

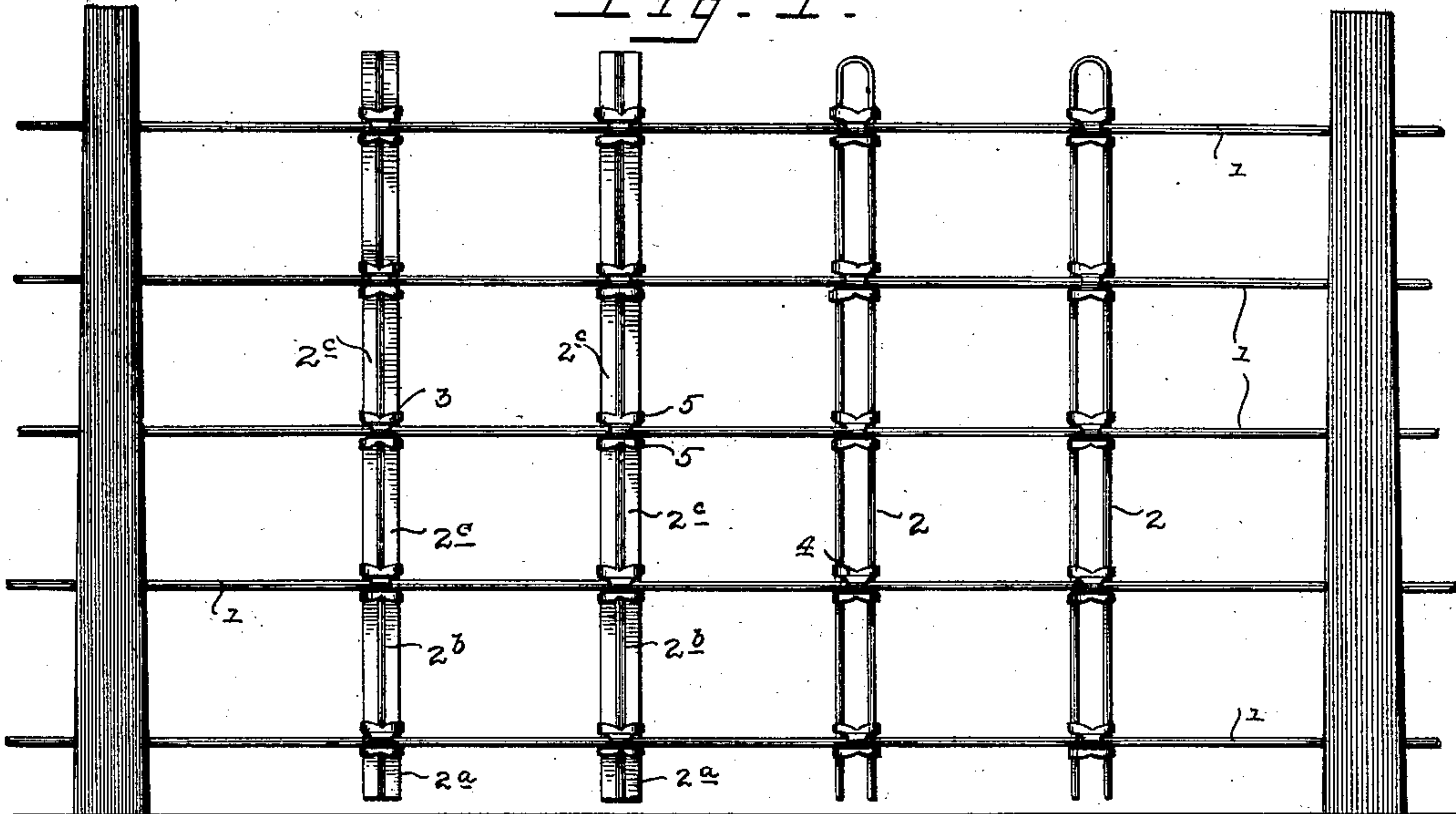
(No Model.)

