

(No Model.)

E. A. & H. F. BARKER.  
WIRE FENCE.

No. 561,555.

Patented June 9, 1896.

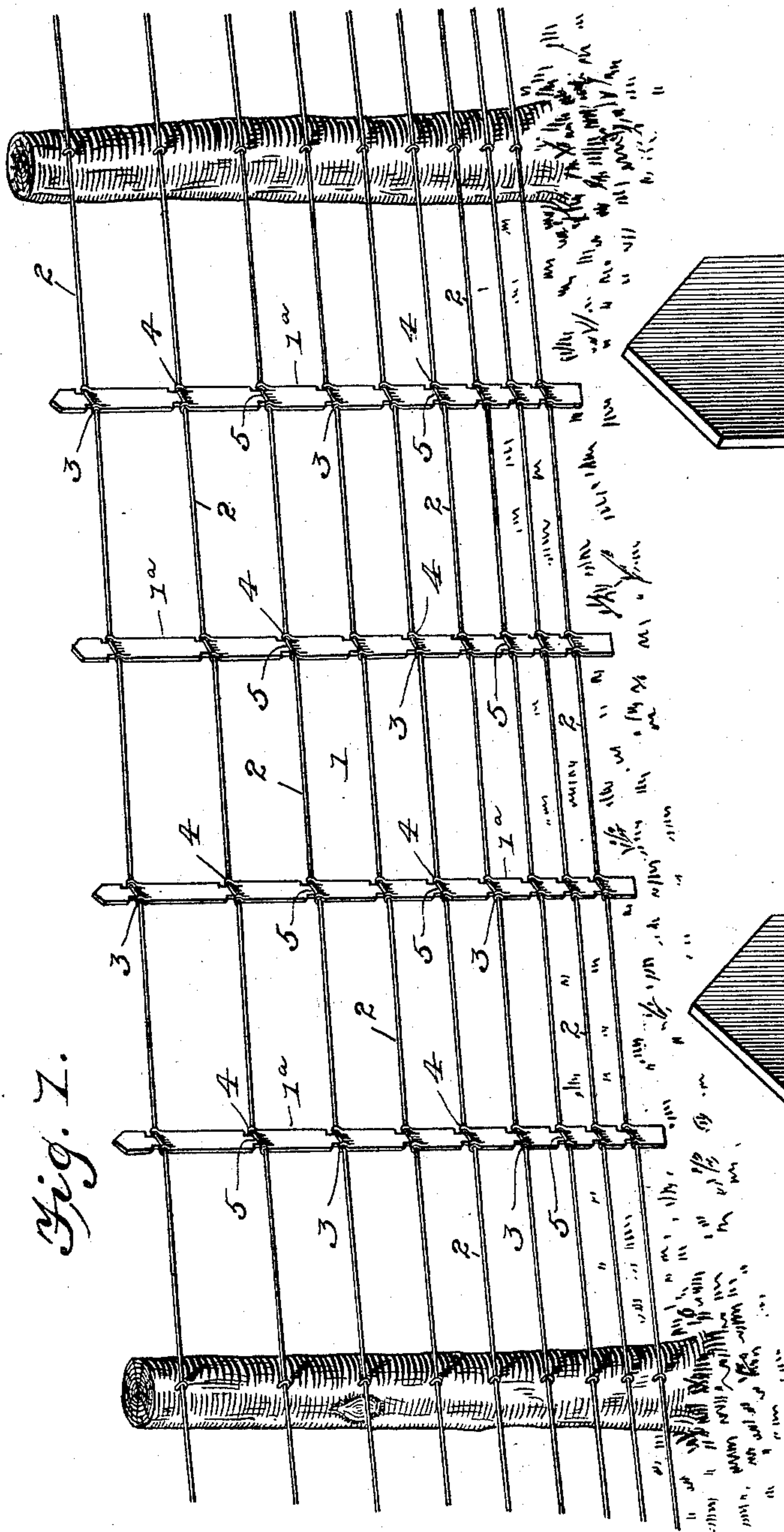


Fig. 1.

