

(No Model.)

H. WATKINS.
WIRE FENCE.

No. 581,145.

Patented Apr. 20, 1897.

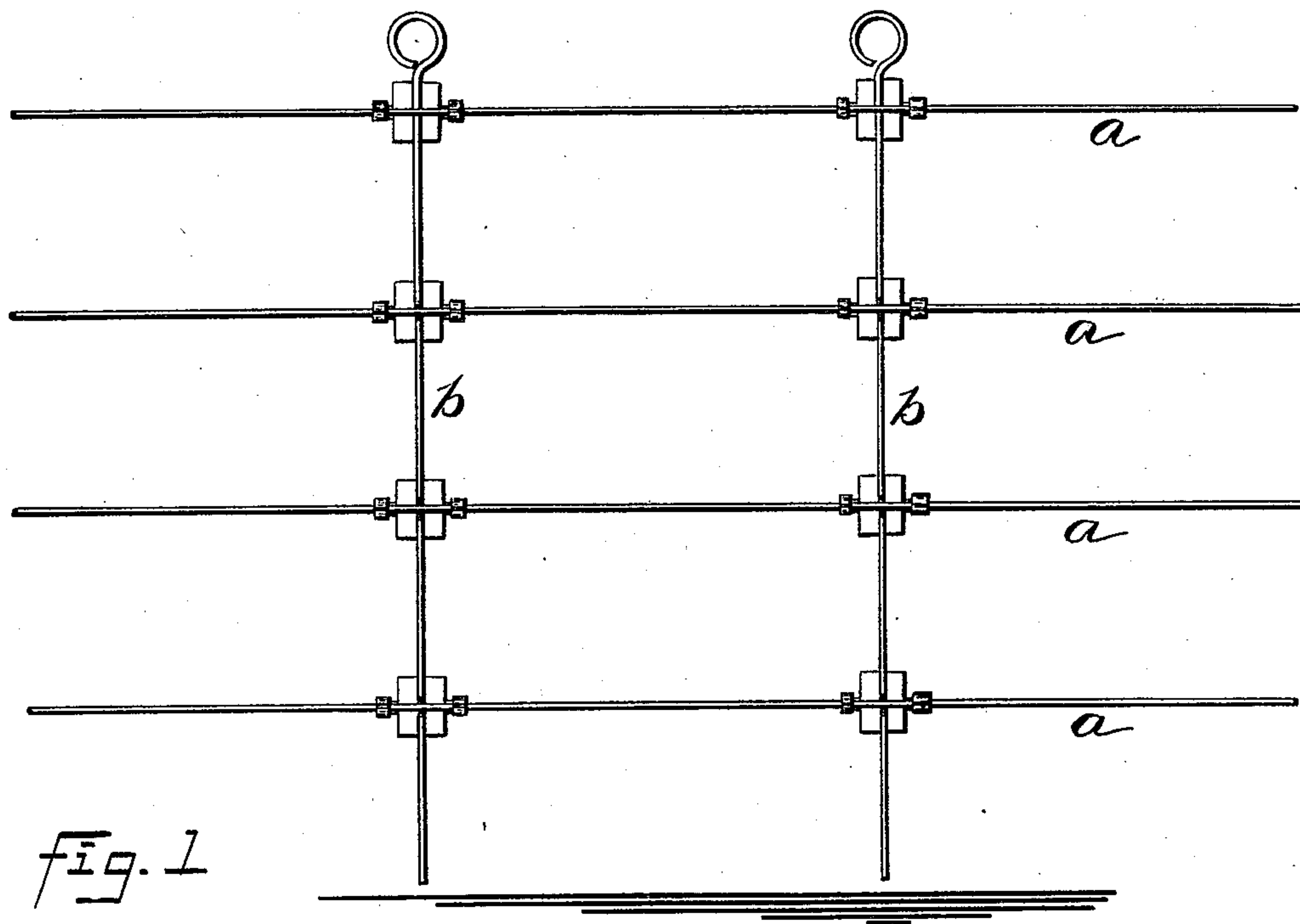
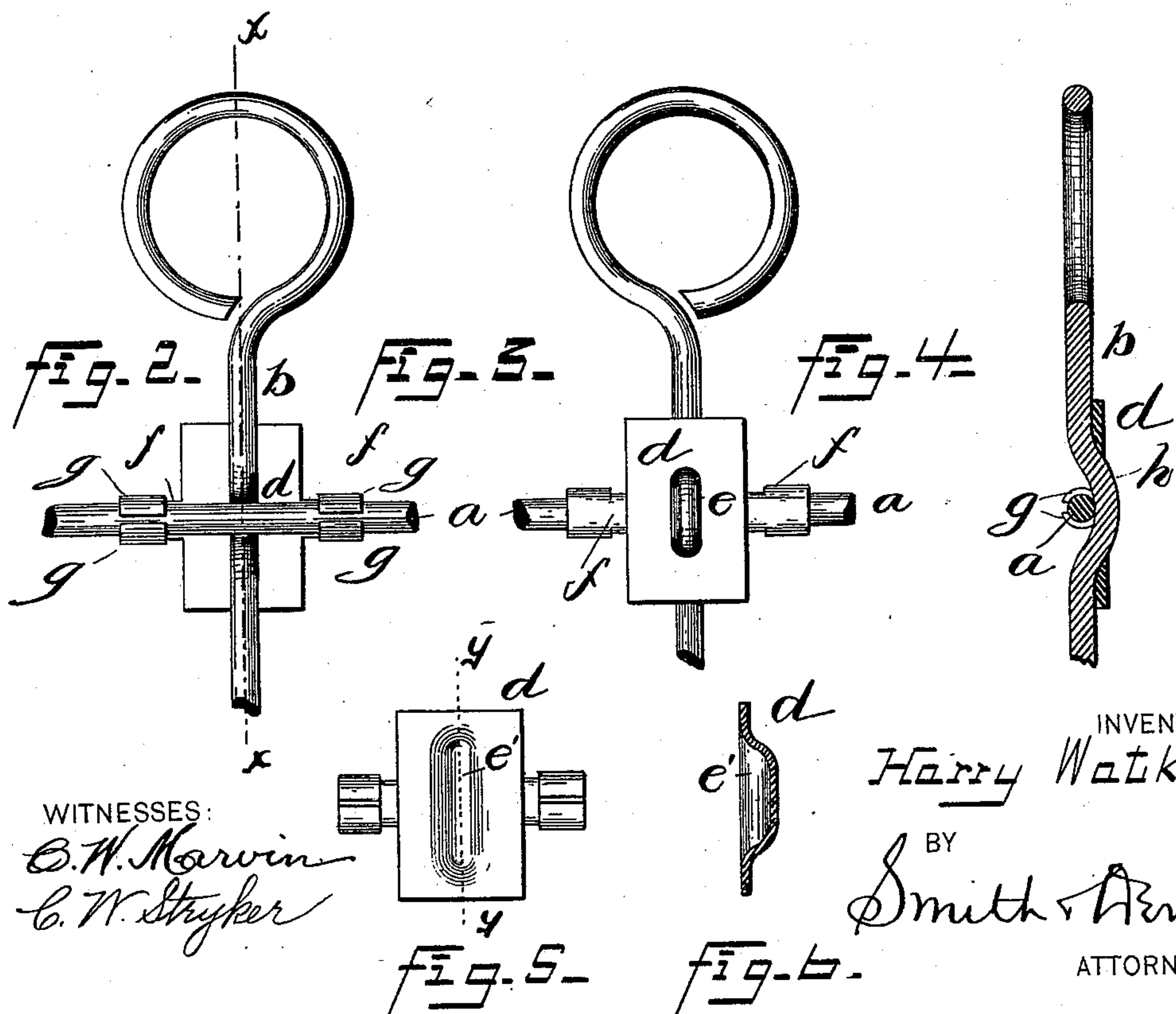


