(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

L. B. MESNARD.

FENCE.

No. 248,662. Patented Oct. 25, 1881.

Fig. 1.

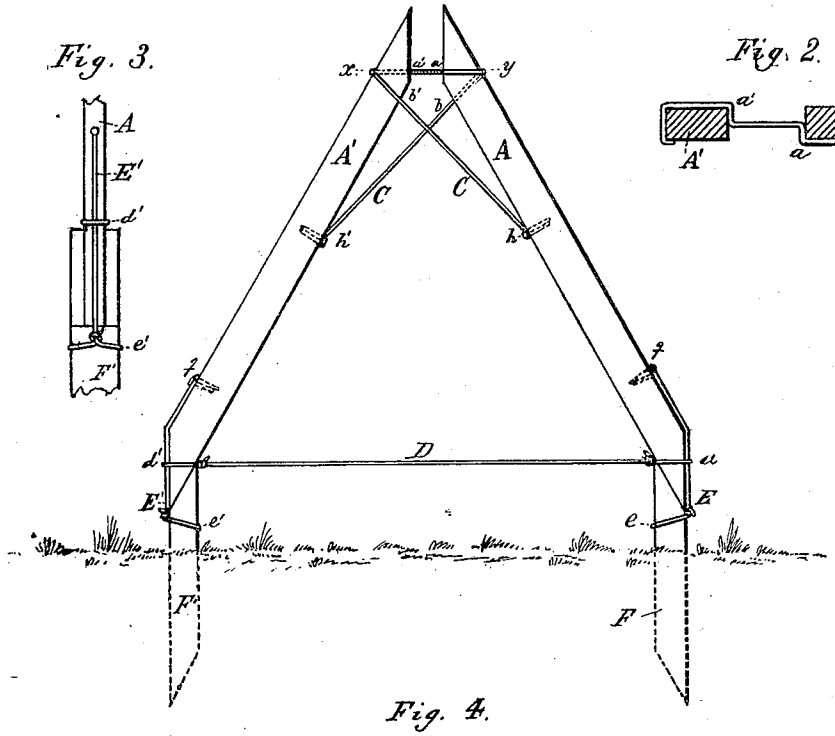
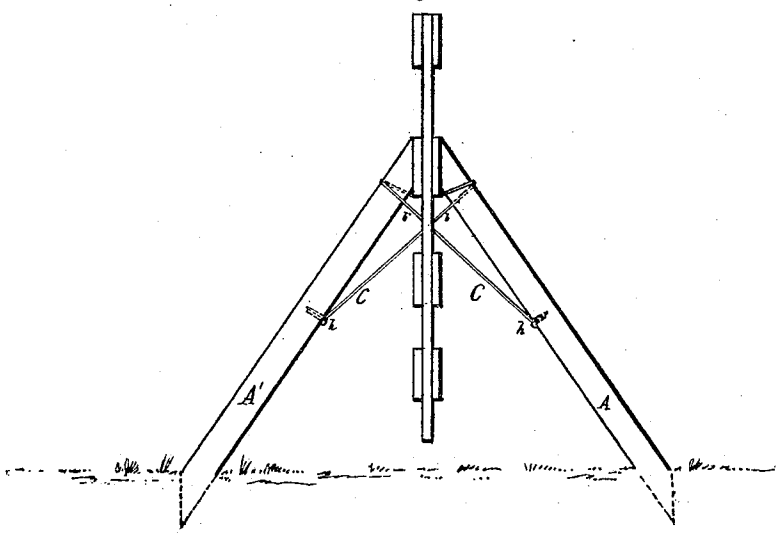


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 5.

