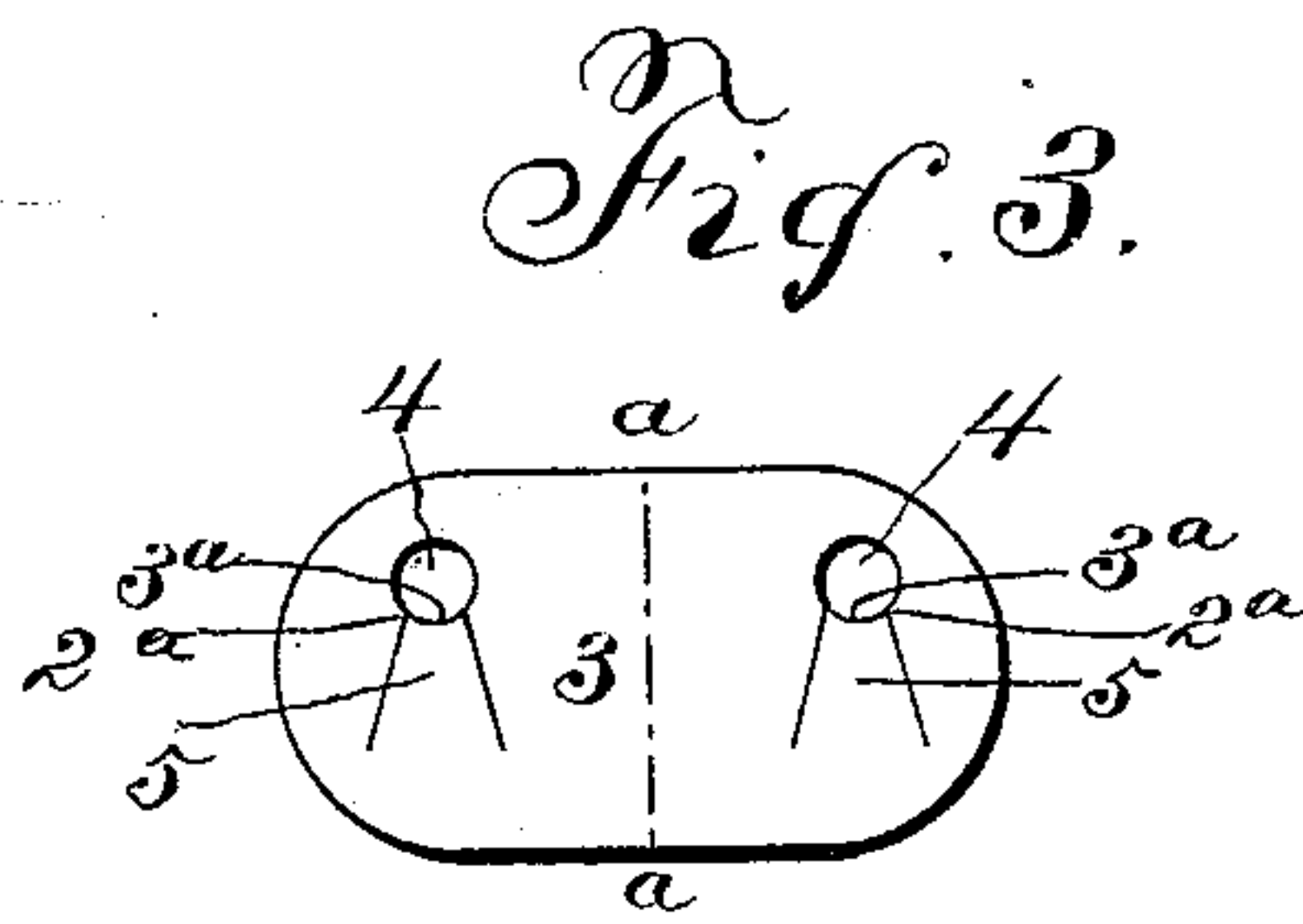