H. H. BRANDES.  
FENCE.

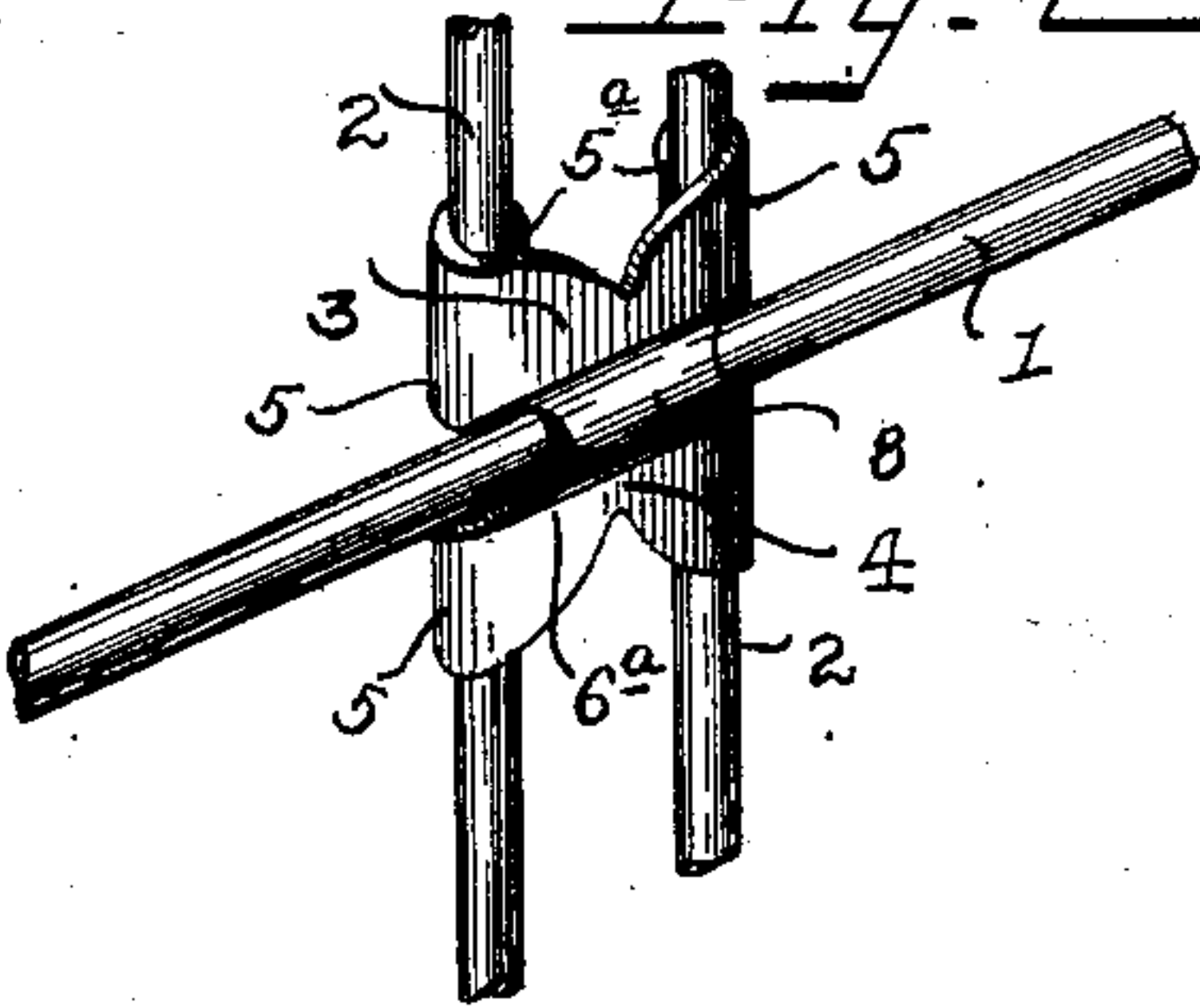
No. 605,849.

