

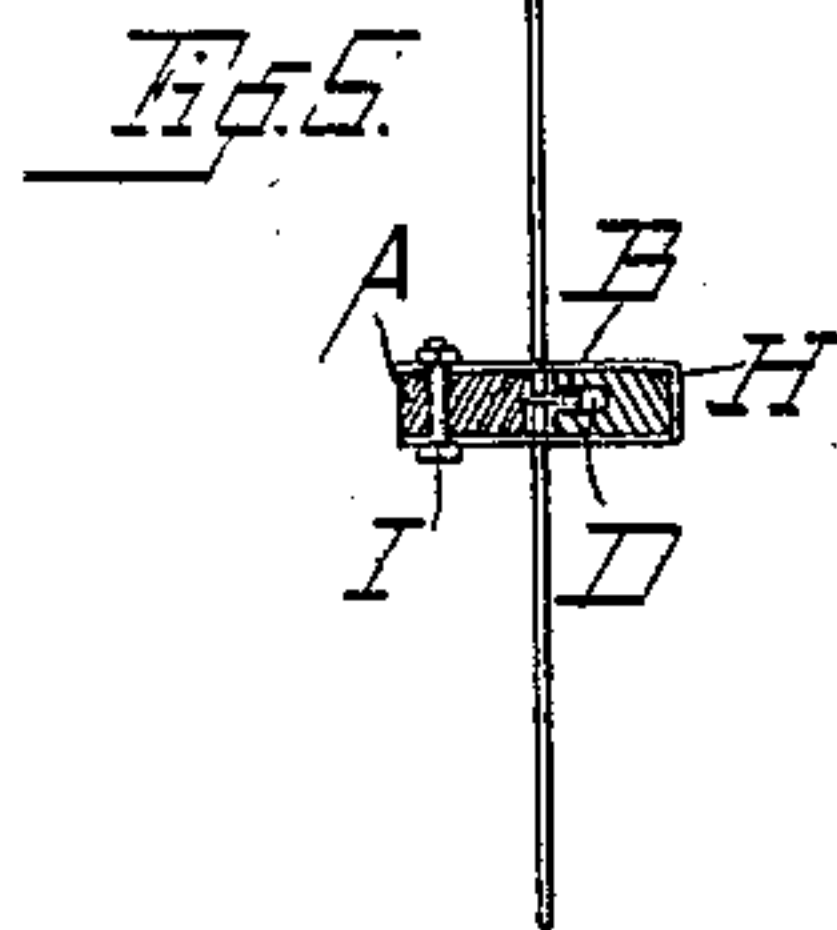
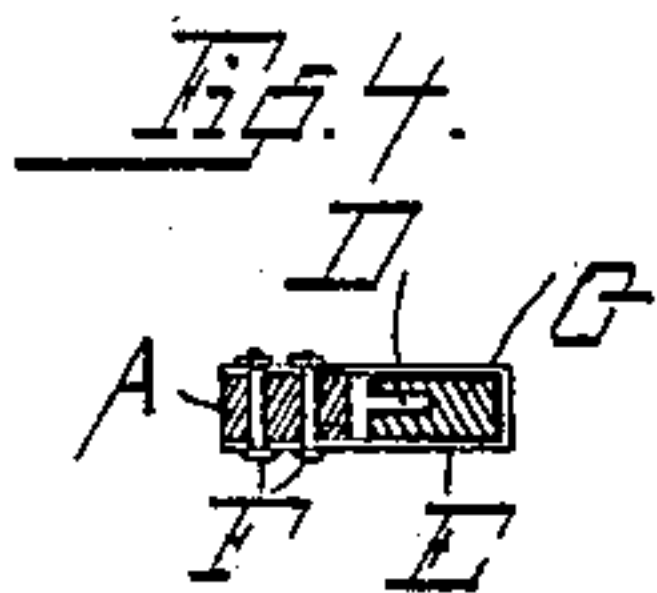
