

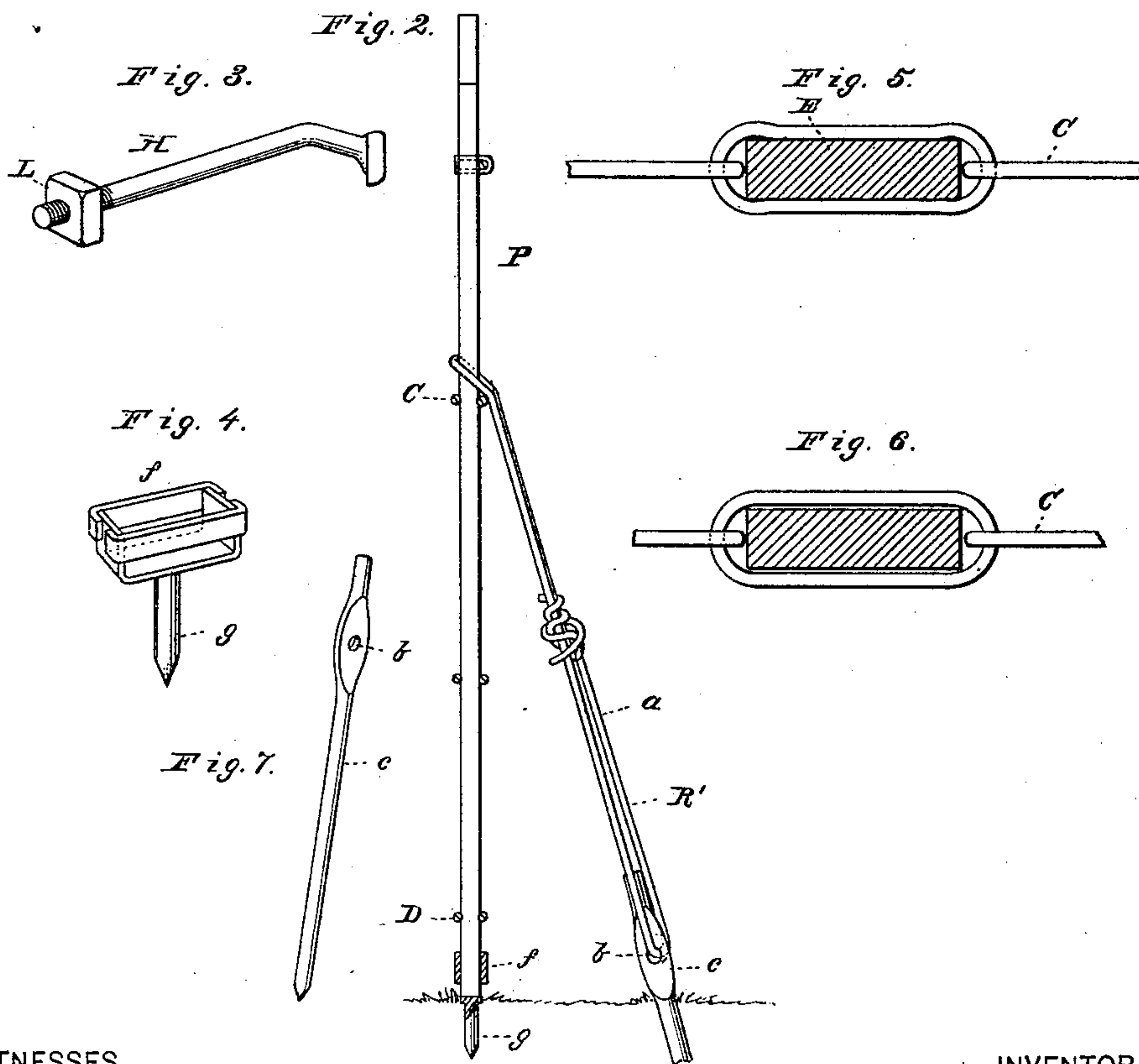
