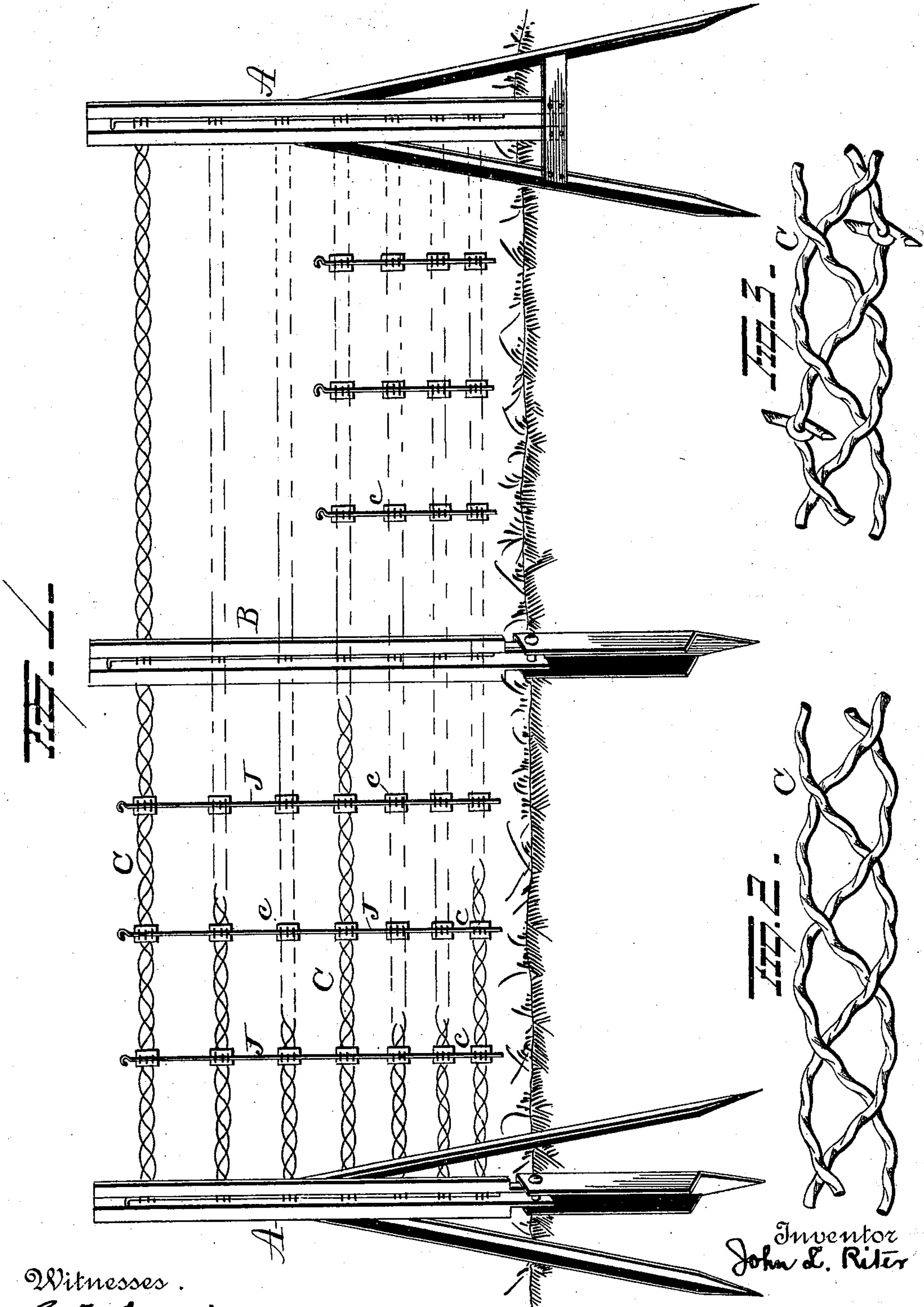


(No Model.)

J. L. RITER.
WIRE FENCE.

No. 506,257.

Patented Oct. 10, 1893.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. RITER, OF BROWNSVILLE, INDIANA.

WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 506,257, dated October 10, 1893.

Application filed August 29, 1892. Serial No. 444,438. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN L. RITER, of Browns-
ville, in the county of Union and State
of Indiana, have invented certain new and
5 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.

10 My invention relates to an improvement in
wire fences and more particularly to im-
provements in the cables for such fences, the
object being to provide an elastic cable capa-
ble of yielding or giving under pressure lat-
15 erally, and secured at suitable intervals, so
that when the pressure is removed it will fly
back to its normal position.

A further object is to provide a cable of
such form that it is free to expand and con-
20 tract under varying temperatures without
injuring any of the parts of the fence.

With these ends in view my invention con-
sists of an elastic cable for fences made of
a series of wires, each wire being coiled spi-
25 rally, the series of wires being plaited to-
gether.

My invention further consists in the com-
bination with rigid posts and an intermediate
pivoted post, of a series of elastic cable, each
30 cable being made up of a series of spirally
coiled wires plaited together.

My invention further consists in the com-
bination with posts and a series of wire ca-
bles secured thereto, each cable being com-
35 posed of a series of spirally coiled wires
plaited together, of stay rods and locks for
securing the cables to said stay rods.

My invention further consists of the parts
and combinations of parts as will be more
40 fully described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1
is a view in elevation of a section of a fence
embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a sec-
tion of the cable, and Fig. 3 shows a section
45 of barbed cable.

A represents rigid posts and B an interme-
diate pivoted post adapted to tilt or incline
with the cables when the latter are pushed
laterally as will be hereinafter more fully ex-
50 plained.

The cables C are secured to the posts in
any suitable manner, and each cable consists
of a series, preferably three, of wires each
wire being bent into spiral form, and the

series plaited together as shown forming a 55
skeleton cable considerably greater in width
than thickness. These wires are loosely
plaited as shown, and being of spiral form
will readily elongate under lateral or longi-
tudinal pressure. The greater the number 60
of coils or turns to any given length of wire,
the greater the elasticity, but I find that from
two to six coils or turns to the foot of wire,
with the coils from an eighth to half an inch
in diameter will be ample for a fence where 65
the posts are located the ordinary distance
apart. With the cables attached to the rigid
posts and to the pivoted posts, it will be seen
that when pressure, such as would be occa-
sioned by stock running against the fence, is 70
exerted on the fence at any point between
the rigid posts, all that portion of the fence
including the pivoted post will give or yield
outwardly and thus greatly lessen chances of
injury to the fence and stock. 75

To prevent the cables from spreading apart
I employ stay rods J. These stay rods are
located at suitable distances apart and are
secured to the cables by the lock c.

If desired I can attach barbs to one or more 80
of the wires as shown in Fig. 3.

It is evident that numerous slight changes
might be resorted to in the relative arrange-
ment of parts herein shown without depart-
ing from the spirit of the invention and hence 85
I would have it understood that I do not wish
to confine myself to the exact construction
herein shown; but,

Having fully described my invention, what
I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters 90
Patent, is—

1. An elastic cable for fences made of a se-
ries of wires each wire being spirally coiled
and the series of wires plaited together, sub-
stantially as described. 95

2. In a wire fence the combination with
rigid posts and an intermediate pivoted post,
of a series of elastic cables, each cable be-
ing made of a series of spirally coiled wires
plaited together, substantially as set forth. 100

In testimony whereof I have signed this
specification in the presence of two subscrib-
ing witnesses.

JOHN L. RITER.

Witnesses:

O. M. BALL,
G. F. DOWNING.