(No Model.)

F. M. NORRIS.
FENCE WIRE STAY.

No. 560,526.

Patented May 19, 1896.

Fig. 1

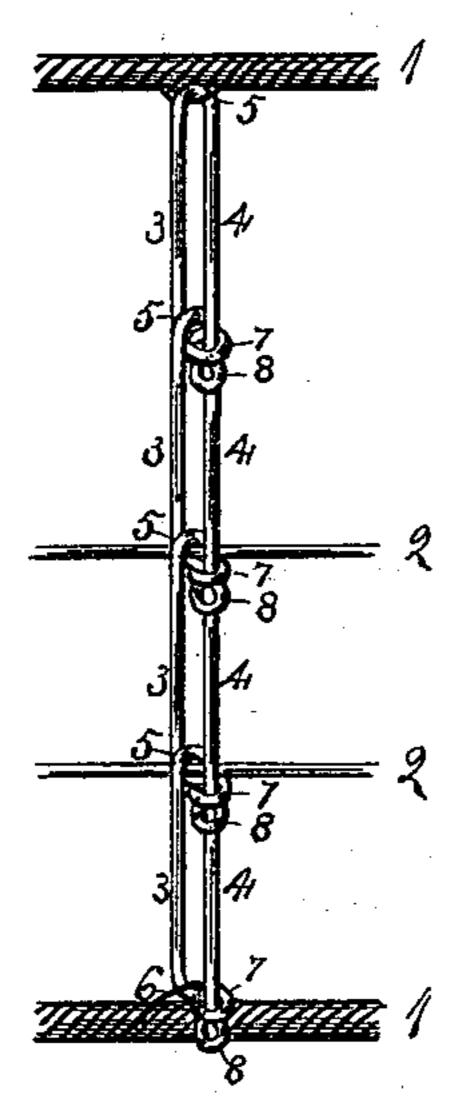
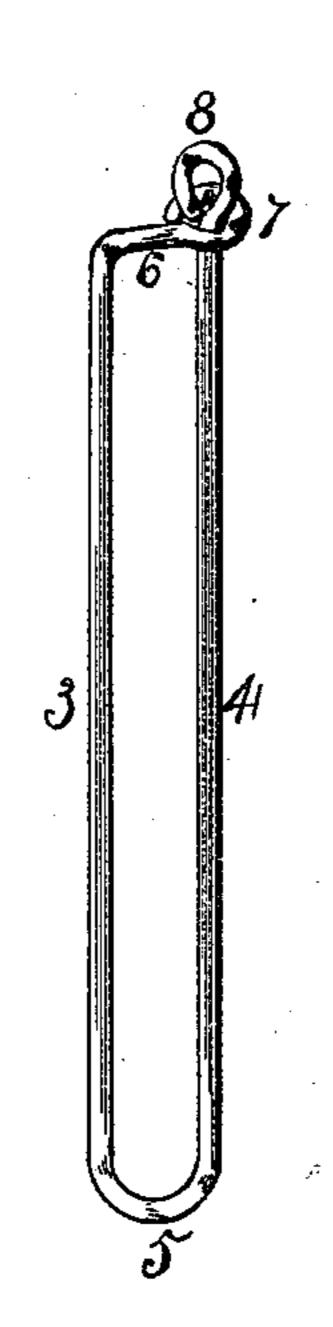


Fig. 2.



Witnesses: I Sovereign E. Behel Inventor: Frank M. norris By a.O. Dehel attis.

## United States Patent Office.

FRANK M. NORRIS, OF FRANKLIN GROVE, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO FRANK H. SLATER, OF SAME PLACE, AND ISAAC BOWERS, OF BROOKVILLE, ILLINOIS.

## FENCE-WIRE STAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 560,526, dated May 19, 1896.

Application filed August 22, 1895. Serial No. 560, 188. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Frank M. Norris, a citizen of the United States, residing at Franklin Grove, in the county of Lee and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Wire Stays, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to construct a stay for wire fencing forming a flexible connection between the lengthwise wires of the

fence.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an isometrical representation of a section of wire fencing to which my improved stay has been applied. Fig. 2 is an isometrical representation of one of my improved stays.

In the make-up of wire fencing employing smooth wire it is essential that the wires be bound together at intervals, in order that the 20 wires cannot be separated, preventing the passage of animals between them. The fence in this instance is composed of top and bottom twisted lengthwise wires 1 and intermediate smooth lengthwise wires 2, located at proper distances, according to the uses to which the fence is intended, and a greater or less number of intermediate lengthwise wires may be employed.

One of my improved stays is shown at Fig. 2, and consists of a single piece of wire having the side sections 3 and 4 connected by an end 5. The section 3 has its free end 6 bent at substantially right angles to its length and formed into an eye 7. The free end of the section 4 passes through the eye 7 of the other section and has its end turned into an eye 8, thereby forming a connection between the free ends of the stay.

At Fig. 1 I have shown the application of my improved stay to the lengthwise wires of 40 a fencing. One strand of the top and bottom wires is separated from the main wire sufficiently to allow the passage of one end of the stay, after which the eye 7 is closed, as shown in the drawings. The next stay is passed 45 through the first stay and below the first smooth lengthwise wire and its ends connected. Other lengthwise wires may be connected in the same manner, or may be connected by a single stay in the manner shown 50 to connect the three bottom wires. By this construction of stay if pressure be brought to bear upon any one of the lengthwise wires above the bottom wire the stays connecting it with the other lower lengthwise wire will slide 55 by each other, so that the stays will not interlock, and upon the release of the pressure all of the stays will assume their normal positions, and by forming the eye in the manner shown it will be impossible for stays to 60 be forced open.

I claim as my invention—

The combination in a wire fencing, of lengthwise wires and stays connecting the lengthwise wires, each composed of a single 65 piece of wire bent in **U** form, the ends of one of the branches bent at substantially right angles to the length of the branch having its end in closed-eye form, the end of the other branch passed through the eye, and formed 70 into a stop just beyond the eye.

FRANK M. NORRIS.

Witnesses:

FRANK H. SLATER,
CLAYTON CHRONISTER,