(No Model.)

C. COLLINS.

WIRE COUPLING.

No. 278,097. Patented May 22, 1883.

Fig. 2.

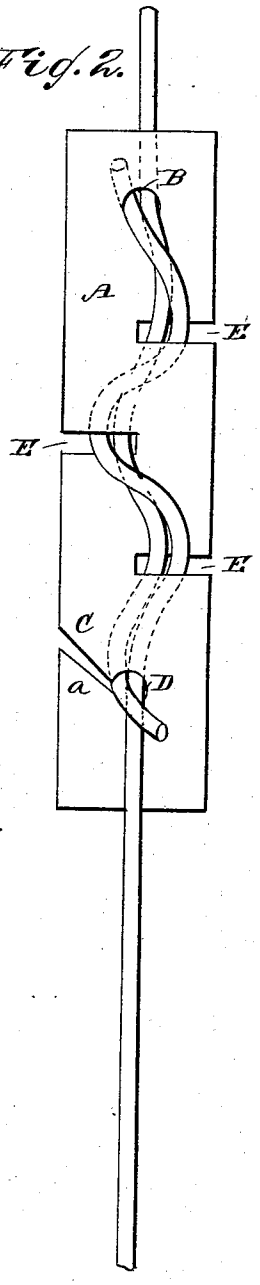


Fig. 1.

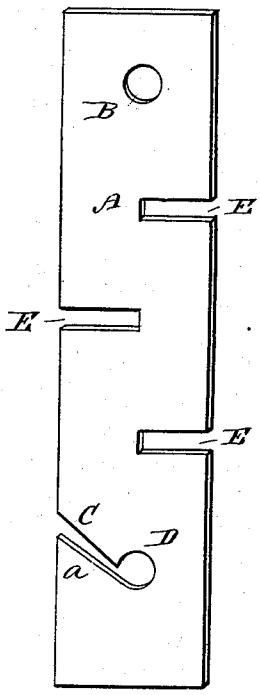
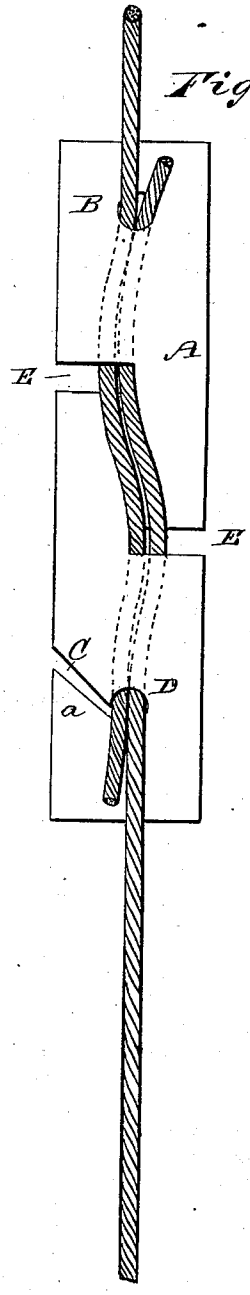


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES COLLINS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

WIRE-COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 278,097, dated May 22, 1883.

Application filed January 9, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES COLLINS, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Wire-Coupling, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide a new and improved device for uniting or coupling the ends of telegraph, fence, or other wires.

The invention consists in a strip of metal having apertures in the ends and alternating notches in the side edges, through which apertures and notches the ends of wires to be coupled are passed and are held on the strip by pressure and friction. An inclined notch extends from one edge of the strip to one of the end apertures, and forms a lug which can be bent laterally to enlarge the end notch to facilitate passing the wire through the notch.

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

Figure 1 is a longitudinal view of my improved wire-coupling. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal elevation of the same, showing the manner in which it is used for coupling telegraph-wires. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal elevation of the same, showing the manner in which it is used for coupling fence-wires or cables.

A strip, A, of metal is provided at one end with an aperture, B, and at the opposite end with an inclined notch, C, in one longitudinal edge, which notch terminates in an aperture, D. Between the said apertures B D the strip A is provided with notches E, arranged alternately in the two longitudinal edges. The ends of the wires which are to be coupled are passed through the aperture B, and are then passed through or into the alternating notches E and into the notch C and aperture D, the wires being lapped to such an extent that their ends will be at opposite ends of the strip A, as shown. By the tension in the wires the edges of the notches and apertures will be pressed and jammed against the wires, which will thus be held firmly in the strip. As the tension of the wire increases the grip of the strip A on the wire increases; but the wires will also remain coupled if there is no strain on them. Telegraph-wires which are made of a single strand, as shown in Fig. 2, might slip in the strip A, and for that reason they are passed through two notches in both longitudinal edges. Fence-wire, which is thicker than telegraph-wire, and is frequently formed of several strands, is passed through two notches in one edge and one notch in the other.

By using my improved wire-coupling the wires need not be twisted or broken, and can be coupled and uncoupled very easily and rapidly. If desired, the lug *a*, formed by the inclined notch C, can be pressed outward to enlarge the said notch for the purpose of facilitating the passage of the wires through the notch into the aperture D. After the wires are in the aperture D the lug *a* can be pressed back again.

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

1. The strip A, constructed with the alternating notches E in opposite longitudinal edges, with the apertures B D, and the notch C, extending from the edge to the aperture D, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The strip A, constructed with the alternating notches E in opposite longitudinal edges, with end apertures, B D, and with an inclined notch, C, extending from the edge of the strip to the aperture D, and forming a lug, *a*, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

CHARLES COLLINS.

Witnesses:
ALFRED N. TAGERT,
WM. J. MANNING.