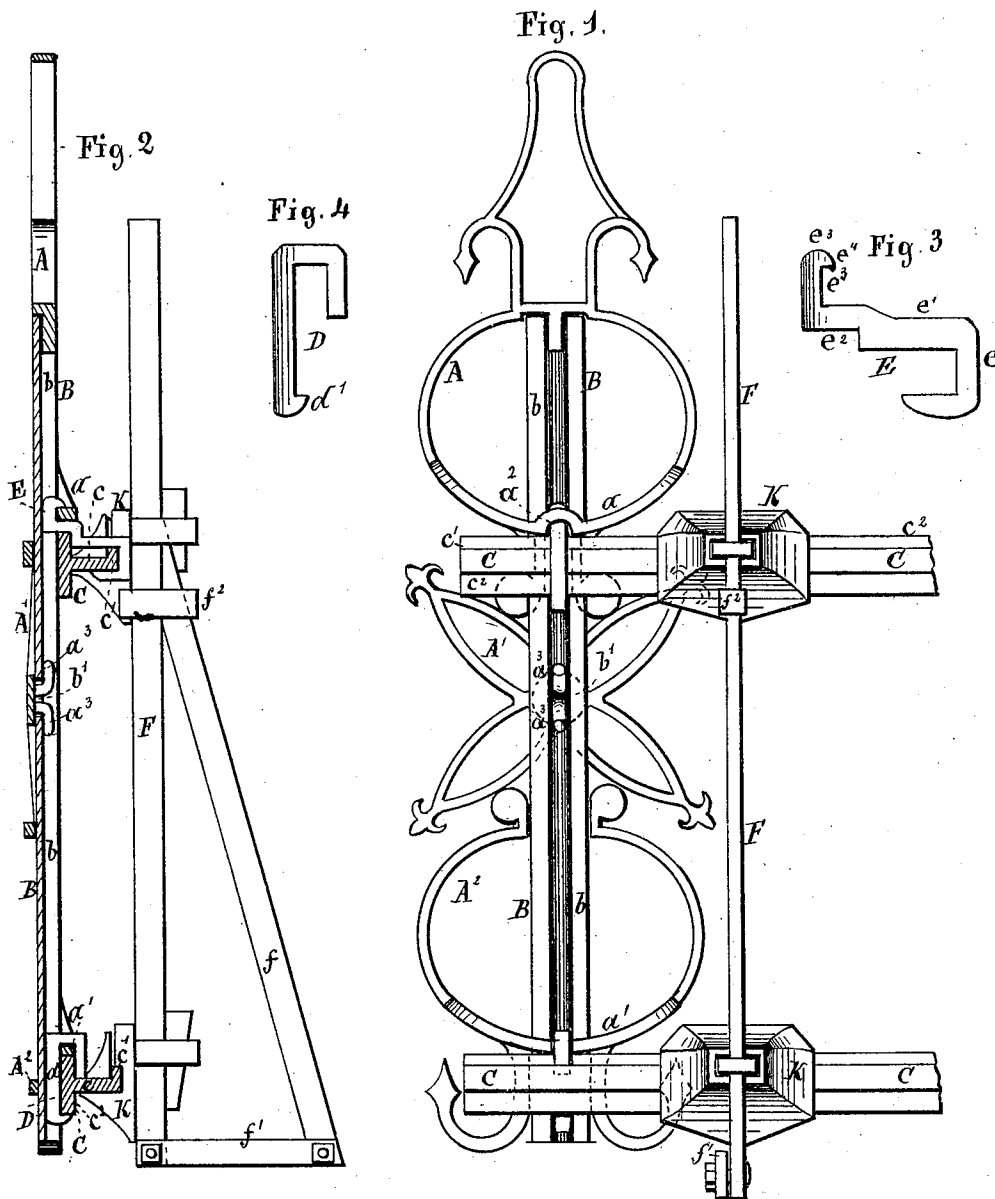


W. L. WALKER, B. G. DEVOE & J. YOUNG.
METALLIC FENCE.

No. 178,569.

Patented June 13, 1876.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM L. WALKER, BENJAMIN G. DEVOE, AND JAMES YOUNG, OF KENTON, OHIO; SAID WALKER ASSIGNOR TO SAID JAMES YOUNG AND BENJAMIN G. DEVOE, AND WILLIAM H. YOUNG AND HENRY PRICE, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN METALLIC FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **178,569**, dated June 13, 1876; application filed February 24, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM L. WALKER, BENJAMIN G. DEVOE, and JAMES YOUNG, all of Kenton, in the county of Hardin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metallic Fences, of which the following is a specification:

Our invention consists principally in the peculiar construction of the ornamental parts, and the devices whereby such are readily placed in position, together with their pickets on the cross-rails of the panels, and readily taken apart when required or desired.

The invention further consists in constructing the panel-posts in such manner that they may be readily adjusted forward and backward without disturbing either the ornamental parts of the panels or the base of the posts; and, finally, the invention consists in the construction or form of the cross-rail.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a rear vertical elevation of so much of a fence as will show our improvements. Fig. 2 is a section through line *x x*, Fig. 1; and Figs. 3 and 4 are detached views of the fastening devices.