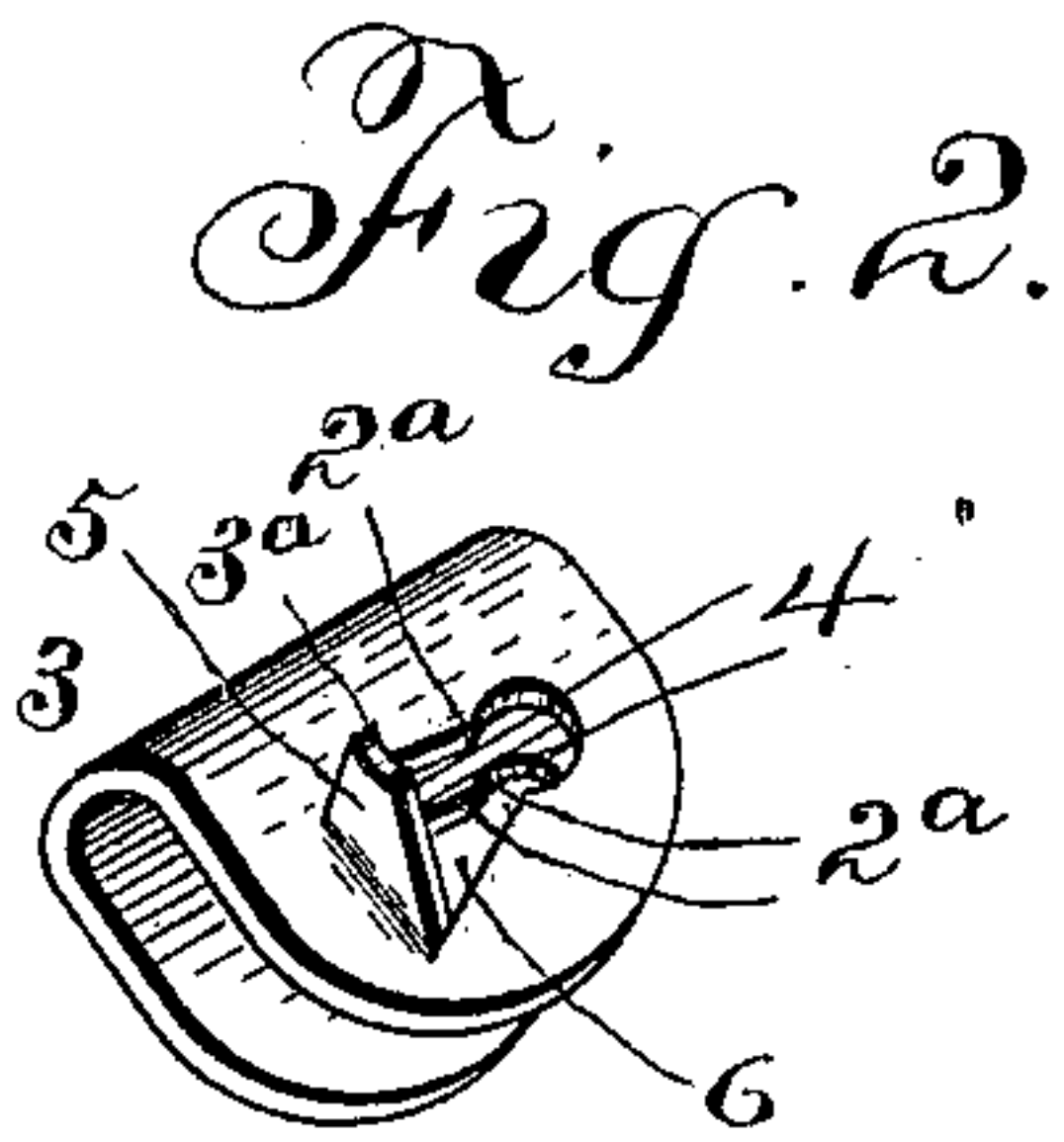
