

(No Model.)

T. SHUMAN.
Barbed Wire Fence.

No. 238,255.

Patented March 1, 1881.

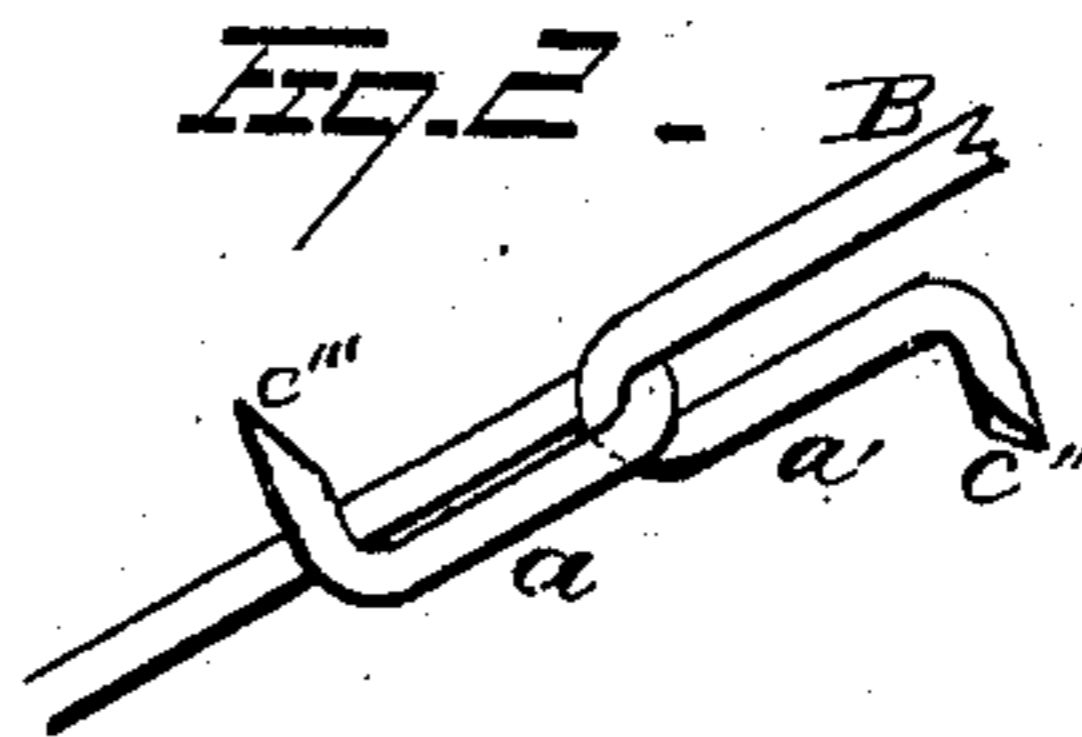
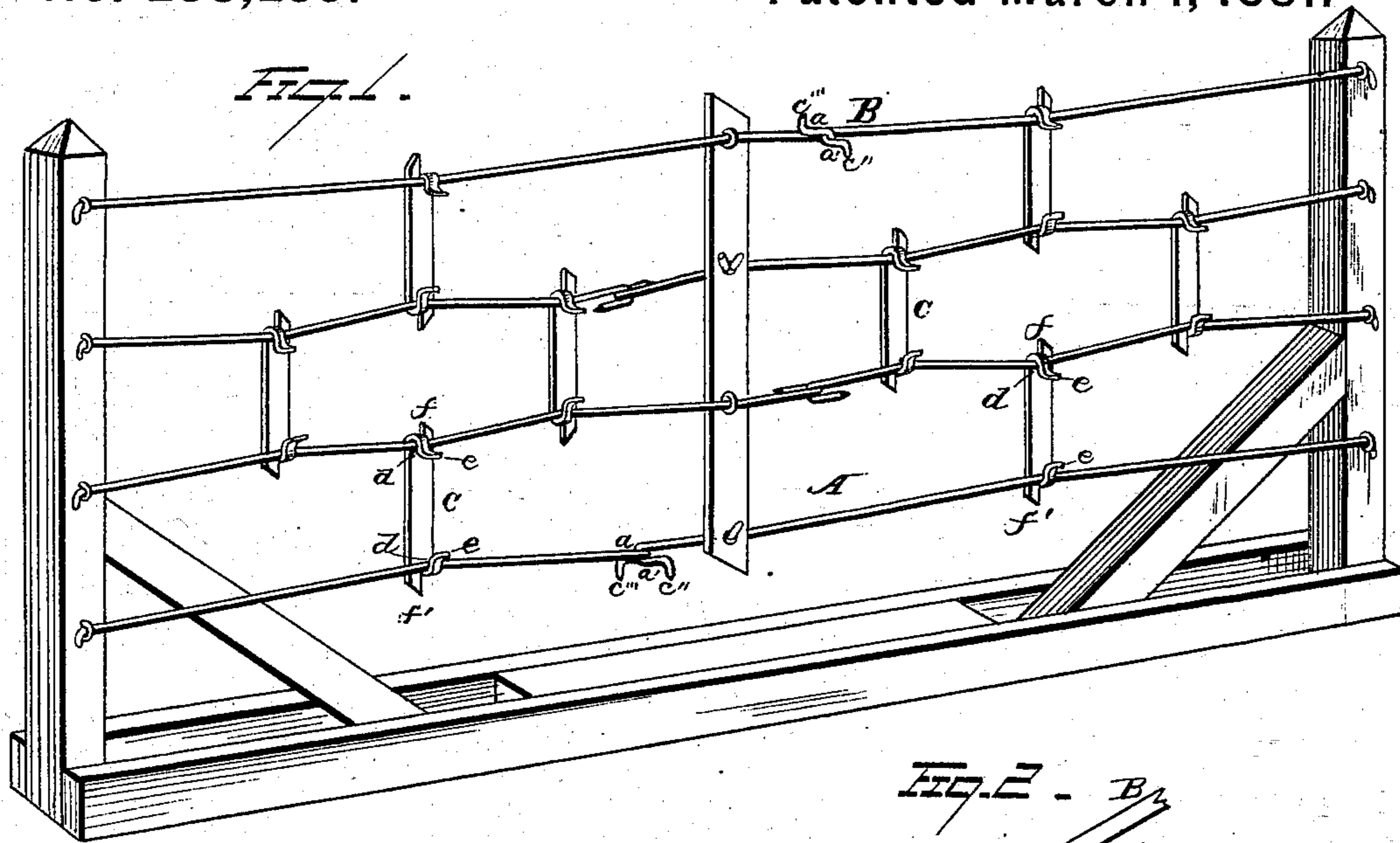


