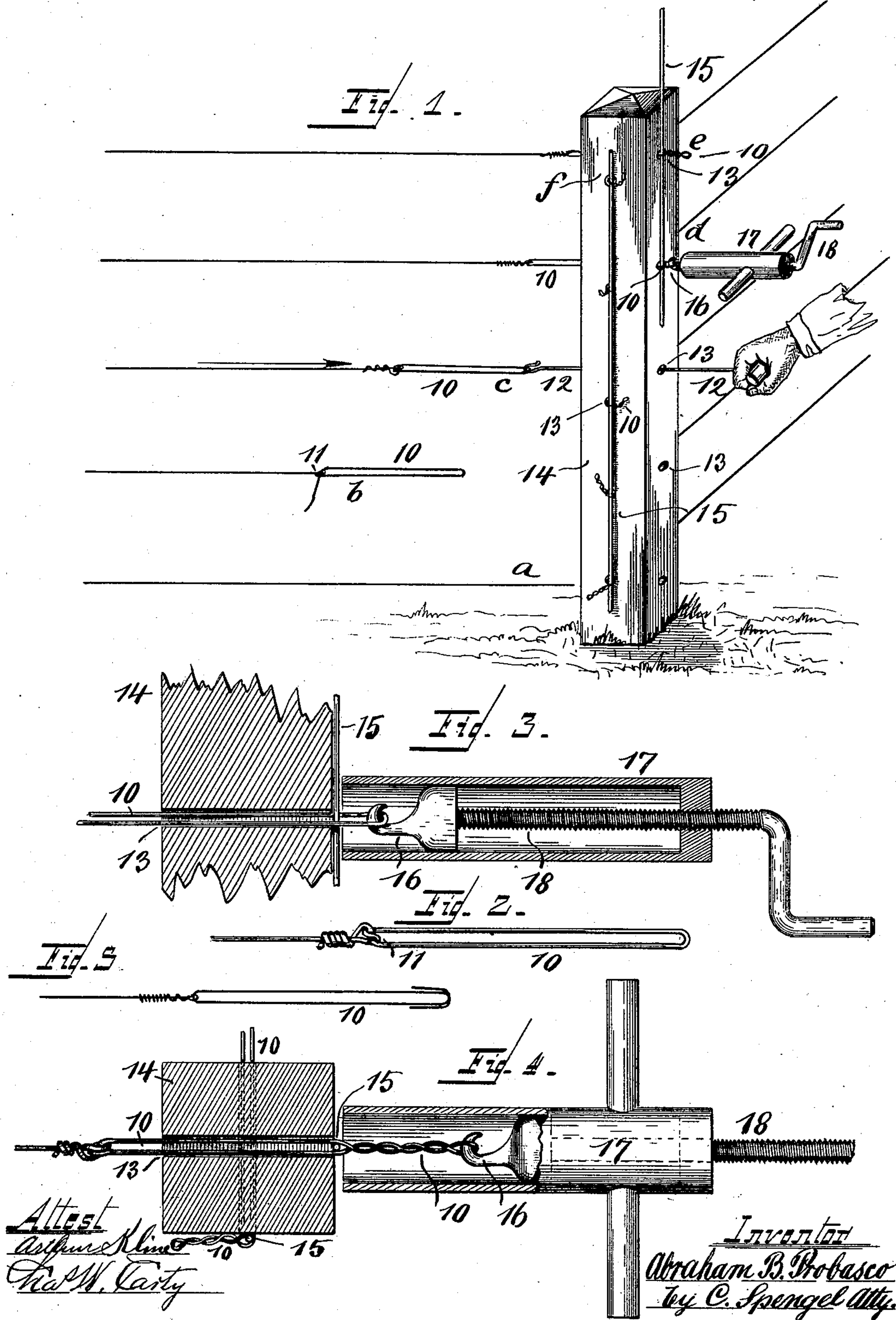


(No Model.)

A. B. PROBASCO.
WIRE FENCE.

No. 592,020.

Patented Oct. 19, 1897.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAHAM B. PROBASCO, OF LEBANON, OHIO.

WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 592,020, dated October 19, 1897.

Application filed August 23, 1897. Serial No. 649,151. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM B. PROBASCO, a citizen of the United States, residing near Lebanon, Warren county, State of Ohio, have
5 invented a certain new and useful Wire Fence; and I do declare the following to be a clear, full, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and
10 use the same, attention being called to the accompanying drawings, with the reference-numerals marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to the construction
15 and erection of wire fences, particularly of that kind where a number of wires, one above the other, are stretched between posts. The ends of these wires, after they are stretched tight, are fixedly secured to the end or corner
20 posts, while intermediate posts are provided wherever necessary and on which the wires are merely supported to prevent them from sagging without, however, being fixedly connected to these latter.

My invention relates particularly to the
25 manner of connecting the ends of the wires, after they are stretched, to the posts, the connection being very simple and inexpensive, requiring no expensive fittings, screw devices of any kind, so that only a requisite tool and the wire is required and nothing else not in reach of the farmer or within his ability to make himself. The connection is further of
30 a kind which permits retightening at any time for taking up slack in case the wire becomes loose. A tool most suited for constructing this wire fence—that is, for stretching the wires and connecting their ends to the posts—is described and illustrated in my
35 pending application, Serial No. 634,803. With this tool a wire is stretched, and without releasing the same its end is at once connected at the point to which it has been stretched.

