(No Model.)

G. H. BROWN.

STAY FOR WIRE FENCES.

No. 578,076. Patented Mar. 2, 1897.

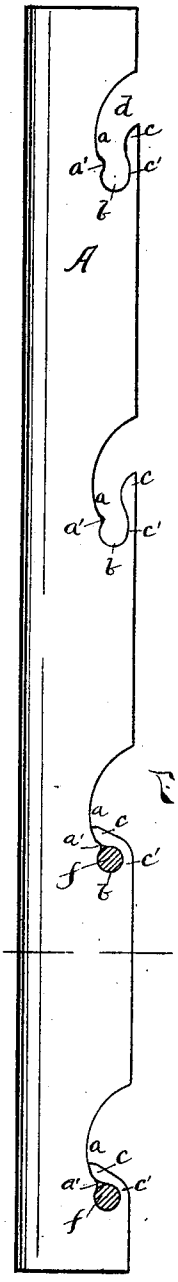

Fig 1.

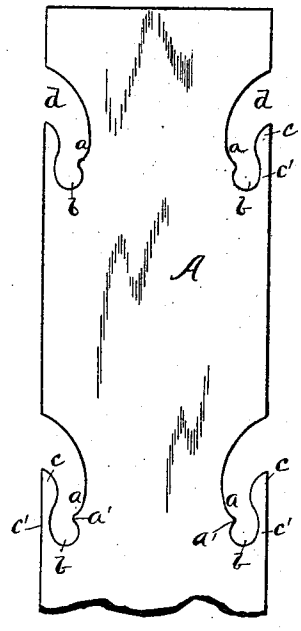

Fig 2

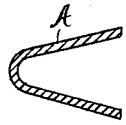

Fig 3.

Witnesses
J. Longenecker.
L. Parrott.

Inventor.
G. H. Brown.
By R. J. McCarty.
his Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GILBERT H. BROWN, OF DAYTON, OHIO.

STAY FOR WIRE FENCES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 578,076, dated March 2, 1897.

Application filed March 20, 1896. Serial No. 584,063. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GILBERT H. BROWN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stays for Wire 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in stays for wire fences, and has for its object to provide a tongued stay that will securely lock the line-wires against any independent up-and-down movement, as well as horizontal movement, and thereby prevent the wires from springing back the tongues and loosening the stays.

To this end the improvements have reference to the specific construction of the pocket for the line-wire and to the formation of the tongue, as will be hereinafter more fully described in the specification, and pointed out in the claim.

Referring to the annexed drawings, Figure 1 designates a vertical elevation of my improved stay, showing one side thereof and the line-wires in section in the two lower openings. Fig. 2 is a view of a portion of a stay after the openings have been stamped and before forming. Fig. 3 is a cross-section.

The letter A designates a sheet-metal stay formed, primarily, as shown in Fig. 2, and, subsequently, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, by forming or bending it in the longitudinal center. *d* designates a series of slots cut or stamped in the edges of said stay, into which the line-wires *f* are placed. These slots are stamped or cut inwardly, as at *a*, so as to permit of their taking an outward curve to form a shoulder *a'*, from which point said slot again takes an inward curve to form a circular pocket *b* in the bottom thereof, into which a line-wire *f* snugly fits. The outer portion of said slot curves inwardly and outwardly from a point just above a horizontal line with the shoulder *a'* and provides a tongue *c*, the lower portion of which or the part adjacent to the line-wire has essentially a smaller diameter, as at *c'*, so that the said tongues readily bend at a point about the center of the wires in every instance when pressed over the said line-wires. When pressure is exerted against a line-wire, due to bending a tongue, the shoulder *a'*, just above the pocket, prevents said wire from climbing up the rear side of said slot or from being forced away from the tongue. The inward curve *a* of said slots besides being essential to form the shoulder *a'* also provides a seat for the inner end of the tongue to lie in when the latter is forced over the line-wire, thus permitting said tongue to maintain a contact with said line-wire from a point where it bends to said shoulder. This is an important feature, as by such construction I am enabled to completely lock the line-wires against any vertical movement or up-and-down vibration independent of the stay, for example, such as is due to an animal forcing the line-wires apart. Such independent movement has a great tendency to force the tongues away from the line-wires when said wires are allowed any play in the pockets. The construction of said slots it will therefore be seen is an important feature of the invention, as thereby the line-wires are firmly held in position without the possibility of their receding under pressure exerted in the initial bending of the tongues.

Having fully described my invention, I claim—

A stay for wire fences, consisting of a plate of sheet metal bent in its longitudinal center in **V** shape, and having in its edges a series of slots forming pockets *c*, the lower terminal of each of said tongues being of less diameter than the remaining portions, as at *c'*, and the space of the entrance to said pockets between the widest diameter of the tongues, being essentially the same as the diameter of the pockets in order that a wire may be inserted in said pockets that will entirely fill the same, thereby avoiding any unoccupied space in the pockets after the wires are inserted, substantially as herein shown and described.

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

GILBERT H. BROWN.

Witnesses:
R. J. MCCARTY,
GEO. W. MANNIX, Jr.