

(No Model.)

L. CLARK.
FENCE.

No. 580,847.

Patented Apr. 20, 1897.

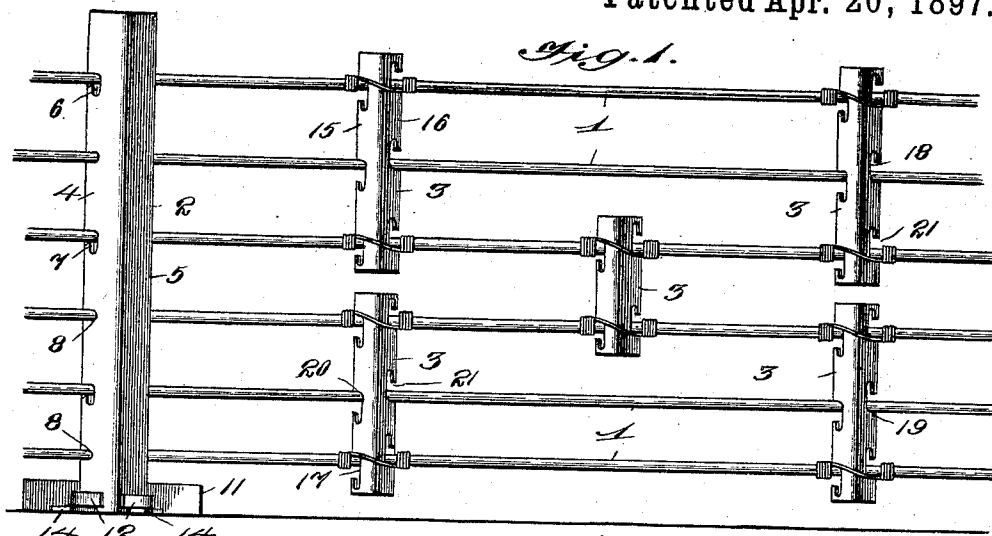


Fig. 2.

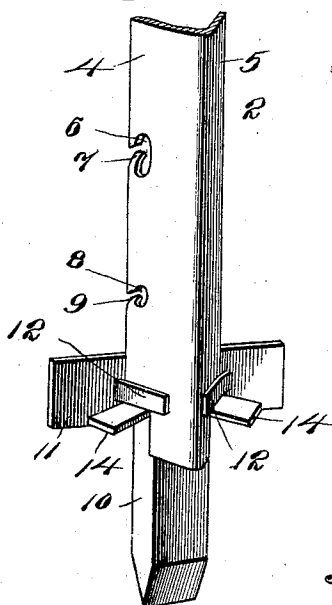


Fig. 4.

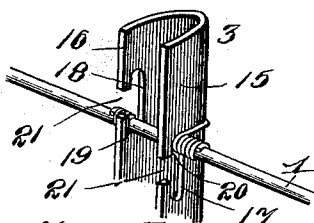


Fig. 5.

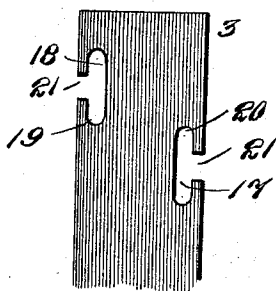


Fig. 5.

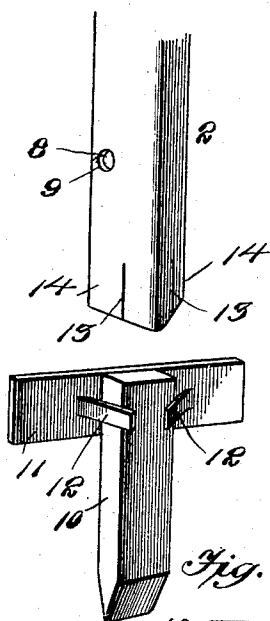


Fig. 7.

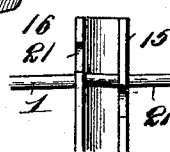
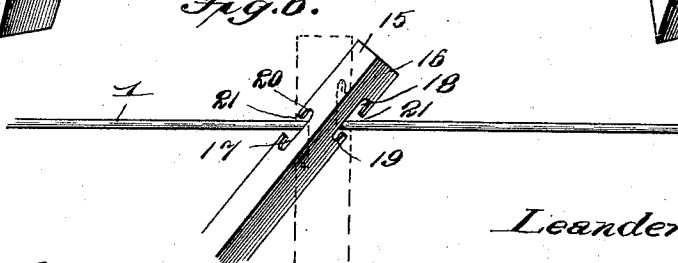


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEANDER CLARK, OF GREENVILLE, OHIO.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 580,847, dated April 20, 1897.

