(No Model.)

W. C. GHOLSON.

WIRE FENCE.

No. 353,129. Patented Nov. 23, 1886.

Fig. 1.

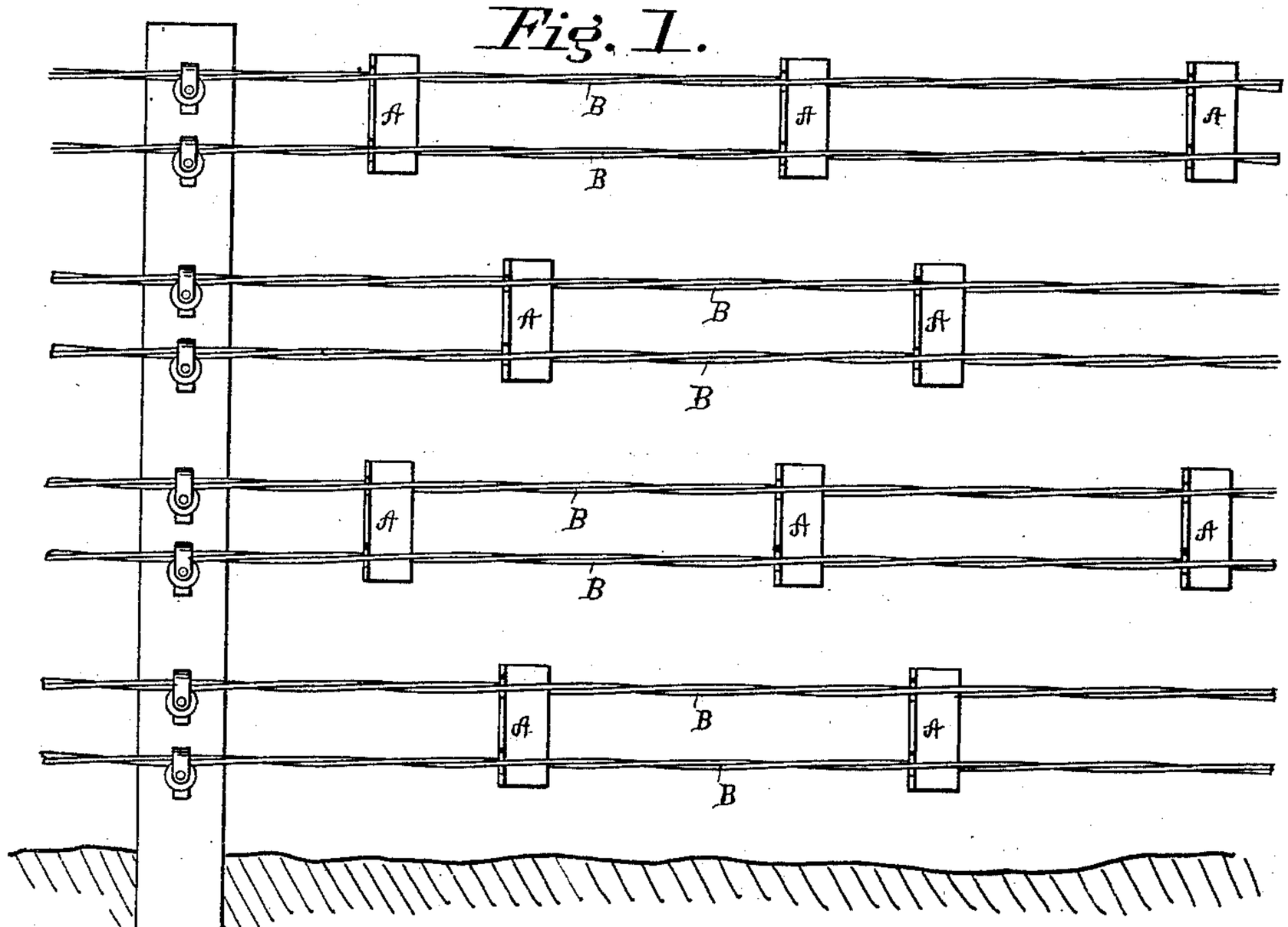
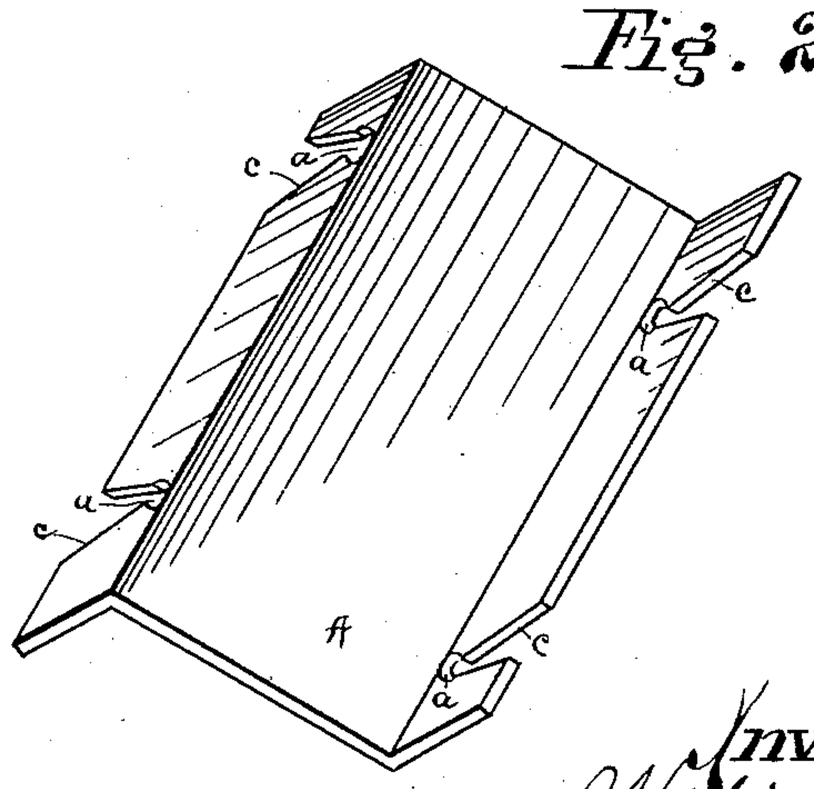


