

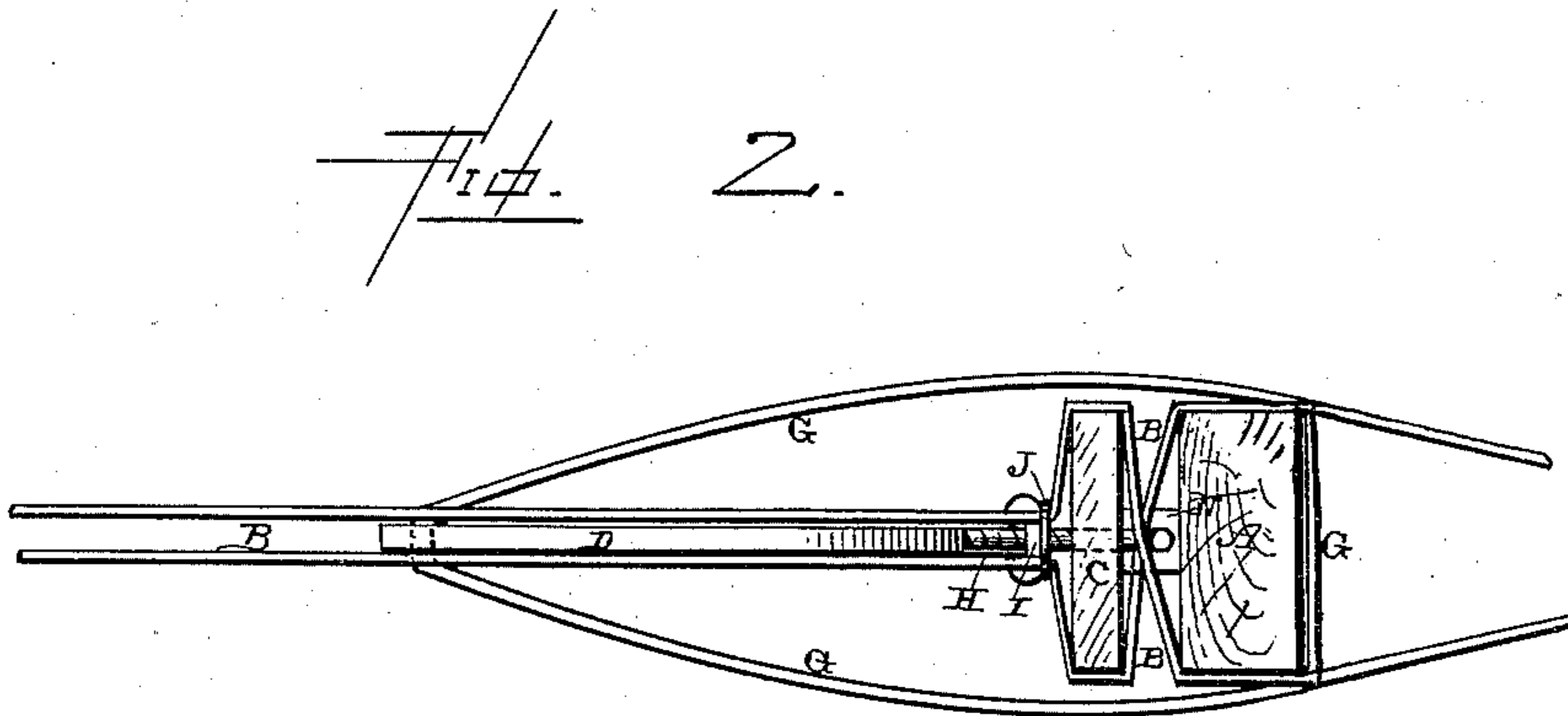
