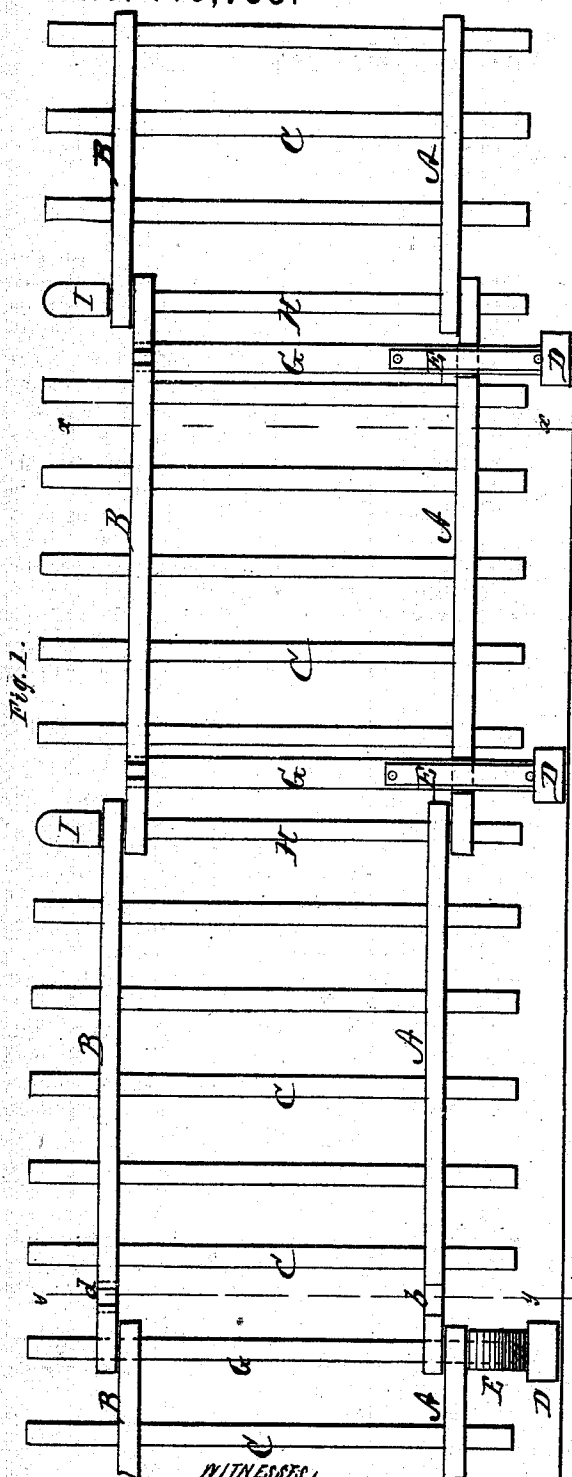


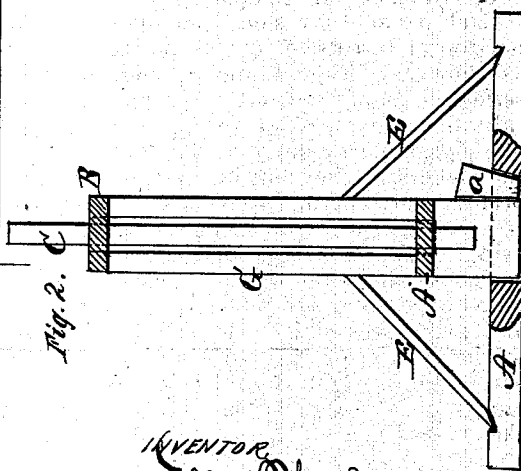
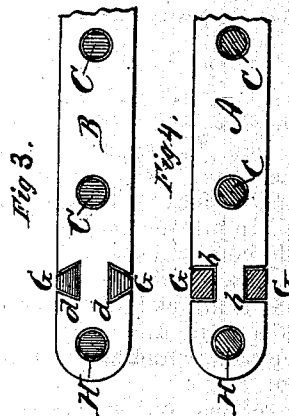
A. WRIGHT.
Portable Fences.

No. 146,738.

Patented Jan. 20, 1874.



WITNESSES:
P. C. Dietrich.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLEN WRIGHT, OF WESTFIELD, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN PORTABLE FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **146,738**, dated January 20, 1874; application filed December 13, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALLEN WRIGHT, of Westfield, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to the class of fences known as picket-fences; and it consists in the construction of the fence-posts, the mode of connecting the panels to the posts, and in the mode of connecting the panels to each other, whereby a light portable fence is obtained, which can be easily put up and taken down, and in which at least every other panel may be used as a gate, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of a portion of my fence. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the same through line *x x*, and Figs. 3 and 4 are horizontal sections through the connections between the post and the panels.

Each panel of my fence is composed of two horizontal boards, A and B, placed flatwise, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and having a series of round pickets, C C, passed vertically through them. I do not, however, confine myself particularly to the round form of the pickets, as they may be made of any shape desired, only so that they pass through the horizontal boards, obviating the necessity of using nails or screws, which is one of the objects of my invention. Each fence-post is composed of a sill or bed-piece, D, an upright, G, and two braces, E E. The sill D is mortised in the center for the reception of the lower end of the upright G, which is fastened by means of a wedge, *a*, as shown in Fig. 2. The braces E E are notched into the sill D,

and may be also notched into the upright. The post G is slotted vertically from the upper end downward for a suitable distance, leaving, as it were, for said distance two parallel uprights. The lower horizontal board A of the fence-panel has square notches cut in each side, near each end, as shown at *b* in Fig. 4, so that this board may be moved or slid downward on the forked upright and rest at the bottom of the slot therein. The upper horizontal board B has corresponding notches *b*, but these are made dovetailed, as shown in Fig. 3, and the extreme upper ends of the prongs of the upright G are correspondingly dovetailed. This dovetail is cut in such a manner that the prongs of the upright are prevented from spreading outward.

In the construction of my fence, a panel thus supported by two of the posts described forms every alternate panel of my fence. The other panels are constructed in precisely the same manner, and are connected to those supported by the post by having their horizontal boards overlapping each other, as shown in Fig. 1, and a single round picket, H, passed through holes in the ends of the horizontal boards. This picket H is formed with a head, I, at its upper end to prevent it from falling through.

It will readily be seen that in a fence thus constructed every other panel may be used as a gate by simply drawing out the picket H at one end, when the panel may swing on the corresponding picket at the other end. This fence is easily made, and can be put up and taken down with very little trouble, yet when put up it is strong and durable. It can also easily be arranged as a worm-fence.

The post D' E' G' I propose to use as gate-posts, even in the fence, where I use the post D E G.

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

1. The combination of the slotted upright G having the ends of its prongs dovetailed, the board A with square notches *b*, and the

board B with dovetailed notches *d*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. A portable straight or worm fence every other panel of which forms a gate with all its parts detachably connected, the boards A and B having perforations for pickets C, the top board dovetailed to receive braces G, and perforated for the round pickets H, all con-

structed and arranged as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

Witnesses: ALLEN WRIGHT.

H. M. WRIGHT,

M. S. CHESTER.