FIG. 3.

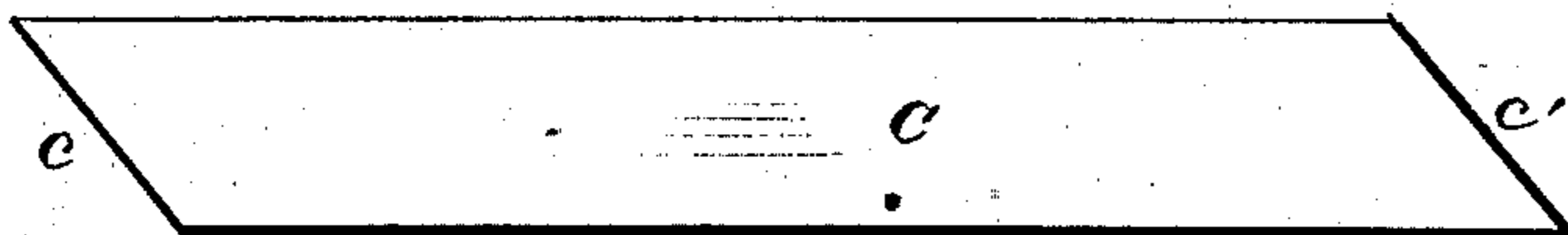


FIG. 4.

