

E. B. Stephens, Self Regulating
 118293 *Wire Stretcher.* PATENTED AUG 22 1871

Fig: 3.

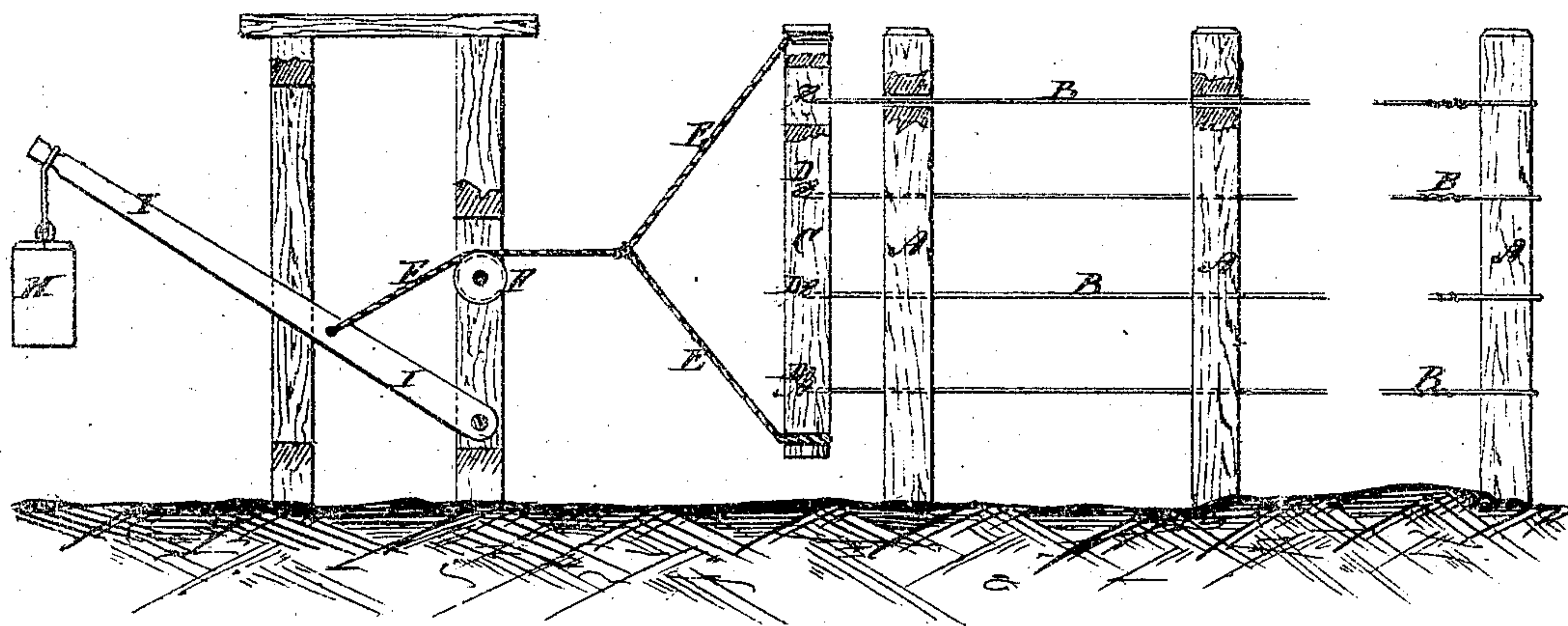


Fig: 1.

