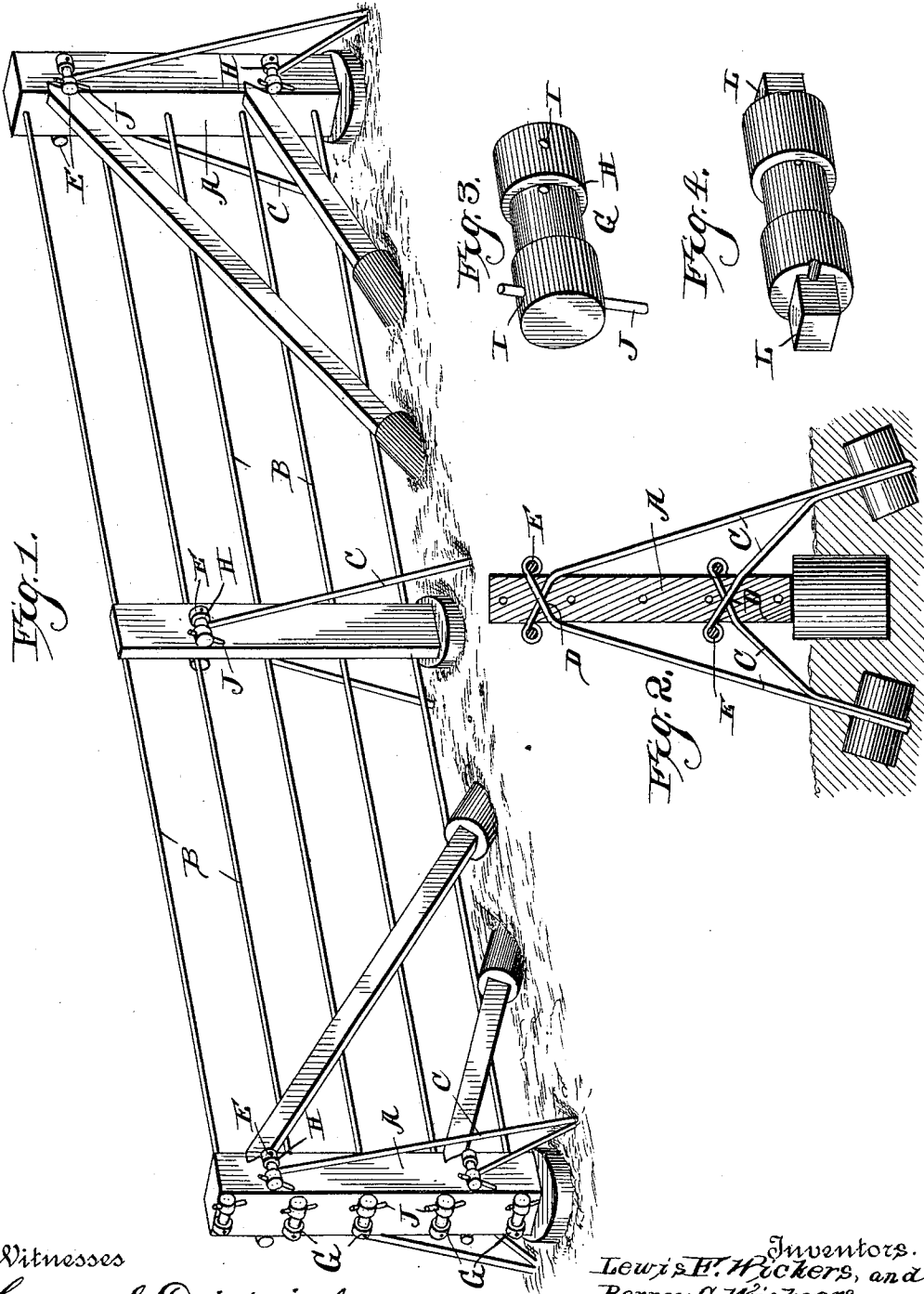


(No Model.)

