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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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#### TOY FENCE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that SIMON H. GEIST and JACOB DUNKELBERGER, citizens of the United States, residing at Mount Carmel, in the county of Northumberland and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toy Fences, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement 10 in toy fences.

A primary object of the invention is to provide a novel toy fence structure that may be easily and readily set up for use about the base of Christmas trees or the like, and

15 on the other hand readily folded or collapsed for storage purposes, and which in addition to its novel structural features, presents an attractive and ornamental appearance. 20

A further object of the invention is to provide a fence which may be economically made from available materials, thus materially enhancing the value of the invention from a manufacturing and commercial 25 stand-point.

With the above and other objects in view which will more readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction,

30 combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated and claimed.

A preferred and practical embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying 35 drawing, in which-

Figure 1 is a plan view of the fence set up for use.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of one side or section thereof.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the fence in a collapsed or folded condition. 40

Figure 4 is an enlarged detail cross sectional view of one of the posts adjacent the means for fastening the fence sections to the 45 post.

Similar reference numerals designate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawing.

In carrying the invention into effect, it is proposed to utilize convenient and readily 50 obtainable materials, and to this end, it is proposed to use sections of wire mesh material in suitable lengths and widths, in combination with corner posts for supporting the same. These posts are preferably made 55 more or less ornamental to enhance the gen-

eral appearance of the complete device. Accordingly, by reference to the drawings, it will be observed that the fence section 1 may be formed by a rectangular mesh type 60 of wire-netting having vertically and longi-tudinally disposed cross wires 2 and 3 respectively, which produce a lattice effect, while at the same time the vertical wires 2 at the ends of each section constitute a con- 65 venient means for attaching the section to the upright corner posts 4.

The said corner posts 4 are preferably of wood, and each has a relatively large base or pedestal 5 which enables it to stand upright 70 on the floor or other support, while the opposite faces or sides thereof have the ends of adjacent fence sections 1 secured thereto by staples 6 or equivalent fastenings which loosely connect the sections with the posts 75 in such a manner that they may be freely folded to effect the collapse of the fence, or on the other hand, enable the same to be set up in the rectangular form shown in Figure 1 or other desired shape. 80

As the staples 6 are intended to more or less permanently secure the several fence sections to the posts, one of the fence sec-tions, such as shown in Figure 2, for instance, may be formed at one end to have a 85 detachable engagement with the staples or eyes 6ª. That is to say, the vertical end strand  $2^a$  of one of the fence sections 1 may be cut away near the top and bottom of the end of the section to provide in effect the 90 hooks 6<sup>b</sup> adapted to fit into the staples 6<sup>a</sup> to detachably lock the end of the relatively free fence section to one of the posts. In this way all of the fence sections may be per-manently secured to the posts, as already in- 95 dicated, with the exception of the end of one section which is left free to have a detachable engagement with one of the posts so that after the fence is set up, the same may be readily and quickly locked in the desired 100 position by simply dropping the hook portions 6<sup>b</sup> of one of the fence sections into the eye provided by the staple 6ª.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that the present invention aims to provide 105 a toy fence including a plurality of wire mesh sections and intervening supporting posts to which the ends of the sections are permanently but pivotally secured, with the exception of the end of one section, which is 110 intended to have a detachable engagement with one of the posts. The invention shown

in the drawing is readily adaptable to em-bodiment in a very attractive finished article especially when the fence sections and posts

are painted contrasting colors. Without further description, it is thought that the features and advantages of the in-vention will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art, and it will, of course, be 5 understood that changes in the form, pro-10 portion and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from

the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claim.

We claim:

In a portable toy fence, a fence section 15 comprising supporting posts and a wire

mesh panel including vertical strands, fastenings for engaging with the vertical strand at one end of the panel to connect it with one of the supporting posts and the 20 vertical strand at the other end of the panel being mutilated to provide hooks, and eye-like fastenings on the other of said posts for receiving the said hooks.

In testimony whereof they hereunto affix 25 their signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

SIMON H. GEIST. JACOB DUNKELBERGER.

Witnesses: A. D. NEIL, JOSEPH H. DEPPEN.

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