Fig. 1



WITNESSES:

B. W. Marwin
C. W. Stryker

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY WATKINS, OF MORAVIA, NEW YORK.

WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 581,145, dated April 20, 1897.

Application filed May 20, 1896. Serial No. 592,344. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY WATKINS, of Moravia, in the county of Cayuga, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful
5 Improvements in Wire Fences, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in
10 wire fences, and more particularly to the lock which secures the longitudinal strands of wire to the vertical stay-rod. I am aware that heretofore locks for this purpose have been devised, but in each instance they have been
15 difficult to adjust, and when adjusted and secured they did not positively hold the parts together; and for the purpose of securing a positive lock my object is to produce a lock cheap and durable in construction, easily applied, and of great utility; and to that end
20 my invention consists in the several new and novel features of construction and operation hereinafter described, and which are specifically set forth in the claim hereunto annexed. It is constructed as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a section of a fence in which the meeting wires are locked together with
30 my improved device. Fig. 2 is an enlarged front view showing the lock in position. Fig. 3 is a rear view. Fig. 4 is a section on line $x x$, Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a front view of the lock, showing a depression in lieu of the slot. Fig.
35 6 is a vertical section on line $y y$ of Fig. 5.

$a a$ are the horizontal strands of a fence, secured in any ordinary way.

b are the vertical stay-rods, crimped at intervals, as shown at h , where they meet the
40 strands a .

d is the lock, comprising the small plate of sheet metal having a slotway e or depression

e' , as shown, and laterally-extending arms f , having wings g , adapted to grip the strand-wire a . To apply these locks, I first place
45 the vertical stay-wire against the strands as they appear in the drawings, then place the lock over the meeting wires, so that the crimped portion h will fit into the slotway e or depression e' , and the wings g may be
50 forced by a pair of pliers about the strand a . It will thus be observed that when the wings g are forced around the strand the crimped portion of the stay-wire is forced into the slotway e , so that it will be impossible for the
55 lock to move or the wires to move upon each other in any direction. It will also be observed that a depression may be made in place of the slotway e , so as to receive the crimp of said wire and perform the same func-
60 tion.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

In a fence, the strands a , and the vertical
65 stay-wires, crimped at the points where they come in contact with the strands, combined with the locks d , shaped at their centers so as to fit over the crimped portions of the stay-wires and made to bear against both strands
70 and stay-wires at their sides, and ends, and provided with the laterally-extending arms f , upon the outer ends of which are formed the wings g , to bend around the strands; the wings being wider than the arms and adapted
75 to be closed around the strands without having to bend the body of the lock itself, substantially as shown.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 16th day of May, 1896.

HARRY WATKINS.

In presence of—

C. W. SMITH,
HOWARD P. DENISON.