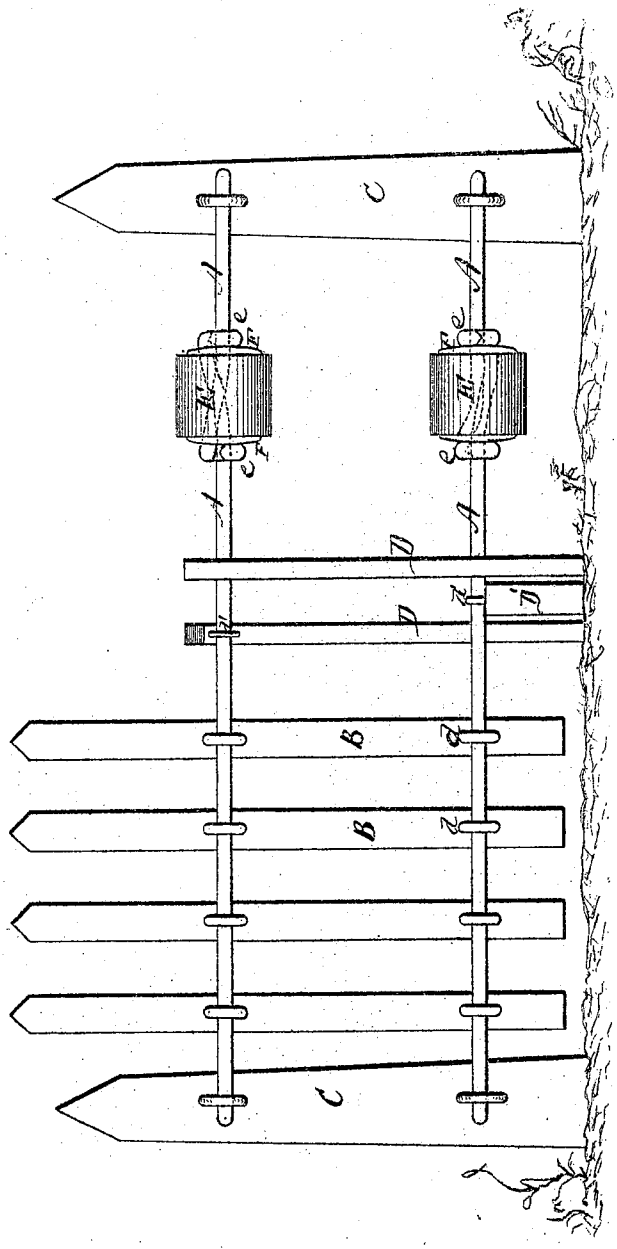
JOHN D. TIFFT.

Improvement in Fences.

No. 119,670. Patented Oct. 3, 1871.



Witnesses
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AM. PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHIC CO. N.Y. (OSBORNE'S PROCESS.)

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN D. TIFFT, OF CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 119,670, dated October 3, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN D. TIFFT, of Cuyahoga Falls, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a representation of a side elevation of my invention.

This invention has relation to an improvement in the construction of fences composed of wire strands and wooden palings. The novelty consists in separating the wire at different places and linking the ends together by means of an extensible coupling, about which is placed an India-rubber collar or cushion. The object is to compensate for the expansion and contraction of the wire from the effects of the weather, and prevent the same from breaking in the one case or sagging in the other.

In the accompanying drawing, A represents the wire; B, the palings; C, the fence-posts; D, inclined braces for supporting the upper wire; D′, supports for lower wire. E represents an India-rubber block or collar, having a metallic washer, F, at each end, and placed over the two linked extensible parts of the wires. In order to make this coupling I form an eye or loop, *e*, in the end of one wire and pass through said eye or loop the end of the other wire and form a loop on it to encircle the first wire. The wires are in this way held together, but will expand without coming apart. I so arrange the eyes or loops at a distance apart as to allow space for contraction. I place the rubber block or collar E with its washers over one or both wires before forming the link, the eyes or loops of which, when completed and bent over, rest against the washers F. The blocks *e* prevent the wire from sagging down at the point of connection of the two wires. The palings B and wire-supports D D′ are held to the wires by means of staples *d d′*. The supports D D′ are designed to prevent the fence from swaying between the posts. The upper supports D D are placed in an oblique position, one on each side of the fence. The lower support D′ is placed under the lower wire, to which it is connected by means of a staple in its upper end.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a wire fence, the wire ends encircling each other by means of the sliding loops *e e*, in combination with the rubber sleeve E and the washers F F, all constructed as specified.

2. In a wire fence, the combination, with the wires A A, of the slats B B, inclined supports D D, and foot D′, all attached to said wires by means of staples, as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN D. TIFFT.

Witnesses:

JACKSON HANOVER,

WM. T. MILLER.

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