Dowden & Anderson.

Flood Fence.

No. 88,147. Patented Mar. 23, 1869.

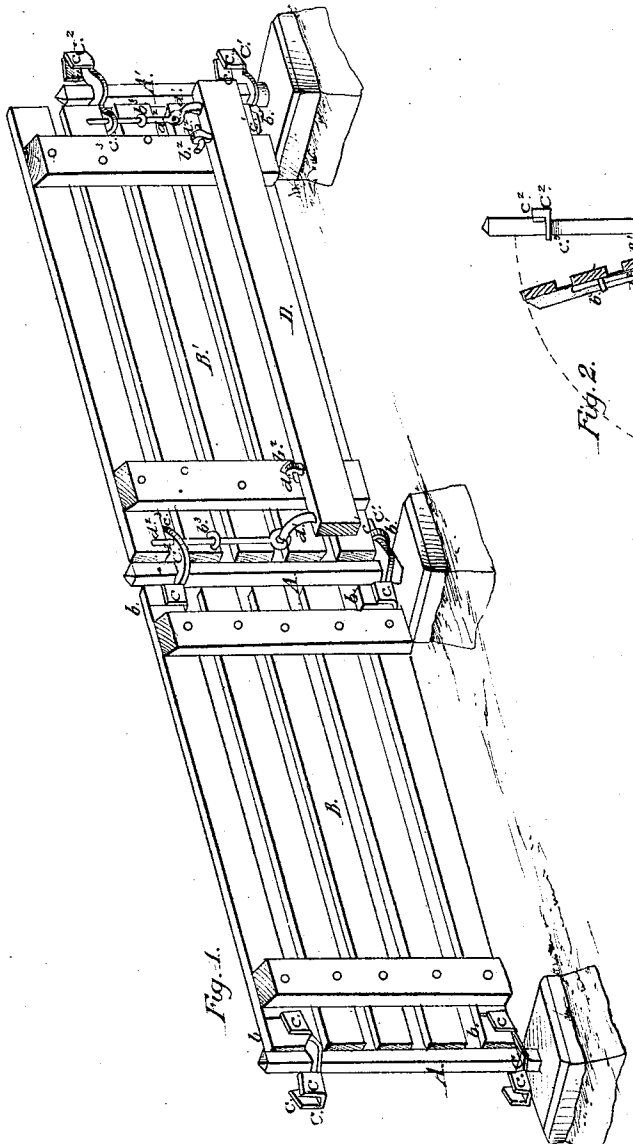


Fig. 1.

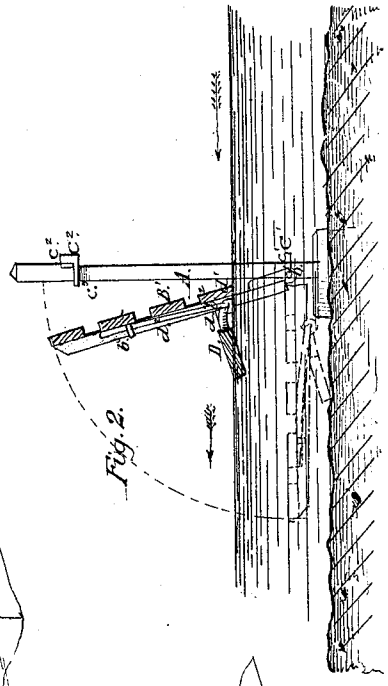


Fig. 2.

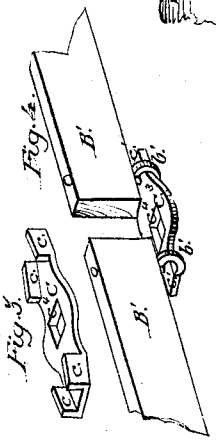


Fig. 4.

Fig. 3.

Witnesses:
W. B. Deming
Wm. H. Brereton Jr.

Inventors:
J. Dowden & C. T. Anderson
By Knight Bros
Attys

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

United States Patent Office.

ZACHARIAH DOWDEN AND CHARLES T. ANDERSON, OF CLARKSBURG, MARYLAND.

Letters Patent No. 88,147, *dated March* 23, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN FLOOD-FENCE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ZACHARIAH DOWDEN and CHARLES T. ANDERSON, of Clarksburg, in the county of Montgomery, and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which is made a part of this specification.

