

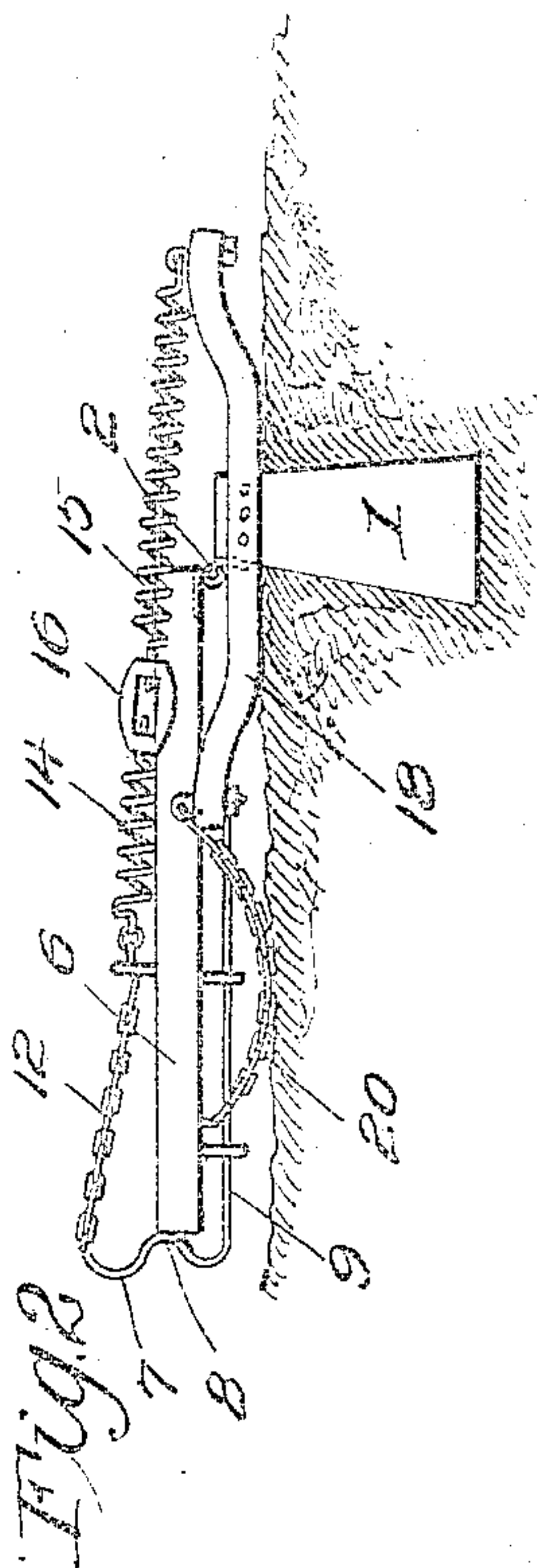
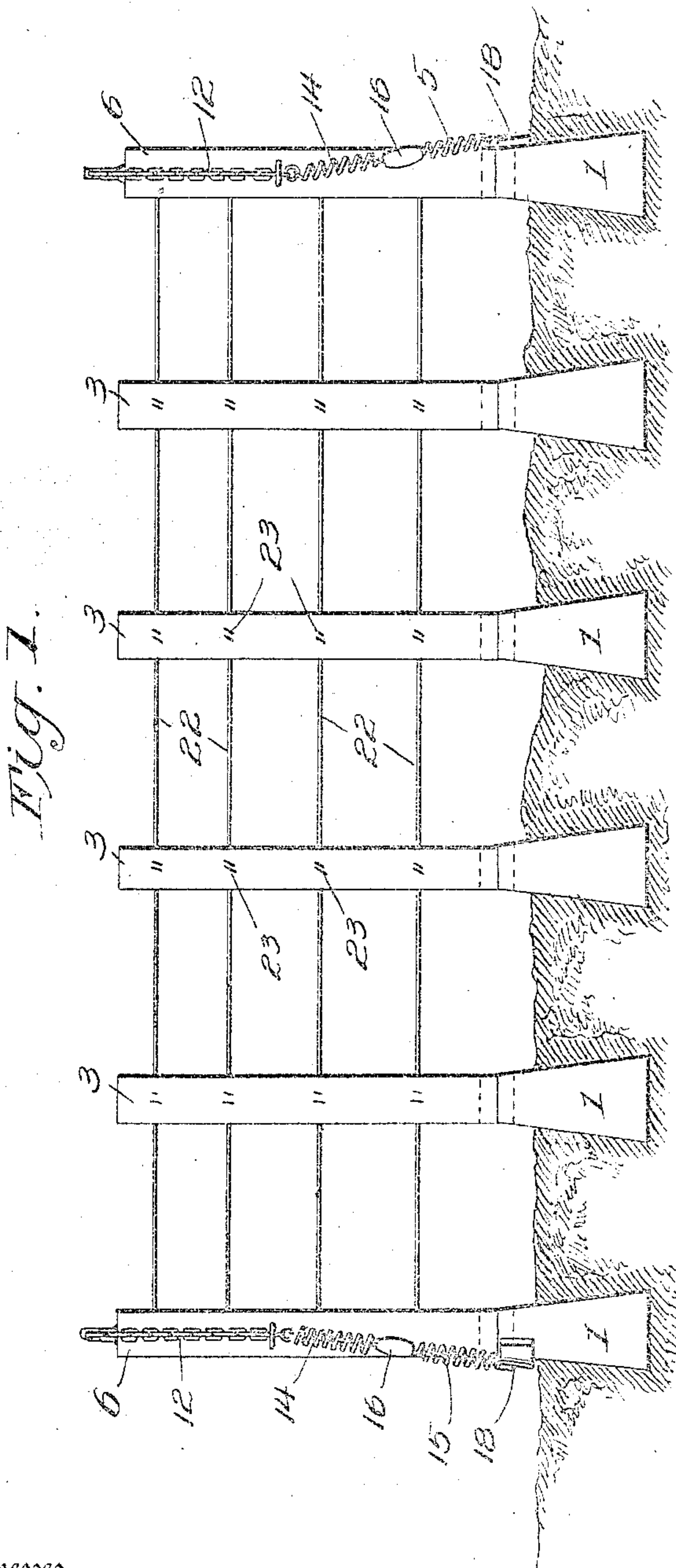
T. W. KING.
FENCE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 10, 1909.