L. F. WICKERS & B. C. WICKEARS.  
FENCE.

No. 403,977.

Patented May 28, 1889.



Witnesses  
*Henry J. Dieterich*  
*R. W. Bishop,*

Inventors.  
*Lewis F. Wickers, and*  
*Barney C. Wickears,*

By their Attorneys  
*C. A. Snow & Co.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS F. WICKERS AND BARNEY C. WICKEARS, OF LEBANON, INDIANA.

## FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 403,977, dated May 28, 1889.

Application filed March 13, 1889. Serial No. 303,171. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, LEWIS F. WICKERS and BARNEY C. WICKEARS, citizens of the United States, residing at Lebanon, in the county of Boone and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fences, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in fences; and it consists in certain novel features hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fence provided with our improvements. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of one of the posts, showing the brace-wires in elevation; and Figs. 3 and 4 are detail views of the wire-stretching cylinders.

In building our improved fence we provide the posts A, which are mounted on buried bases, as shown in Letters Patent No. 360,187, previously granted to us, and the fence-wires B are supported by these posts, as shown.

The braces or stay-wires C are arranged in pairs at each post. Each member of each pair of braces has an intermediate portion of its length wrapped around a buried anchor and its ends are passed through transverse openings D in the posts and secured to stretching cylinders or drums E, as shown. It will thus be seen that the ends of the members pass each other in the transverse openings of the post and are arranged on opposite sides of the post, and also that the ends of the wires are arranged on the opposite sides of the post from the buried anchors to which their intermediate portions are secured. By this arrangement the pull exerted upon the posts by the stay-wires or braces is transmitted entirely through the same, so that the posts will be effectually held in an upright position. The stay-wires or braces are drawn taut by the stretching drums or cylinders, so that they will exert the strongest possible pull against the post.

Stretching cylinders or drums G, similar in all respects to the stretching drums or cylinders to which the ends of the stay-wires are secured, are provided at the end fence-posts, and the ends of the fence-wires are secured thereto. The stretching drums or cylinders consist of a central cylindrical portion to

which the end of the wire is secured and around which it is wrapped as the drum is rotated to stretch the wire, and at the ends of this central cylindrical portion we provide the annular shoulders H, which prevent the wire slipping toward the ends of the drum. In the form of stretching-cylinder shown in Fig. 3 the ends of the same are provided with diametrical openings I, through which a suitable rod or pin, J, is inserted to form a handle, by means of which the drum can be rotated. After the wire has been stretched the said rods or pins will bear against the side of the post in order to prevent retrograde movement of the stretchers under the tension of the wire.

In the form shown in Fig. 4 the ends of the drums are provided, in addition to the diametrical openings, with the angular offsets or projections L, so that by engaging a wrench over these angular offsets or projections the stretching drum or cylinder can be rapidly rotated. After the wire has been stretched to the desired degree a stop-pin is inserted through the diametrical openings, so as to bear against the side of the post to prevent the backward movement of the drum or cylinder. This form can also be rotated by means of the said pins, as will be readily understood.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that we have provided a fence in which the wire can be effectually stretched to the desired tension and secured to the posts, in which the posts will be very securely held in an upright position. The fence is simple in its construction and can be built cheaply and rapidly, and when built will last for a long time.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the post having transverse openings, buried anchors on opposite sides of the post, the stay-wires having their intermediate portions wrapped around the buried anchors and their ends passing through the transverse openings in the posts, and the stretching drums or cylinders secured to the ends of the stay-wires, as set forth.

2. In a fence-post, the anchors on opposite

sides of the posts, the stay-wires having their intermediate portions wrapped around the anchors, and the stretching drums or cylinders secured to the ends of the stay-wires and  
5 connected to the fence-post at the top and bottom, respectively, as set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as

our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

LEWIS F. WICKERS.

BARNEY C. WICKEARS.

Witnesses:

HENRY C. WILLS,

FRANK P. BYNUM.