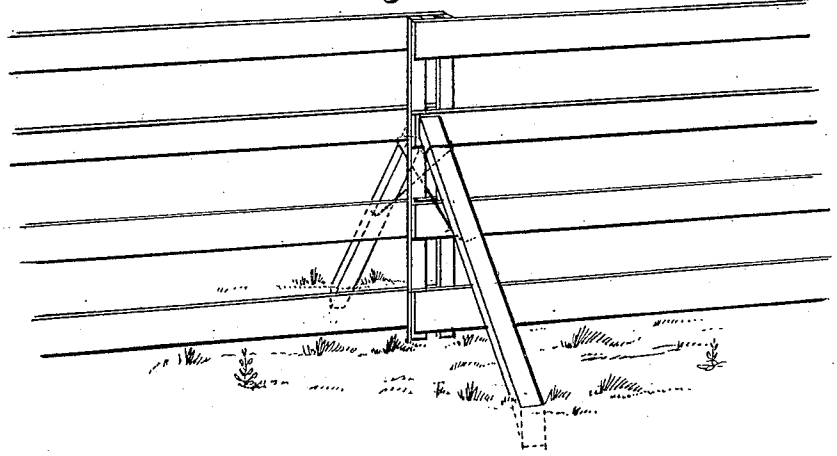


Fig. 6

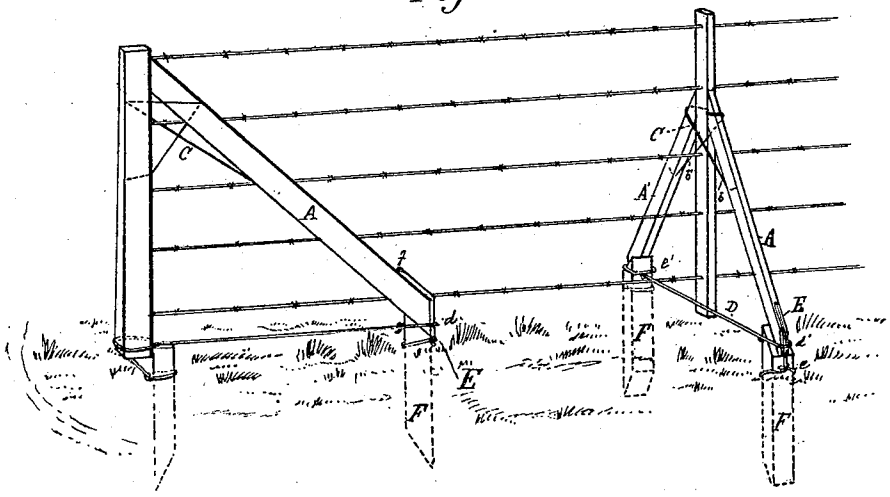
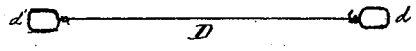


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LUTHER B. MESNARD, OF NORWALK, OHIO.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 248,662, dated October 25, 1881.

Application filed April 23, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LUTHER B. MESNARD, of Norwalk, in the county of Huron and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do hereby 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to fences; and it consists in an improved wire-truss support adapted to hold the ends of fence-panels or support the central portion of a panel, or support an upright, to which wire may be attached.

The object of my invention is to provide a truss which is simple in construction, and which, by the use of certain wire trusses and chords, is rendered strong and durable.

In the drawings Figure 1 is a view in elevation of a fence-support constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a view in cross-section of Fig. 1 through the line *x y*. Fig. 3 is an end view, in elevation, of the foot of the strut, showing the manner of connecting the strut with the upright by means of the wire chord. Fig. 4 is a view in elevation of a truss constructed in accordance with my invention, having placed in position an ordinary four-board fence-panel. Fig. 5 is a perspective view, showing portions of two panels of a fence united in one of my improved supports. Fig. 6 is a view in perspective of my invention, adapted for use in wire fences. Fig. 7 represents a transverse section, showing the wire chord D.

In the said drawings, A A′ represent braces or struts, which may be made of any desired size or material, but preferably in substantially the angular shape shown in the drawings. These braces or struts A A′ are bound together by means of a wire, C. One end of this wire C is attached to one of the braces, A, at *h*. This may be done by driving it into the brace, as indicated, and fastening it there by means of a nail or screw, or it may be passed entirely through the brace, and connected on the outside with the wire E at *f*. From thence it passes across one side of the upper portion of the opposite brace, A′; thence around the outside of this brace across its opposite face, where an angle is formed in the wire at *a*, which is shown more distinctly in plan in Fig. 2 of the drawings; thence across the opening between the braces A and A′ to the brace A. Here a second shoulder is formed, as shown in Fig. 2 at A; from thence the wire passes around the brace A, and is attached at its other end to the brace A′ at H′, or may be attached to the wire E′ at the point *f*, in the same manner described for the other end of the wire. To still further strengthen this support, I prepare a wire chord, D. This chord D is provided with stirrups *d* and *d′*, through which the braces or struts A and A′ pass. This prevents lateral displacement of the bases of the braces. To still further strengthen this truss, uprights F and F′ may be inserted in the ground any suitable distance, presenting an upper angular bearing-face to the sides of the braces A and A′.

For holding the braces A and A′ and the uprights F and F′ rigidly together, I connect them by means of the wires E and E′. These wires are provided with stirrups *e* and *e′*, adapted to embrace the uprights F and F′. The wires are then brought up under the stirrups *d* and *d′* and attached to the braces at F and F′, or may be still further extended and connected with the chords C at *h* and *h′*, as heretofore described.

Fig. 6 is a view in perspective of a wire fence having braces or uprights constructed according to my invention. In this drawing, the strut is brought in a line parallel to the line of the fence, and adapted for use as a brace, but is connected with the opposite strut or brace in the same manner as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. This brace or strut is adapted for the use of any description of panels; and it is particularly valuable in the construction of the ordinary board panel-fences, where it is desired to combine strength with durability and portability. The panels may be prepared in the ordinary manner, any number of boards being united together by suitable end pieces, G, as shown in Fig. 5. The struts may be prepared in the manner shown in Fig. 1, with or without the chord D. If the chord is used, it is only necessary to slip one of the stirrups *d* or *d′* from one end of the braces A or A′, place the braces in position, and the panel resting upon the wire C upon the line *x y* of Fig. 1. The stirrup may

again be placed in position, and the uprights F and F′ connected or not, as desired. These braces, put together as described, with the angles *a* and *a′* and angles *b* and *b′*, as heretofore described, hold the braces A and A′ rigidly in place, and before they are placed in the fence. This renders them capable of being stored away when not in use, and handled without endangering their coming apart.

What I claim is—

1. In a fence-support, angular braces united together by a chord, this chord so bent between the braces as to hold them apart, substantially as and for the purposes shown.

2. In a fence-support, the combination of the braces or struts A A′ and the wire truss C, the latter so bent at the points *a* and *a′* as to hold the braces apart, substantially as and for the purposes shown.

3. In a fence-support, the combination, with the braces A A′ and truss C, of the uprights F F′ and wires E E′, the latter provided with stirrups *e e′*, adapted to embrace the uprights, substantially as and for the purposes shown.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LUTHER B. MESNARD.

Witnesses:
CHAS. H. STEWART,
JOSEPH K. OWEN.