

W.H. Leech,

Wood Fence,

N^o 36719.

Patented Oct. 21, 1862.

Fig. 2.

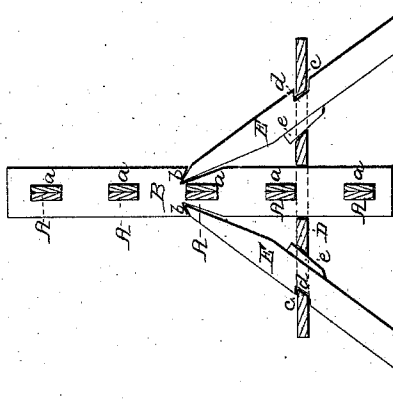
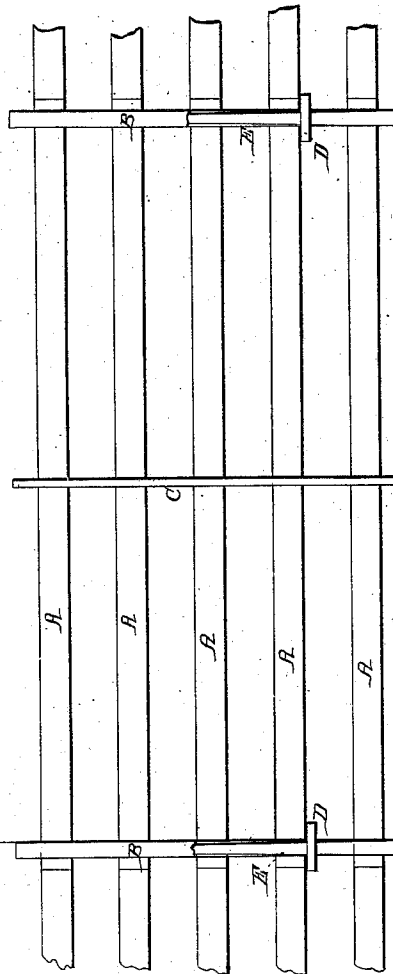


Fig. 1.



Witnesses;

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

W. H. LEECH, OF DUNLAPVILLE, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIELD-FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 36,719, dated October 21, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, W. H. LEECH, of Dunlapville, in the county of Union and State of Indiana, have invented a new and Improved Field-Fence; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a face view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same, taken in the plane indicated by the line *xx*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference in both views indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in the arrangement of a facing board catching over the fence-post and supporting the panel, in combination with notched braces which are secured by suitable keys in mortises in the ends of said facing-board, and the upper ends of which catch into notches in the edges of the post in such a manner that by the combined action of said braces, facing-board, and post the fence is firmly supported, and all its parts can be united without the use of nails.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation with reference to the drawings.

The rails *A* are made of flat narrow strips of wood, and they are supported at their ends by mortises *a* in the posts *B*. The mortises *a* are made wide enough to receive two rails side by side, as clearly shown in the drawings. An upright, *C*, provided with suitable mortises which fit on the rails, supports the middle portions of the latter, and if it should be desirable, particularly in localities where high winds prevail, two uprights, *C*, might be applied to each panel.

The ends of the panels are supported by

facing-boards *D*, which are provided with suitable mortises in the center, to slip on the posts *B*, close under the second rails from the bottom. Each of these facing-boards is supported by two braces, *E*, the upper ends of which catch into notches *b* in the edges of the post, and which pass through mortises *c* in the ends of the facing-board, being fastened therein by means of notches *d* in their outer edges and by wedges *e*, which are driven down into the mortises *c*, as clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

The posts *B* do not extend down to the ground, and the weight of the fence is therefore supported entirely by the braces *E* and the facing-boards *D*, which are held in place by the wedges *e*. By these means the fence is kept firm and solid by its own weight. This construction, and particularly the absence of nails, renders my fence very cheap and durable, it is easy put up and taken down, and it can be used with equal advantage on level and on uneven ground. If the fence runs on the side of a hill, one of the braces is made sufficiently longer than the other to make up for the difference in the level, and in passing over rugged ground the rails and posts will easily accommodate themselves to the position of the braces and facing-boards.

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

The arrangement of the facing-boards *D*, in combination with the notched braces *E*, wedges *e*, notched posts *B*, and rails *A*, all constructed and operating substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein shown and described.

W. H. LEECH.

Witnesses:

ISRAEL HILL,
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