(No Model.).

H. W. HORST.

COMPENSATOR FOR FENCES.

No. 565,751. Patented Aug. 11, 1896.

Fig. 1.

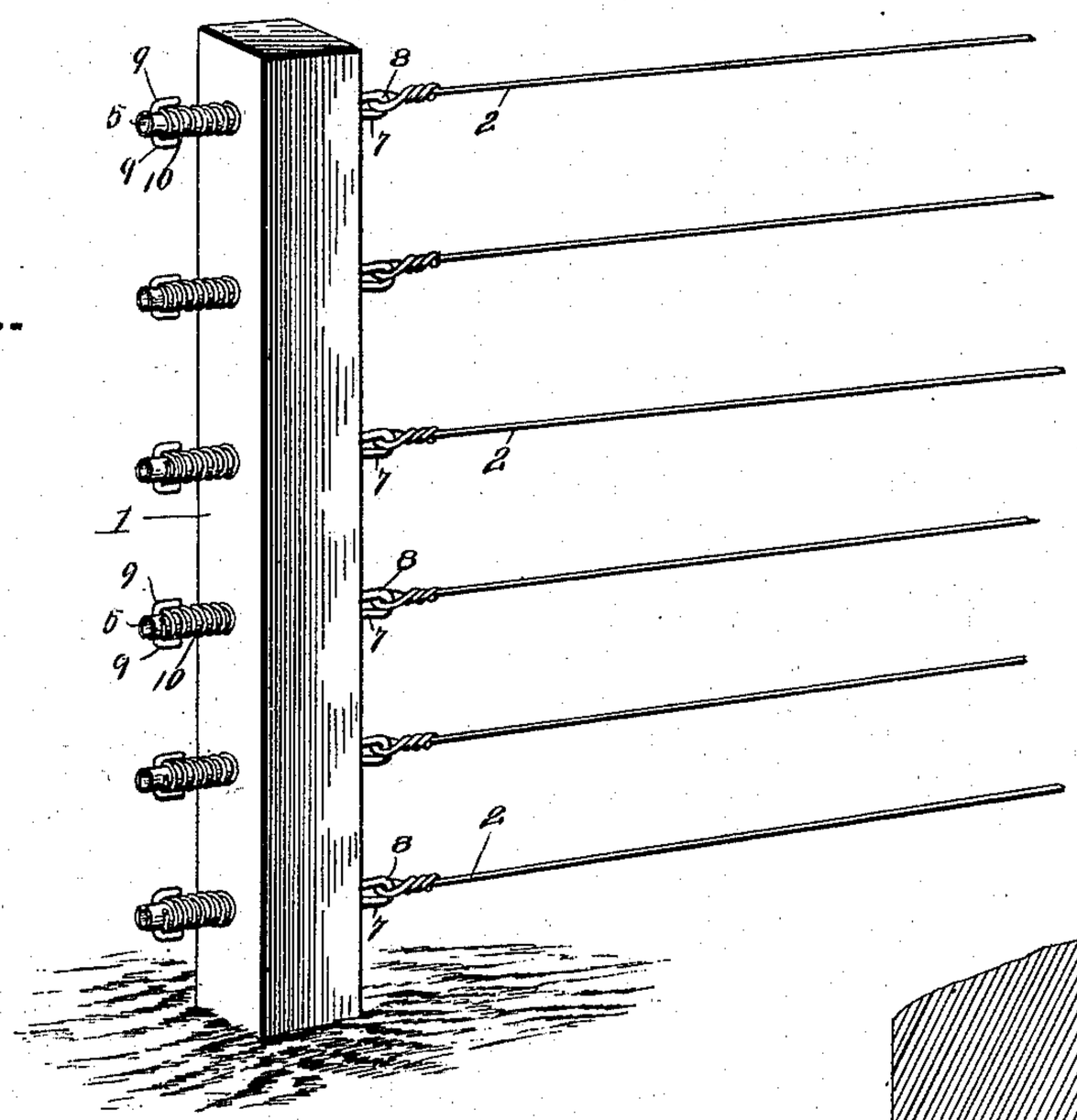


Fig. 2.