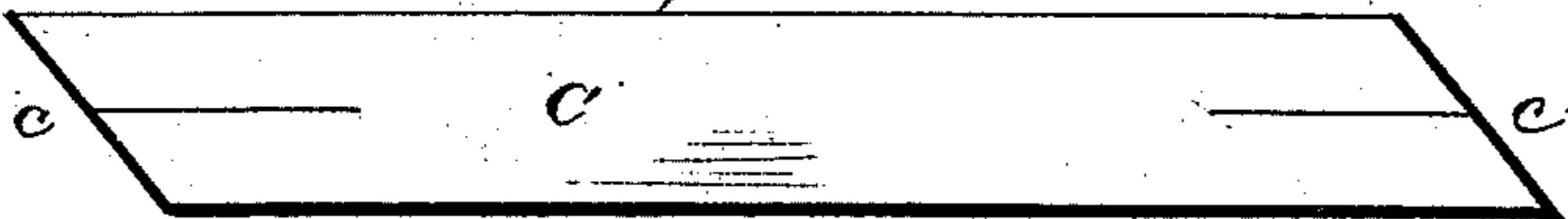


FIG. 5.

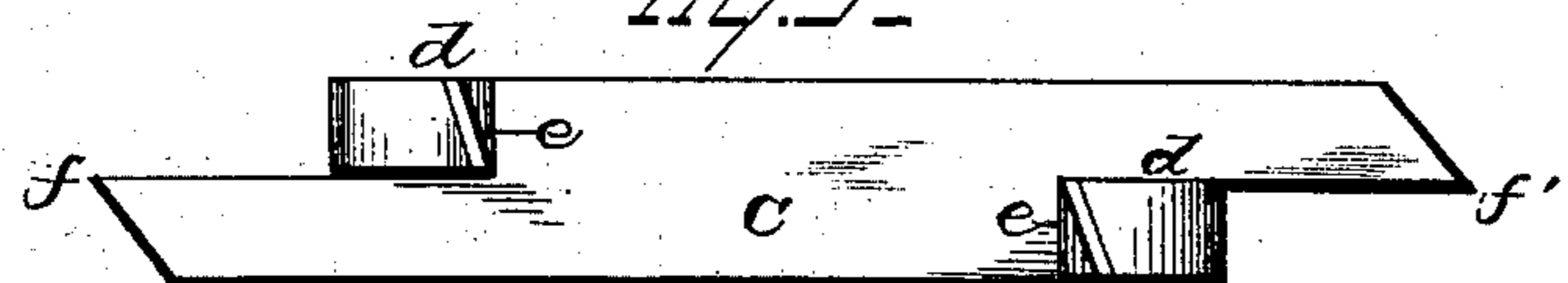
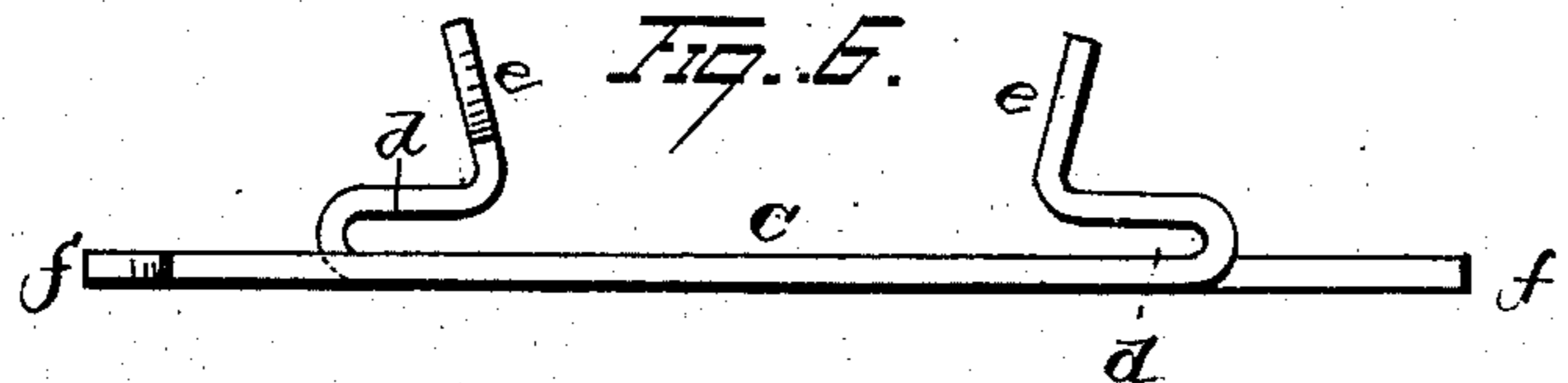


FIG. 6.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS SHUMAN, OF CORNING, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO GEORGE A. MORSE, OF SAME PLACE.

