

(No Model.)

H. BUCK.
FENCE.

No. 579,950.

Patented Apr. 6, 1897.

Fig. 1.

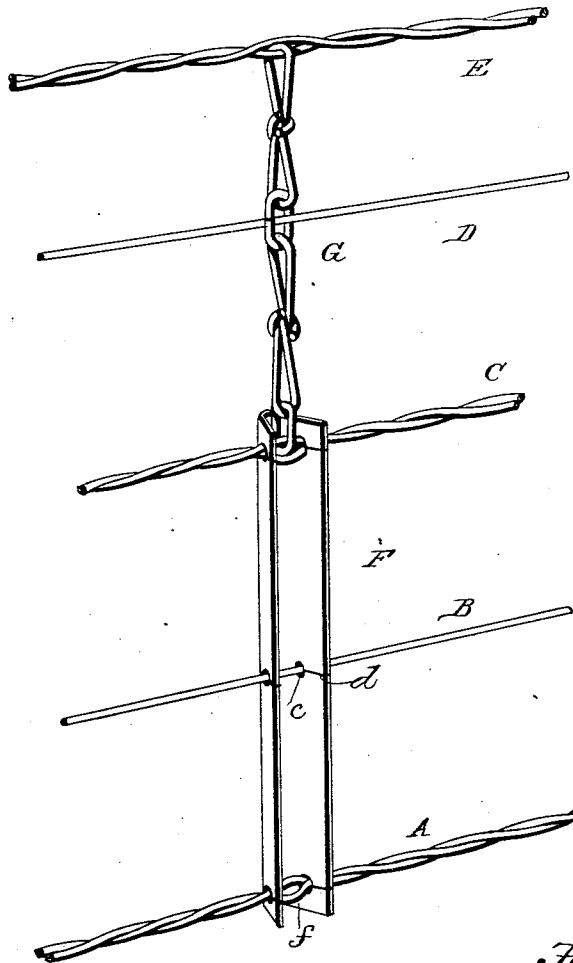


Fig. 2.

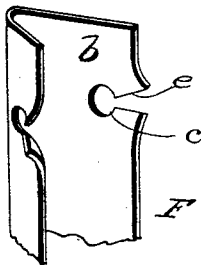
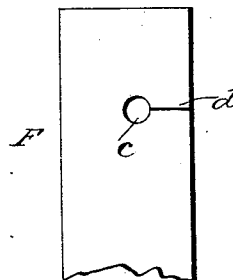


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 579,950, dated April 6, 1897.

Application filed February 1, 1897. Serial No. 621,505. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY BUCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Manchester, in the county of Wabash and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in wire-fence stays; and it has for its general object to provide a stay so constructed that it may be quickly and easily secured upon the several wires of a wire fence and one which is adapted to hold the runners rigid, so as to prevent the passage of small stock below the lowermost one and which is adapted to permit of one wire being tightened without disturbing the others.

With the foregoing in view the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claim when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a fence equipped with my improved stay. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of a portion of the stay with the lips of the wire-receiving apertures open, and Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the same with the lips closed.

Referring by letter to the said drawings, A B C D E indicate the several runners of a wire fence, the runners A C E being, respectively, formed of two or more twisted strands of wire, and the runners B D being single-strand runners, as shown.

F indicates my improved stay, and G indicates a flexible stay, which, in some cases, is employed in conjunction with the stay F.

The stay F is formed of sheet metal and is of an approximate acute-angle shape in cross-section, and it is provided in its portions *b* with alined pairs of wire-receiving apertures *c*, and is also provided with slits *d*, which extend from the apertures *c* to the vertical edges of the portions *b* and form the lips *e*. (Better shown in Fig. 2.) These lips *e* are spread apart at the time of manufacture, as shown in Fig. 2, and consequently it will be seen that when the stay is used it is simply necessary to insert the runners of a fence between

the lips and into the apertures *c* and then close the said lips *e*, when the stay will of itself be securely fastened upon the runners. The lips *e* may be very quickly and easily closed with a pair of pincers or similar implement, and consequently it will be seen that the stay may be quickly placed and secured upon the runners of a fence.

In Fig. 1 of the drawings my improved stay is shown as of a length to receive the three lower runners A B C of a fence, the flexible stay G, which may be of the construction shown or of any other suitable construction, being connected at its lower end to the runner C between the portions *b* of the stay and being connected at its upper end to the crown-runner E between the strands thereof. In virtue of the stay G being connected to the crown-runner E in the manner stated it is adapted to hold the stay F against movement along the runners, and consequently the runners A C might be single-strand runners, like the runner B, so as to permit of any one of the three being tightened through the stay F without moving said stay or disturbing the other two.

When desired, the stays F may be made of such a length as to extend the full height of a fence between a bottom runner, as A, and a crown-runner, as C, and may be provided with any desired number of pairs of apertures *c* to loosely receive intermediate single-strand runners, as C. In this use of the stay the portions of the strands of the runners A C between the portions *b* of the stays are spread apart, as indicated by *f*, so as to hold the stay against movement along the runners. The intermediate runners B, however, are free to be drawn through the apertures *c* of the stay, and consequently one of said runners B may be tightened without moving the stay or rendering the other single-strand runners taut or loose. The stay F may also be made short when desired and several of them may be flexibly connected together to form a stay for a fence.

From the foregoing it will be observed that my improved stay is adapted to hold the several runners of a wire fence rigid, so as to prevent the passage of small stock below the lowermost one, and yet permit of any one of the single-strand runners being tightened with-

out disturbing the others or moving the stay along the runners. It will also be appreciated that with all of its advantages my improved stay may be produced quite as cheaply as the ordinary sheet-metal stay.

5 I would further have it understood that when desired my invention may be embodied in fence-posts, that is to say, the post may be formed of sheet metal in a manner similar
10 to the stay F. Single-strand wires may also be used with a kink pressed in them to prevent the stay F at either end from moving along the wire runners in place of the twisted wires and hold the ends of the stay F.

15 Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

In a fence, a sheet-metal fence-stay of angular form in cross-section having the por-

tions *b*, provided with alined apertures *c*, and also with slits *d*, extending from the apertures *c*, to the vertical edges of the portions *b*, and forming lips *e*; in combination with single-strand runners extending loosely through the intermediate apertures *c*, of the stay, and runners formed of two or more twisted strands extending through the end apertures *c*, of the stay and having their strands spread apart between the portions *b*, substantially as specified.

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

HENRY BUCK.

Witnesses:

JOHN ISENBARGER,
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