935,522.

Patented Sept. 28, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

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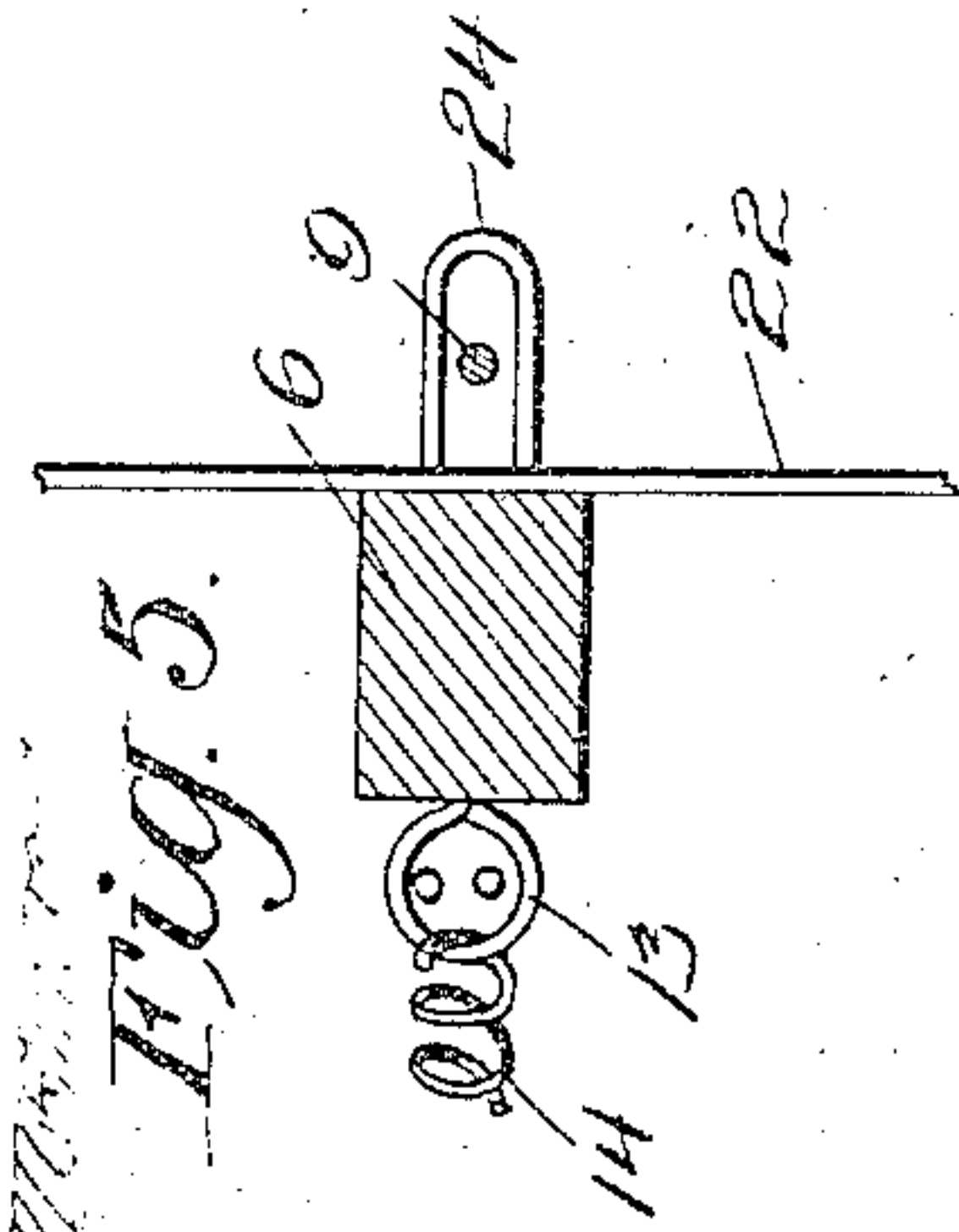
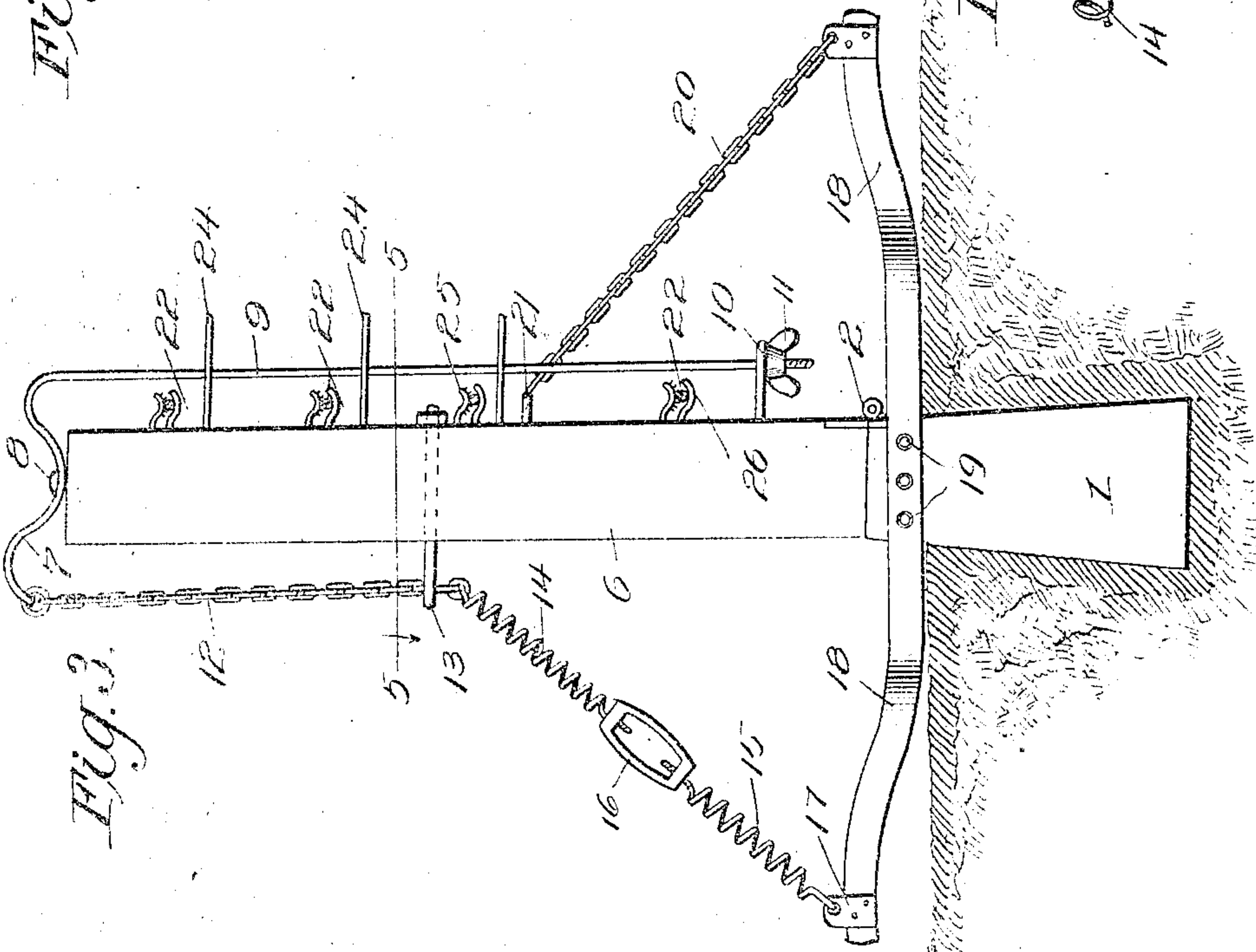