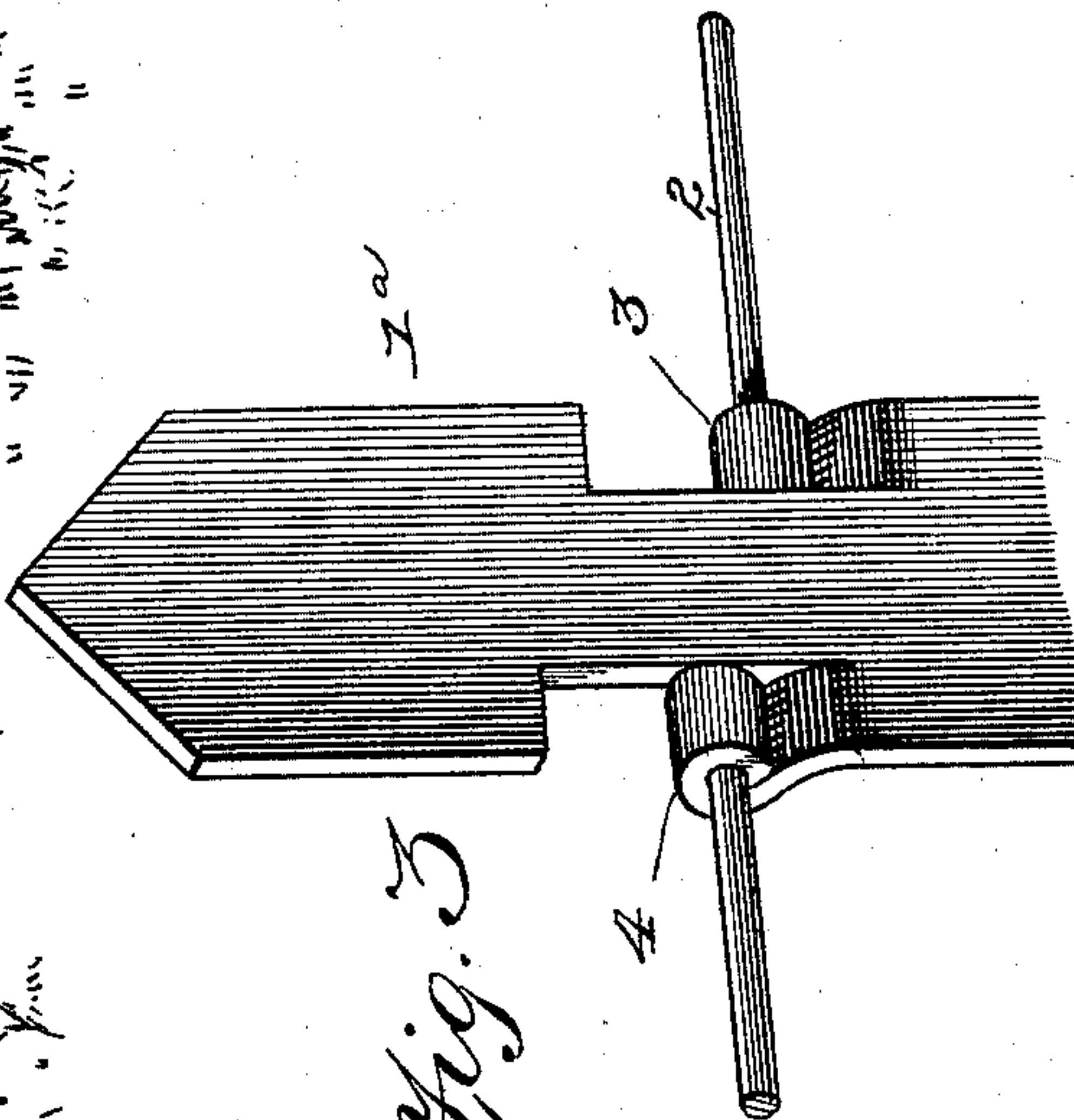


Fig. 3.

