

No. 775,335.

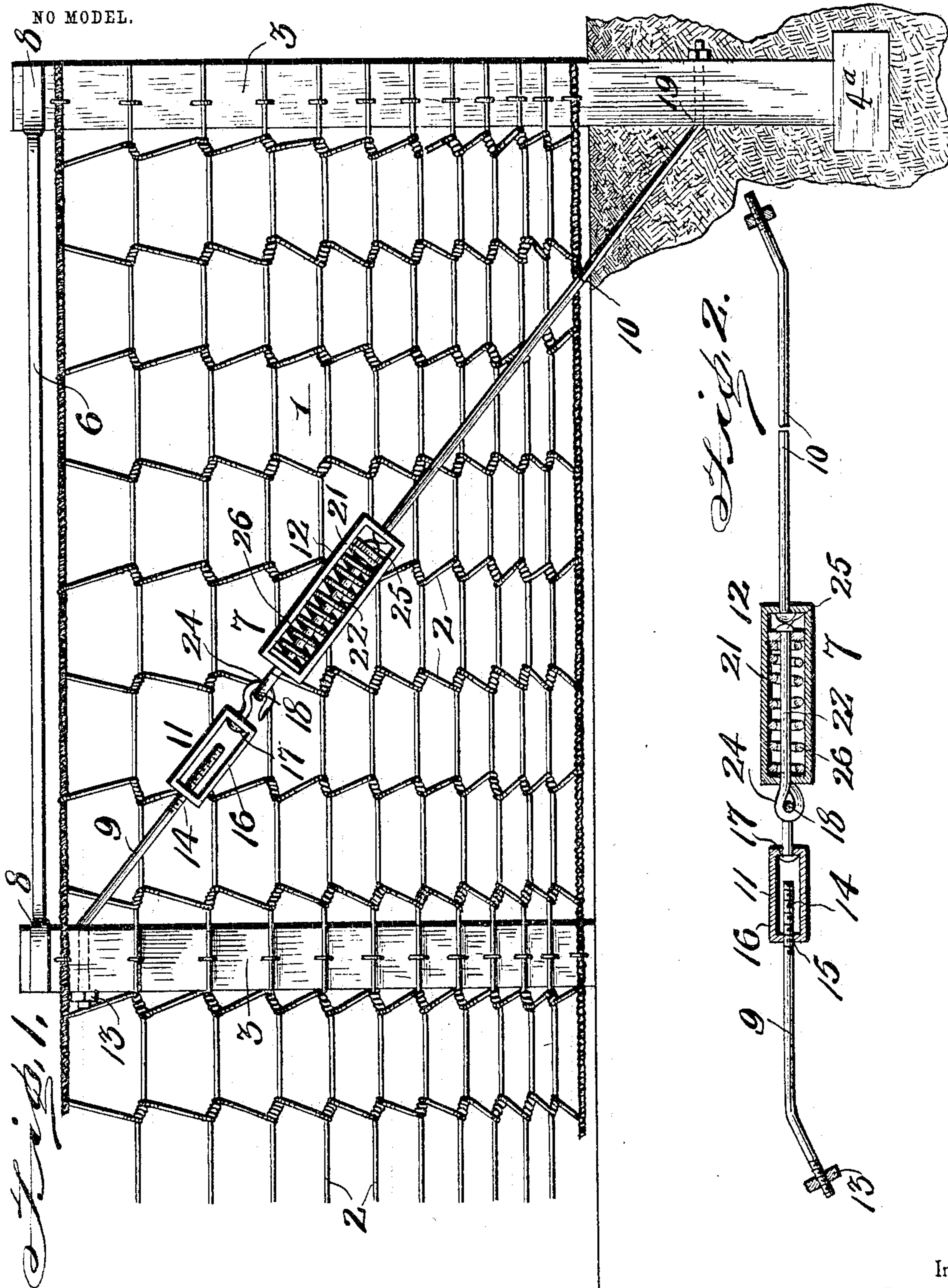
PATENTED NOV. 22, 1904.

