(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

P. G. TRENT, Sr.

PORTABLE FENCE.

No. 511,978. Patented Jan. 2, 1894.

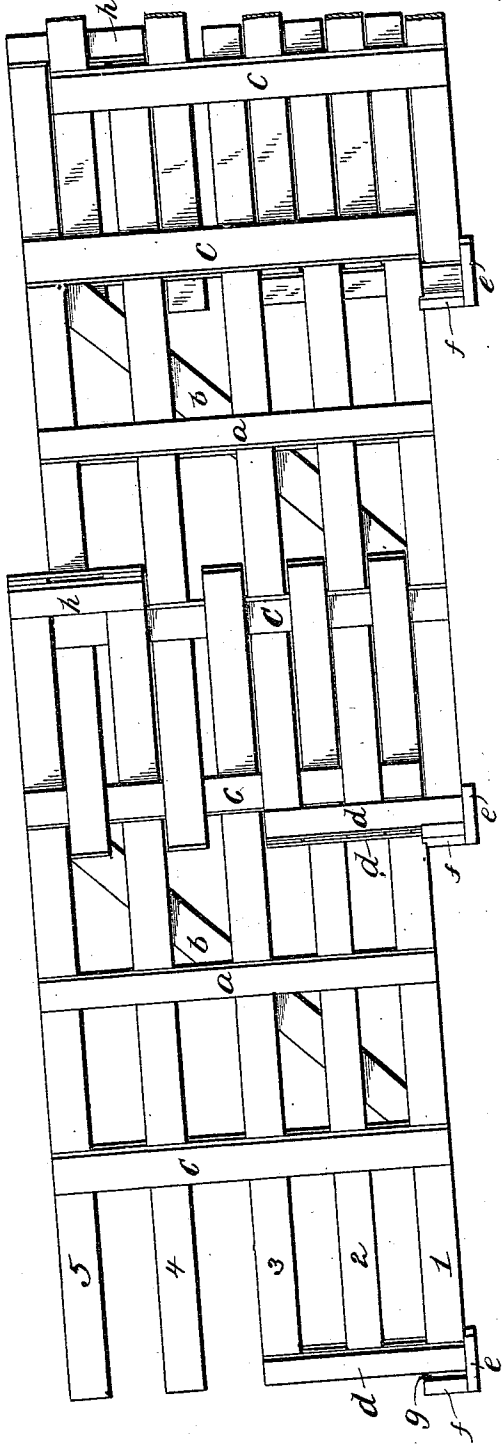

Fig. 1.

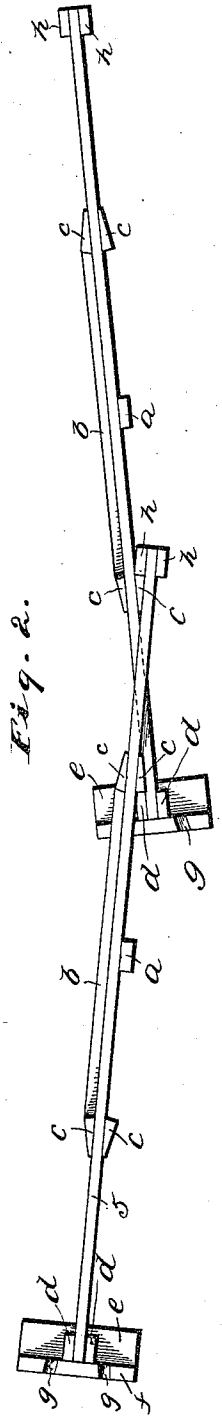

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES,
Walter Francisco
Rose E. Rabbitt.

P. G. Trent, Sr.
INVENTOR.
John S. Bridgeo
ATT'Y.

THE NATIONAL LITHOGRAPHING COMPANY.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

P. G. TRENT, Sr.

PORTABLE FENCE.

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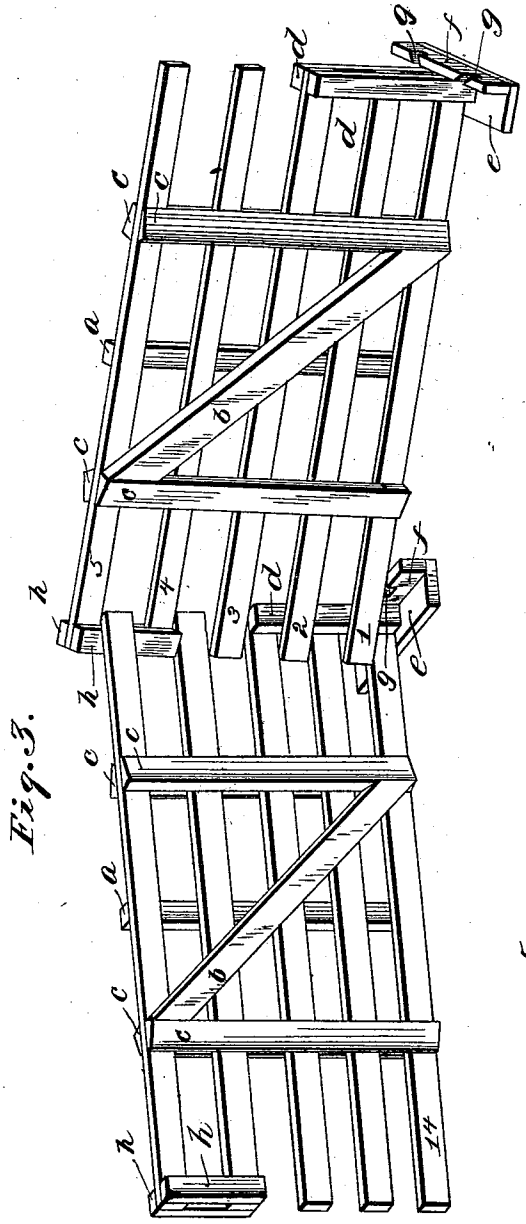

Fig. 3.