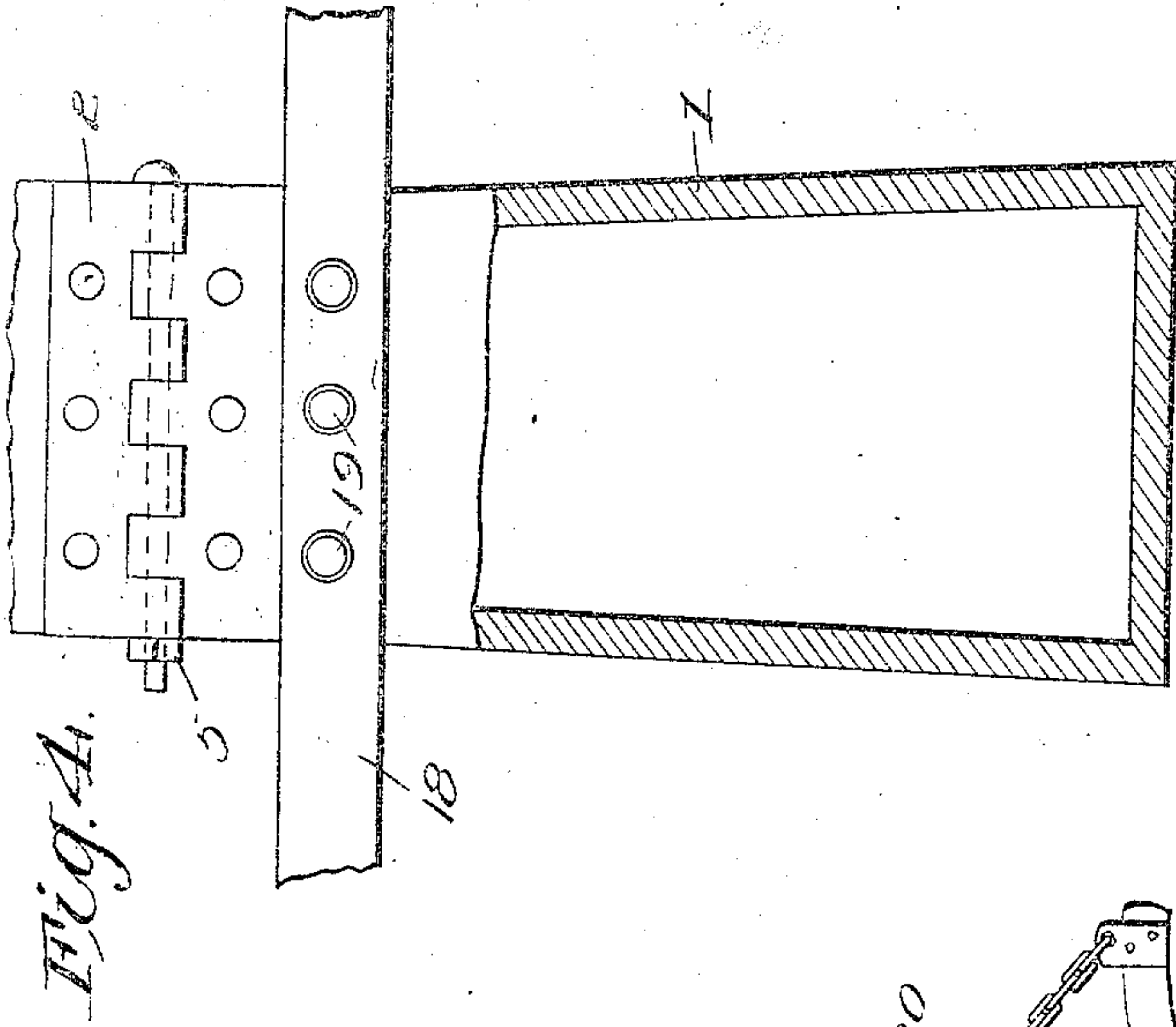
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS W. KING, OF KINGMAN, KANSAS.

