

(No Model.)

T. H. DODGE.

SUPPORT AND GUARD FOR FENCING.

No. 285,979.

Patented Oct. 2, 1883.

Fig. 1.

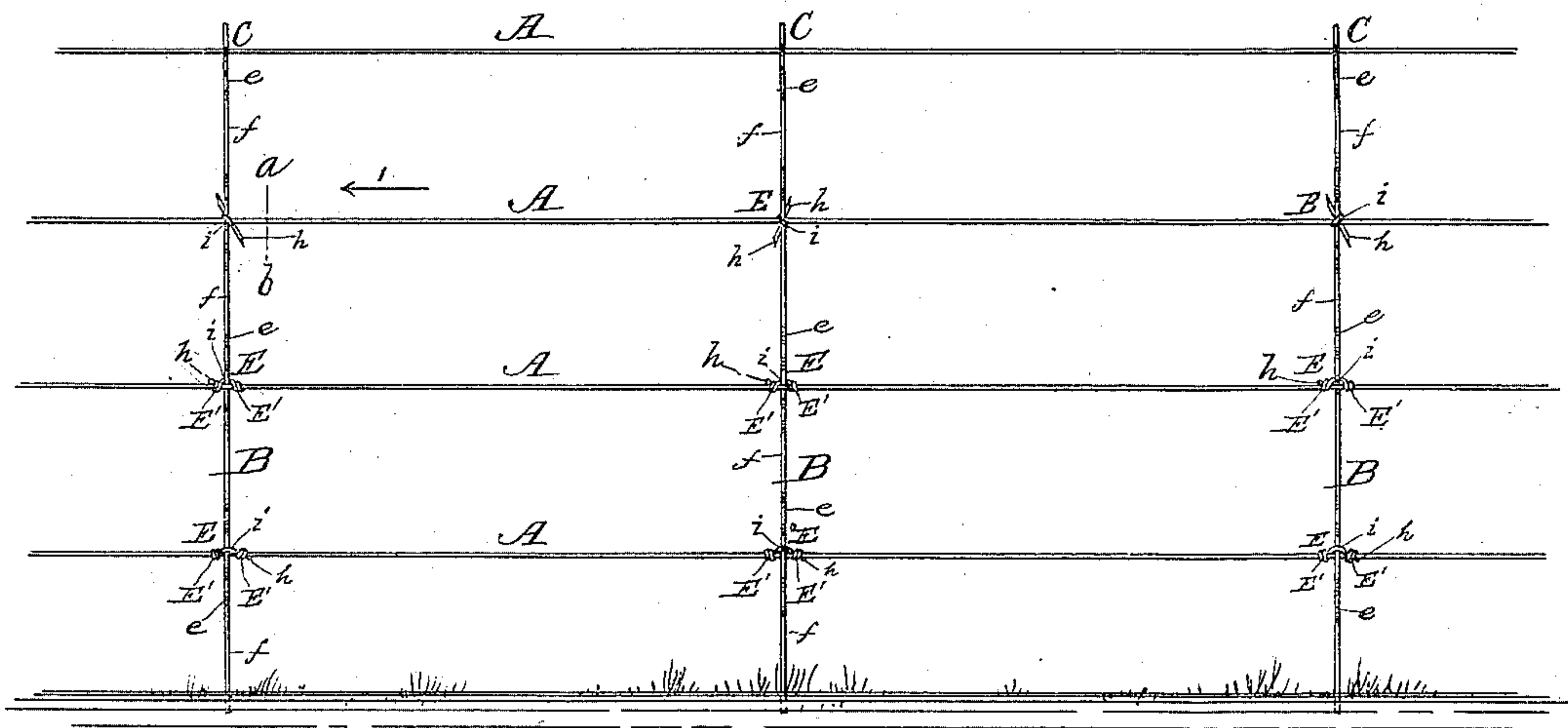


Fig. 2.