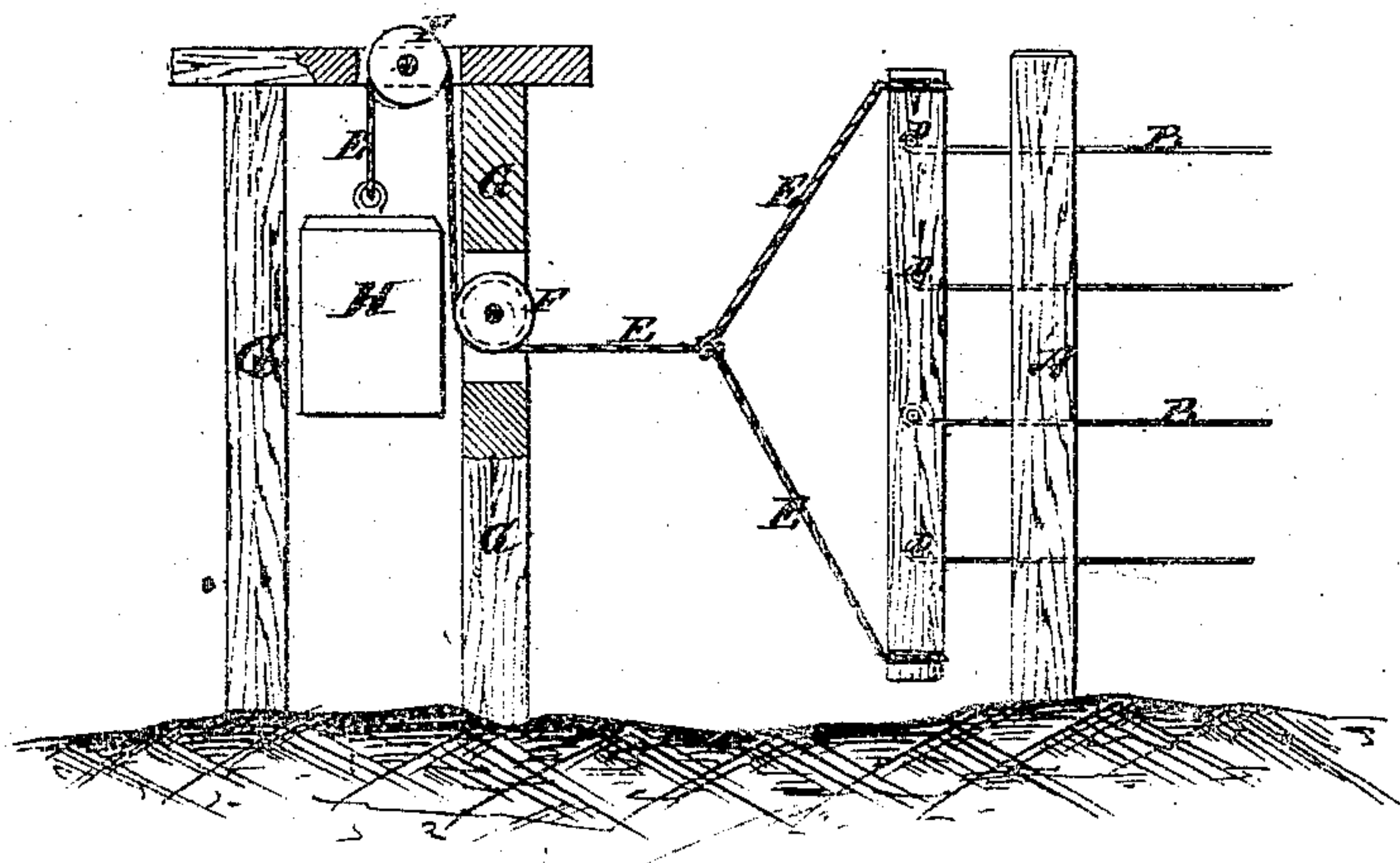
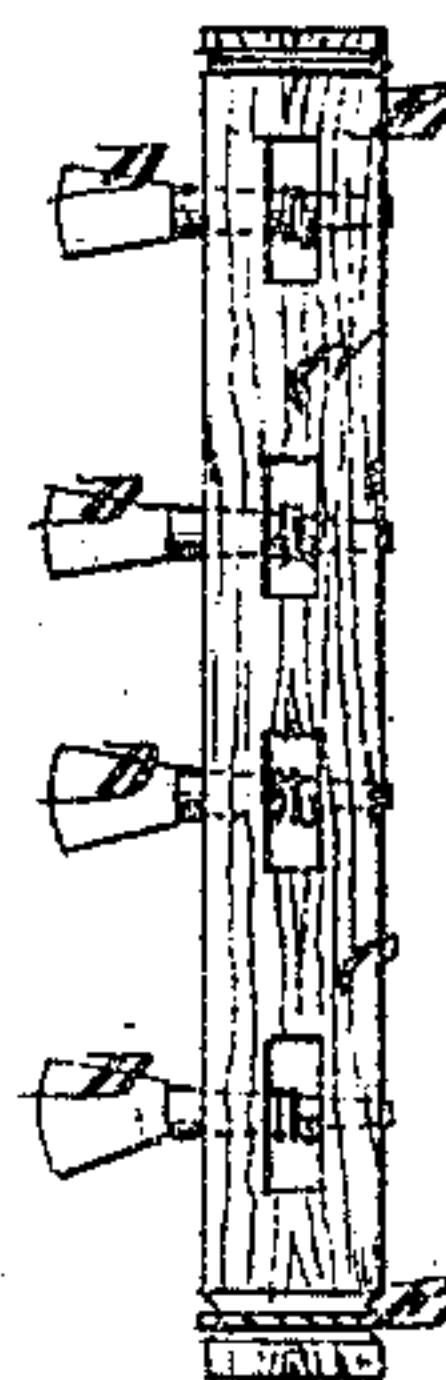


