

(No Model.)

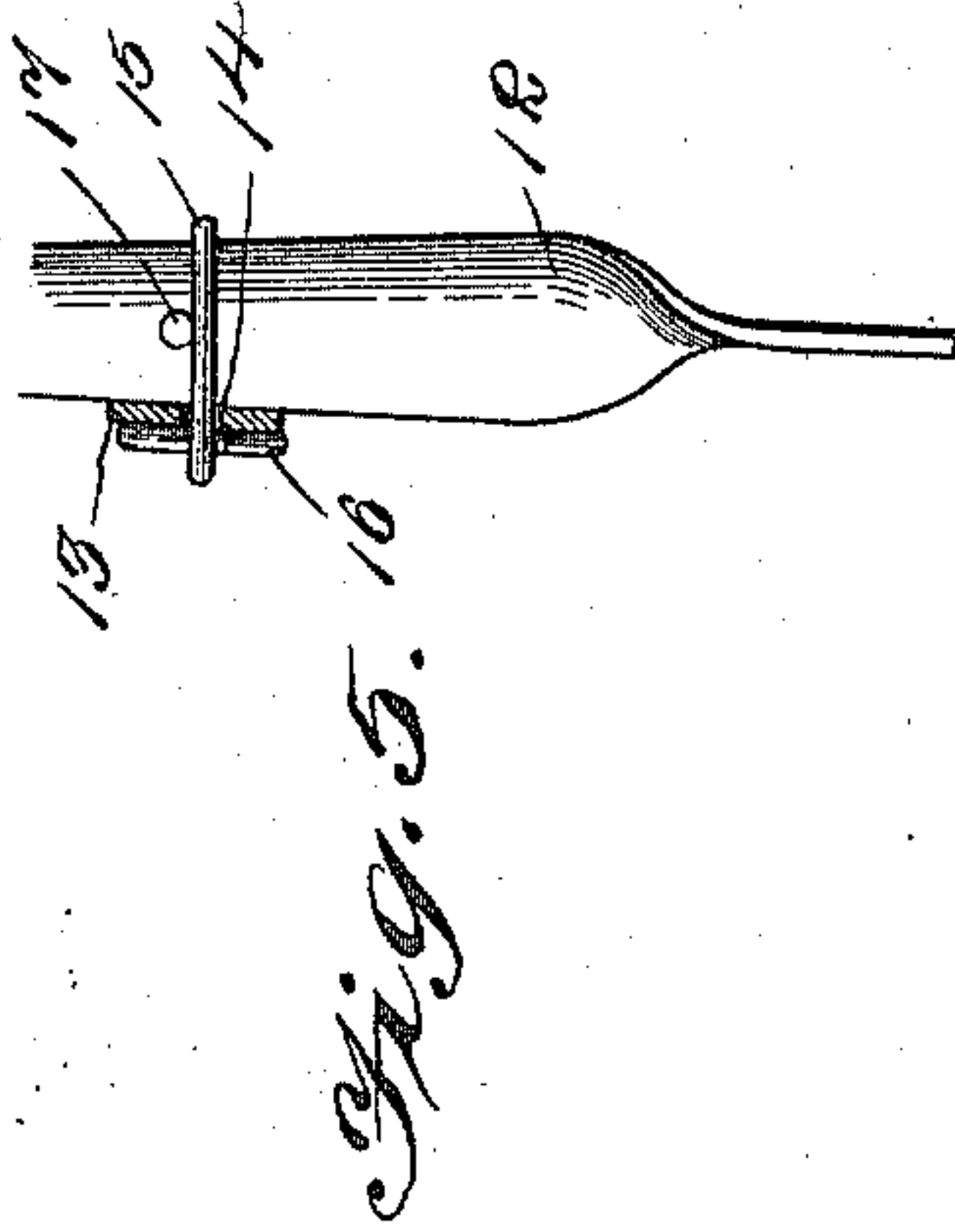
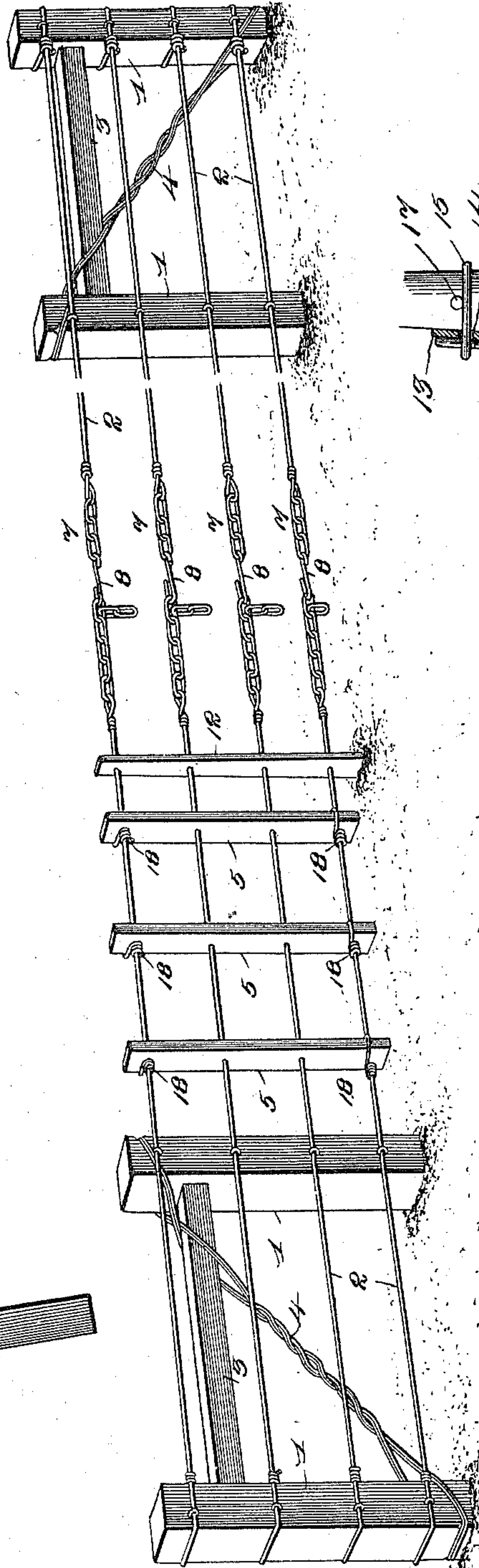
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T. A. PHELPS.  
FENCE.

