(No Model.)

J. GIER.

FENCE.

No. 276,679. Patented May 1, 1883.

Fig. 1.

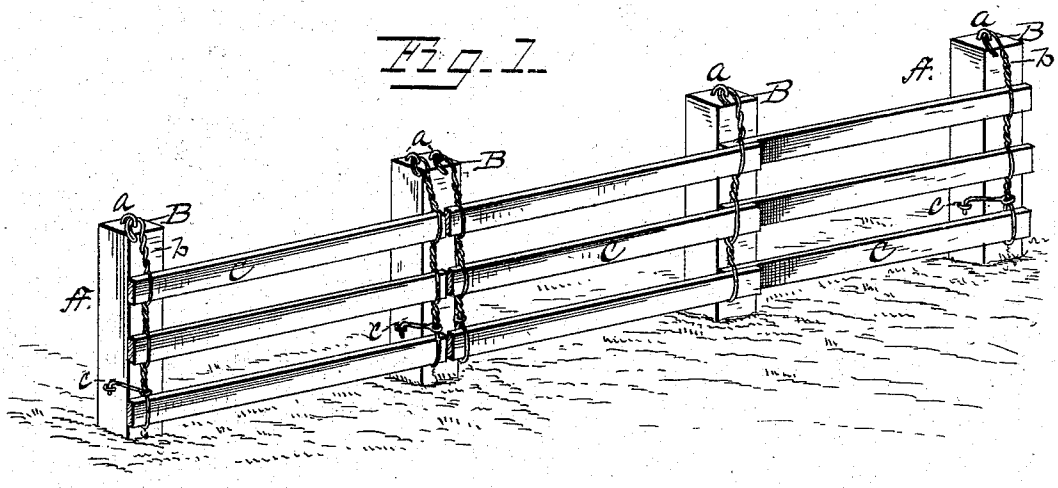


Fig. 2.

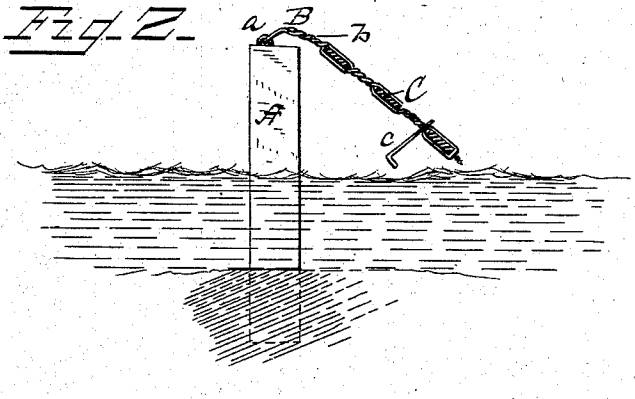
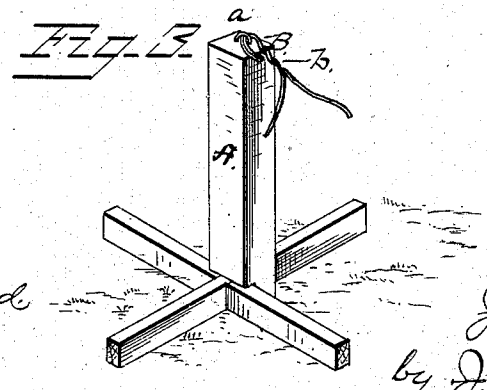


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN GIER, OF ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 276,679, dated May 1, 1883.

Application filed November 6, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN GIER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in the county of Adair and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do hereby 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.

This invention has relation to improvements in fences; and its object is to provide a fence which may be used as a fixed or portable fence and also be adapted to lands subject to overflow.

My improvements therefore consist in providing ordinary fence-posts with an eye or staple fixed in the top of the post, and wire strands connected therewith, in which the rails are secured, as hereinafter set forth.

My improvements further consist in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter set forth and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved fence. Fig. 2 is a sectional view, showing the fence subjected to the action of a current of water; and Fig. 3 is a view of a post and bottom piece used in a portable structure.

The letter A is the post, which may be of any desired length and thickness. In the top of each post is driven or otherwise secured a staple or hook-eye, *a*, and through this staple or eye is run a wire, B; or the wire may be doubled and then bent in the form of a hook, and this secured in the staple of the post. The strands of this wire are then brought together, and lapped or twisted a sufficient number of times downward to form the part *b*. The ends of the rails C, having first had notches cut in them, are then placed between the free strands and close against the twist, when the strands are again tightly twisted together below the rails, thus securing the rail ends together, and then by continuing the twist two or more times the second space is formed, and the strands are ready for the next rail or rails, and the work thus continued until the last slot or rail is secured, when the ends of the strands are twisted together and clipped off. To the lower part of the wire strand in each section is secured the hook *c*, locking in a staple in the foot of the post. This fastening means is for the purpose of making the fence secure and firm, and prevent it from being swung or lifted from its perpendicularity.

Whenever it is desired to leave the fence free of course all that is to be done is to unhook the fastenings below.

It will be observed that the fence may consist of two or more panels joined or of only a single panel. It is preferable that three or four panels be united.

The entire fence is sustained by the staple and wires, and may be swung outward and upward by sections, as desired, or by the pressure of a current of water, or sections may be lifted from connection or raised up to allow stock to pass from one field to another.

When it is desired to make the fence a portable one the parts are cut of the desired length and a brace set in the bottom, substantially as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings.

It is to be observed that when this fence is to be used across small streams the hooks *c* should be placed loosely around the wire strands, and the bent portion fit loosely into the staple at or near the base of the posts, so that in the event of a flood or freshet the water will act upon the hooks and uncouple them from the post-staples and allow the fence-sections to swing outward from the bottom, as seen in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

I am aware that a flood-fence having a flexible section retained in a normal position by means of wire connections or ties, said flexible section adapted to be elevated or moved by means of a current of water, is not broadly new with me; but

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

1. The combination, with a fence-post provided with a staple in the upper end or top, of wire strands secured to said staple, and fence-rails secured in the strands, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a fence-post, a sta-

ple, and wire strands connected therewith, of fence-rails notched to receive the strands, and secured between the strands by twisting, and a fastening attached to the bottom of the strands, substantially as described.

3. The improved fence herein described, consisting of the post A, staple *a*, wire strands B, twisted as set forth, rails C, and fastening means *c*.

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

his
JOHN × GIER.
mark.

Witnesses:
G. W. YOAKUM,
H. E. BAILEY.