Fig: 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EBENEZER BURNET STEPHENS, OF BROWNVILLE, NEBRASKA.

IMPROVEMENT IN WIRE-STRETCHERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 118,293, dated August 22, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EBENEZER BURNET STEPHENS, of Brownville, in the county of Nemaha, and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Self-Regulating Wire-Stretcher; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved wire-stretcher. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the bar or stay. Fig. 3 is a side view of a modified form of the stretcher.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention has for its object to furnish a simple, convenient, and effective device for stretching the wires of wire-fences, and holding said wire at a uniform tension, however much they may be contracted or expanded by changes of temperature, or when pressed against by stock or other means; and it consists in the construction and combination of the various parts of the device, as hereinafter more fully described.

A represents the posts, and B the wires of the fence. One end of the wires B is attached to the end post of the fence or section of fence the wires of which are to be stretched. The other ends of the wires B are attached to the stay or bar C by means of the pins D, to which pins the ends of the wires are attached, and around which they are wound. The pins D may be made of wood or iron, and their projecting ends are squared off to enable them to be taken hold of by a wrench and turned to adjust the length of the the wires B, so that the said stays or bars may be kept in an upright position. To the ends of the bars or stays C are attached the ends of the

branches of the wire-rope E. The rope E passes over guide-pulleys F, one or more of which are pivoted to the posts G, and to its other end is attached the suspended weight H. The weight H may be a box filled with earth, sand, stones, or other heavy material, as may be most convenient. In cases where the fence passes over uneven ground, or where from other causes greater power is required, a lever, I, may be interposed between the rope E and weight H. In this case the lower end of the lever I is pivoted to the lower part of the post G and the weight H is suspended from its upper end, the rope E being attached to said lever nearer to or further from its pivoting point, according as more or less power may be required.

By this device the wires B will always be held at a uniform tension however much they may be expanded and contracted by changes of temperature; and, should they be pressed against by stock or other means, they will yield and will be brought back to their former position as soon as the pressure may be removed, the wires being all the time held at the same tension, and thus being in no danger of being broken.

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

1. The adjustable pins D, in combination with the wires B and stay or bar C, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the wire-rope E, pulleys F, one or more, and weight H, whether the lever I be used or not, with the posts G, stay or bar C, and wires B, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

EBENEZER BURNET STEPHENS.

Witnesses:

GEORGE D. BUTLER,
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