S. M. BARBOUR.

COUPLING FOR TELEGRAPH WIRE.

No. 177,318. Patented May 16, 1876.

Fig. 2.

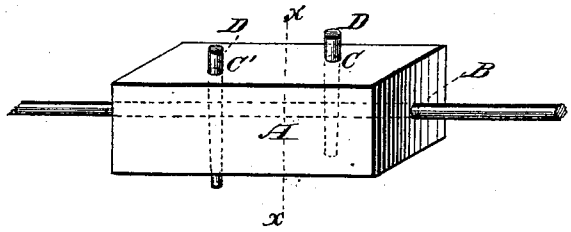

Fig. 1.

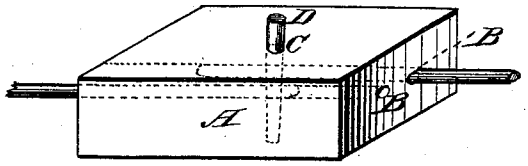

Fig. 3.

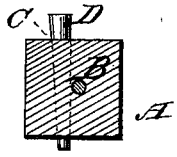

Fig. 4.

WITNESSES:

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Chas. E. Wehrman.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN M. BARBOUR, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN COUPLINGS FOR TELEGRAPH-WIRES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **177,318**, dated May 16, 1876; application filed October 16, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHEN M. BARBOUR, of the city of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telegraph-Couplings; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, to enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of one form of this invention. Fig. 2 shows a perspective view of another form. Fig. 3 shows a cross-section through the line *x x* in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 shows the key for fastening the wire in a detached view on a larger scale.

A block of metal, A, is formed with perforations B and B′, of the same size and form in section as the wire to be coupled, in the form shown in Fig. 1. The perforations are parallel, and so near to each other that a cylindric hole, C, intersects both. In the other form, (shown in Fig. 2,) but one aperture, B, is made, and two holes, C and C′, are so made in it that they intersect the aperture B. A key, D, (shown in Fig. 4,) with thin flattened end and gradually tapering to a cylindric plug fitting the holes C, is driven in after the wires are put in proper position in the apertures B and B′ in the block A. The key D impinges upon and embeds itself in the wires and holds them, and is secured by bending the point or tail over on the under side of the block.

I am aware that telegraph-wires have been clamped or coupled by inserting them in apertures in a metallic block, and bending them by inserting a pin or key out of right lines into chambers or cavities formed in the block. This I distinctly disclaim, and regard as objectionable on account of the difficulty of retracting the wires in uncoupling; but

What I claim as my invention is—

The perforated block A, with an aperture intersected by the holes C, in combination with the key D, constructed as and for the purpose described and shown.

S. M. BARBOUR.

Witnesses:
WM. P. HIBBERD,
R. H. ADAMS.