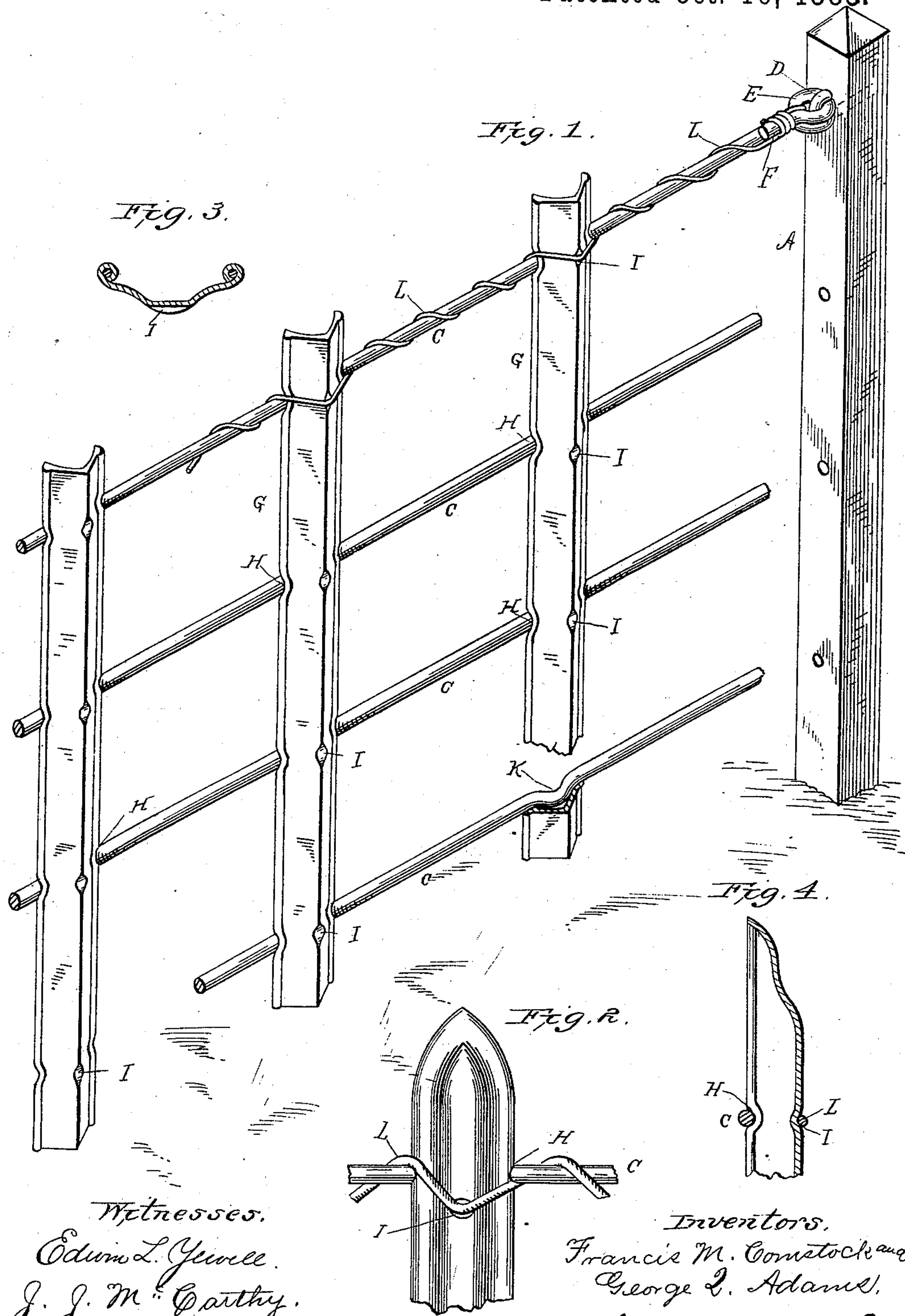


(No Model.)

F. M. COMSTOCK & G. Q. ADAMS.  
FENCE.

No. 286,785.