BARBED-WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 238,255, dated March 1, 1881.

Application filed October 6, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS SHUMAN, of Corning, in the county of Adams and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Barb-Wire Fences; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in wire barb fences; and the invention consists in certain features in construction and combinations of parts, as will hereinafter be described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view, in perspective, of a section of fence built in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a detached view of the jointed wire. Fig. 3 is a plan view of one of the stay-blanks. Fig. 4 shows the blank after having its ends slotted. Fig. 5 is a plan view, and Fig. 6 an edge view, of the stay after it has been bent into the desired form.

A represents the wires of a fence. Instead of being composed of continuous strands of wire, as in ordinary frames, each wire is composed of the links B, which may be of any desired length, size, and shape. The opposite ends of each link are cut diagonally, and the ends then bent over toward each other to form loops *a b* on opposite ends of the link, the ends being bent outwardly or at right angles to the length of the link, forming barbs *c'' c'''*. When the several links are secured together, which operation is readily accomplished by inserting the loop at one end of the link of the loop of the next adjacent link, a barb-wire is formed having sharp barbs projecting in opposite directions. This form of construction is very valuable in many places when it is sometimes desired to move the fence or take it down temporarily. It also forms a strong and durable fence. The links will allow of the contraction and expansion of the wires without danger of breaking. The links may be

put up in packages and readily transported, and when desired for use will require but little labor to put them together to form a fence.

C represents the blank from which the stay-strip is formed, and is cut away from a long strip of metal by diagonal cuts *c c'*. The ends of the blank are then severed longitudinally, as illustrated in Fig. 4, and one portion of the divided or slitted end is bent over onto the stay and then outward, thereby forming a loop, *d*, and outwardly-projecting barb *e*. The other portion of the divided ends of the stay constitute end barbs, *f f'*. The stays C are attached to the wires, as shown in Fig. 1, and serve a twofold purpose. They operate to strengthen the panels of the fence by binding the wires together, and prevent the wires from sagging, thereby permitting sufficient slack wire to obviate any danger of breaking the wire by its contraction in cold weather and still maintain proper space between the several wires. The stays also serve to furnish the required barbs for the fence. The end barbs of the stays, in connection with the laterally-projecting barbs, furnish ample protection to the fence.

The loop may be readily attached to the wires, as the outwardly-bent barbs form a throat at the entrance of the loop into which the wire is guided and is forced into the loop, it being retained therein against accidental displacement by the springing qualities of the metal of which the stay is manufactured.

From the foregoing it will be observed that my improved stay admits of the exercise of the greatest economy in its manufacture.

By cutting the stays with diagonal ends and then slitting the ends, as described, two sharp-pointed barbs are formed without waste of metal. These stays may be attached to any construction of wire fence, either barbed or plain. The edges of the stays may be left smooth, or they may have barbs formed thereon by a cut, the severed portion being bent outwardly from the main body of the stay.

It is evident that slight changes in the construction and relative arrangement of the parts might be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention, and hence I

would have it understood that I do not limit myself to the precise construction and arrangement of parts shown and described; but

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

A stay for barb-wire fences, consisting of a metal strip having its ends severed by a diagonal cut and slitted longitudinally, one-half
10 of the slitted portion forming an end barb and

the other half bent back upon the stay, forming a loop, the end of the latter being bent outwardly to form a lateral barb, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I
have hereunto set my hand.

THOMAS SHUMAN.

Witnesses:

D. A. MCNAIR,
S. A. STOVER.