E. C. Goddard,

Portable Fence,

No. 68,976. Patented Sep. 17, 1867.

Fig: 1.

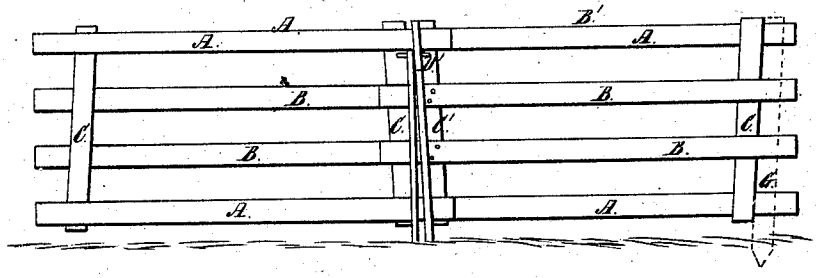


Fig: 2.

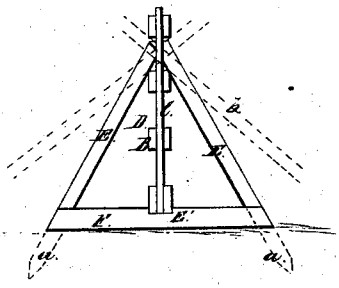


Fig: 3.

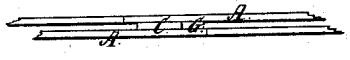


Fig: 6.

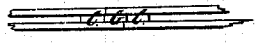


Fig: 5.

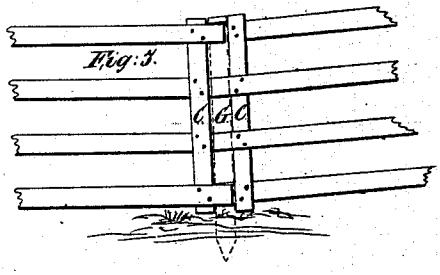
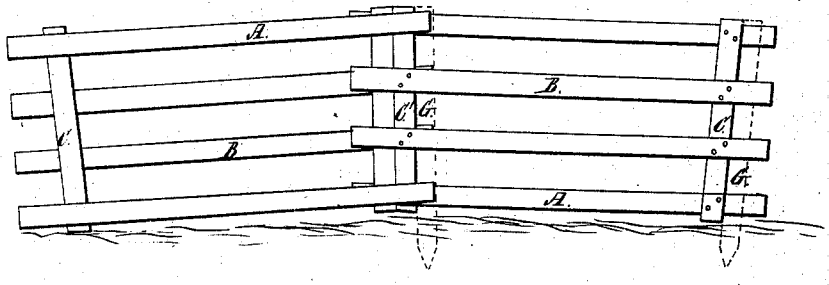


Fig: 4.



Witnesses:
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United States Patent Office.

E. C. GODDARD, OF UNIONVILLE, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND A. BAILEY, OF THE SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 68,976, *dated September* 17, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN PORTABLE FIELD-FENCE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, E. C. GODDARD, of Unionville, in the county of Ashtabula, and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful improvements in a Portable Field-Fence; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and complete description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the fence.

Figure 2 is an end view.

Figure 3 is a top view.

Figure 4 is also a side view.

Figures 5 and 6 will be referred to in description.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the views.

In fig. 1, A and B are the rails or bars of a fence-panel. It will be observed that the upper and lower rails are fastened to one side of the cleats C, and the two central rails B on the opposite side, and also that the cleats are not placed at right angles to the bars, but slightly slanting, the purpose of which will hereafter be described. By thus nailing the upper and lower rails both on one side, and the centre ones on the opposite, the two panels can be locked together, as shown in fig. 3. Thus the upper and lower rails of panel A′ lap over on to the cleat of panel B′, fig. 1, bringing the rails A on the same side of the cleat C′ on which the centre rails B′ are, and the upper rails A′ of panel 2 over the cleat C of panel A′, making by this means a strong, simple, and easily-effected locking together of the panels, which can be quickly put up or taken down, as there are no pins, nails, or other device used in making the lock. This fence is supported in an upright position by the triangular post D, fig. 2, the braces E of which constitute the support, and which may be either driven into the ground, as indicated by the dotted lines *a*, fig. 2, or secured to the sill F, and fastened together at the top immediately under the upper rail by a pin, D′, fig. 1. The sill may be dispensed with by using longer braces, driving the lower ends into the ground, and allowing the upper ends to pass between the second and upper rails, and pinning them together so as to stay them from any lateral movement. This arrangement is indicated by the dotted lines *b*, fig. 2, in which it will be seen that the lower edge of the upper rail, and the upper edge of the second rail, are pressed against the braces, thus giving additional strength to the fence. The bottom of the fence is secured from slipping by the lower rails being lodged in a notch, E′, fig. 2, thereby preventing any lateral displacement.

As above said, cleats are nailed slantingly across the rails, the purpose of which is to adapt the line of fence to the unevenness of the land thus in passing over a swell of ground the cleats, by being thus arranged in a slanting direction, will be brought close together, as shown in fig. 4, thereby giving additional strength to the lapping of the panels, and security to the fence. It will be obvious that on turning the top of the fence down, thus bringing the top rail to the bottom, the fence will adapt itself to hollow places with the same facility as it did to the rising ground. In the use of this fence but few posts are required, it being supported mainly by stakes, indicated by the dotted lines G, which are simply lengths of boards, driven into the ground between the middle and outer rails, and which may be driven close to the cleats, or at the middle of the panels, as the number of triangular posts used may render it expedient.

This fence is intended for a portable one for the purpose of folding flocks of sheep, enclosing stacks of grain, hay, &c., or for other purposes requiring a cheap and quickly-constructed fence. The cleats being attached to the slats at an obtuse or acute angle from the base-line at alternate ends of each panel, it follows that by turning the sections over, reversing the ends in relation to the oblique slats C, the fence is easily adjusted to level or rolling ground; but in making straight fence the slats may be placed at right angles to the rails, if preferred. By placing the stake G between the cleats C C, as seen in figs. 5 and 6, the slats may then only lap on to the stake, as seen in figs. 5 and 6, instead of the cleats, as shown in fig. 4. The construction shown in figs. 5 and 6 admits of the rails being made shorter, or the same length of rails will have more longitudinal extension than the arrangement shown in fig. 4, both having the same amount of lumber, and by allowing a space between one of the cleats C and stake G, fig. 5, so as to slide the panel laterally, and move it in and out of connection with the fence, a gate or roadway may be thus easily made.

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

The herein-described construction and arrangement of fence to form interlocking sections, straight and irregular lines, and gate-ways, by the combination of the oblique slats C C with interlocking panels A′ B′ and posts, conjointly.

E. C. GODDARD.

Witnesses:

J. H. BURRIDGE,

R. E. MIX.