In the following specification, and particularly pointed out in the claims, is found a full description of the invention, its use and manner of construction, which latter is also illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—
45

50 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fence-corner, showing a post thereat with some of

the wires in place and others about to be connected. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the loop provided at the end of a wire and required to permit attachment of a tool for
55 stretching the wire and for connecting it. Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical section of a part of a post, showing the looped wire end in position and engaged for the purpose of stretching the wire. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section of
60 the preceding figure, showing the wire after having been stretched about ready to be finally connected. This same figure shows also another wire with its connection completed. Fig. 5 shows a modified manner of
65 forming the required loop at the end of the wire, especially in such cases when the latter fails to reach the post or breaks close thereto.

The particular manner of supporting the wires between their ends and at intermediate
70 posts is not material. It may be by staples or perforations in the posts and through which the wires loosely pass. For purposes of permitting engagement with the tool whereby the wires are stretched and their ends connected a loop 10 of sufficient length is formed
75 at such end at *a* of the wires by bending part of the latter back and twisting the end around the main branch, as shown at *b*. To prevent this twisted part from slipping on the main
80 branch when the tension is applied for stretching the wires and which would tend to shorten the loop, a twist 11 should first be provided in the main branch, as shown in Fig. 2, and through which the back-turned wire end is
85 first passed before it is twisted around the main wire. A hook-shaped implement 12, preferably of wire and provided with a suitable handle, is now introduced through one of the several perforations 13 in corner or end
90 post 14 and after having taken hold of loop 10, as shown at *c*, the same is hauled through said perforation, the wire being at the same time stretched as tight as it is possible by hand. These operations are preferably be-
95 gun from the top of the post working down and as each loop is pulled through a perforation in the post a retaining member in the shape of a piece of wire 15 of sufficient length is gradually pushed down and through each
100 one of the loops as they appear beyond the post, thereby preventing them from slipping

back. Individual shorter pieces could be used for each loop, but one piece is preferable, being more conveniently handled and makes a neater appearance when finished.

5 The final stretching and final connection follows next, for which purpose my wire-stretching implement previously referred to is used. The same consists of suitable means, preferably a hook 16, for attaching the end
10 of a wire loop 10 thereto, as shown in Fig. 3 and at *d* in Fig. 1. Hook 16 is connected to one of two members which are mounted on each other with a screw connection, so that each one may be rotated on the other. (See
15 detailed description in pending application referred to.) First, as shown in Fig. 3, member 17 is rotated with the effect of causing the other member 18, carrying the hook with the wire loop attached thereto, to move away
20 from the post, thereby tightening and stretching the wire without, however, twisting the loop. When the proper tension has been attained, this rotation is ceased and with the wire held at the point to which it has been
25 stretched, the other part 18 of the tool, the one with the hook and loop in engagement, is rotated, with the effect of twisting the latter, as shown in Fig. 4. This rotation is continued until the twists have closed up against
30 retaining member 15, thus holding the loop and the fence-wire in their attained tension. This latter at the same time holds wire 15 in place. The stretching-tool is next disengaged and the projecting part of the loop at *e*, Fig.
35 1, is bent toward the post, as shown at *f*, so as to form no obstacle of any kind. It might also be cut off, but is preferably retained, so that if a wire should slacken at any time the tool may be readily attached again, and by
40 adding a few more twists the lost tension may be restored. If a wire should be too short or break close to a post, a supplementary loop formed of a separate piece of wire may be attached, as shown in Fig. 5, the manipulation
45 of which is the same as in the other case. It will be seen that by the means shown—that is, by twisting a loop—the most perfect and graduated adjustment is obtained, much preferable to chains at the ends of the wires or
50 perforated locking members in which the adjustment is always from hole to hole. Frequently the slack may not be sufficient to permit stretching to reach the next hole, and the wire, therefore, cannot be rendered tight,
55 because there are no other means to make connection at the limited distance to which it has been stretched and which would be all that is necessary to take the slack out. By adding twists in the loop, the attachment may

be fixed at any point, and it is not dependent 60 on fixedly-located holes.

I am aware that it is not new to tie objects together with wire, the ends of which are twisted to retain them in position. In my case the twists are not applied for such purposes, but serve to hold a previously-stretched fence-wire to the tension which it has attained. 65

Having described my invention, I claim as new—

1. The combination of a perforated fence- 70 post, fence-wires the ends of which are provided with loops which occupy and extend beyond the perforations in the post, a retaining member 15 resting against the post and occupying the extending part of the loop which 75 part is twisted about itself and against said member, thereby preventing it from slipping back into the perforations of the post, while said member 15 prevents loop and wire ends from slipping entirely through the perfora- 80 tions and away from the post.

2. The combination of a perforated fence- post, a fence-wire having a loop at its end which is introduced into and projects beyond a perforation in the post, a piece of wire or 85 its equivalent inserted into the projecting part of the loop and resting against the post, being held in place by the tension of the fence-wire preventing also the end of the latter from slipping through the perforation, the neces- 90 sary tension being applied by drawing the loop through the perforation and twisting the drawn-out part of it against the inserted wire between it and the post.

3. The combination of a number of fence- 95 wires having each a loop at its end and a post with perforations through and beyond which these loops are passed, a retaining-wire 15 which by passing through the projecting part of all the loops, prevents them from slipping 100 back, the fence-wire being held in position after stretched by twisting the projecting part of each loop about itself and against wire 15.

4. A fence-wire, the end of which is to be connected to a post by means of a loop, such 105 loop being formed by turning a part of the wire back from the end forming a kink or twist 11 some distance back from the point where the wire has been turned, passing the wire end through such kink and twisting the 110 projecting end about the wire.

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

ABRAHAM B. PROBASCO.

Witnesses:

C. SPENGEL,
ARTHUR KLINE.