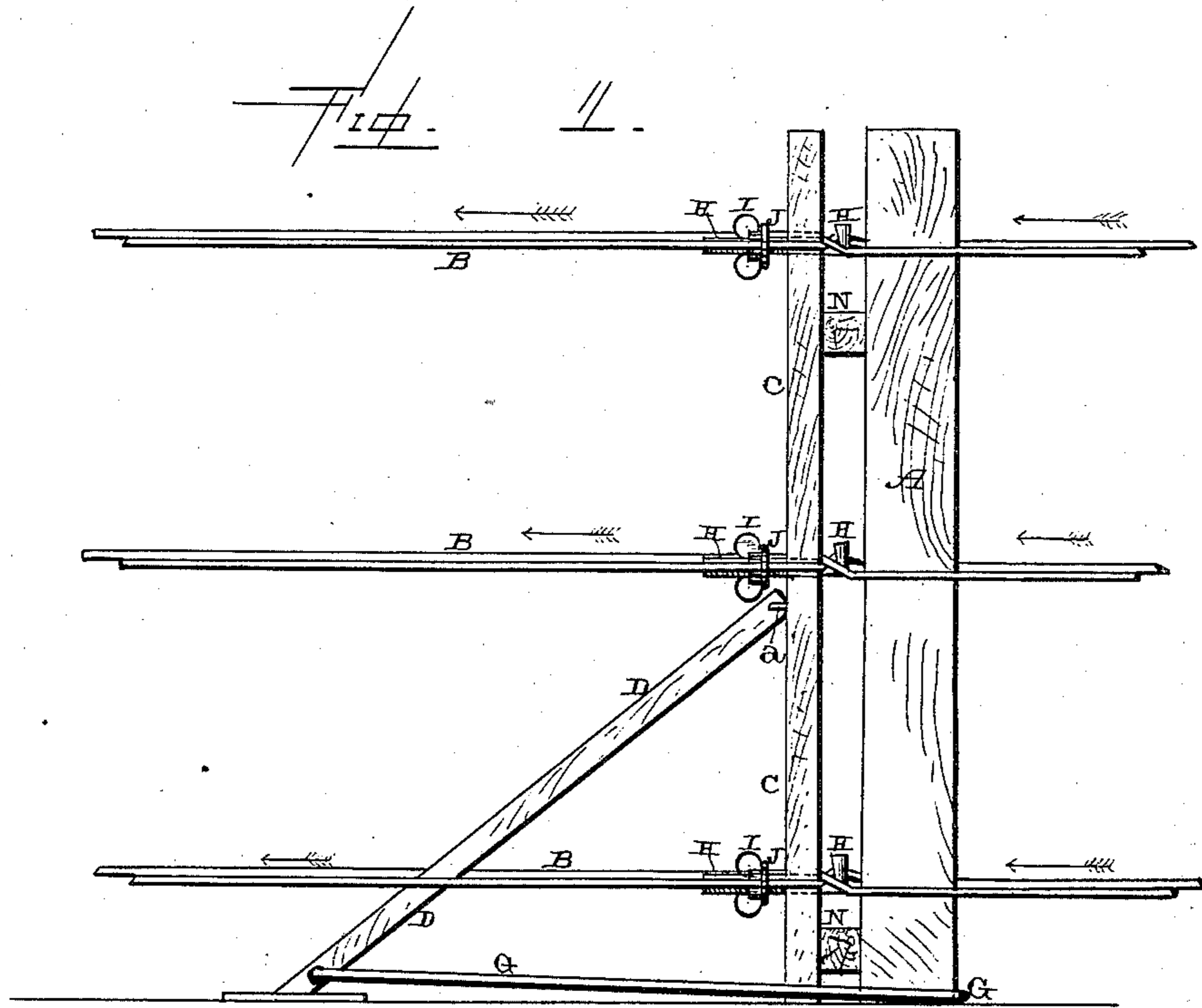
(No Model.)