Our invention relates to field-fences for districts liable to be inundated; and

It consists—

First, in a novel and simple arrangement for unlocking the "flood-panels" by the rise of the water.

Secondly, in an improved mode of hinging the "flood-panels," so as to form of them a chain, independent of the posts, to secure them against being washed away.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a section of fence, embodying our improvements.

Figure 2 is a transverse section thereof, illustrating the operation of the flood-panels.

Figure 3 is a perspective view, on an enlarged scale, of one of the clips, of the form used for connecting straight panels of the common fence.

Figure 4 is a detached perspective view, illustrating the manner of connecting the flood-panels.

A A^1 may represent the posts, which are preferably of wrought-iron, square, or rectangular, in cross-section, and secured in blocks of stone or wood, embedded in the ground, as shown.

B represents the panel, of the form employed where there is no danger of inundation, and

B^1, the form employed in flooded districts, or the "flood-panel."

C C^1 C^2 C^3 represent the clips, which are of cast-iron, and are secured on the posts, at the proper height, by means of suitable keys, or wedges, for the securement of the panels, their form being regulated by the position they are to occupy, and the functions they have consequently to possess.

The clip C is that employed to connect the common panels, and forms no part of our present invention. It is cast with a pair of lips, *c*, forming an inwardly-flaring dovetail-socket, at each end, for the reception of the correspondingly-tenoned ends *b*, of two adjoining panels, B.

The form C^1 (figs. 1 and 2) is that employed to connect a common and a flood-panel, as represented in fig. 1, and has the lips or lugs *c* cast on but one end, the other end, c^1, being perforated, for engagement with a staple, b^1, on the bottom of a flood-panel, to form its hinge, and to connect it to the post.

The form C^2 (figs. 1 and 2) is that employed to form the upper connection of a common panel to its post, and to support the end of a flood-panel. It has, consequently, the dovetail-socket *c* at one end only, and at the other, at one side, a straight lip, or shoulder, c^2, and at the other side, which is enlarged for that purpose, a perforation, c^3, for the passage of the locking-bolt of the panel.

The form C^3 is that employed to connect the adjoining ends of two flood-panels. It is represented only in fig. 4, and has the perforation c^1, at each end, for engagement with the staples b^1 of said panels, as represented.

For supporting the upper edge of two adjoining flood-panels, an additional form will be provided, corresponding with C^3, having the end, c^2 c^3, of the form C^2, duplicated.

The central hole, or socket c^4, for the reception of the post, is preferably cast with a flare, as represented in fig. 3, to adapt the clips to be inclined on the posts, as in passing over hills, they being held at the desired inclination, by driving the keys, or wedges, employed to attach them to the post, and which may be of any suitable form, tighter on one side or the other. For turning corners, the clips will be cast with their ends at the desired angle.

D (figs. 1 and 2) represents a board, or float, hinged to the flood-panel B^1, at a suitable height, by means of staples, *d*, and hooks, b^2, or other suitable hinge-connection, and provided, at each end, with an arm, d^1, connected to the lower end of a vertical-sliding bolt, d^2, guided by one or more staples, b^3, and adapted to project, at its upper end, through the perforation c^3 of a clip, C^2, to support the panel in its vertical position, being held in this condition by the gravitation of the float D, through its connections d^1, as represented in fig. 1.

The water, in rising, elevates the loose edge of the float D, and correspondingly depresses its arms d^1, and with them the bolts d^2, until the upper ends of said bolts are drawn below the surface of the clips C^2, when the panel, being released, will fall to the position represented by dotted lines in fig. 2, and the water be allowed to pass over it.

Care should be taken, in building this portion of the fence, to have the shoulder c^2, of the clips C^2, on the side from which the flood comes, when there is any marked current, to facilitate the operation of the panels; also, to have the float D on the opposite side, as represented.

Having thus described our invention, the following is what we claim as new therein, and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. We claim, in combination with the hinged flood-panel B^1, and the clips C^2, c^2, c^3, or their equivalent, the hinged float D, arms d^1 d^1, and sliding lock-bolts d^2 d^2, arranged and adapted to operate substantially as represented and described, for the purpose specified.

2. We claim the clips or connections C^1 C^3, constructed with the perforated ends c^1, as represented and described, in combination with one or more flood-panels B^1, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

ZACHARIAH DOWDEN.
CHARLES T. ANDERSON.

Witnesses:
JOHN BAKER,
W. W. DRONENBURG.