(No Model.)

L. J. WOOLSEY.

WIRE FENCE STAY.

No. 559,248. Patented Apr. 28, 1896.

Fig. 1.

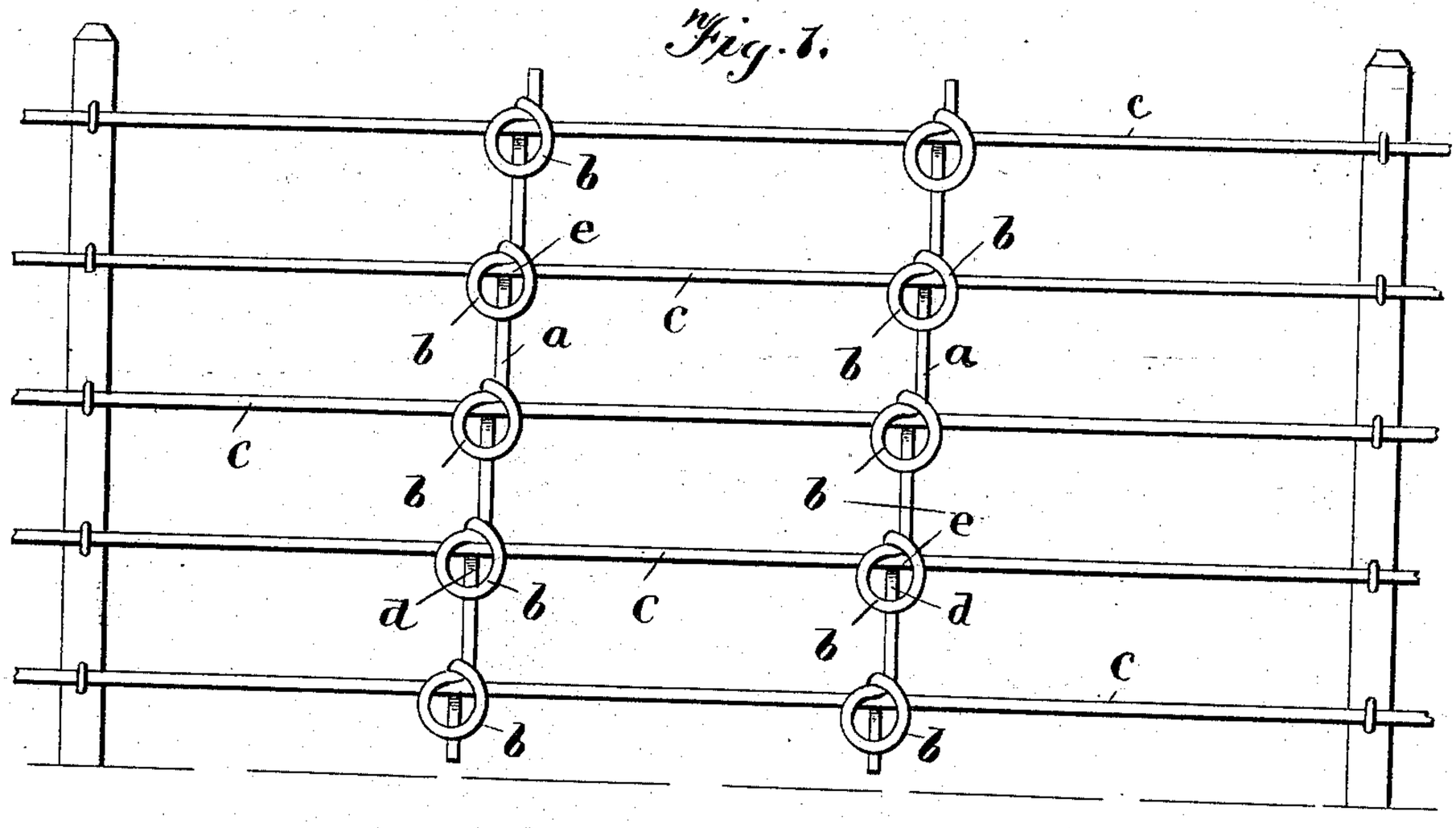


Fig. 2.