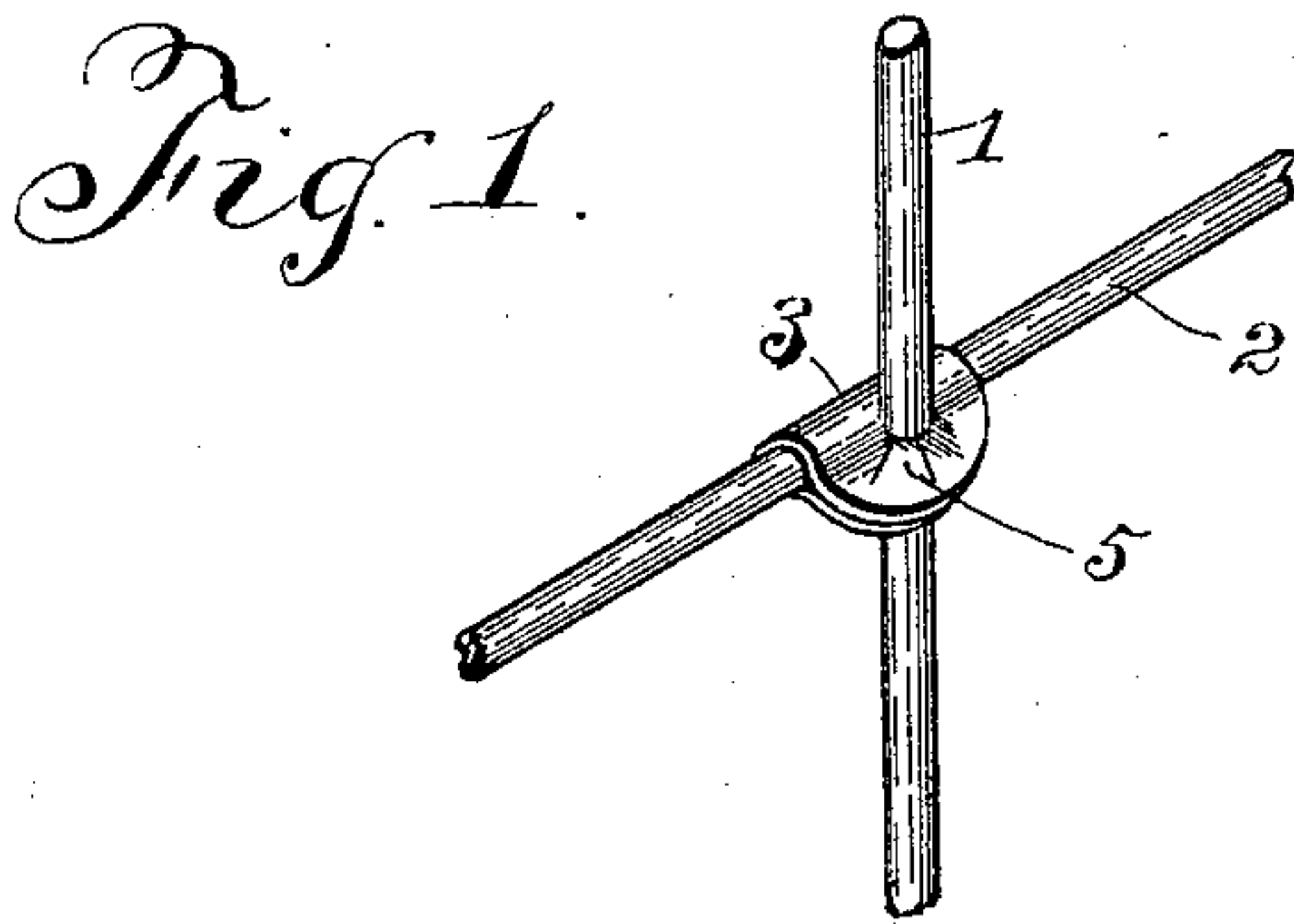