Fig. 2.



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WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 353,129, dated November 23, 1886.

Application filed November 16, 1885. Serial No. 183,018. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. GHOLSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire Fences, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in wire fences.

The principal objections urged against the ordinary barbed-wire fences are that they are not plainly visible to the stock, the animals are liable to run against them, injuring themselves and breaking or damaging the fence, and that in order to make the barbs, whether of wire or sheet metal, effective the wires must be twisted so tight as to lessen in a great measure the tensile strength of the metal, so that in a short time it becomes brittle and incapable of resisting a heavy strain or the jars to which they are subject in use.

The object of my invention is to overcome these difficulties and provide a cheap, durable fence that is plainly visible, not liable to injure stock, capable of turning either large or small animals, and resisting any force that is liable to come against it.

To this end my invention consists in the subject-matter as more fully described herein, and specifically claimed.

The invention will be first fully described in connection with the accompanying drawings, and then particularly referred to, and pointed out in the claim.

Referring to the drawings, in which like parts are represented by similar reference-letters wherever they occur throughout the various views, Figure 1 represents part of a fence embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view, upon an enlarged scale, of my sheet-metal binding-clip.

The clip A, which is made of light sheet metal, has its longitudinal edges bent at a right angle to the body or central portion, and in opposite directions. Each of the turned edges is perforated at *a* at the angle or bend, the body of the plate being tangent to the perforations, which are somewhat larger than the wires B, which pass through them. A flaring V-shaped notch, *c*, is cut from the perforations *a* through the turned or flanged edge of the plate, to facilitate the entrance of the wires into the perforations as they are twisted to bear upon the flat sides of the plates A and confine them between the twisted wires. Two or more of these wires B are twisted together around the ends, and through the notches of a series of these plates, confining the plates between them at equal distances apart, forming what I term my "wire-fence rail." I prefer to make these plates about four inches in length, and the central portion about one inch across, as I find this to be the most desirable size; but of course the size may be varied, depending somewhat upon the use for which it is intended.

In Fig. 1 I have shown a portion of a four-rail or board fence with the plates A in one rail opposite the space between the plates on the adjacent rails; and I think this is the best arrangement. These rails may be made of any desired length, and any desired number of them may be used to form a fence.

By reason of the peculiar shape of my plates and the notches in their edges, the wires may be loosely twisted together, and may therefore be very tightly stretched without in any way fracturing or lessening their strength. For additional strength the fence may be provided at regular distances apart with a fence-stay, and thus make a very strong fence at a comparatively small cost, as fewer posts are required than with the ordinary barbed-wire fences.

I find it best when using wires of a rather heavy gage to make the twists about one in every three inches. When a two-wire strand or cable is used, smaller wires will of course need to be twisted more; but as the wires of my fence may be drawn very tight there is no liability of the plates A becoming detached, and they are not easily displaced.

I am aware that "warning-plates" are old, as shown and described, for instance, in the patent of Stubbe, No. 287,337, in which the plate consists of a flat piece of metal cut diagonally at the four corners, and these corners bent from each other, in order that the strands of wire may be passed between them, and at the same time to form barbs; also, as set forth in Gore's patent, No. 294,612, which also has the plate cut, through which the wires pass to

form barbs. In both these cases the plates present a warning only directly in front of the fence. By my construction I avoid the use of barbs on the warning-plate, and at the same time, by the construction heretofore described and shown in the accompanying drawings, my plate presents a warning that can be plainly seen from alongside of the fence or from any angle. Again, with my construction it is not necessary to twist the strands but slightly to apply the plate, the plate may be easily applied to wires already put up, and may be easily slid along the wires to any position desired. In those structures where it is necessary to twist the strands tightly and with several coils, the tensile strength of the wire is materially reduced and the strands are easily broken. I avoid this difficulty by my improvement.

I claim—

In combination with two separate wires or cables, each composed of twisted strands of wire, a light sheet-metal plate having its longitudinal edges bent at a right angle to the body or central portion of the plate and in opposite directions, each of the turned edges perforated, as shown at *a*, at the angle or bend, the body of the plate being tangent to the perforations and provided with flaring V-shaped notches *c*, cut from the perforations *a* to facilitate the entrance of the wires into the perforations, substantially as described.

WILLIAM C. GHOLSON.

Witnesses:
JOS. H. BLACKWOOD,
R. G. DUBOIS.