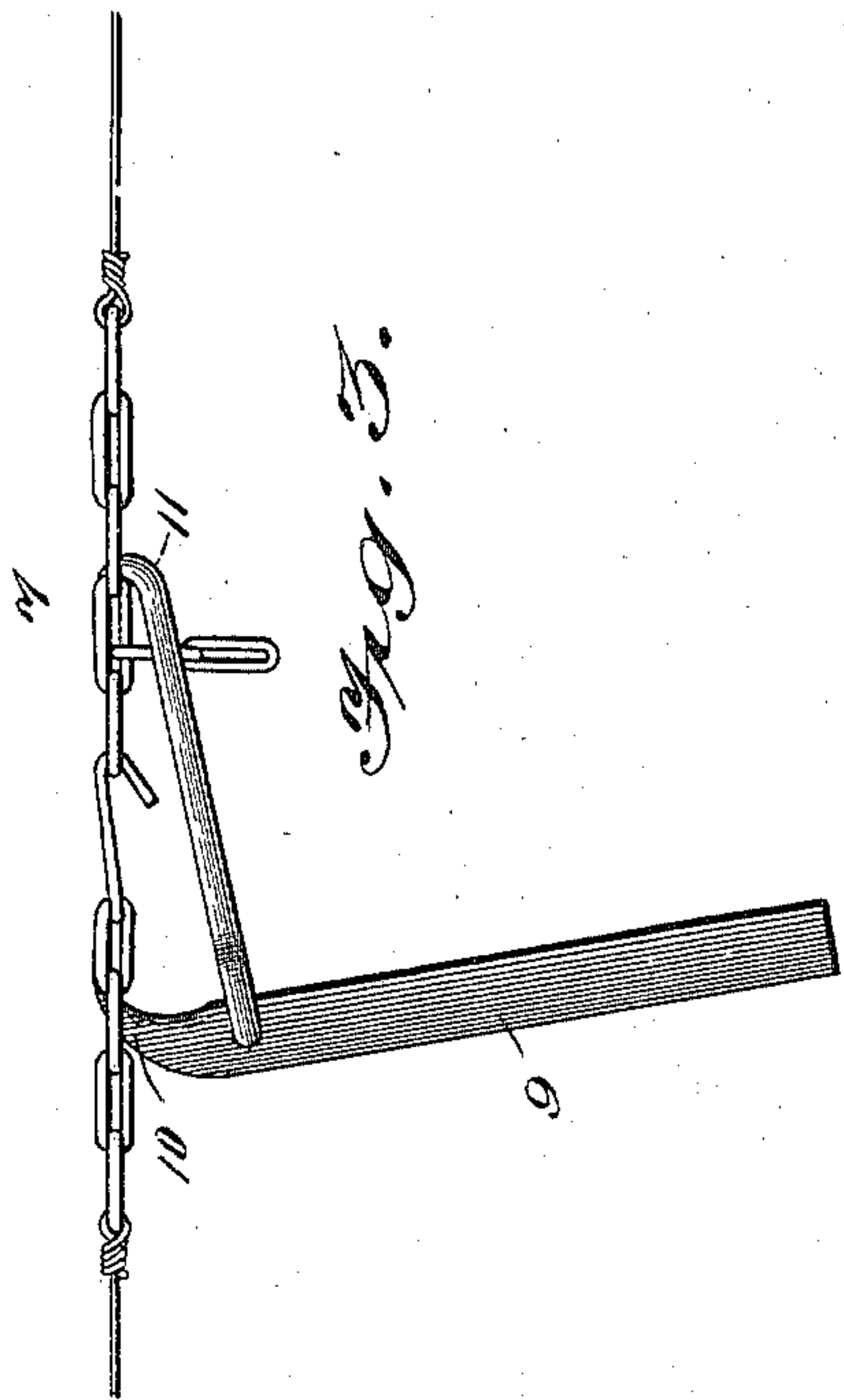
No. 580,553.

