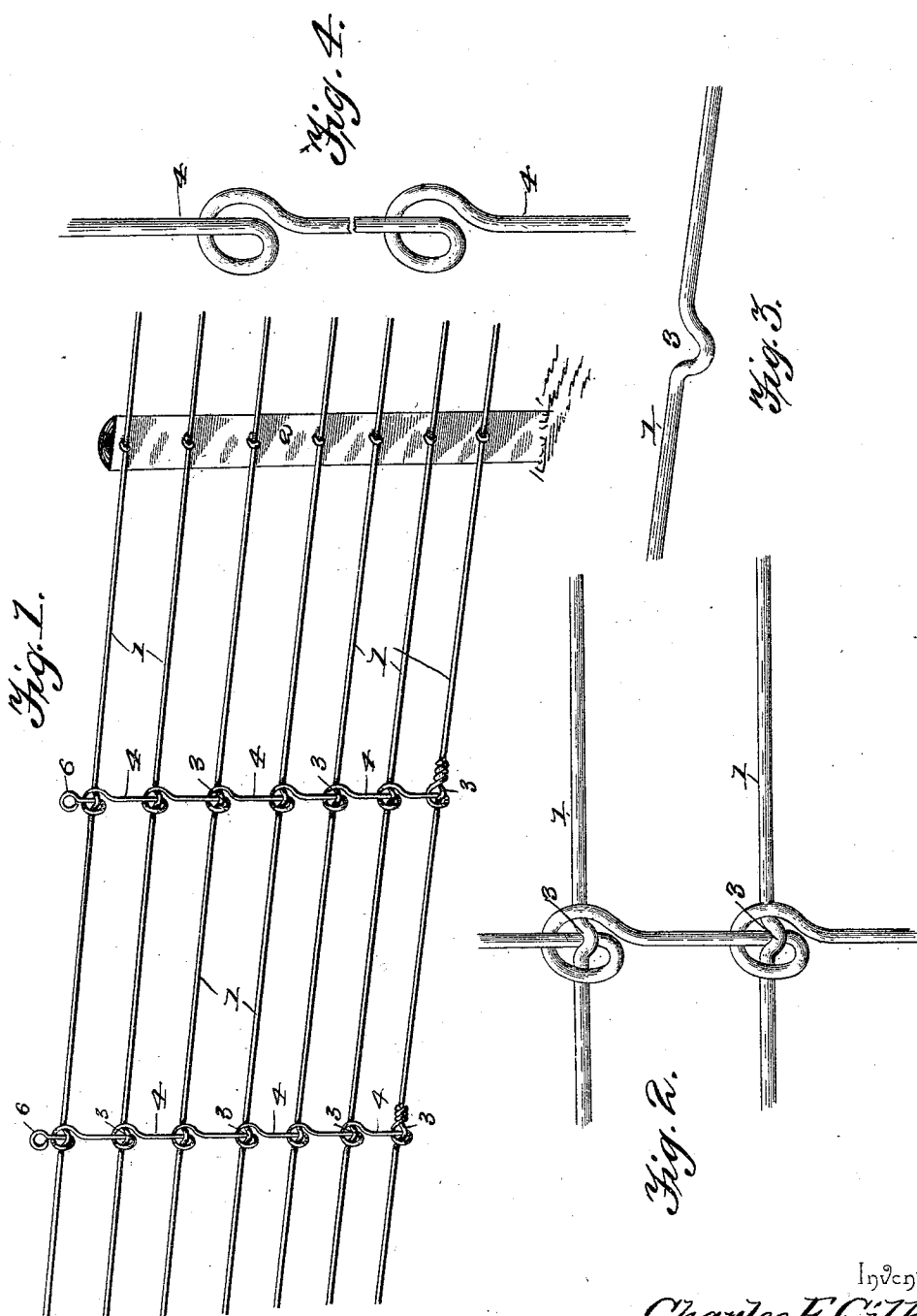


(No Model.)

C. E. GILBERT.
WIRE FENCE.

No. 543,620.

Patented July 30, 1895.



Witnesses

E. H. Monroe

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. GILBERT, OF UNIONDALE, INDIANA.

WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 543,620, dated July 30, 1895.