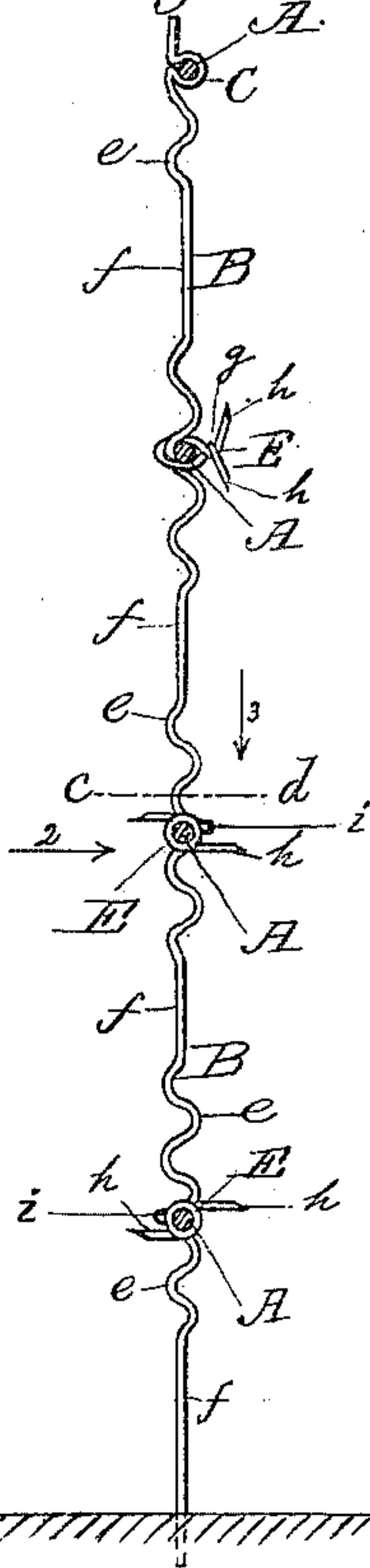


Fig. 3.

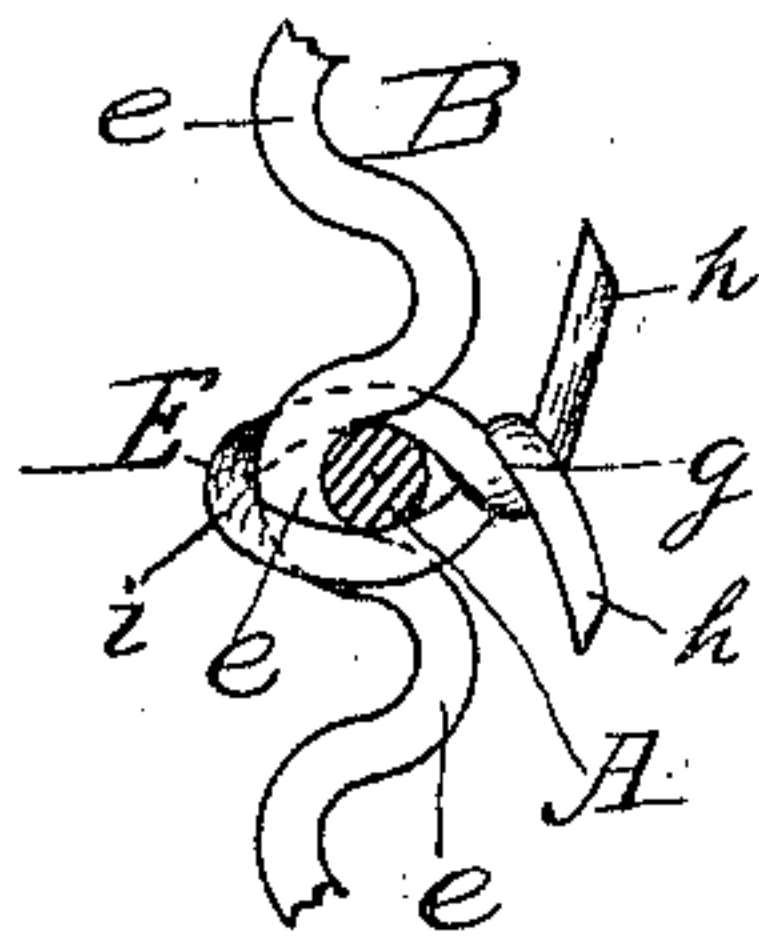


Fig. 4.

