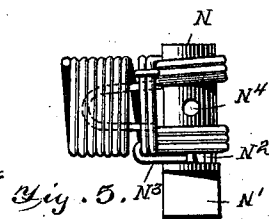
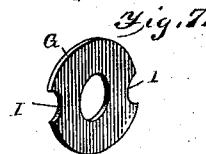
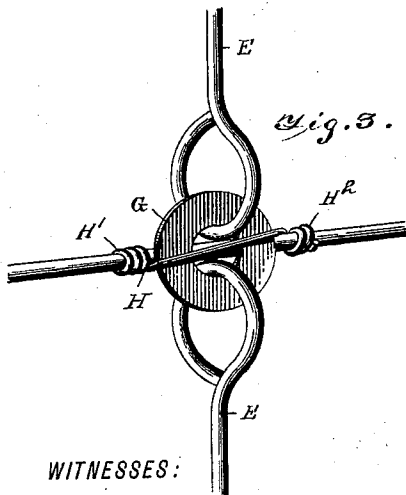
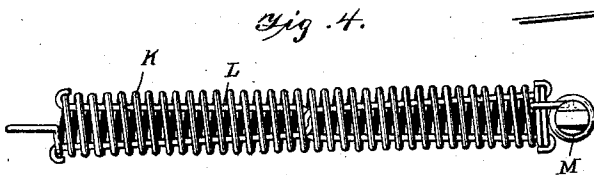
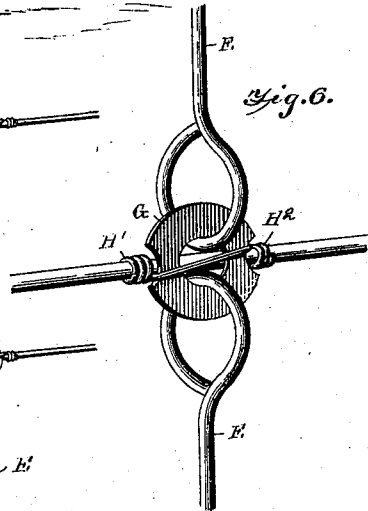
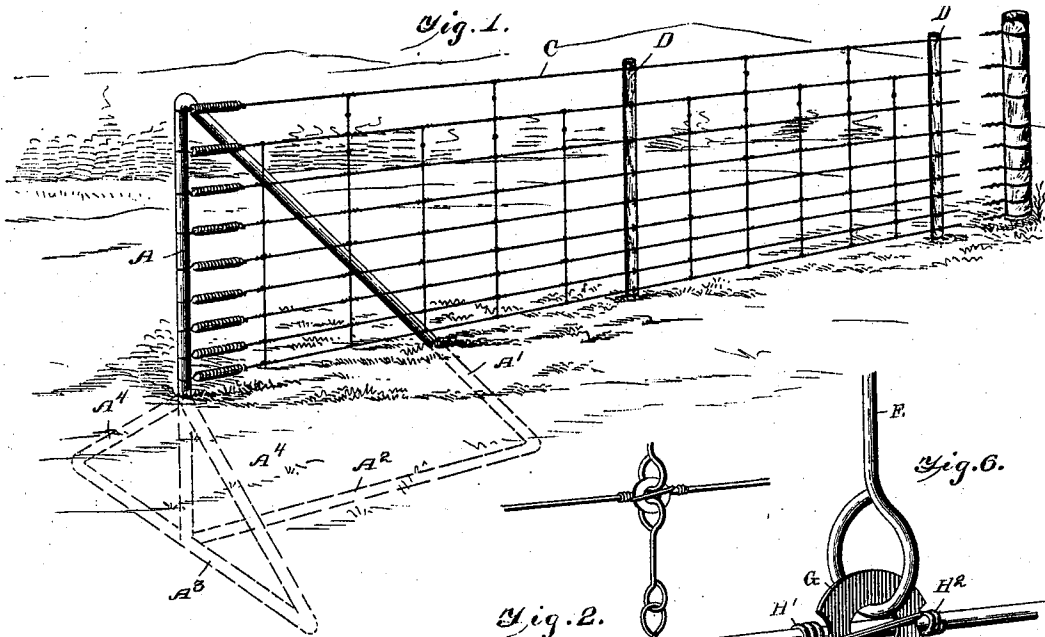


(No Model.)

W. S. SUTTON.
WIRE FENCE.

No. 581,400.

Patented Apr. 27, 1897.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. SUTTON, OF UPLAND, INDIANA.

WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 581,400, dated April 27, 1897.