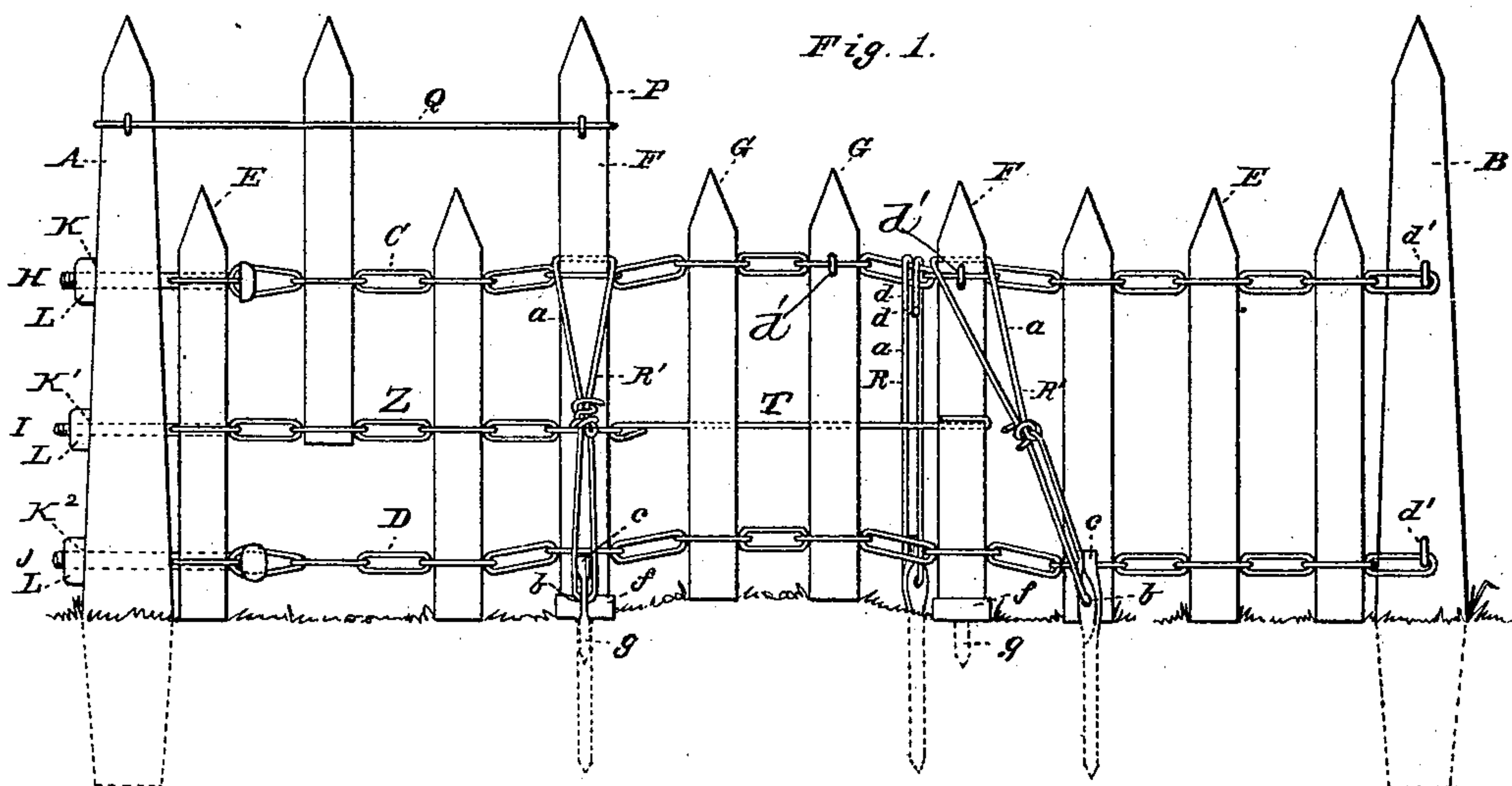
(No Model.)