FENCE.

935,522.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 28, 1909.

Application filed February 10, 1909. Serial No. 477,093.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS W. KING, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Kingman, in the county of Kingman and State of Kansas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fences, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to fences, and one of the principal objects of the same is to provide a fence for use in places liable to be flooded or upon hillsides where the running water is liable to break down fences owing to the pressure of drift wood and the current of water.

Another object of the invention is to provide a fence the posts of which are hinged and are held in an upright position by means of a spring sustaining device, the tension of which may be overcome by floating drift wood and the pressure of water to throw the posts and line wires of the fence down level with the ground to permit the drift wood and streams to pass over the fence.

In certain localities where fences are located on hillsides, during the spring of the year particularly, owing to melting snow and ice fences thus located are liable to be thrown down by the pressure of the current and drift wood. It is to overcome this defect in fences of this character that my invention is designed.

The objects and advantages above referred to may be attained by means of the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which,—

Figure 1 is a plan view in elevation of a short section of fencing made in accordance with my invention and the posts of which are held in an upright position. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of one of the end posts of the fence section shown in horizontal position such as it would assume in case of pressure upon one side of the fence in case of a flood. Fig. 3 is an end elevation of one of the end posts and showing the arrangement of the sustaining device. Fig. 4 is a detail elevation and partial section of one of the hollow post anchors and showing the manner of hinging the post thereto. Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3, looking in the direction indicated by the arrow.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the base or anchor of the post

preferably made hollow and of metal or other material, said anchor being larger at the bottom and gradually tapering toward the top. Connected to the base 1 by means of metal hinges 2 are intermediate posts 3, the hinge 2 being connected to the front of the anchor 1. The members of the hinge 2 may be readily separated by removing the bolt 4 after the nut 5 has been disconnected therefrom.

At certain distances apart in the construction of the fence the end posts 6 are located. Connected to the top of each of the end posts 6 is a lever 7 pivotally connected at 8 to the top of the post, said lever having an adjusting rod 9 extending down at the front of the post and extending through a keeper 10, the end of said rod 9 being screw threaded and provided with a winged nut 11. Connected to the end of the lever 7 is a chain 12 passing through a ring or staple 13, and connected to the lower end of the chain is a spiral spring 14. Another spiral spring 15 is connected to the spring 14 by means of a turn buckle 16, by means of which the tension of said springs may be adjusted. The spring 15 is attached to an ear 17 secured to a base bar 18 connected to the anchor 1 by suitable rivets 19. Connected to one end of the bar 18 is a chain 20, the upper end of which is connected to a staple 21 secured to the post 6.

The line wires 22 of the fence are secured by means of staples 23 to the posts 3, said line wires being confined at the end posts 6 between the rod 9 and the post 6, as shown more particularly in Fig. 3. The rod 9 extends through staples 24 secured to each of the posts 6.

The operation of my invention may be briefly described as follows: The fence may be located upon the side of a hill with the hinges 2 toward the lower side of said hill. In case of a flood or a snow slide down the hill the pressure would overcome the tension of the springs 14 and 15 and throw the fence down into the position shown in Fig. 2 of the drawing, and after the pressure had passed over the fence, the fence would assume an upright position by the tension of the springs 14 and 15.

From the foregoing it will be obvious that a fence made in accordance with my invention will permit the passage of obstacles in

case of floods or snow slides and will immediately right itself up after the pressure upon the fence has terminated.

I claim:—

1. A fence comprising a series of base members, posts hinged at one side of said members, in combination with end posts each provided with a yielding sustaining device for holding the fence upright, said sustaining device comprising a lever, means for adjusting said lever, a chain connected to said lever, a spring connected to said chain, a base bar, a spring connected to said base bar, a turn buckle connected to said springs, and a chain connected to said base bar and to said post at a point opposite the springs.

2. A fence comprising a series of base members secured in the ground, a series of fence posts each hinged to one of said base members, end posts each hinged to one of said base members, and sustaining devices connected to said end posts, said sustaining devices each comprising a base bar secured centrally to said base members, a spring con-

nected to one end of each of said bars, an adjusting lever connected to said post, and a chain leading from said adjusting lever to one of said springs.

3. A fence comprising a series of base members secured in the ground, a series of fence posts each hinged to one of said base members, end posts each hinged to one of said base members, sustaining devices connected to said end posts, said sustaining devices each comprising a base bar secured centrally to said base members, a spring connected to one end of each of said base bars, said spring comprising two sections connected by a turn buckle for adjusting the tension of the same, an adjusting lever connected to the post, and a chain leading from said lever to one section of said spring.

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

THOMAS W. KING.

Witnesses:

JACOB J. VORAN,
JOS. Q. JENKINS.