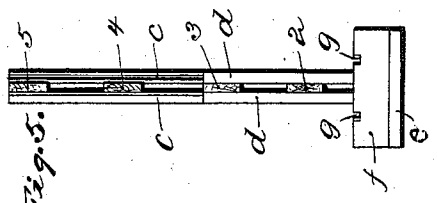

Fig. 5.

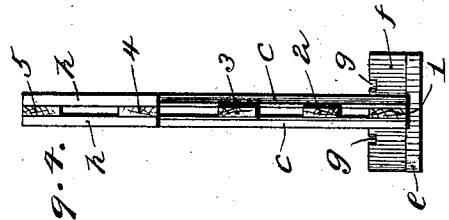

Fig. 4.

WITNESSES,
Walter Famariss
Rose E. Robbitt.

P. G. Trent, Sr.
INVENTOR.
John S. Duffie
ATTY.

THE NATIONAL LITHOGRAPHING COMPANY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

POWHATAN GREEN TRENT, SR., OF ROANOKE, ALABAMA.

PORTABLE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 511,978, dated January 2, 1894.

Application filed August 8, 1893. Serial No. 482,663. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, POWHATAN GREEN TRENT, Sr., a citizen of the United States, residing at Roanoke, in the county of Randolph and State of Alabama, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable 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.

My invention is a new "portable lock rail worm fence;" and consists in the novel construction and arrangement of its parts, hereinafter set out in this specification and the claim hereto annexed.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the manner of putting one panel into the other. Fig. 4 is an end view of one of the panels looking at the end where the locking bars are secured to the upper rails. Fig. 5 is an end view of the same panel looking at the end where the locking bars are applied to the lower rails.

My invention is described as follows: The panel, as shown in the drawings, has five rails. I will number them beginning at the bottom, but any number of rails may be used. Eight rails will make a good hog fence and sufficiently high to keep stock from getting over the same. In making a hog fence the lower rails should be closer together than the upper ones. The upper rail may or may not be provided with pails or picketing. The rails are secured to a vertical set piece *a*, and on the opposite side is secured obliquely a brace *b*. On each side of the rails are secured locking bars *c*, which should be about two inches wide and one inch thick. The edges next the end of the rails should be beveled down until they are about one-half inch thick. These locking bars should be secured about fourteen inches from the ends of the rails but the exact distance is not material. The greater the distance these locking bars are from the ends of the rails the straighter the fence will be, and the nearer they are to the ends of the rails, the more worm will the fence have. It is advisable to construct the panels so that the fence will have considerable worm, for the more worm it has the greater resistance it will have. To one end of the panel are secured the lower short locking bars *d*. These locking bars may cover two, three, four or five rails as desired. To the lower end of said locking bars is secured a foot piece *e*, provided with a vertical flange *f*, having in its upper edge on each side of the locking bars notches *g*, for the lower rails to rest in. On the opposite end of the panel are secured the upper short locking bars *h*. These bars are secured to the two upper rails. The short locking bars *d*, at the bottom, as a rule, should be allowed to go half way across the panel, as the foot pieces *e*, are attached to them, thus securing for the fence the greatest strength in being kept erect. The short locking bars *h*, at the upper end of the panel must cross and take in their embrace the ends of the rails from the top, not included in the locking bars at the bottom and opposite end. The short locking bars are not beveled.

To illustrate: If you make the panel eight rails high you will want the bottom rails closer together than the top ones, and the short locking bars at the bottom should cross five of the rails and the short locking bars at the top should cross three of the rails. One end of each panel is all that touches the ground, that is, the foot piece *e*, is the only part that touches the ground. It is made about two feet long and of two pieces, one at right angles to the other. When this foot piece becomes decayed it may be taken off and a new one put on at very little trouble and expense.

The panel may be made any height or length; all the panels are made exactly alike so the builder may not be annoyed by getting hold of the wrong panel. He may seize the first panel he sees, set it in position and then take up the next panel and inclining the bottom rail (1) a little to him and the top rail (5) a little from him, the bottom rail of the panel he is holding will pass between the two bottom rails of the standing panel and the top rail of the standing panel will pass between the two top rails of the panel he is holding on the near side of the locking bars *h;* then he slips the panel he is holding until the upper locking bars pass beyond the locking bars *c;* then he lets the lower rail drop into

the notch *g*, of the flange *f*, of the foot *e*, and the panel is locked. The next panel is put in the same way. A panel is thus put in as quickly as a rail can be laid in a fence. The fence is taken down as quickly as it is built. The panels are all light, easily constructed and may be hauled conveniently from one part of a farm to the other.

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

A portable lock rail worm fence, built of panels, consisting of rails secured to a set piece *a*; brace *b*, obliquely secured to the other side of the rails; the long beveled locking bars *c*, secured one on each side of the panel and opposite each other near the ends of the rails; lower short locking bars *d*, secured to the ends of the lower rails one on each side of the panel and opposite each other; foot piece *e*, secured to the bottom of said locking bars; flange *f*, vertically secured to said foot piece, and to said locking bars and provided with notches *g*; upper short locking bars *h*, secured to the opposite end of the panel and to the upper rails opposite each other, said panels adapted to lock each other, substantially as shown and described.

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

POWHATAN GREEN TRENT, SR.

Witnesses:

JOHN T. TALLEY,

ALEXANDER G. RANDLE.