R. L. WHITTINGTON.

FENCE.

No. 353,903.

Patented Dec. 7, 1886.



WITNESSES

Villette Anderson.  
Philip C. Masi.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REES LITTLETON WHITTINGTON, OF BEDFORD, IOWA.

## FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 353,903, dated December 7, 1886.

Application filed April 21, 1886. Serial No. 199,641. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, REES LITTLETON WHITTINGTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bedford, in the county of Taylor and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do 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 or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of this invention, and is a side view. Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are details.

My invention relates to improvements in fences, and it consists in the construction and novel combination of parts, as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

Referring to the drawings, the end posts of a section of a fence built in accordance with my improvements, are designated by the letters A and B, and the lower stringer, C, and the upper stringer, D, of the sections of fence are composed of chains, in the links of which the pickets or palings E E F F G G are inserted.

The post A is provided with threaded hook-rods H I J, which rest in seats K K' K<sup>2</sup>, made through the post from edge to edge, said hook-rods H I J being provided with tightening-nuts L, which are turned up by means of a wrench to stretch the chain stringers and the chain and wire stringers, and also to tighten and loosen them when necessary to provide for contraction under cold and expansion under heat.

The links of the chains are tightened around the palings or pickets by compressing the links, except where it is desirable or necessary to provide a gateway or passage for small stock and poultry. At such points the links embrace the pickets loosely, so that the latter may be raised up in the links or lifted therefrom entirely to form the desired passage for small stock and poultry.

The chain stringers are arranged one near the upper end and one near the lower ends of the pickets, and where it is desired to form a gateway an intermediate chain is used, as shown at Z. By having this intermediate

chain it will be seen that when the pickets are raised out of the links of the lower chain to form a gateway they will be held in the links of the said intermediate chain. When it is desirable, a wire may be used intermediate of the chains throughout the fence, for the purpose of adding strength to the structure. One section of this wire is indicated at T, Fig. 1.

In cases where it is desired to construct the fence to confine poultry, the posts are made longer and long pickets P are employed at intervals to support a wire or wires, as Q, to prevent the poultry from flying over the fence.

It will be seen that the wire Q, secured to the sides of the posts A and B, is on a different vertical plane from the main fence wire or links. Thus when the pickets are raised, as above described, the wire Q will press against them laterally at their upper ends and hold them in a raised position.

In order to support or stay the fence between the posts A and B, I provide stays, which are each formed from a single piece, *a*, of wire passed through an eye, *b*, near the upper end of a stake, *c*, and bent at its middle, and provided with hooks *d d* at its ends, said hooks *d d* being bent in opposite directions and hooked over the upper chain stringer.

As a modification of this wire stay, the wire *a* is passed through the eye of stake *c*, and then passed around the picket above the upper link, through which the picket passes, and is brought down to about the middle of the wire, the lower end being brought up to about the middle of the wire, and the two ends are tied by bending them around the wire in any convenient manner, preferably, however, as shown. Staples *d'* are used to secure the links to the pickets at the points where the stays are used, also at other points where they may be necessary. The stays hold the chains in such manner as to cause them to follow the contour of the ground or to turn a corner at any angle without the use of posts. The palings or stakes F F, at the points where the stays or braces come, rest on cast-metal blocks or feet *f*, having points *g*, which sink. These blocks or feet *f* prevent these palings F F from sinking into the ground, and also prevent them from rotting.

When it is desired to remove the fence from



one location and erect it in another, the fence may be detached from the posts and rolled up in sections and loaded for hauling to such place of erection, where it may be again erected with  
5 very little trouble.

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

The combination, with the fence-post and the  
10 stretcher-post connected by chain stringers, of the chain and wire stringer intermediate of the

upper and lower stringer, the stationary pickets, and the stay-wires provided with securing-stakes, and the movable pickets resting in alternate links of the upper, lower, and intermediate stringers, substantially as specified. 15

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

REES LITTLETON WHITTINGTON.

Witnesses:

GEORGE W. BEEBE,  
CHARLES THOMAS.