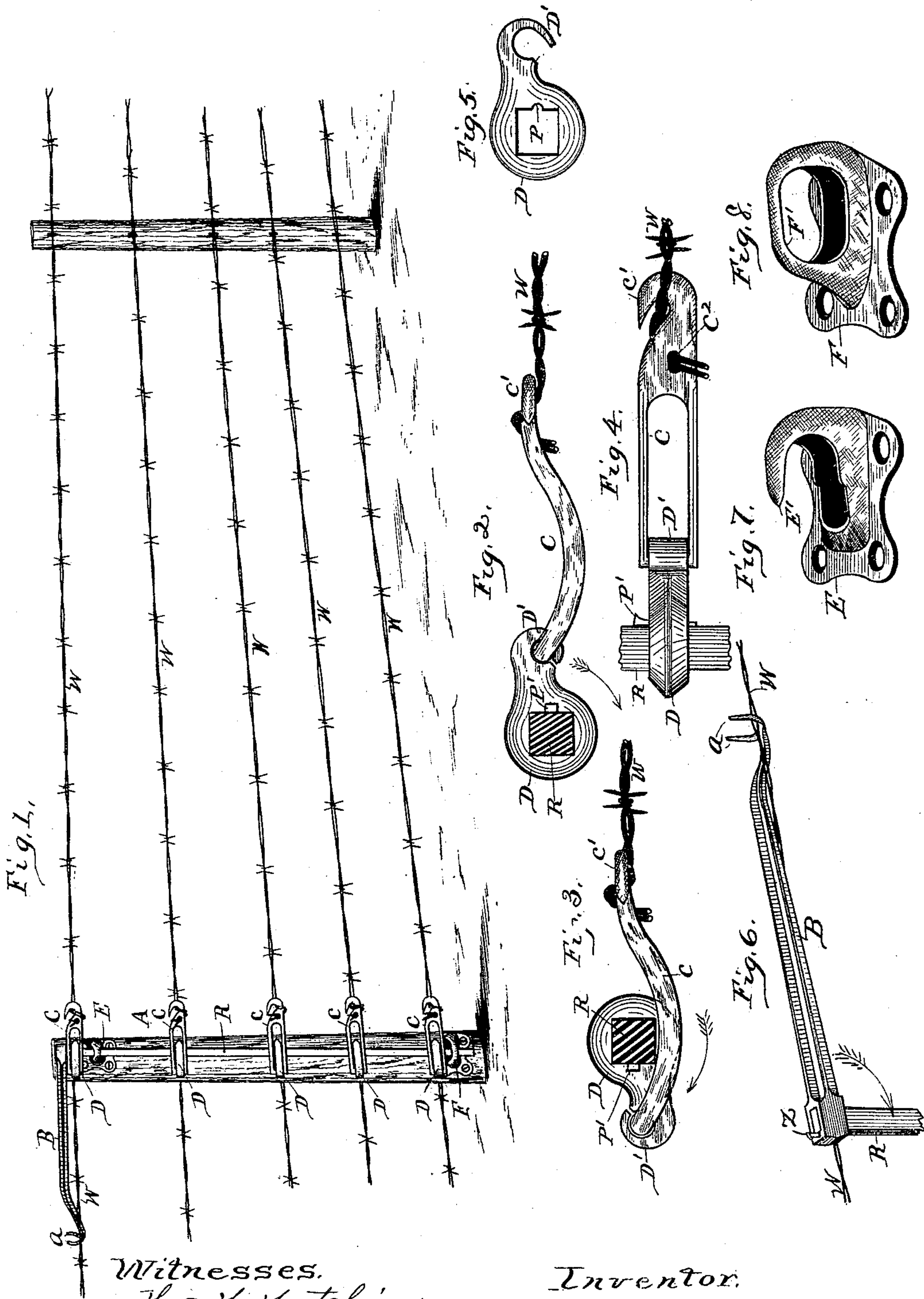


(No Model.)

W. M. CLOW.
WIRE FENCE GATE.

No. 354,095.

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WILLIAM M. CLOW, OF WHEATLAND, ILLINOIS.

WIRE-FENCE GATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 354,095, dated December 14, 1886.