Patented Oct. 16, 1883.



Witnesses.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

FRANCIS M. COMSTOCK AND GEORGE Q. ADAMS, OF KEOKUK, IOWA.

## FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 286,785, dated October 16, 1883.

Application filed May 24, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, FRANCIS M. COMSTOCK and GEORGE Q. ADAMS, citizens of the United States, residing at Keokuk, in the county of Lee and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to certain improvements in metallic fences, and is particularly applicable to wire fences, either barbed or plain; and it has for its objects to provide such fences with metallic pickets, which will  
15 render them plainly visible and useful for many purposes for which they have heretofore been found inapplicable. These objects we attain by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

20 Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved fence. Fig. 2 is a detached view of a portion of a modification of the same. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view of the said modification, and Fig. 4 a vertical sectional view  
25 of a portion of such modification.

The letter A indicates a wrought-iron fence-post, which is secured in the ground in any suitable manner.

30 The letter C indicates the horizontal wires, which are secured to the post by means of the hooks D, around which the ends of the said wires are twisted, as indicated by the letter E, the extremities being turned back a short distance parallel with the main portion, as indicated by the letter F, for the purpose hereinafter described.

40 The letter G indicates the pickets, which are constructed of rolled metal, preferably of iron. The said pickets are angular in cross-section, as indicated, and are of peculiar construction, in order to secure the utmost strength with a minimum amount of weight of metal, for the purposes of utility and economy. The pickets are formed by rolling the metal in such  
45 a manner that the vertical edges of the same will be of sufficient thickness to impart the proper strength to the picket, the body of the said picket being reduced in thickness to the apex of the angle, as indicated, to save metal and reduce the weight. The said vertical  
50 edges of the pickets may be formed with a bead for the purpose of imparting further

strength to the same. At suitable intervals the edges are indented, as indicated by the letter H, to form seats for the horizontal wires C, as shown, and directly opposite these indentations, at the apex of the angle, are formed indentations I, for the purpose hereinafter explained. At equidistant intervals, or at the intervals at which the pickets are to be  
55 secured, the horizontal wires are elbowed or bent, as indicated by the letter K, in such a manner that the elbows may set into the pickets and afford a secure support for the same as to horizontal movement, and so as to secure  
60 an elasticity of the horizontal wires equal to that of the wrapping-wires, which will equalize the contraction and expansion of the same caused by variations of temperature. The pickets are secured to the horizontal wires by  
65 means of spirally-wrapped wires L, which at their extremities are wrapped around the extremities of the said horizontal wires and the main body of the same, as indicated by the letter M, in order to secure said wires to their  
70 fastenings. The said wires L at each picket are passed back of the same over the indentations at the apex thereof, firmly binding the pickets to the said horizontal wires C.

In the modifications shown in Figs. 2, 3, and  
80 4 of the drawings, the pickets are constructed of sheet metal, and formed by the process of rolling, dropping, or pressing. The edges in this modification are "wired" in the manner well understood by workers in sheet metal, to  
85 afford proper strength, and at suitable intervals are indented, as in the angular rolled pickets, so as to form seats for the horizontal wires. The longitudinal corrugated portions are also indented at proper intervals, for the  
90 purposes hereinbefore mentioned. Without these indentations at the edges and angles of the pickets, and without the elbows or curvings of the horizontal wires, the said pickets would be liable to become displaced or could  
95 be pulled out; but with such indentations and elbows they are securely held against such displacement. Raised lugs will answer the same purpose.

The picket described in the present application forms the subject-matter of an application filed by us of even dated herewith, No. 96,077, and hence we make no claim to the picket *per se* in the present application.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

5 In a wire fence, the combination of the angular metallic pickets, having indentations at their edges and apexes, the horizontal wires bent so as to sit in the angle of the pickets and rest in the indentations at the edges, and the binding-wires embracing the horizontal wires

and resting in the indentations in the apexes of the pickets, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

FRANCIS M. COMSTOCK.

GEORGE Q. ADAMS.

Witnesses:

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