Patented June 21, 1898.

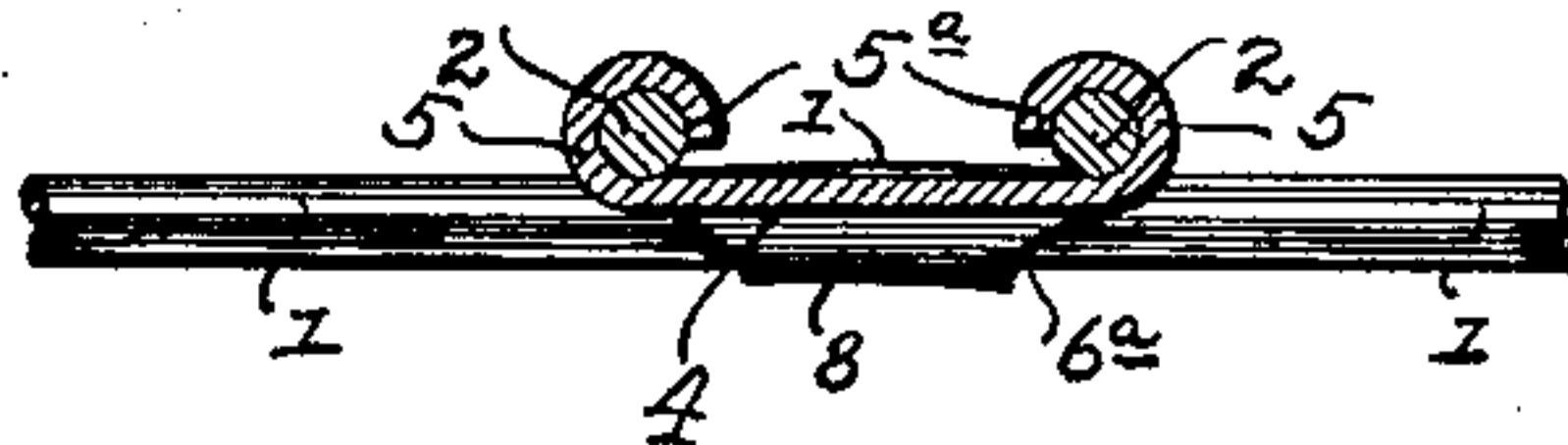
*Fig. 1.*



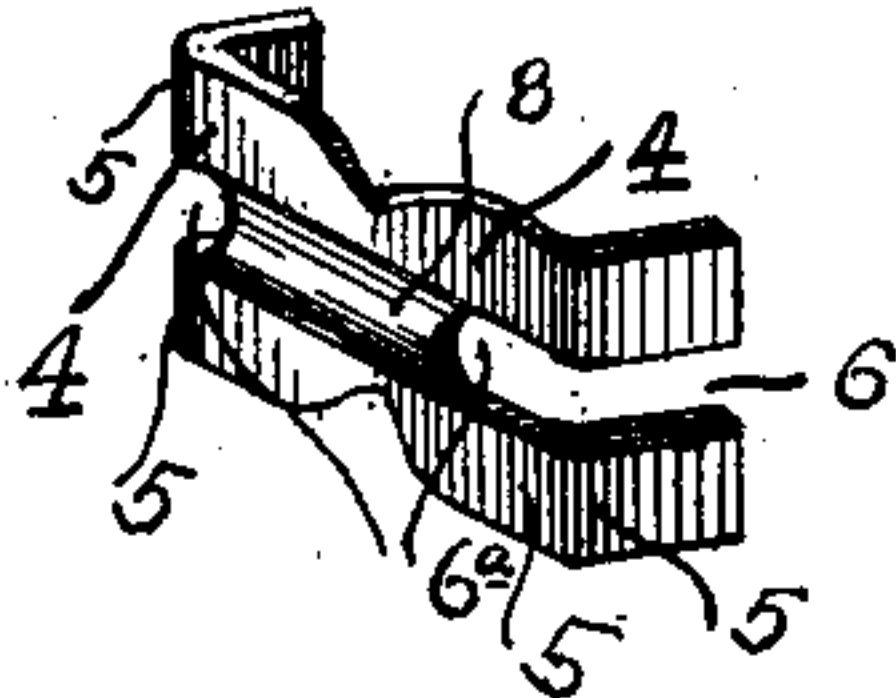
*Fig. 2.*



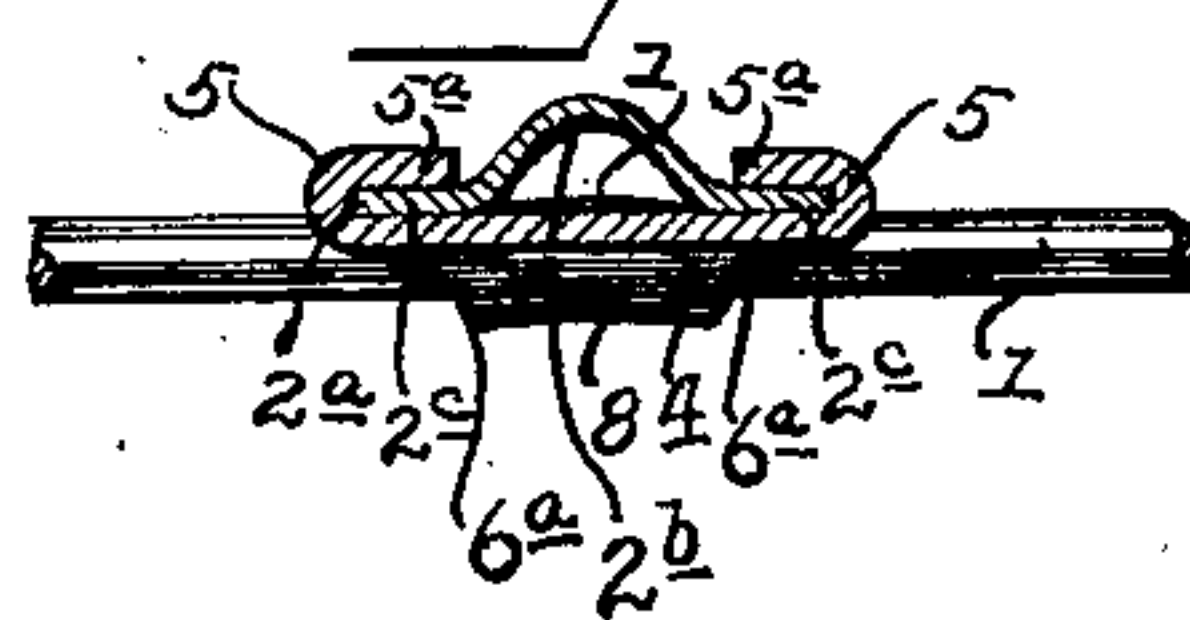
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



Inventor

Herman H. Brandes,

Witnesses

*C. J. Young,*  
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By his Attorneys,

*C. A. Snow & Co.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMAN H. BRANDES, OF CORYDON, KENTUCKY.

## FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 605,849, dated June 21, 1898.

Application filed August 11, 1897. Serial No. 647,876. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HERMAN H. BRANDES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Corydon, in the county of Henderson and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Fence, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to fences, and particularly to that class wherein wire runners are employed; and the special feature of improvement resides in the construction of a lock or clamp for securing stays to the fence-runners, the object in view being to provide a lock or clamp for use in connection with metal stays of either the double-strand or hair-pin type or of the bar or strap type, a common construction of lock or clamp being employed for either form of stay.

A further object of the invention is to provide a stay lock or clamp which is adapted to secure a stay against movement either parallel with or perpendicular to the line of the runners without necessitating the cutting, perforating, or otherwise destroying the continuity of the stay, whereby a continuous stay of uniform thickness and width may be firmly secured to the runners.