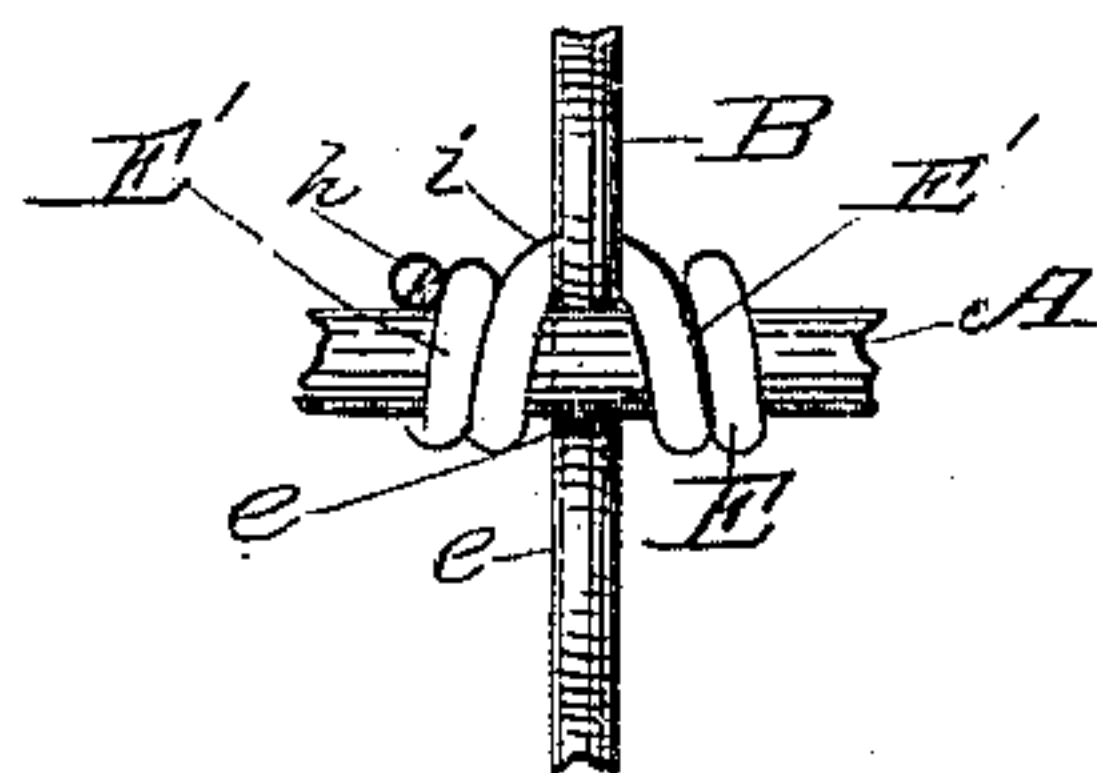
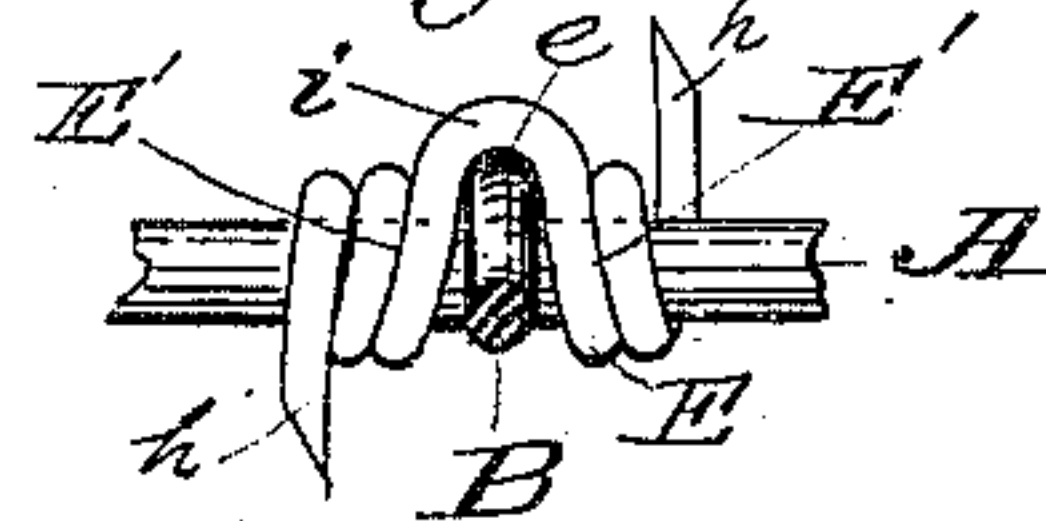


Fig. 5.



Witnesses;

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SUPPORT AND GUARD FOR FENCING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 285,979, dated October 2, 1883.