A¹ A² are the upper, middle, and lower ornaments, respectively, the upper and lower ones of which are provided each with a semicircular, or practically a semicircular, rear brace, *a a*¹. The brace *a* of the upper ornamental part A has an enlargement formed thereon, provided with a recess, *a*², for a purpose hereinafter explained. B is the picket, constructed substantially like those we usually employ—that is to say, a picket rolled hollow, and having side flanges *b b*, upon which the ornaments partly rest. This picket is further made with a hole or longitudinal slot at or near its central portion, which slot, *b'*, forms a longitudinal aperture in the rounded portion of said picket.

The ornament A¹ has two central studs or projections, *a*³, formed on its rear face, by means of which said ornament is secured to the picket B by passing the studs through the slot *b'* in said picket, and then driving them

apart, as plainly shown by Figs. 1 and 2, and by this means the center ornament is securely fastened to the picket.

C is the cross-rail, of J shape, with its horizontal portion *c* provided with a flange or rounded rib, *c'*, which fits into a groove or recess formed in the holding-clamp K, which consists essentially of two parts, one part being T-shaped, the shank of which has a longitudinal slot, through which the post F passes. The upper part of the clamp K is triangular—that is to say, it has a horizontal clamping-face, and a vertical slotted face which fits over the shank of the lower portion. The upper portion is further provided at the junction or angle of the horizontal and vertical plates with a recess to receive the projecting flange or rib *c'* of the cross-rail C when the latter is held between the two parts of the clamp, and the latter and the rail are together secured in any desired position on the post F by means of a wedge or key. This holding-clamp has been fully described and shown in the specification and drawings forming part of Letters Patent granted to Walker and Devoe for said clamp under date of October 11, 1875, and need therefore not be particularly referred to here, as we do not wish to claim the clamp K, *per se*, nor do we desire to limit ourselves exclusively to the use of such clamp in conjunction with the cross-rail C, as it is evident that clamps of other construction to fit the rail may be employed. The rail C is rolled to the shape as shown, and is especially adapted, with the hooks and clamps D E K, to the setting up fences rapidly and substantially.

D is a fastening hook or staple, the long arm of which has a projection or lip, *d*¹, and the outer face of such long arm *d* is rounded to fit the convexity of the picket B. This hook D is employed to secure the lower ornament to the picket, by inserting it between the latter and the rear brace *a*¹, in such manner that the hook will clasp said brace and the face of the rail C, and the lower projecting lip *d*¹ the lower face of the vertical portion of the cross-rail, as shown. By this means the ornament and

picket are readily hooked together, or unhooked by pressing back the lip or projection d^1 , and slipping it from off the brace a^1 and the face of the cross-rail.

E is another fastening-hook, of peculiar construction, by means of which the upper ornamental part A is hooked or secured to the upper cross-rail, and consists of a main hook, e , formed on a long arm, e^1 , the lower face of which is so constructed as to form a shoulder, e^2 , and the hook e^4 , formed on the arm e^3 , at right angles to the long arm e^1 . The front face of the vertical arm e^3 is rounded, so as to fit the hollow portion of the picket when it is placed in position. The front end of the hook is slightly curved inward, as shown at e^4 , Fig. 3.

To secure the ornament A in position the short arm e^3 is slipped between the picket and rear brace a , so that the front portion of the long arm e^1 will rest in the recess a^2 , formed in the enlargement of the brace a , and the hook e^4 will clasp said enlargement, the hook E having been previously slipped over the rail, so that its shoulder e^2 will bear against the rear face of the vertical portion of said cross-rail, and the main hooked portion will embrace the projection or flange c' of the rail. It is evident that by this means the upper ornament may be readily placed in position on the picket, and when the lower ornament is secured the three ornaments A A^1 A^2 will hold each other, without any further fastening, in a substantial manner.

F is the panel-post, triangular in shape—that is to say, it is composed of the post itself, and a horizontal base-arm, f^1 , to which is pivoted the brace f . This panel-post may be connected to any suitable or preferred base, and the post and brace are connected together by means of a link, f^2 . The upper face of the brace is beveled to the required angle to fit the rear face of the post F, and the inner rear

face of the link or slot of the link is also beveled to the required angle to fit the rear face of the inclined brace f .

It is obvious that by raising or lowering the link the fence-post may be inclined forward or backward, as required, for the purpose of "plumbing" the fence or straightening the panels when they become displaced by reason of the sagging of the posts upon their bases, or from other cause.

From what has been said above it will be apparent that the fence may be placed in position in the most rapid and substantial manner, while its construction is of the simplest, hence the most economical, kind.

We do not wish here to claim, broadly, a picket rolled hollow and provided with lateral flanges, as such have been in use before; but

What we do claim is—

1. In combination with the ornamental part A, provided with a rear brace, a , having a central recessed enlargement formed thereon, of the fastening device E, picket B, and the cross-rail C, substantially as described.

2. The post F, the horizontal arm f^1 , the pivoted brace f , and the adjusting and fastening link f^2 , all combined substantially as described.

3. The combination of the post F and clamp K with the J-shaped cross-rail C, having a projecting rib or flange, c' , substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

In witness that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands this 11th day of February, 1876.

WILLIAM L. WALKER.
BENJAMIN G. DEVOE.
JAMES YOUNG.

Witnesses:

JOHN MCCOLLOUGH,
J. B. BALES.