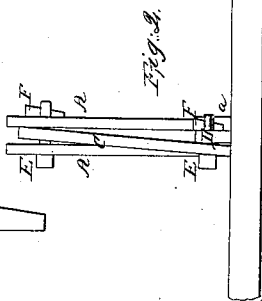
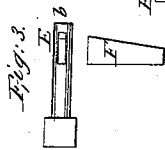
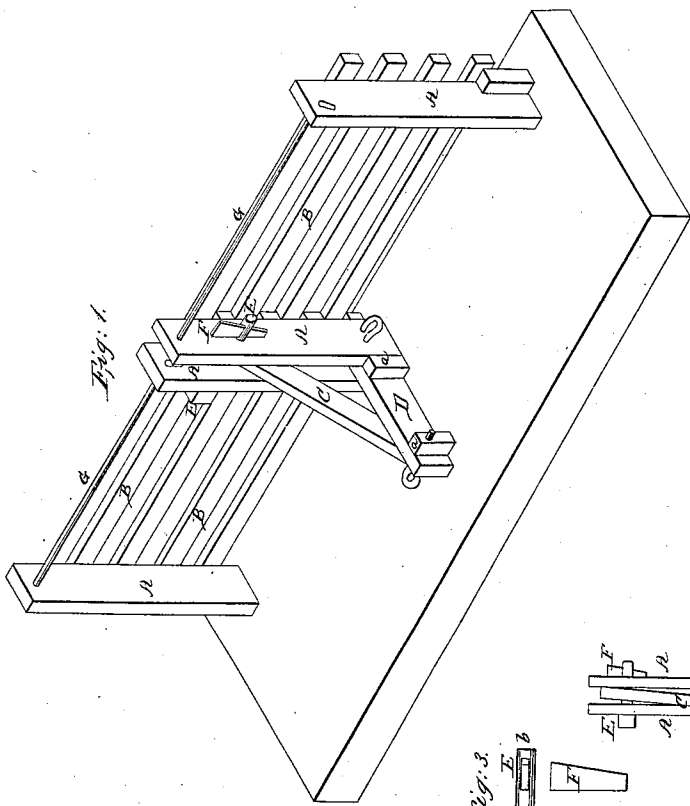
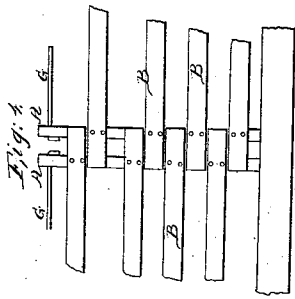


J. J. Friend,
Portable Fence.

N^o 60,873.

Patented Jan. 1, 1867.



Witnesses:
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Inventor
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United States Patent Office.

JACOB J. FRIEND, OF ALTONA, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 60,873, dated January 1, 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, JACOB J. FRIEND, of Altona, in the county of Knox, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and improved Portable Farm Fence; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and arrangement of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved portable farm fence.

Figure 2, a view of panels, (to which the rails are attached,) showing the manner of connecting them with foot-board and brace by means of bolts and keys.

Figure 3, a view of bolt and key.

Figure 4, a view of panels, showing the manner of projecting the rails beyond the panels of one section, so as to overlap on to the back edges of the panel, and intervene between the rails of the panels of another section, to which they may be connected.

Like letters in the different figures of the drawings indicate like parts.

My invention consists in constructing the panels of a distinct and uniform style, and in so arranging the rails in their attachment to the panels as to leave a sufficient projection of the rails beyond the panels, so that every section of fencing, when put up and connected together, will have the projecting rails overlap on to the back edges of the panels, and intervene between the rails thereon of each section; whereby, in a continuous line of fencing, the whole line is thus kept steady and substantial in its upright position, the projecting rails of each panelled section mutually supporting and holding those of the connecting sections. By the distinctness and uniformity of the style of the panel, any two panels of opposite sections will make a connection, and thereby form a straight line of fencing.

My invention also relates to the construction of the foot-board, with stakes permanently attached thereto, and brace, in combination with the panels for supporting the fencing, when the whole is secured by bolts and keys, the object of which is to keep the panels perfectly tight at all times in their connections with the braces and foot-boards, which cannot be done so well by the simple use of pins. It will do it for a time, but after the fence has been in use for awhile, the holes for the reception of the pins increase in size, from the wear caused by the insertion and withdrawal of the pins when necessary; consequently they become loose, and the effect is, in a furious storm of wind—the resistance presented by the panels and the rails to the same—the fencing or a portion of it is liable to become prostrated by reason of the shaking and straining of it from the wind operating to work out one or more of the pins from the holes. Aside from this, whatever the causes may be to affect the fence, it is obvious that the pins are not so effective as bolts and keys in making the connections of the panels with the braces and foot-boards close and tight, and thus keep them in this way as long as the fence lasts; whereas, by the wedging force of the keys in the bolts, if it is discovered at any time there is looseness or unsteadiness of the panels in their connections, it is rectified by tapping the key with a hammer wherever it is found along the line of fencing, which at once renders the same perfectly tight.

There is a feature of my invention which, however simple it may appear and readily suggestive to any one, is, nevertheless, desirable for the purpose which it attains: it is the application and combination of wire with the panels, which is stretched from panel to panel and secured to the tops of them, for preventing animals from interfering with the fence.

My fence is constructed and arranged as follows, as will be seen by the letters of reference herewith indicated on the drawings. A are the panels, B the rails, C the brace, D the foot-board, E the bolt, F the key, and G the wire. A section of the fencing is made in this wise: Two panels of the proper width and length are first selected. The edge of the panels is then spaced off for the rails, which are securely nailed thereto, with their ends projecting sufficiently beyond the panels to overlap on to the back edges of the panels of the connecting sections, and fit between the rails of the same when formed; and when the panels are adjusted relatively to the braces and foot-boards, (see fig. 4.) The spaces allowed on the edge of the panels for the rails are to be of a sufficient width to admit of the projections of any rail in the construction and putting up of the sections to fit just loose enough to get them in the spaces, and yet tight enough to afford a bearing between the rails of the different sections, so that each section will mutually support the other to a certain extent longitudinally, which

thus gives a firm joint to the sections. The foot-boards are made of the proper width and length, and have stakes, *a*, of the proper size, sharpened at one end and nailed to them, (see fig. 1.) When the place has been selected for the putting up of the fence, a foot-board is first arranged, with its stakes driven into the ground. Two sections of the fencing are then put up, with the panels placed against the sides of the inner end of the foot-board and the stake, (see fig. 1.) The bolt, (see fig. 3,) with a suitable slot, *b*, constructed in it, is passed through a hole in the panels and the foot-board. The key, of a wedge shape, (see same figure,) is then inserted in the slot. This secures the bottoms of the panels to the foot-board. One end of the brace for supporting the fence is placed between the panels, near the top of them, and secured with bolt and key in a like manner as below, (see fig. 1,) one bolt and key of which are considered all that it is necessary to show. The other end of the brace is secured the same to the outer end of the foot-board, to render the connection of the sections thus made close and tight. The different keys are then forced down in the slots of the bolts against the sides of the panels and foot-board. The line of fencing is continued as far as desired by the addition of other sections to the two first, and in the manner as herein described, and connecting successively with one another.

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

The rails *B*, so arranged as to have their ends project from the panels *A* of one section, on to the back-edges of the panels of another section, and intervene between the rails of the panels thereof, and the bolt *E* and key *F*, in combination with the panels, brace, and foot-board, substantially in the manner and for the purpose as herein set forth.

JACOB J. FRIEND.

Witnesses:

IRA E. HARSH,
N. E. PHILLIPS.