Patented Apr. 13, 1897.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 3.*

Witnesses

*W. J. North*  
*V. B. Hillyard.*

By *his* Attorneys,

*C. A. Snow & Co.*

Inventor

*Theodore A. Phelps*

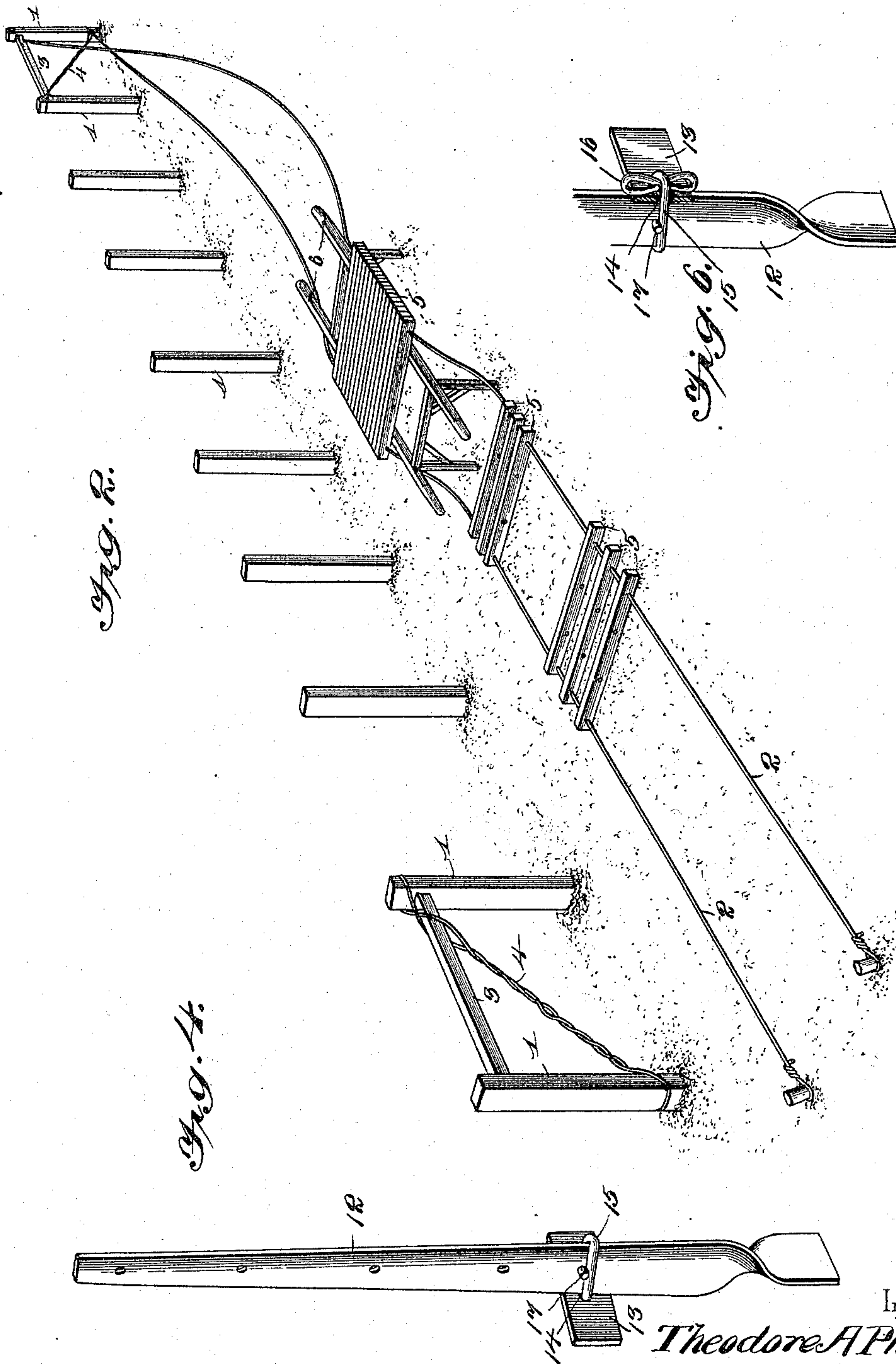
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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FENCE.

No. 580,553.

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Witnesses  
*W. J. Koorth.*  
*V. B. Hillyard.*

By *his* Attorneys,

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE A. PHELPS, OF CLAIBORNE, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS  
TO G. W. SNARE AND JASPER E. CARY, OF PHARISBURG, OHIO.

## FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 580,553, dated April 13, 1897.

Application filed May 6, 1896. Serial No. 590,471. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THEODORE A. PHELPS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Claiborne, in the county of Union and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Fence, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to fences which embody in their construction longitudinal wires and slats or pickets, and has for its object to improve the general arrangement of the parts and to devise a novel fence-post and anchoring means therefor whereby the fence can be quickly set up and will be stable and withstand the action of storms and climatic changes.

For a full understanding of the merits and advantages of the invention reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings and the following description.

The improvement is susceptible of various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof, and to a full disclosure of the invention an adaptation thereof is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fence constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 shows the fence in course of construction and the manner of distributing the slats or pickets along the line-wires. Fig. 3 is a detail view showing the manner of tightening or drawing the separated ends of the fence-wires together. Fig. 4 is a detail view of a metallic post. Fig. 5 is a sectional detail showing the means for attaching an anchoring-plate to the metal post. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of the parts shown in Fig. 5.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in the several views of the accompanying drawings by the same reference-characters.