Further objects and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view of a fence, showing the improved clamp or lock employed in the operative position to secure stays of both the hair-pin and strap type to the runners. Fig. 2 is a detail view in perspective of one of the locks, showing the contiguous portion of a runner and the intersecting stay. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view of the same. Fig. 4 is a detail view in perspective of the clamp or lock detached. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section of the clamp or lock applied to a stay of the bar or strap construction.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the construction illustrated the runners 1, of which any desired number spaced at the preferred intervals may be employed, are connected by stays 2 and 2<sup>a</sup>, each having parallel spaced bearing-faces for contact with each

runner. The hair-pin or looped-wire stay or picket 2 is of the common or well-known construction, each side of the picket consisting of a straight portion of wire forming a bearing-surface arranged in contact with the runners, and the strap stay or picket 2<sup>a</sup>, which is struck from sheet metal and is also provided with parallel spaced bearing-faces for contact with the runners, is longitudinally crimped, as shown at 2<sup>b</sup>, between the bearing-faces 2<sup>c</sup> to strengthen the stay against transverse bending and also for a further purpose, which will be hereinafter explained.

The clamp or lock 3, forming the essential feature of my invention, consists of a single plate of metal, forming a flat body portion or face 4, terminating in upper and lower pairs of ears 5, bent rearwardly from the body portion or face of the lock and adapted to engage the side edges of a stay or picket. The ears 5 at each end of the clamp are spaced apart to form an interval of sufficient width to receive the runner of the fence to which the device is applied, and in the construction illustrated this interval is formed between the terminal ears of the clamp by means of longitudinal slots 6 of a length greater than the ears 5, and hence extending toward each other into the body portion or face of the clamp to form extensions or cut-away portions 6<sup>a</sup>. Between the inner ends of the cut-away portions 6<sup>a</sup>, formed by the extensions of the longitudinal slots 6, the body portion or face of the clamp is longitudinally bulged or crimped, as shown at 8, in alinement with said slots, the depth of this crimped portion being sufficient to entirely receive the runner, whereby the flat surfaces of the body portion of the clamp bear squarely against the bearing surfaces or portions of the stay or picket and span the interval between said bearing faces or portions.

The projection of the fastening-ears 5 in rear of the plane of the body portion or face of the clamp is slightly in excess of the thickness of the stay or picket, whereby the extremities of said ears are adapted to be folded toward each other into contact with the rear face of the stay or picket, as shown clearly in Figs. 3 and 5. These inwardly-bent engaging portions of the ears 5 are shown at 5<sup>a</sup>.

Owing to the cut-away portions 6<sup>a</sup> at the



extremities of the crimped or bowed portion 8 of the clamp, it will be seen that each bearing portion of a stay or picket is in contact with a clamp at contiguous spaced points, located, respectively, at the bases of the ears 5 at one end of the clamp, and hence by pressing rearwardly upon the crimped or bowed portion of the clamp after the latter has been applied to the runner and stay the intermediate portion of the clamp, with the portion of the runner embedded therein, may be bowed rearwardly between the bearing points or edges of the stay or picket, as shown clearly in Figs. 3 and 5, to lock the clamp, and hence the stay or picket, from displacement in a direction parallel with the runners. This rearward deflection of the crimped portion of the clamp may be accomplished simultaneously with the folding of the extremities or engaging portions 5<sup>a</sup> of the ears.

As above indicated, each form of stay illustrated in the drawings is provided with parallel spaced bearing edges, those of the hair-pin or looped stay being formed by the legs thereof, while those of the strap form (shown at 2<sup>a</sup>) are formed by the portions of the stay upon opposite sides of the longitudinal crimp 2<sup>b</sup>. Thus while the front or bearing face of each clamp spans the interval between and is in contact with both the bearing-faces of a stay or picket the intermediate portion of said face or bearing portion of the clamp is out of contact with the stay or picket, and hence pressure applied to the center of the crimped or bowed portion of the clamp, whether the clamp is used in connection with the hair-pin or the strap picket, will cause a deflection of said crimped portion and of the inclosed portion of the runner between the points of bearing of the stay or picket on said runner.