(No. Model.)

D. M. SPRINGER.
STAY FOR WIRE FENCES.

No. 585,052.

Patented June 22, 1897.



Witnesses:
John Stumpf
C. E. Webb.

Inventor:
David M. Springer,
By W. H. Wills,
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID M. SPRINGER, OF GREENCASTLE, INDIANA.

STAY FOR WIRE FENCES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 585,052, dated June 22, 1897.

Application filed January 27, 1897. Serial No. 620,968. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID M. SPRINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greencastle, in the county of Putnam and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stays for Wire Fences; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to the class of wire fences, and particularly to a wire-fence lock or stay to fasten or lock the intersecting wires of a fence together; and the object of the invention is to provide an improved lock or clamp stay for wire fences.

A further object of the invention is to provide a lock or clamp for wire fences comprising a perforated plate having tongues contiguous to the perforations and adapted to be operated to clamp the wires to the plate.

Other objects and advantages accruing from my improved construction and arrangement will be disclosed in the specification to follow.

The invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of flexible tongues relative to the plate-apertures.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this application, Figure 1 is a perspective view of intersecting fence-wires clamped or locked together by my lock; Fig. 2, a detached perspective view of the plate-lock, showing the tongues depressed and the plate in position to receive the wires. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the plate as it is stamped.

The same numeral references denote the same parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

The vertical wire 1 and the horizontal wire 2 are of the usual form and size. The plate 3, constituting the clamp or lock, is stamped or otherwise formed, preferably, of sheet-steel, though other metal may be employed, having an aperture 4 in each end, the apertures being formed nearer one edge of the plate than the other with points 2^a, over which the wire 1 is forced from an opening presently to be described.

Contiguous with each of the apertures 4 is formed integral with the plates a flexible

tongue 5, the end 3^a of which forms a portion of the wall of said apertures, and when the tongues 5 are bent at an angle to the plate an opening 6 is left for the insertion of the vertical wire, as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

To secure or clamp the intersecting wires together, the tongues are bent back at an angle to the plate and the plate is bent centrally on the dotted line *a a* around the horizontal wire, which brings the apertures 4 and openings 6 opposite each other, or the plate may be thus bent before placing it upon said wire. The vertical wire is then passed through the openings 6 and forced over the points 2^a into the apertures 4, said points preventing the displacement of the wire until the tongues are bent flush with the plate to close up the openings 6 and complete the locking of the wires to the plate.

It will be observed that the tongues when bent away from the apertures leave an opening of ample size for the insertion of the wire, and when the tongues are bent toward the apertures they force the wires over the points 2^a into the apertures and close up said openings, thus forming a rigid support for the wires and holding them solidly together, besides locking them firmly to the plate and the latter to the vertical wire.

I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to any particular material, to the size of the apertures or the tongues, nor to the shape of the plate; but,

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A wire-fence stay or lock, consisting of a plate having apertures and flexible tongues integral with the plate and adapted to be bent away from the apertures to form an inclosed opening contiguous to the apertures, as set forth.

2. A wire-fence stay or lock comprising a plate having apertures the plate being cut at an angle from the apertures toward the edge of the plate without extending through said edge, to form flexible tongues integral with the plate, and openings communicating only with said apertures, as set forth.

3. A wire-fence clamp or lock, comprising a plate having apertures and adapted to be

bent to receive a horizontal fence-wire where-
by the apertures are brought opposite each
other, tongues integral with the plate and
contiguous to said apertures, said tongues
5 adapted to be bent away from the apertures
to form inclosed openings for the vertical
fence-wire, said tongues being bent toward
the apertures to lock the vertical wire in said

apertures and to close the said openings, as
set forth. 10

In testimony whereof I affix my signature
in presence of two witnesses.

DAVID M. SPRINGER.

Witnesses:

OSCAR S. REEVES,
AARON W. COOPER.