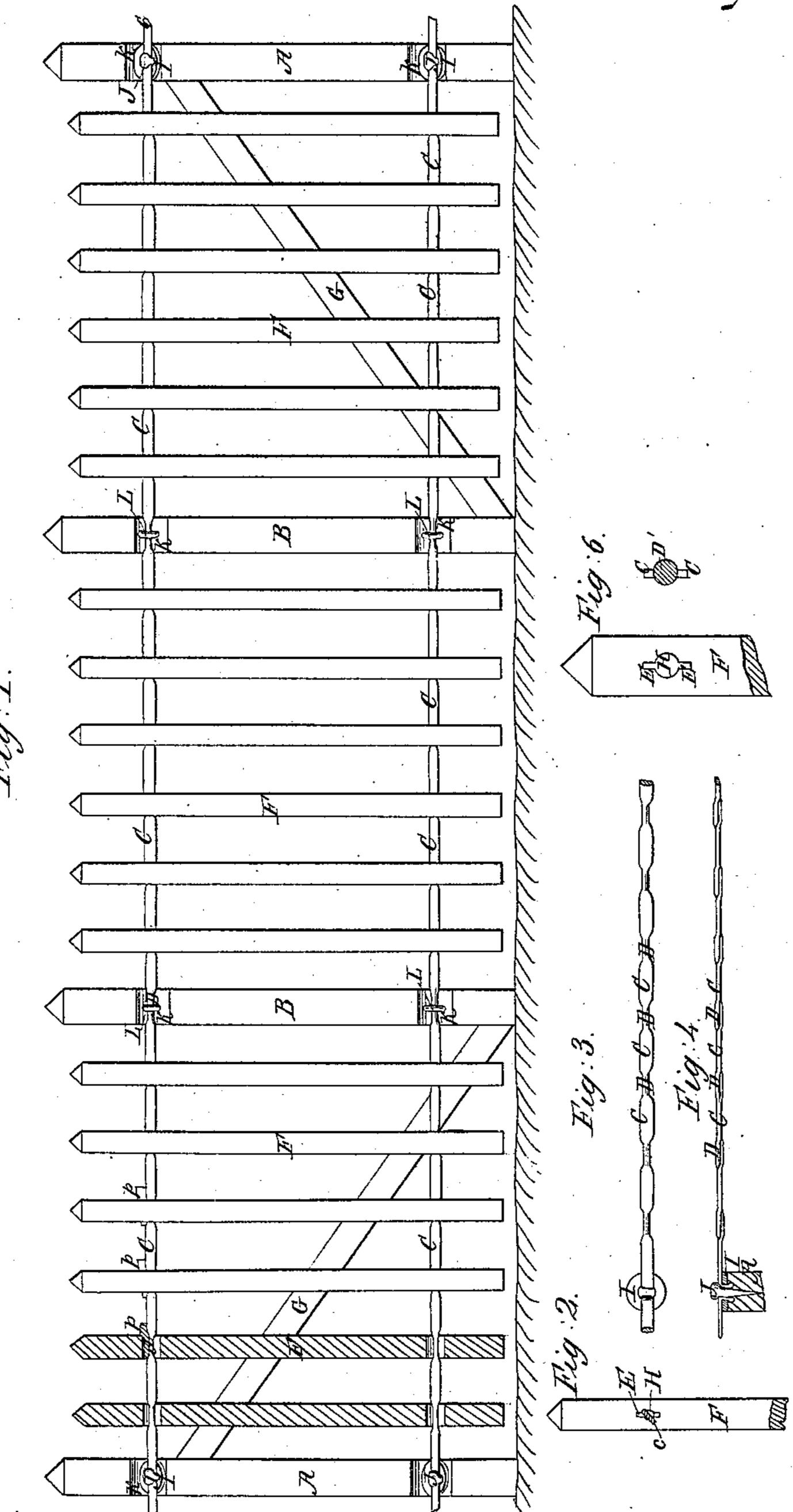
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## Mizz Fezzer,

1.53,6/6.

Palented Ans. 3,1866.



Witnesses; Jas. L. Ewin W. F. Stall Investor;
M. D. Stillis
Per Munrbes
Attys

## United States Patent Office.

W. D. HILLIS, OF ELGIN, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 53,616, dated April 3, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, W. D. HILLIS, of Elgin, in the county of Kane and State of Illinois, have made a new and useful Improvement in Fences; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the nature, construction, and operation of the same, sufficient to enable one skilled in the art to which it appertains to construct and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are made part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the same. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through one of the stringers. Fig. 3 is an elevation displayed at right angles to the plane of the joint-rings. Fig. 4 is an elevation on a plane at right angles to Fig. 3, and having the joint-ring and a portion of the gate-post in section. Fig. 5 is an enlarged view of a picket and section of the wire.

This fence consists of a series of pickets strung in a peculiar manner upon wires which are stretched in suitable lengths between posts, additional posts being provided at intervals to support and strengthen the fence.

It is intended to be put up in sections of from sixteen to twenty feet, posts A being provided at that distance apart. The wires or stringers C D are secured to the posts A by means of being hooked around the rings I, the spike J maintaining them fast in position on a seat, K, cut into the face of the post.

The stringers C D are secured at intervals to auxiliary posts B B by staples L on seats K, and the stringers stretched by braces G G, which lead outwardly or away from each other.

The fence shown in Fig. 1 may be held to represent a section or panel, the pickets being placed upon the stringers at such distances as may be adapted to the purpose required.

The wires, which have been originally round, are flattened at intervals, as seen at C C C,

and the pickets are bored with round holes H, as seen in Fig. 6, with an extension, E E, above and below the central circular aperture. The wire being inserted passes freely through the holes in the pickets, the flat portion C ranging with the length of the picket, and when both wires are strung with pickets which occupy the portions D D the wires are turned a part of a revolution—say, for instance, forty-five to ninety degrees—which rotates the round portion in the holes H and brings the flat portion out of range of the holes E E, thereby preventing the pickets from being displaced, as seen in Figs. 1 and 2, and wedge p may be driven into hole E E to make it perfect.

The wire used may be of a size suited to the purpose. I have used wire of a quarter of an inch diameter. The wire is flattened at intervals, as has been described, by passing through rollers or under a stamp.

The end of the wire stringer is made fast by cutting in two the round part near the flat part, which leaves a head to be bent under the edge of the ring I, and secured by a spike, J, which occupies the room between the bent ends, as seen in Fig. 4.

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

1. The wire or rod flattened at intervals, as described, for the purpose set forth.

2. The picket provided with holes E H E, Fig. 6, in combination with the wire C D, substantially as described.

3. The mode of fastening the stringers by means of thin bent ends in the ring I, secured by the spike, substantially as described and represented.

W. D. HILLIS.

Witnesses:

HENRY A. SEARLES, O. A. LONG.