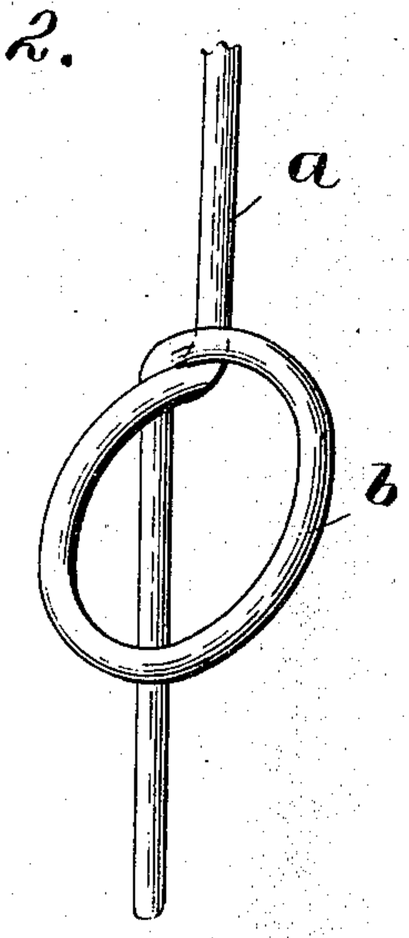
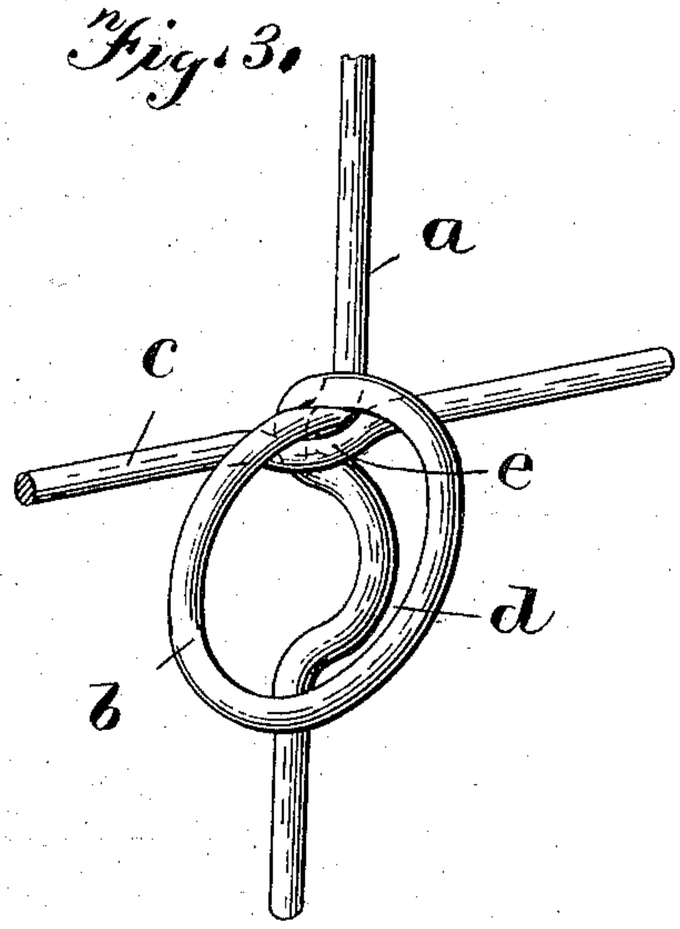


Fig. 3.



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LORENZO JEROME WOOLSEY, OF EGYPT, NEW YORK.

WIRE-FENCE STAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 559,248, dated April 28, 1896.

Application filed January 28, 1896. Serial No. 577,132. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LORENZO JEROME WOOLSEY, of Egypt, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Fence Stays; 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 improvements in wire-fence stays; and it consists in a stay of the particular form hereinafter shown and described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple stay composed of a single piece of wire having circles with transverse portions, the transverse portions being bent in such a way as to clamp the strands of the wire of the fence against horizontal and vertical movement and at the same time to hold the stays securely in position, as will be fully shown and described hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of a fence with my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the stay before it is applied to the fence. Fig. 3 is an enlarged view of the stay after it is applied to the fence and has been bent to hold itself and the fence-strands in position.

My stay consists of a single piece of wire *a*, having the knots or circles *b* formed therein at distances equal to the distances between the strands *c* of the fence. In forming the knots the main portion of the wire *a* extends across the circles *b*, as shown, and the strands of the wire fence are passed between this transverse extending portion and the circle. The wire strand *c* is carried to the crossing-point of the knot, and then the transverse portion is bent laterally, as shown at *d*, forming a kink or shoulder in the transverse portion of the stay and also a kink or shoulder *e* in the fence-wire *c*, the kink *d* in the stay serving to prevent the stay from having any up-and-down movement, and the kink *e* in the fence-wire *c* serving to prevent the stay from having any movement longitudinally of the wire, as will be readily understood.

From this description it will be seen that I have produced a very simple means of clamping the wire stay and the fence-wire securely and firmly together by a simple bending operation.

I am aware that knots have been formed in wire stays and passed around the main wire; but in these instances the wire stay and the fence-wires have not been held or secured firmly together simply by a lateral bend of the stay within the knot or circle, which serves to perform the double function heretofore referred to—namely, of holding the stay against longitudinal movement upon the fence-wire, and holding the stay firmly against vertical movement.

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

1. A fence-stay formed of a wire having a circle formed therein, the wire being crossed and turned around the main portion at the intersection forming said circle and then extended across the circle forming a transverse portion, the fence-wire placed between the transverse portion and the circle at a point just inside said intersection, and an inward bulge formed in the transverse portion at a point inside the fence-wire clamping the latter between the bulge and the intersecting-point of the wire forming the circle.

2. A wire-fence stay composed of a single wire formed into a series of circles corresponding to the number of wires in the fence, the main portion of the stay extending transversely of the circles as shown, in combination with the wire strands passed between the circles and the transverse portion of the stay, the transverse portion of the stay having lateral bends within the circles clamping the wire as shown, and the wires having a lateral bend in the same direction as the lateral bends in the transverse portion of the stay, the parts combined for the purpose of holding them rigidly in position as described.

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

LORENZO JEROME WOOLSEY.

Witnesses:
ANDREW J. DEAL,
GEORGE W. TUMMONDS.