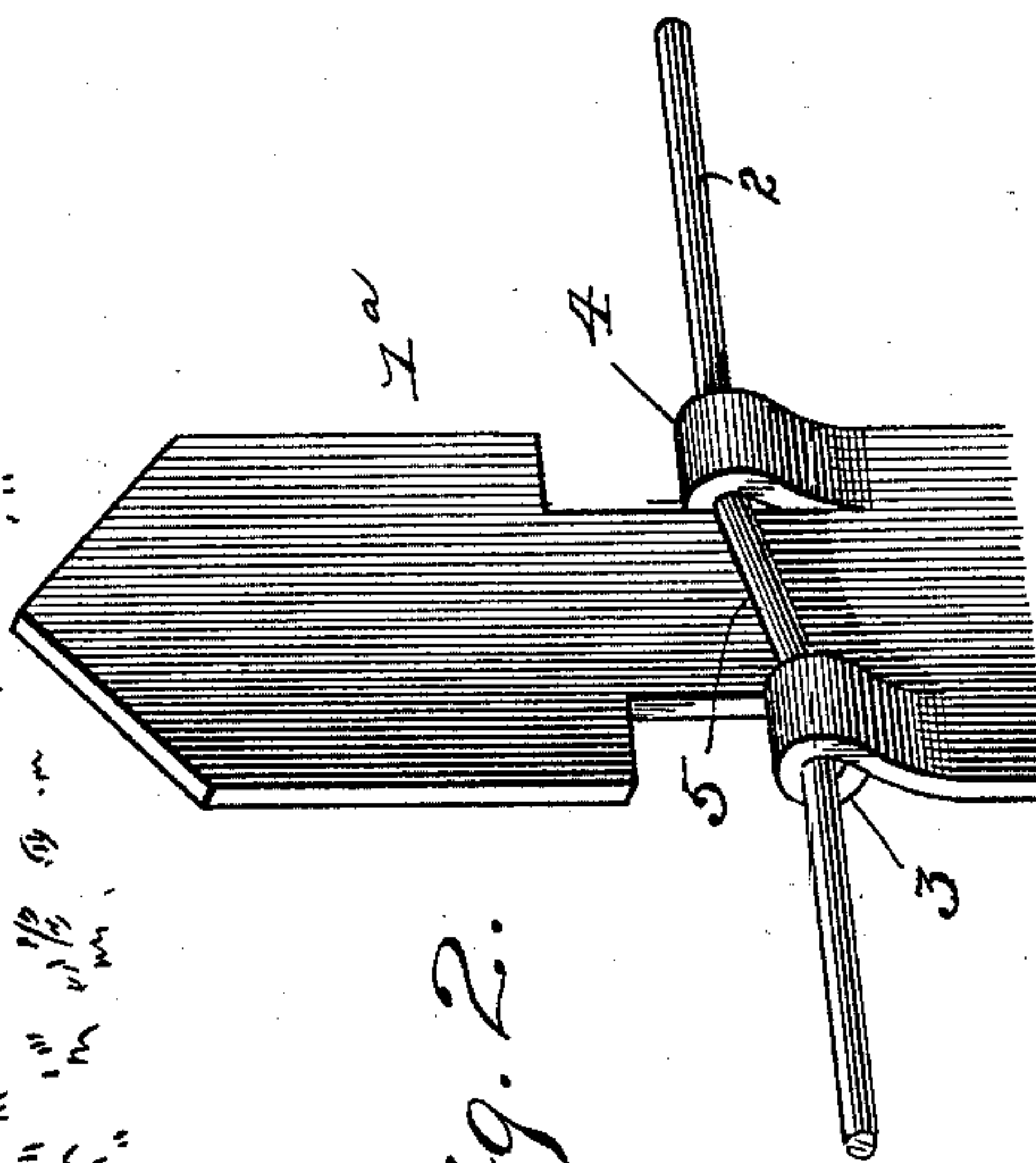


Fig. 2.

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN A. BARKER AND HUGH F. BARKER, OF ATHENS, KENTUCKY.

## WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 561,555, dated June 9, 1896.

Application filed June 29, 1895. Serial No. 554,483. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, EDWIN A. BARKER and HUGH F. BARKER, citizens of the United States, residing at Athens, in the county of Fayette and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wire Fences, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in wire fences.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of fences and to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient one, which will possess great strength and durability, and in which the stays or pickets will be securely fastened to the fence-wires and positively held against vertical or longitudinal movement on the same.

A further object of the invention is to provide a fence in which the attachment of the pickets or stays will create a tension on the fence-wires, and will permit the latter to contract and expand under varying temperatures without liability of breaking.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claim hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a fence constructed in accordance with this invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are detail views illustrating the manner of attaching the pickets or stays to the fence-wires.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a fence comprising vertical stays or pickets 1<sup>a</sup> and longitudinal fence-wires 2. The pickets, which are constructed of flat metal, are provided at their side edges, adjacent to the fence-wires, with tongues 3 and 4, which are formed by straight longitudinal cuts, and these tongues are arranged in pairs and are bent around the fence-wires, forming complete cylindrical eyes for the reception of the same. The tongues of each pair are arranged at different elevations, one member of each pair being slightly higher

than the other, and by offsetting the members of each pair of tongues from horizontal alignment a series of crimps or bends 5 are formed at intervals along the fence-wires between the fence-posts. The pickets or stays, which are supported on the fence-wires above the ground, are firmly held in proper position by these crimps or bends and are absolutely prevented from moving accidentally either vertically or longitudinally on the fence-wires.

In constructing the fence the wires are first secured to the fence-posts, and the stays are afterward applied, the tongues being secured to the fence-wires by means of pincers or other suitable tools, and as a picket may be arranged at any desired point it is adapted by its crimping operation to take up the slack and tighten the fence-wires. By creating a tension on the fence-wires in this manner they are permitted the necessary contraction and expansion without liability of breaking during cold weather or becoming loose in warm weather. Any other form of fence-wires may be employed; but a strong and durable fence may be constructed by providing three fence-wires and locating them at the top and bottom of the fence and at an intermediate point.

It will be seen that the fence is strong and durable, that it is especially adapted for stock-farms, as it can be clearly seen by cattle and as it will prevent hogs or other animals from breaking through, and that the pickets or stays are adapted, when applied to the fence-wires, to create a tension on the same and to take up slack and are securely locked against vertical or longitudinal movement.

Changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

What we claim is—

In a fence, the combination with fence-posts and longitudinal fence-wires, of a picket or stay constructed of flat metal and provided at its side edges at intervals, with tongues 3 and 4, formed by straight longitudinal cuts, bent entirely around the fence-wires and forming complete eyes, the tongues of each pair being disposed at different elevations

and crimping or bending the fence-wires,  
whereby they are adapted to take up the slack  
between the fence-posts and lock the stay  
against vertical or longitudinal movement  
5 and create a tension on the fence-wires and  
permit the necessary contraction and expansion,  
substantially as described.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as

our own we have hereto affixed our signatures  
in the presence of two witnesses.

EDWIN A. BARKER.  
HUGH F. BARKER.

Witnesses:

J. L. BRUSH,  
C. H. CARTER.