J. A. LE HEW.

FENCE.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 14, 1904.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. LE HEW, OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

## FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 775,335, dated November 22, 1904.

Application filed March 14, 1904. Serial No. 198,155. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN A. LE HEW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peoria, in the county of Peoria and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do 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.

My invention relates to improvements in tension devices for wire or other fences; and it consists in certain novel features of construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple, durable, and comparatively inexpensive tension device of this character by means of which the top strands of a wire fence may be quickly and easily tightened or adjusted to prevent sagging. This and other objects, which will appear when the nature of my invention is better understood, I attain by the construction shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of one end of a wire fence with my improved tension device applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view through the device detached from the fence.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, 1 denotes a portion of a wire fence comprising a wire fabric or netting 2, secured upon the usual vertical posts 3, which are embedded in the ground. Between the end post and the next adjacent post are an upper longitudinal brace 6 and a diagonal tension-brace 7. The brace 6 is disposed horizontally between the upper ends of the said posts and consists of a straight bar or rod of wood or metal having forked ends 8 adapted to engage said posts, as shown, to keep them spaced an equal distance apart. The diagonal brace 7 comprises two metallic rods 9 and 10, between which are disposed a turnbuckle 11, by means of which said brace may be adjusted, and a tension-spring device 12, which may be used or omitted, as desired, and which is adapted to yield to the expansion and contraction of the wire fence due to changes in temperature.

The rod 9 has one end passed through an opening in the intermediate post adjacent to its upper end and is retained therein by a head or nut 13, and its opposite end is screw-threaded, as at 14, and operates in a screw-threaded opening 15, formed in one end of the turnbuckle-frame 16. The opposite end of said frame 16 has swiveled to it, as at 17, a hook or eye 18. The rod 10 has its lower end securely attached to the lower end of the end post, as at 19, and its upper end 20 is secured to one end of the frame 21 of the said tension device 12. The said frame 21, which is of open rectangular form, has a rod 22, sliding in an aperture 23 in its opposite end. The outer end of said rod 22 is formed with a hook or eye 24, which is engaged with the said hook or eye 18, and the inner end of said rod is provided with a head 25, between which and the end of said frame 21 is confined a stiff spring 26, coiled around said rod 21, as shown. The end post is preferably provided at its lower end with an anchor 4<sup>a</sup> to assist in holding the same firmly in the ground.

The use, operation, and advantages of my invention will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings. It will be seen that when the turnbuckle 11 is operated the length of the brace 7 may be quickly varied. When said brace is thus shortened, the upper end of the intermediate post will be drawn toward the end of the fence to take up any looseness or slack in the fence fabric and to prevent the same from sagging, and the brace 6 will at the same time force the upper end of the end post in the same direction. The spring device 12 will compensate for the variation in the length of the fence due to heat or cold and will yield to all strains upon the fence to prevent the same from breaking.

While I have shown and described my invention as applied to the end or corner posts of a fence, it will be understood that the same may be used at any other point.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

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

1. In a fence the combination with adjacent  
5 posts connected by a wire fabric, of a rigid  
brace connecting the upper ends of the said  
posts, and a diagonal brace between the up-  
per end of one of said posts and the lower  
end of the other, said brace having an adjust-  
10 ing-turnbuckle and a tension-spring inter-  
posed between its ends, substantially as de-  
scribed.

2. In a fence the combination with adjacent  
posts connected by a wire fabric, of a rigid  
15 brace connecting the upper ends of said posts,

and a diagonal tension-brace comprising a rod  
9 secured to the upper end of one of said  
posts, a rod 10 secured to the lower end of  
the other of said posts, a turnbuckle 11 upon  
said rod 9, and a spring device 12, connecting 20  
said turnbuckle and said rod 10, substantially  
as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set  
my hand in presence of two subscribing wit-  
nesses.

JOHN A. LE HEW.

Witnesses:

R. H. MCNAIR,

JAMES P. MURPHY.