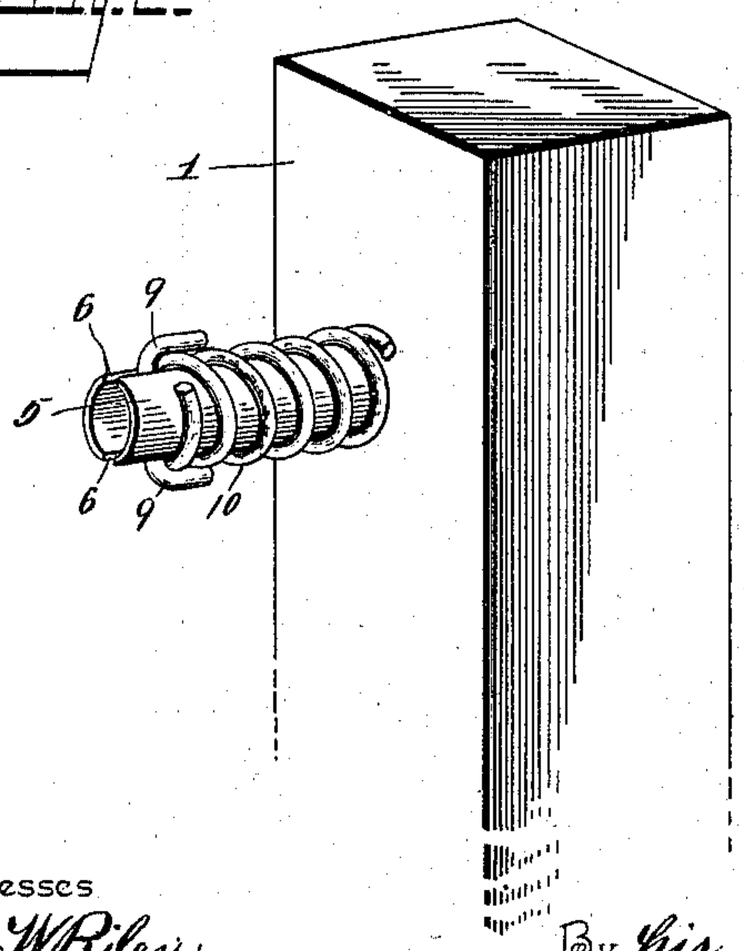
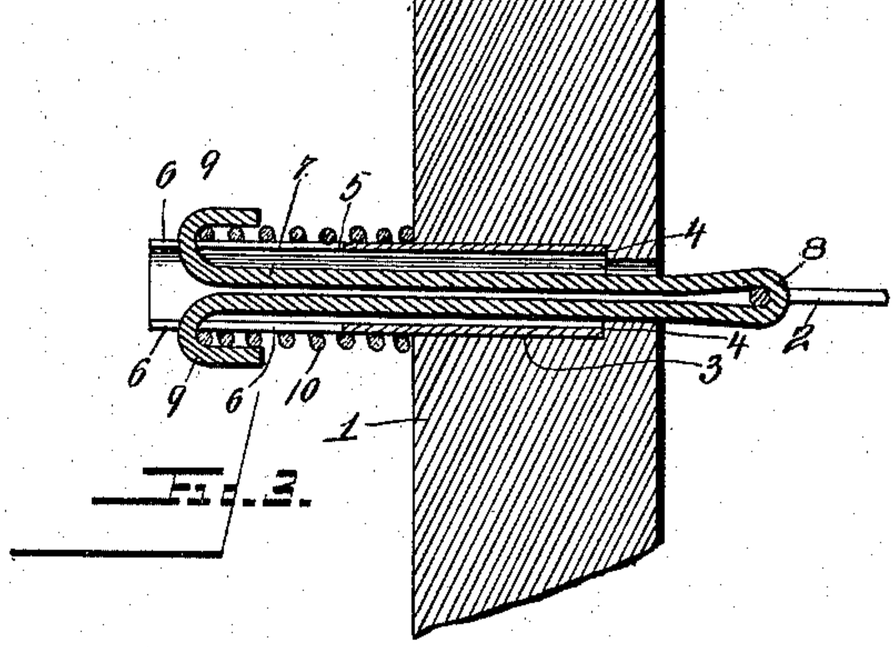


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY WEAVER HORST, OF SWATARA STATION, PENNSYLVANIA,
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COMPENSATOR FOR FENCES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 565,751, dated August 11, 1896.

