

(No Model.)

C. M. SUTER.
LOCK AND STAY FOR WIRE FENCES.

No. 536,488.

Patented Mar. 26, 1895.

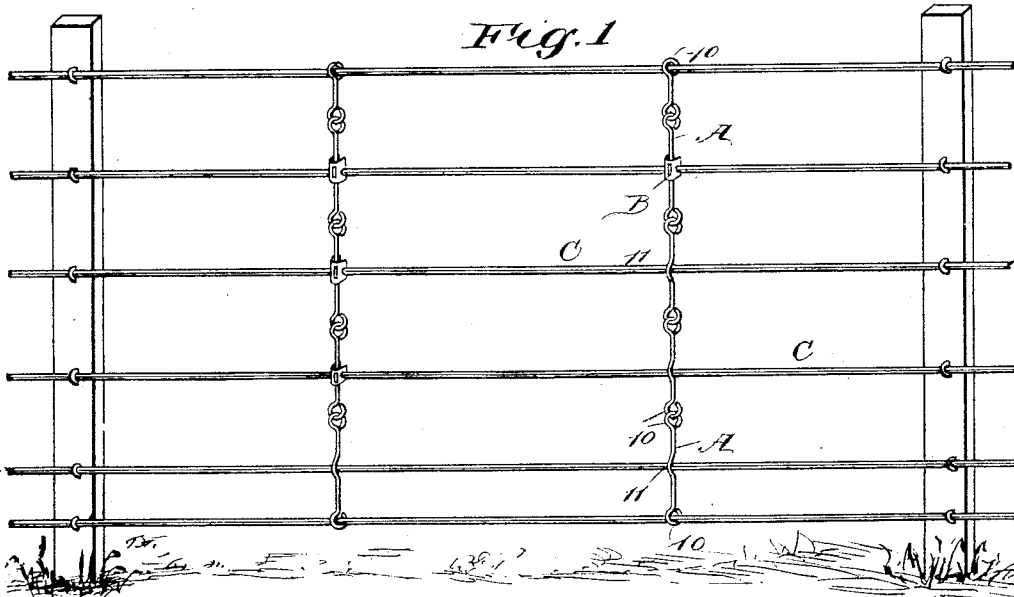


Fig. 2

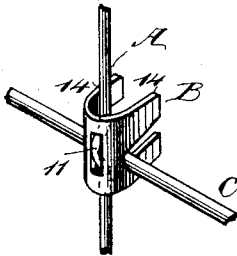


Fig. 3

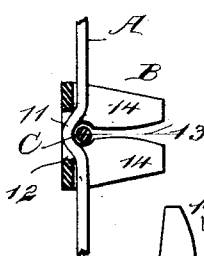


Fig. 4

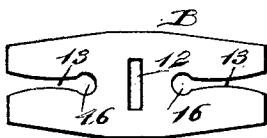
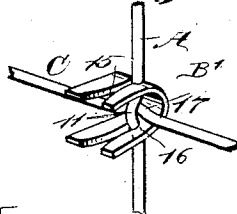
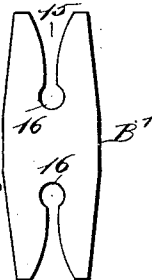


Fig. 5

Fig. 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CYRUS M. SUTER, OF ASHTON, ILLINOIS.

LOCK AND STAY FOR WIRE FENCES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 536,488, dated March 26, 1895.

Application filed March 7, 1894. Serial No. 502,660. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CYRUS M. SUTER, of Ashton, in the county of Lee and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved
5 Lock and Stay for Wire Fences, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in locks and stays for wire fences; especially to
10 that class of wire fences known as runners, and the object of the invention is to provide a simple, durable and economic device, whereby the runners of the fence may be secured against vertical movement, the said device being capable of expeditious and convenient
15 application, and whereby when the device is once applied it will remain in position under all circumstances or strain of weather, until purposely removed.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

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

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a section of wire fencing, illustrating the application of the device thereto. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a portion of the stay, one of the runners of the fence, and a locking plate applied thereto. Fig. 3 is a section through the locking plate shown in Fig. 2 and through the
35 fence runner. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of another form of locking plate, illustrating it in conjunction with a fence runner and stay. Fig. 5 is a plain view of an unbent plate similar to that shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a plan
40 view of an unbent plate similar to that shown in Fig. 4.

In carrying out the invention, a stay A is employed together with a locking plate B. The stay is virtually a link, consisting of a
45 wire of suitable length to extend for example across a runner C of a fence to about the center of the space between the next runner top and bottom, the wire being provided with an eye or loop 10 at each end and a kink or bend
50 11 at or near its center.

The stays or links A are connected to form

virtually a chain, the upper link or chain at its upper end being attached to the upper runner C of the fence, and the lower link at its lower end is attached to the lower runner C, 55 while the intermediate links or stays cross the intermediate runners C of the fence, the kinked or bent portions of the stays or links engaging with the runners, as is clearly shown in Fig. 1. Each intermediate stay or link A, 60 is connected with and clamped to an intermediate fence runner C through the medium of a locking plate. The locking plates may be differently constructed, and two forms have been illustrated in the drawings. One form 65 B is illustrated in Figs. 2, 3 and 5, Fig. 5 illustrating the blank or plate in straight or unbent position, the said plate being provided with a slot 12, centrally and transversely produced therein, and likewise with longitudinal end 70 slots 13, the end slots forming jaws at the ends of the plate. The plate is bent upon itself at its center or body portion so that its jaws, which may be designated as 14, and are fully illustrated in Fig. 2, will be parallel yet spaced, 75 and the runner C is made to pass through the slots 13 in the jaws, and to engage with the end wall of said slots, which is preferably concaved, while the kink 11 in the stay A, is made to enter and to extend partially outward 80 through the transverse central slot 12 of the locking plate, as shown in Fig. 3. Under this construction it will be observed that while the stay is firmly attached to the runner one can not possibly have vertical play upon the other. 85

In Figs. 3, 4 and 6 I have illustrated another form of locking plate B', the blank of which is shown in Fig. 6. This form of plate is practically the same as that illustrated in Fig. 5, differing only in that the central opening is 90 omitted, it being provided with end slots 15, the side walls of which slots at the outer ends are made to diverge, and the inner ends of the slots meet circular apertures 16, located one at each side of the center of the body of the 95 plate. This plate is bent upon itself at its central or body portion, and instead of its jaws extending vertically, as shown in Fig. 2, the jaws are horizontally located, and the said jaws receive between them the kinked portion 100 11 of the stay A, the stay likewise passing through the apertures 16 in the plate, and the

concaved face of the kinked surface of the stay is made to oppose the closed portion of the body of the locking plate, and the runner C is preferably provided with a kink 17 interlocking with that in the stay. This form of plate likewise effectually prevents the stay and runner from moving one upon the other.

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

1. A locking plate for wire fences, comprising a plate provided with longitudinal slots extending from the ends inwardly to within a short distance of the center of the plate, said slots forming two jaws at each end of the plate, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. A locking plate for wire fences, comprising a plate provided with longitudinal slots extending out through the ends of the plate,

and forming jaws, said jaws having convex inner faces, substantially as described.

3. A locking plate for wire fences, comprising a plate provided with a transverse central opening, and with a longitudinal slot on each side of the opening, said slots extending from the ends of the plates inwardly to within a short distance of the said opening, substantially as described.

4. The combination with a wire fence, of a kinked stay and a locking plate provided with a transverse central opening and with slots extending from the ends inwardly to within a short distance of the said opening, substantially as described.

CYRUS M. SUTER.

Witnesses:

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