J. WINTRODE.

TENSION DEVICE FOR USE IN CONSTRUCTING WIRE AND PICKET FENCES.

No. 368,561.

Patented Aug. 16, 1887.



WITNESSES.

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JACOB WINTRODE, OF HUNTINGTON, INDIANA.

TENSION DEVICE FOR USE IN CONSTRUCTING WIRE-AND-PICKET FENCES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 368,561, dated August 16, 1887.

Application filed June 27, 1887. Serial No. 242,649. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB WINTRODE, of Huntington, in the county of Huntington and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tension Devices for Use in Constructing Wire-and-Picket Fences; and I do hereby 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in tension device for use in constructing wire-and-picket fences; and it consists in, first, the combination of the tension-bar, a hinged brace which is connected thereto, and a wire loop which is connected to the lower end of the brace, and which is made to catch over the fence-post, whereby the tension device is rigidly secured in any desired position in relation to the fence-post; second, the combination of the tension-bar, and adjusting-screws which pass through the bar, a thumb screw or nut placed upon the screw, the link which catches the wires and regulates the amount of tension of the wires upon the tension-bar, and the fence-post in connection with which the tension-bar is used, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

The object of my invention is to produce a tension mechanism for the wires of picket fences, and in which wires are wrapped alternately around each post of the fence and partly around the tension-bar, and to provide a means whereby the tension-bar can be braced tightly in position in relation to the fence-post.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a mechanism embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same.

A represents the fence-post, and B the wires between which the pickets are to be secured. The tension-bar C, which will be about the same width as an ordinary fence-post, has connected to it by the hinge or coupling *a* at any suitable point the brace D, and connected to the lower end of this brace is the wire loop G, for catching over the fence-post in connection with which the tension-bar is being used. The brace D bears at its lower end solidly upon the ground, and thus supports the tension-bar C from this side, while the loop G serves to pre-

vent the lower end of the brace D from moving outward. In applying this tension-bar to a post the loop G must first be dropped down over the top of the post before any of the other parts are placed in position. The whole pressure upon the tension-bar comes upon the brace D and the loop G, and is transferred to the bar C at or near its center. This bar D and the tension-post C are applied on that side of the post A upon which the pickets are being secured in position, so that as the wires are drawn past the post in the direction of the arrows they will pass through the tension devices.

For each pair of wires which is used in securing the pickets there is passed through the tension-bar C a screw-rod, H, and upon the screw-threaded end of each rod is placed a thumb-nut, I, which is placed in between the two wires, and which bears at its inner side against a loop, J, which is passed over the two wires for the purpose of preventing them from spreading outward. In proportion as this thumb-nut is tightened upon its screw-rod H the loop J is forced toward the tension-bar C, and thus made to tighten the two wires against opposite sides of the tension-bar, as shown. Each screw-rod has its head either formed into a hook or extending at an angle to the rod, so as to pass in between the wires, which are made to cross each other between the tension-bar and the post, as shown. This head, by catching in between the wires at the point where they cross each other, forces them toward the tension-bar by making the bend or curve of the wires around the tension-bar C correspondingly shorter. The distance between the tension-bar and the post A is regulated by the blocks N, which serve to hold them rigidly apart, leaving the screw-rods H to be adjusted back and forth at the will of the operator. When the head of the rod is forced inward toward the tension-bar, and at the same time the thumb-nut I is also turned toward the tension-bar, the curves or bends of the wires are made shorter upon both sides, and in this manner the tension can be increased to any desired degree. Before the wires pass each other at the heads of the screw-rods H they are bent around opposite sides of the post A.

The tension-bar is placed on the side of the post A next to the pickets, and has to be re-

moved when the pickets reach the lower end of the brace D. The tension-bar is then moved along the line of the post a suitable distance, where it is again connected to another post, as
5 shown.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

10 1. The combination of the bar carrying tension devices, the brace connected thereto, and the loop which is connected to the lower end of the brace and capable of catching over the fence-post, substantially as shown.

2. The combination of the bar carrying tension devices, the screw-rods having hooked or angular heads, and the loop which holds the
15 wires in contact with the bar, the wires being crossed between the post and the tension-bar, substantially as described.

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

JACOB WINTRODE.

Witnesses:

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HARRY DUNHAM.