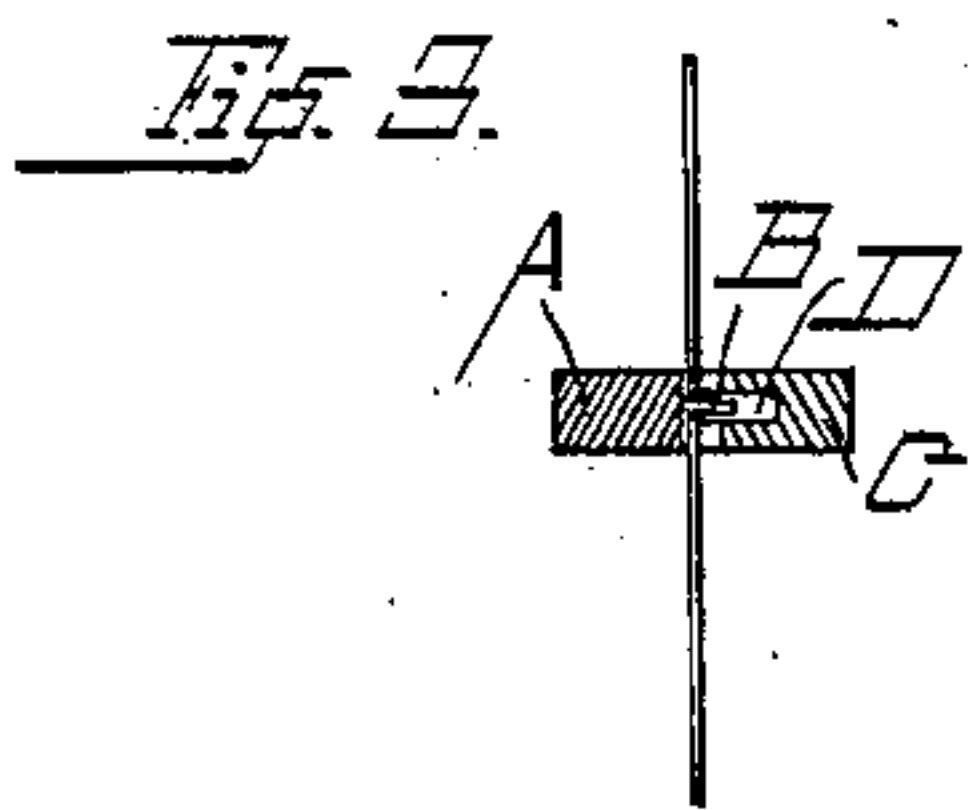
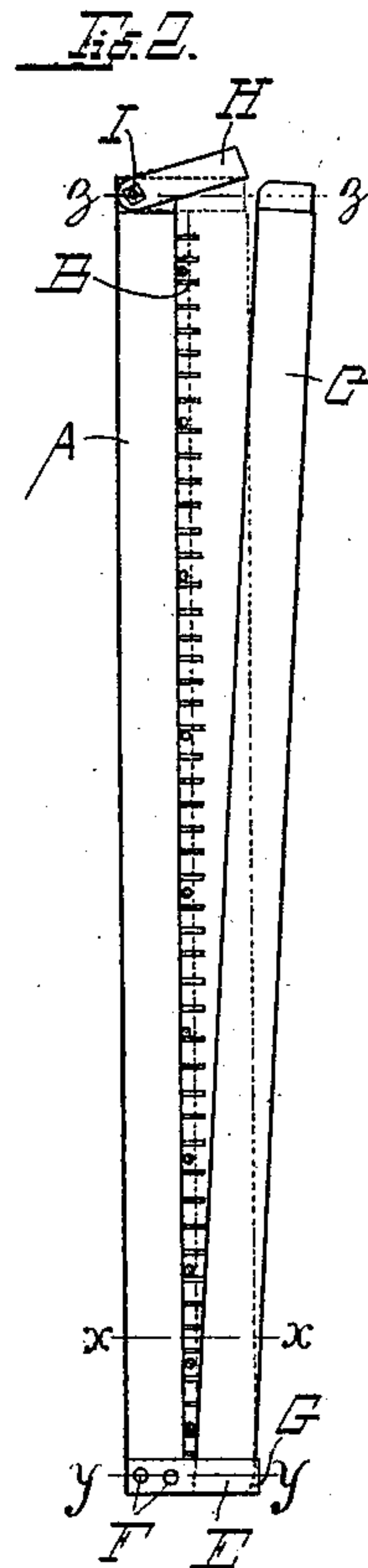