The fence-posts 1 are set along the prescribed line of fencing and may be either metal or wood. If the posts are of wood, the fence or line wires 2 are secured thereto by staples or like fastenings, but when the posts are of metal the line-wires will pass loosely through openings formed therein at required distances apart. The terminal fence-posts

are braced at their upper ends from the adjacent posts by longitudinal bars 3, and diagonally-disposed brace-wires 4 connect the lower ends of the terminal posts with the upper ends of the adjacent posts, against which the inner ends of the longitudinal bars 3 bear.

The slats or pickets 5 may be of metal or wood and have openings in their length corresponding in number and position with the fence-wires and are strung upon the latter.

As shown in Fig. 2, a number of slats or pickets are strung upon the line-wires and rest upon a hand-barrow 6 and are moved along the line-wires by means of the hand-barrow, a sufficient number of the slats or pickets being dropped at each panel, according to the distance between the fence-posts and the number of pickets required for each panel. After the slats or pickets have been properly distributed the fence-wires are applied to the posts in the usual way. At required intervals in the length of the fence the line-wires are parted and short lengths of chain 7 are applied to the separated ends, one of the chains having a hook 8, to be engaged with the links of the other chain when the ends of the wires are drawn together.

The corresponding parts of a fence-wire are drawn together by means of the tool shown, which consists of a lever 9, having a hooked end 10, and a long hook 11, having pivotal connection with the lever a short distance from its hook 10. By moving the lever toward the hook 11 the hooked ends of the parts 9 and 11 are separated, and these ends are engaged with the links at the ends of the parts of the fence-wire to be coupled, and upon moving the long arm of the lever 9 away from the hook 11 the parts of the fence-wire will be drawn together when the hook 8 is engaged with a link of the opposite chain, thereby coupling the parts and securing them in the adjusted position.

If the parts of the fence-wire are not sufficiently taut, a repetition of the operation just described will serve to bring the separated ends close together, and this operation may be repeated until the wire is subjected to the requisite tension, it being remembered that the hook 8 will retain the parts while apply-



ing the tool or stretcher so as to secure a fresh grip. This operation is repeated for each wire of the series.

5 The metal fence-post 12 is of tapering form, and its lower end is given a quarter-twist to cause it to come at right angles to the plane of the post, whereby it will present an extended surface against the ground to prevent lateral displacement of the fence-post. A  
10 plate 13, having a slot or opening 14, is secured to the fence-post 12 by means of a link 15, which encircles the post and has an end portion passing through the slot 14, a short wire or key 16 passing through the projecting  
15 end of the link, so as to retain the plate 13 in place. A pin 17 passes transversely through an opening in the fence-post and prevents upward movement of the link 15. This plate 13 is adapted to supplement the  
20 action of the lower twisted end of the post and comes close to the surface of the ground and is intended to prevent lateral movement of the post.

25 After the fence is erected and the line-wires are subjected to tension the slats or pickets are properly spaced between the fence-posts and are secured in place by short bind-

ing-wires 18, the latter being applied to the top and bottom fence-wires and secured thereto upon opposite sides of the slats or pickets 30 by having their terminal portions coiled around the said fence-wires.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

In combination, a metallic fence-post of tapering form, a closed link of oblong form 35 slipped upon the post and having a projecting end portion, an anchoring-plate having a slot to receive the projecting end portion of the link, a key passing through the projecting 40 end of the link exterior to the anchoring-plate to secure the latter in place and cause the link to bind against the opposite edge of the post, and a pin passing transversely through an opening in the post above the link 45 to hold the latter in place, 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.

THEODORE A. PHELPS.

Witnesses:

GEORGE W. SNARE,  
JASPER E. CARY.