Application filed July 6, 1886. Serial No. 207,186. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM M. CLOW, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Wheatland, in the county of Will and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire Fence Gates, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to certain improvements in wire-fence gates, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and the letters and figures thereon, which
15 form a part of this specification, and this invention is intended and is made as an improvement on my device covered by Letters Patent No. 315,599, of April 14, 1885, for "device for forming openings in wire fences."

20 The object of this invention is so to construct and arrange the parts hereinafter described, and so to unite them with the post and wires of a wire fence, that openings or passage-ways may be made through a wire
25 fence at any place along its length for convenience in passing from one field to another without having to erect a permanent gate in the fence, and also for tightening or loosening the fence-wires when desired.

30 Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a portion of a wire fence, showing the device attached thereto as it would appear when in service and closed. Fig. 2 is a detailed top plan view of one of
35 the hooked arms of the device and its strand-wire-connecting link, and a cross-section of the bar to which they are secured, showing the relative position of said parts when the device is open to form a passage-way through a wire
40 fence. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the relative position of said parts when the device is closed to close the said passage-way. Fig. 4 is a side plan view of said parts in the same relative position as shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 5
45 is a plan view of one of the hooked arms of the device, showing its hook open as it appears before being closed upon its accompanying link. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the forked lever and a portion of the rotatable rod
50 of the device to which said lever is secured. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the hinge-hook

which holds the upper part of the device when closed, and Fig. 8 is a similar view of the hinge-clip which holds the bottom part of the device when closed.

55 A and A' represent the posts of an ordinary wire fence, and W the wire strands or cables thereof. When it is desired to secure one of the opening devices to a wire fence, the strands or cables thereof are cut off close to one post, and
60 their loose ends are secured to the links of the device, as shown. To the side of the post next to where the wires were cut are secured, by means of nails or screws, the hinge-clip F, (shown in Fig. 8,) at or near the ground, and
65 the hinge-hook E, (shown in Fig. 7,) near the top part of said post above clip F, each in the manner shown in Fig. 1.

R represents a square iron or steel rod, which is of a length to correspond with the height
70 of the fence, and has secured thereto, by means of the keys P', a set of the hooked arms D, by passing said rod through the square holes of said arms and driving said keys into the notches
75 P of said arms, so as to rest against and wedge between said rod and arms. The number of the arms D corresponds with the number of strand wires or cables of the fence to which the device is attached, and they are arranged in line with the strand wires or cables.

80 C represents a link having one end formed to be hooked into hook D' of arm D and be inclosed therein by bending around the extending part of said hook from the form shown in Fig. 5 to the form shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4,
85 so as to form a hinged connection at that place. The extending end of said link is flat, and terminates in a hook, C', and the flat body part has a hole, C², formed therein, as shown particularly in Fig. 4. Each one of the arms D
90 used with the device has hinged thereto, as described, a link, C, and the wires W of the fence are each secured to a link, C, in their respective order, in the manner shown in Fig. 1 and in detail in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, by first pass-
95 ing the cut-off ends of the strand wires or cables W through the holes C² of the links, then giving them a bend over the side of the link and hooking them under hooks C'. This is a very simple and easy way of attaching the
100 strand-wires and holding them by frictional contact with the link; and also by means of

this link-connection the strand wires or cable W can be taken up or let out through the holes C² to properly adjust them.

B represents a lever, which has a square hole formed through its fulcrum end, and is secured to the upper end of rod R by means of a key, Z, in the same manner as the arms D, as shown in Figs. 1 and 6. The extending end of lever B is formed to be on a plane below that of the body part of said lever, and so far below said body part that a strand wire or cable brought under the said body part can be placed upon said lowered extending end and between its forks *a* without being held crooked when in position, which is also shown in Figs. 1 and 6.