A further advantage of the construction herein described resides in the fact that the engagement of the clamp with the stay or picket and the runner is accomplished without puncturing, cutting, or otherwise destroying the continuity of the stay or picket and without preparatory crimping of the runner. By reason of the continuous construction of the stay it is obvious that the cross-sectional strength thereof is uniform throughout and the stay is not liable to bend or become broken contiguous to the planes of the runners, as when stays are perforated or cut to form locks or to provide for the engagement therewith of locks.

The facility with which the crimped portion of a clamp and the inclosed portion of the runner may be deflected between the points of bearing of a stay on said runner depends upon the fact that the crimped portion of the clamp between the inner ends of the slots 6 is of less length than the interval between the bearing points or edges of the stay or, as will be seen by reference to Fig. 5, is less than the interval between the outermost portions of the bearing-points of the strap-picket upon the runner.

It is obvious that in practice various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a fence, the combination with runners and intersecting stays or pickets, each having parallel spaced bearing-points arranged in contact with the runners at one side, of clamps arranged at the intersections of the stays or pickets with the runners, and in contact with the runners at the opposite sides from the stays, and each clamp having a body portion transversely spanning the stay, in contact with the bearing-points thereof at the same side as the intersecting runner, and engaging the opposite side of the runner from said stay, and provided with terminal upper and lower ears engaging the side edges of the stay respectively above and below the plane of the intersecting runner, substantially as specified.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a clamp for securing stays or pickets to wire fence-runners, the same consisting of a plate having a flat body portion or bearing-face, provided at each end with spaced upper and lower engaging ears separated by an intervening slot, the slots at opposite ends of the plate being extended inwardly beyond the bases of said engaging ears, and the body portion or bearing-face of the plate being longitudinally crimped, in alinement with and between the contiguous ends of said slots, substantially as specified.

3. In a fence, the combination with runners and intersecting stays or pickets, each having parallel spaced bearing-points arranged in contact with each runner, of clamps arranged at the intersections of the stays or pickets with the runners, and each clamp having a flat body portion transversely spanning the stay in contact with the bearing-points thereof, terminal upper and lower ears engaging the side edges of the stay or picket and spaced apart to occupy positions above and below the intersecting runner, the portions of the clamp between the ears at each end thereof being cut away to form alined slots extending inwardly beyond the bases of the ears, and the bearing portion of the clamp being crimped between and in alinement with said slots to receive the runner, and being deflected rearwardly or toward the stay to bow the runner rearwardly between the bearing-points of the stay, substantially as specified.

4. In a fence, the combination with runners and intersecting stays, each having parallel spaced bearing-points in contact with each runner, of clamps each consisting of a plate provided at its opposite ends with alined inwardly-extending slots, engaging ears deflected from the plane of the body portion of the clamp at points between the outer and inner ends of said slots and engaging the opposite side edges of the stay, the body portion



of the plate between the inner ends of and in alinement with said longitudinal slots being forwardly crimped to form a seat for the runner, substantially as specified.

5 5. In a fence, the combination with runners, of a connecting stay or picket consisting of a continuous metallic strap, provided with a continuous longitudinal crimp and parallel-spaced bearing-points, upon opposite  
10 sides of said crimp, for contact with the runners, and a clamp comprising a flat body portion spanning the interval between the bearing-points of the stay, provided at each end with upper and lower ears engaging the opposite  
15 side edges of the stay, said clamp being cut away between the ears at each end to

form inwardly-extending slots, and being crimped between the inner ends of and in alinement with the slots to receive the runner, said crimped portion of the clamp and 20 the inclosed portion of the runner being deflected rearwardly into the space formed by the longitudinal crimp of the stay, and between the bearing-points of the latter, substantially as specified.

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

HERMAN H. BRANDES.

Witnesses:

RUDY HEAD,  
A. P. KING.