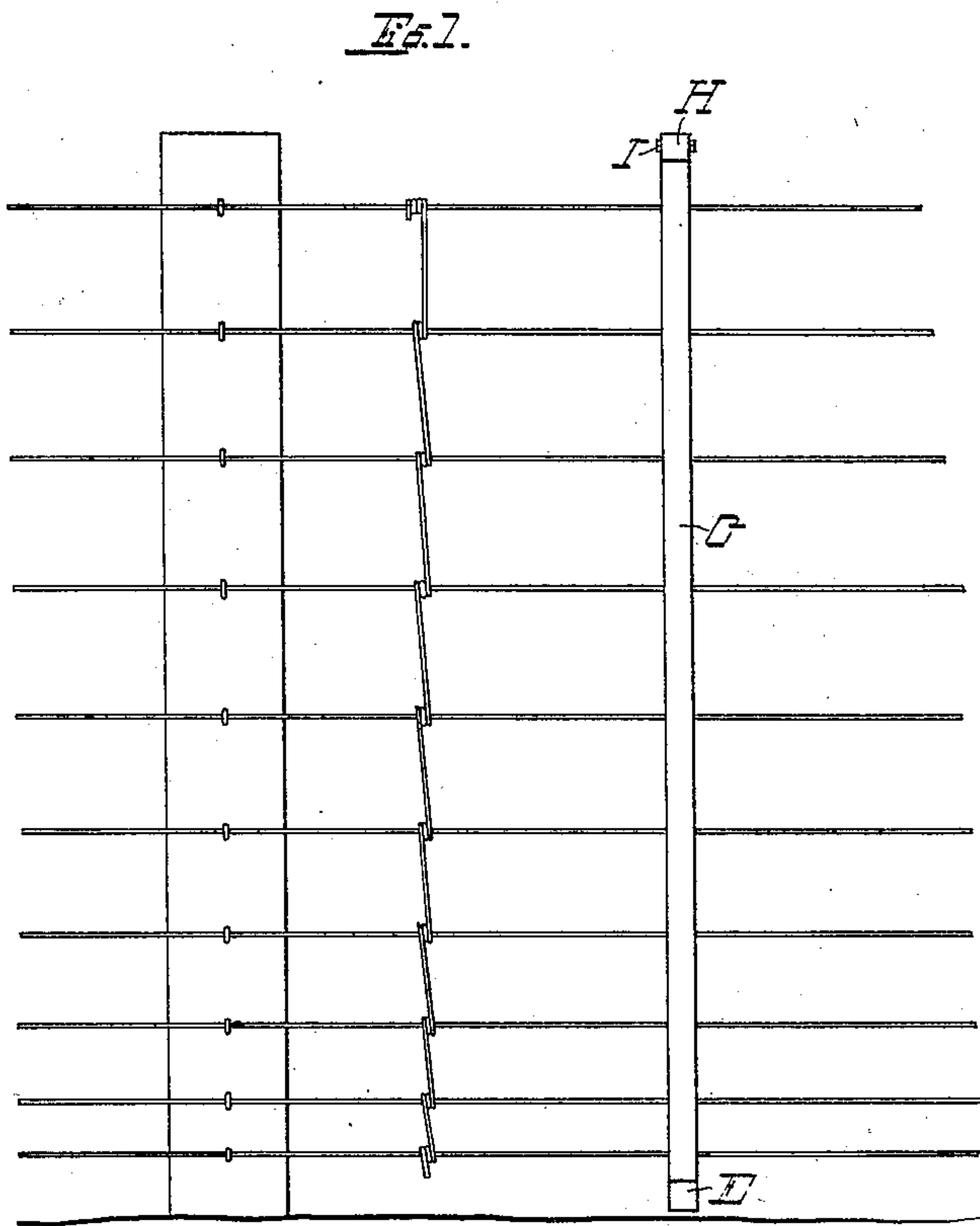
No. 614,163.

