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John Will's Worm Fence.

Fig. 1.

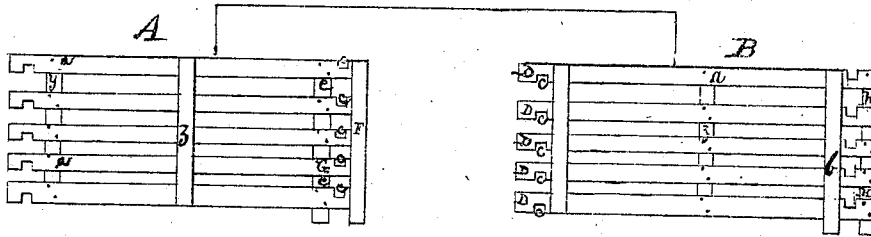
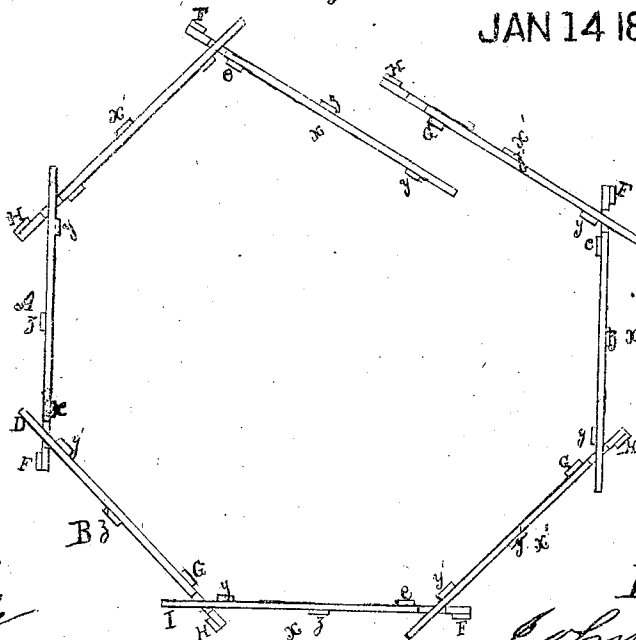


Fig. 2.

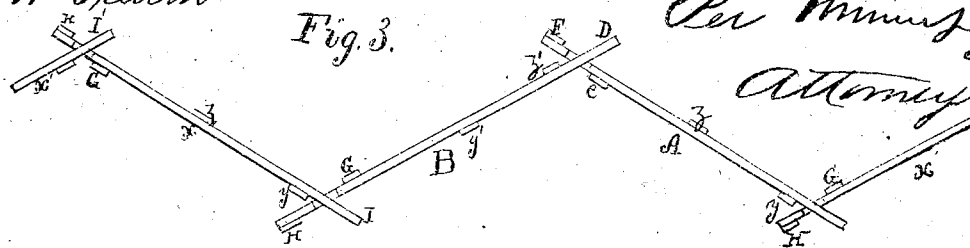
PATENTED
JAN 14 1868



Witnesses
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Fig. 3.



United States Patent Office.

JOHN WILL, OF BRYAN, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 73,420, dated January 14, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN WORM-FENCES AND PENS.

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, JOHN WILL, of Bryan, in the county of Williams, and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Worm-Fences and Pens; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in worm-fences, and consists in a fence divided into panels or sections, composed of rails or boards bolted together by upright cleats, and having notches at either end, the notches at one end being on the under part of each board, and fitting into notches between the two cleats on the upper part of the boards of the adjoining panel. Any one of the panels will serve for a gate, and the fence will adapt itself to the inequalities of the ground. The same fence may be used as a pen, by arranging the panels in proper form, as hereinafter more fully described. In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a front view of two adjacent panels or sections of my improved fence.

Figure 2 is a plan of eight panels arranged as a pen, and.

Figure 3 is a plan of panels arranged as a fence.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

The fence is composed of a number of pairs of panels, $A B x x'$, made of boards or rails, or rough timber may be used, held together by cleats $E F H G Y Z Y' Z'$. Each pair of panels is composed of two exactly similar panels, except that the corresponding cleats are arranged on opposite sides of the boards or rails, as shown in the drawings. The cleats are nailed or bolted to the boards by the bolts or nails a , in any ordinary method.

In setting up the fence, the ends D of section B are inserted between the cleats E and F , which are on opposite sides of the panel A , until the notches C interlock. The panels are then stretched, till the boards of section B press against the outer edges of the cleats E and F , section A . Insert in a similar manner, but from the opposite side, the ends I of another section, X , fig. 3, between the cleats G and H , which are on opposite sides of panel B , making X parallel to A , as shown in the drawings, and so alternately. The spaces between cleats E and F , G and H , &c., are arranged to give the fence-corners the desired angle.

To form a pen of any desired size or form, the end, I , of panel X , will be inserted between cleats G and H , on the same and not on the opposite side, as in forming a fence, (so that X and A , if produced, would meet,) as shown, fig. 3, and so on, until the required size and form of pen are obtained.

This fence may be prepared under shelter during the winter. Its first cost is less than that of a post-and-board fence, and there are no posts to rot off. It may be made of timber which cannot be split into rails, will stand firmer than a rail-fence, is not liable to sag, and, where permanently placed in exposed situations, will serve as a protection from the winds to trees which may be planted in the corners, while the trees, in turn, will give support to the fence. The fence is readily removable, and a damaged section may be removed or repaired without disturbing the rest of the fence.

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The worm-fence, constructed as described, whereby pens or yards can be formed by interlocking from either side, as herein shown and described.

2. The sections, provided with notches at one end in the under part of each board, and, at the other end, in the top part of each board, the notches in the under side of one section engaging with the upper notches of the other section, and held in position by means of the cleats upon each side of the boards, near each end, all constructed and arranged as herein set forth, for the purpose specified.

JOHN WILL.

Witnesses:

WM. H. KECK,

WM. H. LOCKHART,