Application filed August 28, 1894. Serial No. 521,549. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. GILBERT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Uniondale, in the county of Wells and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Wire Fence, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to fence-stays designed for use in connection with wire fences; and the object in view is to provide a simple and inexpensive stay adapted to be applied with facility to the runners of a fence, locked against lateral movement or movement parallel with the runners, and so constructed as to lie approximately in the plane of the runners or with flat surfaces presented at opposite sides of the fence.

Further objects and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fence provided with stays constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a detail view of a portion of a stay and the runners connected thereby. Fig. 3 is a detail view of a portion of a runner, showing the loop or seat therein for engagement by a stay. Fig. 4 is a detail view of a portion of a stay detached.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates parallel runners attached by any suitable means to a post 2 and connected at intervals by vertical stays embodying my invention.

The improved stay is provided at its upper end with an eye 6, and consists, essentially, of alternately-disposed loops 7, which are arranged at the points of intersection with runners, and straight portions 4, which are disposed vertically between the runners, the centers of the loops being in alignment with the contiguous straight portions 4. The loops are approximately circular in construction, and are formed by bending the stay at the lower end of each straight portion 4, the bend being in such a direction as to cause the loop to turn backward or upward upon the contiguous straight portion. The lower extrem-

ity of each straight portion 4 is arranged in a horizontal loop or seat 3, formed in the runner, and below this point of intersection said straight portion is bent, first laterally and then upwardly, to pass in front of the runner, whereby it bears against the opposite side of the runner from the straight portion. The loop then curves horizontally in rear of the straight portion above the plane of the horizontal loop or seat 3, whereby it bears against the opposite side of said straight portion from the point of intersection of the straight portion with the loop or seat eye, after which the loop 7 is continued downwardly in front of the runner at the opposite side of the loop or seat 3 from the upwardly-bent portion of the loop 7, and finally said loop curves under the seat 3 to join the upper end of the subjacent straight portion 4. Thus the approximately-circular loop of the stay bears at its horizontally-opposite points against the opposite side of the runner from the contiguous straight portion of the stay and approximately in the same plane with said straight portion by reason of the horizontal loop or seat 3 in which said straight portion is arranged, and the uppermost point of the loop 7 bears against the rear side of the straight portion or the opposite side thereof from the point of bearing of the straight portion in the horizontal loop or seat 3. By this construction the stay bears against one side of the runner at the center of its approximately-circular loop 7 and against the oppositely side thereof at diametrically and horizontally opposite points of said loop. Furthermore, the runner bears against one side of the straight portion of the stay, and above this point of intersection the loop of the stay bears against the opposite side of said straight portion of the stay, whereby the straight portion of the stay is locked in the horizontal loop or seat of the runner, and is steadied in such position by reason of the diametrically and horizontally opposite points of intersection of the loop 7 with the runner. The horizontal loop or seat 3 provides for the arrangement of all parts of the loop 7 in approximately the same plane.

The above-described construction of the loop provides for presenting approximately-flat surfaces at opposite sides of the plane of the fence, and hence avoids projections which

are objectionable in an ornamental fence or a fence designed for use around a domestic inclosure. Furthermore, the lock between the stay and each runner is secure and may be easily formed, beginning at the uppermost runner of the fence, by bending the portion below the intersection with the runner in the manner above explained in describing the construction of the loop 7.

10 Various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

15 Having described my invention, what I claim is—

In a fence, the combination with runners provided with vertically aligned horizontal loops or seats 3, of a stay having alternately arranged loops and straight portions arranged respectively in contact with the runners and in the intervals therebetween, the lower extremity of each straight portion being ar-

ranged in the horizontal loop or seat 3 of a runner, and the contiguous loop in the stay being approximately circular in construction, bearing at horizontally opposite points against the runner upon opposite sides of the plane of said straight portion and upon the opposite side of the runner from the straight portion and approximately in the plane thereof, and the uppermost point of the loop bearing against the straight portion above the horizontal loop or seat 3 of the runner and against the opposite side of said straight portion from the point of contact of the straight portion with the loop or seat of the runner, substantially as specified.

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

CHAS. E. GILBERT.

Witnesses:

THOS. C. GULDIN,
JOHN Z. BRICKLEY.