The method of using this device is substantially as follows: The fence is approached and a proper post selected. The hinge-hook E and hinge-clip F are secured to the side of said post in their proper position. The strand wires or cables W are cut and secured to their respective links C, as described. The lower end of rod R is then inserted into the loop F' of hinge-clip F at the base of the post, and the upper part of said rod R is hooked back of hook E' of hinge-hook E. The arms D and links C will then be in the position shown in Fig. 2, and lever B will extend in the opposite direction from that shown in Fig. 1, and when in that position the panel-wires W will be loose, and the rod R, with its lever-arms, the links, and the fence-wires, can then be detached from the hinge hook and clip of the post and brought around to one side, as a gate, to form a passage-way through the fence. When it is desired to close said passage-way, said parts are brought back to their former position, and the rod R is again placed in the hinge-clip and hinge-hook, as described. The lever B is then grasped and turned half-way around in the direction shown by the arrows in Figs. 2, 3, and 6, and passed over the top strand wire or cable of the adjoining panel of the fence, and the said wire or cable is raised in front of the lever and placed over its lowered extending end and between the forks *a* thereof, as shown in Figs. 1 and 6. When the rod R is in position to close the passage-way, as shown in Fig. 1, the lower arm, D, on said rod will rest upon the hinge-clip F, and the working parts of the device will be supported thereby, so that the links C will be on line with the fence-wires W, and when the lever B is turned, as described, it will turn with it the rod R and the arms D, secured thereto, and the result is, that the hooks D' of said arms which are hinged to the links C are reversed from their position as represented in Fig. 2 to a position as represented in Figs. 3 and 1, thus drawing on the links C and tightening the wires W as the change takes place. The links C are curved in such form as to partially reach around rod R, to permit the hooks D' of arms D to be on the exact opposite side of rod R when the device is closed from their position when the device is open, as shown in Fig. 3, thus lock-

ing said links and fence-wires in position when the device is closed, so as nearly to release lever B from back strain. A little or as much strain may be given the strand-wires W, to adapt them to different temperatures, as may be desired, by taking up or letting out said wires through the holes C² of the links C.

By the herein-described construction of parts this device becomes adapted for service in any wire fence, and will work equally well left hand as right hand, and its lever B is so formed that the locking-wire may be placed between its forks *a* with like effect from either side.

The advantages gained in this device over my aforesaid patent are substantially as follows: In the first place the new form of lever B is such that it can be cast complete for use and applied to a rod of any desired length, and the form of its extending end is such that its locking-wire can be brought up in front of it from either side and deposited between its forks and held when placed between them without crooking said wire. Should the wire be raised, it still remains in front of the lever and prevents the lever from becoming released, and on being lowered it will itself enter between the forks *a*, as the tendency of the lever is to turn against the wire. To release the said locking-wire from the lever, the lever must be held while the wire is removed, and thus it is not probable that stock can release the lever in any manner.

Another novel feature consists in having the hooked arms D adjustable on the rotatable rod R, and adapted to be secured thereon in line with the fence-wires, and so that any number may be used corresponding with the number of fence-wires. It is novel, also, to have the links C curved, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, so that when said rod is rotated backward to bring said links and arms D in the position shown in Fig. 3 the line of the fence-wires attached to said links will fall within the center of said rod, and thereby relieve said lever B from a backward strain caused by tension of the fence-wires. I also deem the hinge-clip F and hinge-hook E to be novel in form, so they will properly support the rod R and the parts at a suitable distance from the side of the post and permit said rod to operate as stated, and in general each part of the device is complete when cast, and being preferably malleable castings, (except the rod R, which is simply a plain square iron or steel rod cut off the proper length,) they are very strong, light, and effective.

In putting the device together the links C are coupled with the arms D and the hooks D' of the arms closed upon the links. The arms D, with their links, are then sleeved on rod R and keyed in place, so as to be on line with their respective wires, a nail being well adapted for use as a key. The lever B is then secured on the upper end of rod R in like manner. Next the hinge-clip and hinge-hook F and E are nailed or screwed to the desired post, and, lastly, the fence-wires are cut off

next to said post and secured to their respective links C, and the device is then ready for service in the manner described.

5 Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows, to wit:

10 1. The combination, with the rotatable rod R and lever B, of the adjustable hooked arms D and curved links C, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with the posts and wires of a fence and the hinge-hook E and hinge-clip F, of the rod R, forked lever B, hooked arms D, and links C, constructed substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

15 3. The adjustable arms D, having the hooks D', in combination with the links C, rotatable rod R, and fence-wires W, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination, with the rotatable rod R 20 and arms D, having the extending hooks D', of the links C, having their body part curved so as to partially surround said rod, and adapted to be locked in position with said hooked arms when the device is in service and closed, 25 substantially as set forth.

5. The combination, with the hinge-clip F and hinge-hook E, secured to a fence-post, of the rod R, and the forked lever B and hooked arms D, secured to said rod, as specified, and 30 the links C, hinged to said arms and having the fence-wires secured to said links, as and for the purpose set forth.

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