Application filed July 13, 1895. Serial No. 555,903. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY WEAVER HORST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Swatara Station, in the county of Dauphin and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Compensator for Fences, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in that broad class of compensators which are applied to wire fences, so that the wires thereof may be subjected to a uniform strain, to the end that their tension may be kept equal at all periods during the existence of the fence, whether the weather be cold or hot. It is well known that the varying degrees of temperature to which wire fences are necessarily subjected cause the wires thereof to contract and expand, so that they are apt to break in winter and become objectionably slack in summer. Compensators of this class are therefore applied to wire fences, and result in a regulation of the tension, as will be understood.

The invention is more specifically related to the class having at the outer side of the end post an expansive spring connected to each wire, so that as the wire begins to contract the spring will give and prevent the snapping of the wire, and so that as the wire is loosened the spring will expand and take up all unnecessary slack. Now, my invention is distinguished from these devices in the provision of a core, tubular in form and slotted for a portion of its length. This core is seated within an opening within the fence-post and projects beyond one side of the same, while it is provided on its interior with a stout wire or rod, having its ends bent transversely and fitting in the slots of the cores, said bent ends being respectively engaged with the outer ends of the compensating-springs, which are made to embrace the projected portions of the cores. These points will be fully described hereinafter, and finally embodied in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a fence-post having my improvements applied; Fig. 2, an enlarged perspective of one of the compensators; Fig. 3, a detail section of the same, said section being taken longitudinally with the core.

The reference-numeral 1 indicates an end post of a fence, which may be of the usual or any preferred construction.

2 designates the running wires of the fence, and these may be of any number, as the conditions under which the fence is used may require.

The post 1 is formed with a series of horizontally-extending passages 3, which are one for each of the running wires 2, and which are vertically alined with each other. These passages 3 are of an increased thickness at their outer ends, which construction results in the formation of the shoulders 4, and these shoulders are adjacent to the inner ends of the passages 3. Located within each of the passages 3, and having its inner end bearing against the respective shoulder thereof, is the core 5, which is formed preferably of sheet metal, and which is tubular in form.

The core 5 of each passage 3 projects outwardly beyond the outside of the post 1, and is formed with the slots 6, which are two for each core, and which are arranged oppositely therein. Extending through the cores 5 and through the passages 3 are the rods or heavy wires 7, which are one for each core, and which are bent at their middles to form loops 8, with which the running wires are connected. The ends of the rods or wires 7 are bent outwardly or transversely and thence rearwardly to form hooks 9, which pass through the respective slots 6 of the cores, and which embrace the outer ends of the expansive springs 10.

The expansive springs 10 are one for each core, and are of such a length that they will completely embrace those portions of the cores which are extended beyond the posts. Thus it will be seen that the hooks 9 engage with the respective springs 10, and that upon the inward movement of the wires or rods 7 the springs must be compressed.

The slots 6 extend through the cores 5 for a distance equal to the distance which said cores project from the post 1. The purpose of the cores 5 is to steady the springs 10, and to prevent them from bending or becoming distorted under the influence of the pressure which is necessarily applied to them.

By means of my improvements the wires are kept with the proper tension and prevented

from snapping in the winter or from becoming too slack in the summer. The cores 5 hold the wires and springs in their proper relative positions and prevent both from becoming distorted and misplaced.

Having described the invention, I claim—

The herein-described means for attaching fence-wires to a supporting-post, consisting of a post having a differential bore, a tube fitted in the larger part of the bore and bearing against the shoulder formed at the base thereof, and having longitudinal slots in its projecting end portion at diametrically-opposite points, a coil-spring located upon the projecting end portion of the tube and bearing at its inner end against the said post, and a stout wire doubled upon itself and passing through the tube and post, and having hooks at its ends to operate in the said longitudinal slots and engage with the outer end of the aforesaid coil-spring, the fence-wire being looped into the bight of the folded wire, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

HARRY WEAVER HORST.

Witnesses:

JOHN S. WAGNER,

ABRAHAM LANDIS.