

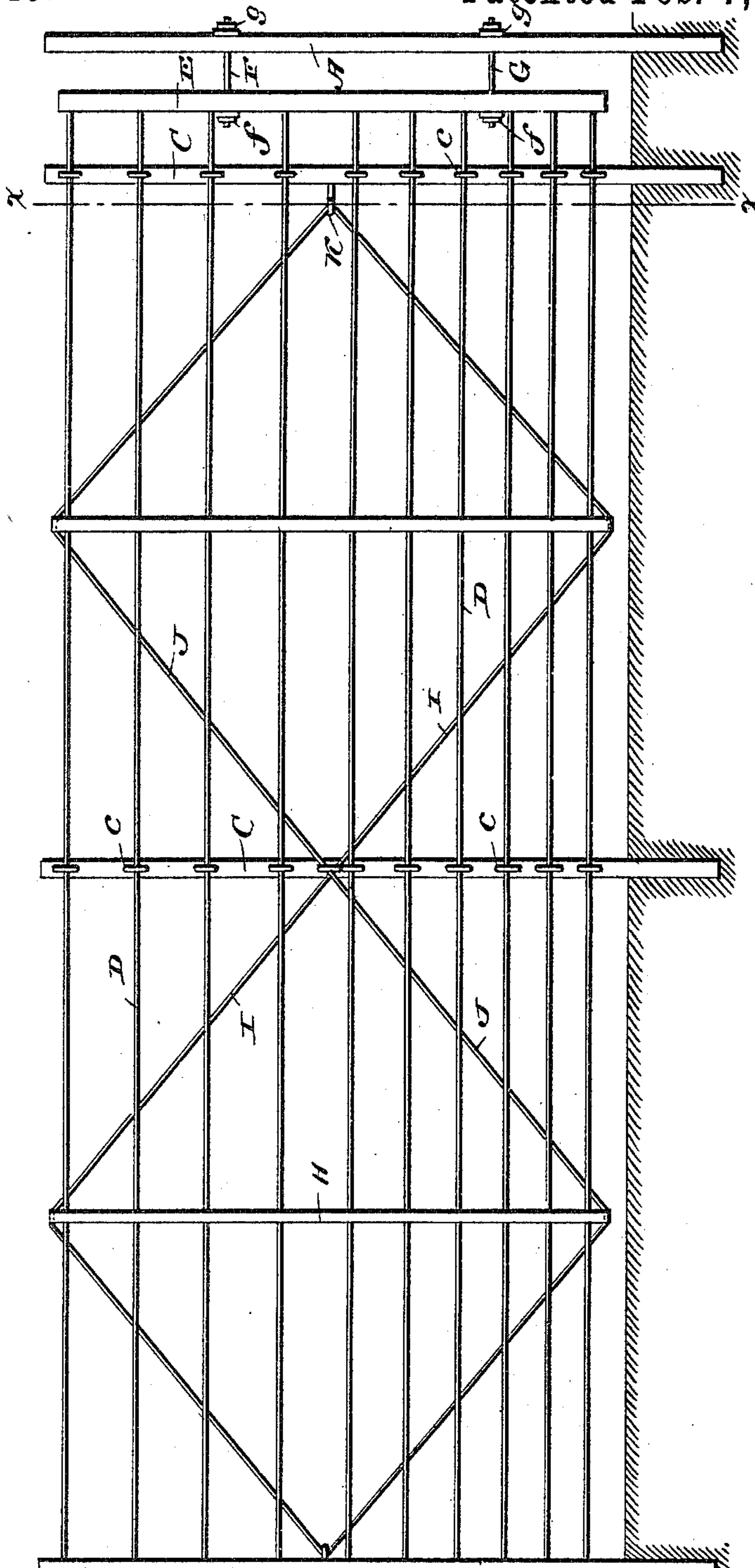
(No Model.)

E. H. McCREEDY.  
WIRE FENCE.

No. 491,440.

Patented Feb. 7, 1893.

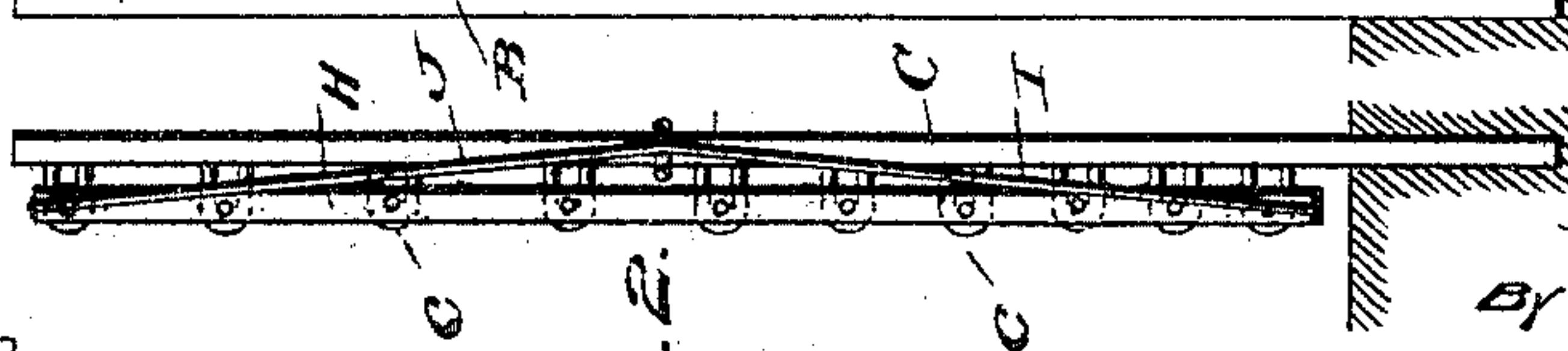
Fig. 1.