Application filed April 21, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. DODGE, of the city and county of Worcester, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metal Supports and Guards for Wire and Metal-Strip Fencing; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side view of a section of a wire fence having my invention in combination therewith. The main supporting-posts, being the same as in common use, are not shown, but simply the fence-wires between two posts. Fig. 2 represents a vertical section of the parts shown in Fig. 1, the section being taken between the stays or braces of the fence, as will be hereinafter described. Fig. 3 represents upon an enlarged scale a section or portion of the fence on line *a b*, Fig. 1, looking in the direction of arrow 1, same figure. Fig. 4 represents upon an enlarged scale a section of a portion of the fence, looking in the direction of arrow 2; and Fig. 5 represents upon an enlarged scale a section of a portion of the fence on line *c d*, looking in the direction of arrow 3.

To enable those skilled in the art to which my invention belongs to make and use the same, I will proceed to describe the device more in detail.

The invention consists in the combination, with the main wires and metal stay or brace wires, constructed as hereinafter described, of the holding-staples for securing the brace-wires to the main fence-wires; also, in the same parts, in combination, when the holding-staples have their ends pointed and projecting outward.

In the drawings, the parts marked *A A A A* are the main fence-wires, which may be barbed or otherwise, as preferred, and these wires are to be supported in the usual way by posts set in the ground at suitable distances apart. The vertical stay or brace wires *B* are provided with a series of short curves or bends, *e*, and smooth or straight parts *f*, and by preference the upper end is made with a loop, *C*, to clasp, when closed, the upper strand *A* of the fence. The brace-wires are fastened to the main wires

by means of wire staples *E*, and the ends of these staples may be coiled about the main strands *A*, as fully shown at *E' E'*, in Figs. 4 and 5, or their ends twisted together, as shown at *g* in Fig. 3. In either case it will be seen that the main wires *A* are securely clamped to the stay or brace wires *B*, and that, too, in such a manner that the main strands *A* are retained at the same distances apart, this result being accomplished by the main wires fitting into the bends *e*, where they are held by clamping-wires, as fully indicated in the drawings.

By reference to Figs. 4 and 5 it will be seen that the center *i* of the staple *E* is drawn close against the brace-wire *B*, while the staple ends *E'* are coiled in opposite directions upon the main strand *A*, with their points *h h* left projecting in opposite directions, the staple thereby performing a double function—viz., that of holding the stay or brace wire to the main strand *A*, and of protection against the crowding of stock against the fence. This stay or brace possesses this advantage over the one for which I have heretofore received Letters Patent—viz., that it can be readily adapted to fences in which the main wires are not arranged at uniform distances apart, as those skilled in the art will readily understand, since the main wire can fit into and be held by the clamp or staple wires in either of the bends *e*, and these are of such number in each group as to answer for all ordinary variations in the distances apart at which the main wires may have been strung or put up.

If preferred, barbs may be attached to the straight parts *f*, and thereby afford still greater protection against the crowding of stock against the fence.

By making one loop *C* at the upper end of each stay or brace wire they can be first arranged in position and these loops closed on the top wire, which will be quite sufficient to retain the stay or brace wires in the proper position, to be afterward strapped or clasped to all the other main wires.

The advantages of stay or brace wires have been set forth in my former patent, and therefore need not be repeated here.

It will be seen that these stay or brace wires can be manufactured and sold to the trade,



and can be readily applied to or upon any of the wire fences, barbed or unbarbed, in use.

In applying the stay or brace wires they may be passed on alternate sides of the main wires, 5 if preferred. It will be seen that the short bends *e* are so short and abrupt that when the stay or brace wires and longitudinal fence-wires are secured together by the clamping-wires, the whole structure is quite stiff, and there is 10 no play in the joints.

I have only shown the device as applied to plain wire fences; but it is equally applicable to cabled or twisted main strands, and also to metal-strip fencing. In the latter case the 15 bends in the braces would of course be made of such shape and size as to receive the strips of the main strands and hold them from slipping up or down after the staple-wires had been applied; and the main fence-strands, 20 whether flat or round, or of other shape, may be barbed in the usual manner.

If preferred, the ends of the staple-wires may

be twisted together to nearly their points, and both ends left projecting out straight in the same direction. 25

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

1. The combination of the brace-wire having bends or curves, the main wires resting 30 each in one of said bends or curves, and the holding-staples wrapped or coiled about both the main and brace wires at the point of their intersection, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the brace-wires, the 35 main wires, and the holding-staples wrapped or coiled about both said main and brace wires, and having their ends pointed and projecting outward, substantially as described.

THOS. H. DODGE.

Witnesses:

PRESTON H. GROVER,  
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