Application filed May 1, 1893. Serial No. 589,852. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. SUTTON, residing at Upland, in the county of Grant and State of Indiana, have invented a new and Improved Wire Fence, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates generally to an improved wire fence, and more particularly to the wire stay employed for bracing and spacing the wire strands, the object being to provide an improved construction of stay which can be used in connection with any pattern of wire fence employing horizontal strands.

With this object in view my invention consists in the peculiar construction of the various parts and their novel combination or arrangement, all of which will be fully described hereinafter and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a view showing the invention in use. Fig. 2 is a detail view of a portion of the stay. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the joint in the stay. Fig. 4 is a detail side elevation of the wire-tightener. Fig. 5 is a detail end view showing the manner of taking up any slack occasioned by excessive strain. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of a slightly-modified construction of stay-joint, and Fig. 7 shows a detail of construction.

In carrying out my invention I employ end posts A, which are preferably made of metal tubes and are formed with the diagonal brace A¹ and the horizontal base or anchor A². In addition to the base A², I employ a supplemental base A³, arranged at right angles to the base A², and connecting the supplemental base A³ and the end posts A are the diagonal braces A⁴. It will thus be seen that I provide an exceedingly cheap, simple, strong, and durable end post.

C indicates the horizontal strands of wire, which may be barb, cable, or straight, as desired, and if preferable to make the fence more rigid a picket can be used between posts to which the horizontal strands of wire are attached. Connected with the horizontal strands are the stays E, said stays being composed of a series of links F, having eyes at each end and connected by means of a coupling ring or plate G, being linked together between horizontal strands near the top.

By reference to Figs. 1 and 2 it will be seen

that the links F near the bottom of the stay are made considerably shorter than those at the top, and it will also be noticed that the wire strands are arranged closer together at the bottom than at the top in order to make the fence proof against young pigs, &c.

The stay is connected with the horizontal strands by means of a connecting-wire H, which is coiled around the horizontal strand at one side, as shown at H¹, and then carried across the coupling-ring to the opposite side and wound again around the horizontal strand, as shown at H². This connection is made at each coupling-ring, so that the horizontal strand rests flat against the coupling-ring upon one side between the eyes of the links and is securely held in such position by means of the connecting-wire H.

In Figs. 1, 2, and 3 I have shown the coupling-ring as circular in shape, while in Figs. 6 and 7 I have shown it formed with notches I in the opposite sides, and the central opening, instead of being circular, is made elongated, as most clearly shown, but it is not at all necessary to make the said opening elongated.

By notching the sides, as shown at I, the wire can be coiled much closer to the center of the coupling-ring, and thereby form a more rigid connection and one that is less liable to get out of order.

Each horizontal strand C connects with the coiled-wire tension device K, the extent of the tension of said wire being limited by means of the interlocking loops L.

At its outer end the tension device is connected with the end post, while at its inner end are formed the bearings M, in which are journaled the winding-shafts N, having a square head N', adapted to receive a wrench, and adjacent to said head N' are provided a series of ratchet-teeth N², adapted to engage a pawl N³, by means of which the shaft is locked against rotation.

The shaft has an opening N⁴, into which the end of the horizontal strand C is inserted, and any slack in the wire occasioned by an excessive strain and which the tension device will not take up can be taken up by simply revolving the shaft N and winding the end of the strand thereon.

It will thus be seen that I provide an ex-

ceedingly cheap and simple form of wire fence, and it will be particularly noted that I provide a novel form of stay for wire fences which can be quickly and easily attached to
5 any of the fences now in use and produce a beneficial and ornamental result.

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

10 1. In a wire fence, a stay consisting of a series of links having the eyes at each end and a series of rings or plates connecting said links, substantially as shown and described.

15 2. In a wire fence, a stay consisting of a series of links having eyes at each end, and having coupling rings or plates for connecting said links, the lower links being shorter than the upper links, the top links being made in sections, substantially as and for the
20 purpose described.

3. In a wire fence, a stay, consisting of a series of links having eyes at each end, of the coupling rings or plates connecting said links and having notches at the opposite sides, substantially as shown and described.

4. The combination with the horizontal strands, of the vertical stays, consisting of a series of links having eyes at each end, the coupling rings or plates connecting the said links, said connecting rings or plates having notches at the opposite sides and adapted to rest flat against the horizontal strands, and a connecting-wire H, passing across the face of the said coupling ring or plate and wound about the horizontal strands, substantially as shown and described.

WM. S. SUTTON.

Witnesses:

THOS. W. WILLIAMS,
WM. T. SMITH.