Patented Nov. 15, 1898.

E. M. CROUCH.
WIRE FENCE SPACER.

(Application filed Apr. 30, 1897.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD M. CROUCH, OF HARTLAND, WISCONSIN.

WIRE-FENCE SPACER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 614,163, dated November 15, 1898.

Application filed April 30, 1897. Serial No. 634,618. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD M. CROUCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hartland, county of Waukesha, and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wire-Fence Spacers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in that class of wire-fence spacers used for temporarily holding the line-wires of a fence in position at any given point while the stay-wire is being inserted.

The object of my invention is to provide a spacer which may be used upon any line-wire, whether plain, twisted, or barbed, and which may be either slipped along the wires from place to place or readily removed from the wires and readjusted thereto at any desired point.

In the following description reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a fence with my spacer adjusted thereto preparatory to the insertion of a stay-wire. Fig. 2 is a side view of the spacer, showing the fence-wires in cross-section and with the spacer-bars separated at their upper ends. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are cross-section views drawn, respectively, on the lines *xx*, *yy*, and *zz* of Fig. 2 and showing the spacer-bars closed.

Like parts are identified by the same reference-letters throughout the several views.

The bar A is provided with wire-engaging projections B at fixed intervals along one edge, and the bar C is provided with a channel or recess D, in which the projections of the bar A are adapted to fit when the two bars are brought together.

At the lower end of the bar A, I have provided an offset socketed portion E, preferably formed, as shown, of a metal strap bent into a loop and rigidly secured to the bar by rivets F. The bar C is adapted at its lower end to fit into the loop or socketed portion E, as shown in Fig. 2, the rear edge of the bar being beveled off at G to facilitate the insertion of the bar into the socket.

When the lower end of the bar C is inserted in the loop E and the bars A and C brought

together, the upper end of the bars are held together by a clasp H, the latter being preferably formed of a metal loop secured to the upper end of the bar A by a hinge pin or bolt I, which permits the clasp to be raised, as shown in Fig. 2.

In use the projections B at the lower end of the bar A are engaged by the lower line-wires of the fence, with the bar usually held at an angle thereto. The bar C is then inserted in the loop E and both bars pressed together and secured by the clasp H at their upper ends, the bars being so held while pressing them together that the line-wires will be engaged by projections which are located at the proper distance from each other. When the spacer has been adjusted to the fence, it is obvious that the line-wires will be rigidly held together at the proper distances from each other. The stay-wire is inserted in proximity to the spacer, and the latter is then moved along the line-wire, being removed therefrom only when used for barbed wire or in clearing posts.

It is evident that the bars A and C may be made of any suitable material and that the wire-engaging projections may be located upon either one or upon both of the bars, and the recess may be formed by merely notching the edge of the bars. A variety of means may also be employed for clamping the bars together without departing from the scope of my invention.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A wire-fence spacer, comprising a pair of bars, wire-engaging projections located upon one of the bars and adapted to register in a channel in the other bar, and means for temporarily securing the bars together with the projections registering in said channel, substantially for the purpose set forth.

2. A wire-fence spacer, comprising a pair of bars, one of which is provided with a channel or recess therein, and the other having wire-engaging projections adapted to register in said channel or recess, a socketed projection located at the end of one of the bars and adapted to receive the end of the other bar,

and means for securing said bars together, substantially for the purpose set forth.

3. A wire-fence spacer, comprising a bar provided with wire-engaging projections, and
5 having a socketed projection at its lower end, a second bar having one end adapted to fit into said socket, and a clasp located at the upper end of said first-mentioned bar and

adapted to temporarily engage the other bar, substantially for the purpose set forth. 10

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

EDWARD M. CROUCH.

Witnesses:

BERTHA L. CROUCH,
ROBERT L. O'BRIEN.