Application filed March 28, 1896. Serial No. 585,272. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEANDER CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greenville, in the county of Darke and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Fence, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to fences, and particularly to an improved construction of stay to facilitate the connection of the runners therewith, said stay being formed of sheet metal and being bent upon a line parallel with its longitudinal center to provide a V-shaped cross-sectional construction.

Further objects and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view of a fence constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a detail view in perspective of the post forming a part of the improved fence. Fig. 3 is a detail view in perspective of the anchor and the contiguous extremity of the post, the latter being shown as seen before application to the anchor. Fig. 4 is a detail view in perspective of a portion of one of the stays. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the blank from which the improved stay is constructed. Fig. 6 is a view of a portion of one of the stays and the contiguous portion of a runner, showing in full lines the inclined position of the stay as when applied to the runner and in dotted lines the normal or upright position thereof. Fig. 7 is a partial rear view of one of the stays to show the deflection of the intermediate portion of the runner.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates runners which extend through openings in posts 2 and are connected at points between the posts by stays 3.

The post which forms a part of the improved fence is of V-shaped cross-sectional construction and consists of a blank of sheet metal bent parallel with and approximately upon its longitudinal center to form wings 4 and 5 of different widths. The wide wing or flange 4 is provided with a plurality of openings 6 for the reception of the runners, said

openings being longitudinally elongated or consisting of slots parallel with the angle of the post, the outer side of each opening being closed by inwardly-extending terminally-separated tongues 7, which when arranged in alinement prevent the detachment of the runner from the post. I may also employ intermediate round runner-openings 8, of which the outer sides are closed by tongues 9, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

The lower end of the post is fitted in a keeper formed upon an anchor-plate 11, adapted to be secured to an anchor-stake 10 or its equivalent, said keeper being V-shaped in plan to correspond with the cross-sectional construction of the post and consisting of up-struck parallel-sided tongues 12 integral with the anchor-plate, as shown clearly in Fig. 3. The lower end of the post is longitudinally slitted, as shown at 13, to form ears 14, which are arranged in alinement with the post before the latter is fitted in the keeper, as shown in Fig. 3, and which are bent outwardly perpendicular to the planes of the wings or flanges of the post after insertion in the keeper, as shown in Fig. 2, to prevent detachment.

The stays which I employ in connection with the above construction for connecting the runners at intermediate points are preferably struck from sheet metal and are bent upon their longitudinal centers to form the approximately V-shaped construction illustrated in Fig. 4, and the wings or flanges 15 and 16 of each set are provided, respectively, with runner-seats 17 and 18, located in pairs. These seats consist of the rounded approximately opposite extremities of slots 19 and 20, having communicating openings 21 formed in the edges of the wings or flanges. The upper slot 19 of each pair is located with its lower extremity or seat slightly below the plane of the upper extremity or seat of the slot 20, forming the other member of the said pair, whereby when the stay is applied with its approximately opposite seats in engagement with a runner the portion of the runner between said seats is slightly bent or deflected to prevent displacement of the stay parallel with the runner. In Fig. 6 I have shown the inclined position which the stay must assume in applying it to a runner which

has been previously stretched, said position being necessary by reason of the diagonally opposite disposition of the mouths or inlet-openings of the slots in which the runner-seats are formed. In Fig. 7 is shown the relative positions of the seats and the bent or deflected portion of the runner between the seats after the stay has been straightened or forced to its upright position.

10 Before the runners are finally tightened the stays may be applied thereto by inclining them, as shown in Fig. 6, thus providing for the running of the wires before the stays are applied, this operation being made possible 15 by the extension of the slots outwardly from their seats or in opposite directions from their contiguous ends.

The advantage of the vertically elongated or slotted openings in the post for the reception of the runners resides in the fact that 20 vertical movement of the runners independently of the post or vertical movement of the post independently of the runners may be accomplished. Vertical movement of the 25 runners is desirable in order to allow a limited resilience thereof and in order to facilitate the application thereto of the stays, and independent vertical movement of the post is desirable in applying the lower end thereof 30 to the anchor-plate or removing the same therefrom when such operation becomes necessary.

The stub-post 10 may, if preferred, be omitted, in which case the anchor-plate will 35 be arranged below the surface of the soil and

the post will be extended sufficiently below said plate to insure lateral stiffness.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention. 40

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

In a fence, the combination of runners, a stay of cross-sectionally V-shaped construction provided in its wings with pairs of upper and lower slots formed parallel with the free edges of the wings, the lower end of one slot of a pair being approximately in the horizontal plane of the upper end of the other slot of said pair, and said slots being provided with lateral openings extending through the edges of the wings and arranged approximately at the centers of the slots, the slots 55 being extended in opposite directions from their seat ends beyond their lateral openings to allow inclination of the stays in applying them to the previously-arranged runners, and means, as a tie-wire, for preventing lateral displacement of the stay, substantially as specified. 60

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

LEANDER CLARK.

Witnesses:

W. N. STUBBS,

CYRUS MINNICH.