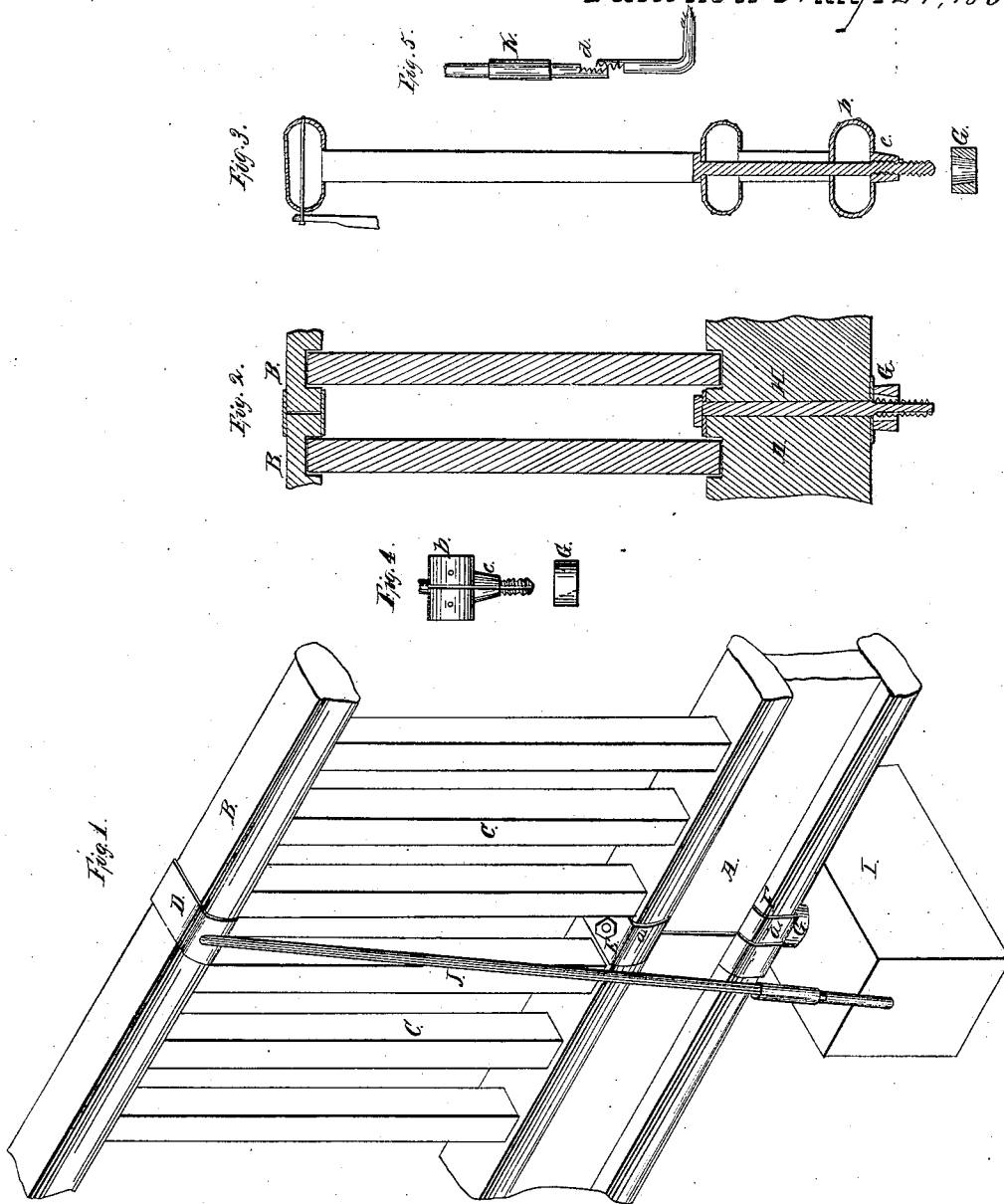


C. S. Griffing,

Wood Fence,

N^o 42,848.

Patented May 24, 1864.



Witnesses: -
W. H. Burdick
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

C. S. S. GRIFFING, OF ASHTABULA, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN CONSTRUCTION OF FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 42,848, dated May 24, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, C. S. S. GRIFFING, of Ashtabula, in the county of Ashtabula and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in the Construction of Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and complete description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section, and Figs. 4 and 5 are detached parts.

Like letters refer to like parts in the several views.

The nature of my invention relates to the mode of fastening the panels together, of fastening the panels to the base or foundation, and to the brace for adjusting and keeping the fence in an upright position.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the lower rail of the panel, and B represents the upper rail. The lower rail may be of one or more pieces. The bars or pickets are shown at C, and are mortised into the under side of the upper rail and into the upper side of the lower rail. The upper rails have their ends secured in opposition to each other by means of a metallic clasp, D, which embraces both, as seen in Fig. 2. The upper edges of the ends of the lower rail are in like manner secured by a metallic clasp, E. Screws or nails *a* are inserted into the edge of the clasp, so as to render the attachment more secure. The lower edge of the lower rails have ends embraced each by a metallic clasp, F F, which are secured to the rails by screws or pins *a*. Each of the clasps F has projecting from the bottom a cone-shaped lug, *c*, in form like the vertical section of the frustum of a cone inverted or having its base upward and attached to the clasp. These clasps F F are situated close to the end of the rails in such a manner that the two lugs meet, as shown in Fig. 4, leaving an opening in the center for the screw-bolt hereinafter to be described. A thimble, G, with a cone-shaped hole through its center, embraces both the lugs, bringing them into close contact with each other. A screw-bolt, H, passes from above downward through the center of the clasp E and between the clasps F F, between the lugs *c*, and through the thimble G and into the

base I. The lugs *c* may be omitted, and the clasps F F made in one piece and resting upon the thimble G in the same way as though the lugs were used. A nut may be inserted into the base to receive the screw of the screw-bolt H, or it may be screwed directly into the base. By this action of the screw the thimble is firmly pressed upon the lugs *c* on clasps F, and forms the support for the fence upon the base, thus allowing the fence to be adjusted into a vertical posture; and should the base at any time change its position the fence can be readily readjusted and retained in position by means of the brace presently to be described; but in doing this it will be first necessary to loosen the screw-bolt H in order to allow the adjustment to be made, after which the screw can be again tightened.

In order to retain the fence in any desired position, I construct a jointed brace, J, which is attached to the upper clasp, D, by means of a bolt or screw. The lower end of this brace is detached from the shaft J, as seen at J', and by being turned at right angles, as shown in Fig. 5, is driven into or otherwise secured to the base I. Where the two sections of the brace J J' meet, the ends are swaged so as to form a corresponding series of teeth and notches that fit readily together, as shown at *d* in Fig. 5, and these notches and teeth are so adjusted as to bring the fence to an upright position. A thimble or sleeve, K, is then shoved over the point of union, which secures the two sections of the brace firmly together. Should the fence at any time get thrown, from any cause, from a vertical position, by shoving the sleeve K up, as shown in Fig. 5, the brace can be adjusted to the desired point and again secured as at first.

The clasps D, E, and F may be closed, as indicated at *b*, Fig. 3, or they may be open, as shown at D, Fig. 3.

What I claim as my improvement, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The clasps D E F, thimble G, brace J J', and sleeve K, the several parts being constructed, arranged, and operating as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The adjusting-brace J J' and sleeve K, when constructed and operating as described.

C. S. S. GRIFFING.

Witnesses:

W. H. BURRIDGE,
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