Witnesses:

*W. C. Schull*  
*H. J. Berghard*

Fig. 2.



Inventor  
*E. H. McCreedy*  
By *Edmond D. Smith*  
Att'y's.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELBRIDGE H. MCCREEDY, OF CAMDEN, MICHIGAN.

## WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 491,440, dated February 7, 1893.

Application filed August 13, 1892. Serial No. 443,037. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELBRIDGE H. MCCREEDY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Camden, in the county of Hillsdale and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire 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 appertains to make and use the same.

The present invention relates to improvements in wire fences of that class which employ a permanent tension device which forms a part of the fence and by adjusting which the tension of the wires can be increased or decreased according to the state of the weather and at the same time the slack in the wires can be readily and easily taken up.

With these ends in view, the invention consists in the construction, combination and adaptation of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

The accompanying drawings fully illustrate my improved fence, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 is a vertical cross sectional view on the line  $x-x$  of Fig. 1.

Like letters denote like parts in both figures.

A, B, designate the end posts of the fence, C the intermediate posts, and D the line wires, the wires and two adjacent posts forming a panel of the fence.

I have only illustrated two panels in the accompanying drawings for the purpose of enabling those skilled in the art to understand my invention, but it is obvious that any desired number of panels may be constructed by extending the line wires and employing the requisite number of intermediate posts C, and that a series of line wires of any desired number can be used.

The end and intermediate posts A, B, C, are firmly set in the ground, and all the intermediate posts C, are provided with fixed staples or eyes  $c, c$ , through which the line wires are freely passed. The line wires are permanently or rigidly fastened, at one end, to the end post B and after passing freely through the staples or eyes  $c$  of the intermediate posts, said wires are fastened to an adjustable evener bar E

placed in a vertical position between the end post A and the adjacent intermediate post C. Said vertical evener bar is connected adjustably to the end post A by means of the bolts F, G, which pass through suitable openings in said post A and the evener bar, and provided at their ends with nuts  $f, g$ , by which the tension of the wires can be increased in warm weather and slackened in cold weather when the wires are liable to break due to contraction of the metal.

For the purpose of taking up the slack in the wires due to varying changes in the temperature after the evener has been adjusted, I employ the diamond arrangement of lock wires shown very clearly in Fig. 1. A vertical picket H is placed about midway between the posts of each panel of the fence, and through this picket is formed a series of holes through which the line wires are freely passed, the ends of the picket being extended above and below the top and bottom line wires, respectively, and notched or provided with means to receive and retain the lock wires I, J.

The lock wires are fastened at one end to a central eye bolt K fixed to the intermediate post C near the end post A and the evener bar, and from thence said wires diverge, one passing over the top of the first picket and the under beneath the bottom of said picket; the wires then converge and cross each other at the middle of the second post C; thence again diverge and pass respectively beneath and above the second picket; then converge and cross at the middle of the third post  $c$ , and so on throughout the series of pickets and posts until the end post B is reached, where the meeting ends of the lock wires are fastened to the middle of said end post.

A fence constructed in accordance with my improvement can have its wires always in a taut condition as the crossed lock wires and pickets take up any slack in the line wires, and at the same time the tension of the line wires can be regulated according to temperature.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In a wire fence, the combination with the posts, and the line wires, of the pickets loosely

connected to the line wires at points between the posts, an evener-bar adjustably connected by tension devices with a post and having the line wires fastened thereto, and the crossed  
5 lock-wires fastened to the posts and connected to the pickets, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. In a fence, the combination with the line wires and the posts, of the vertical pickets arranged about the middle of the fence panels  
10 and adapted to loosely receive the line wires, and the lock wires loosely connected at their ends to the end posts, and the top and bottom of each picket, and crossing each other at the  
15 intermediate posts, substantially as described.

3. In a fence, the combination with the end

and intermediate posts, of the vertical evener-bar, the pickets between the intermediate posts, the line wires passing loosely through the pickets and intermediate posts and fastened to the evener-bar, the lock wires connected to the pickets and crossing each other at the intermediate posts, and adjustable connections between the evener bar and a fence post, substantially as described. 20

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses. 25

ELBRIDGE H. MCCREEDY.

Witnesses:

L. S. BAKER,  
WM. STRUUK.