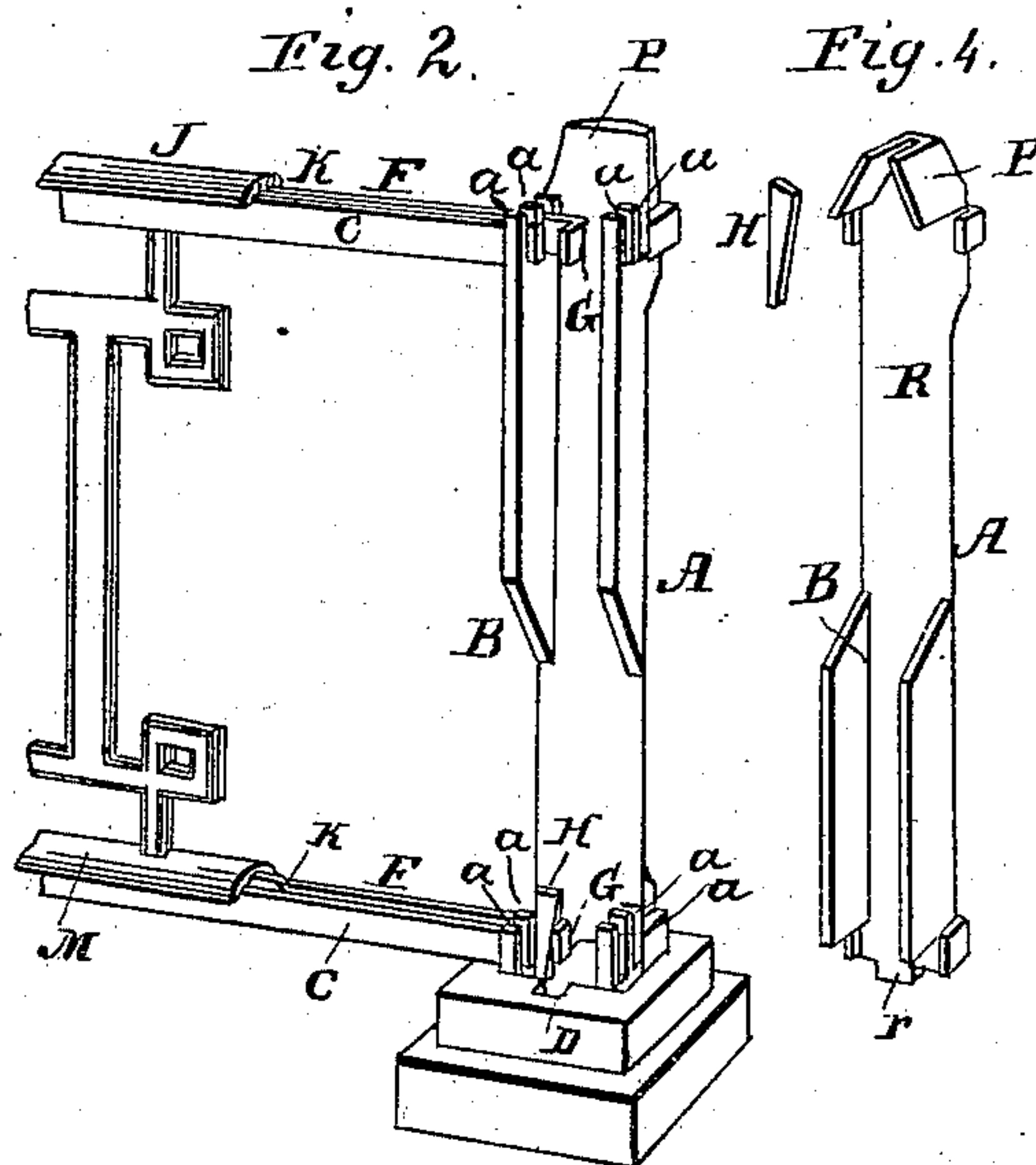
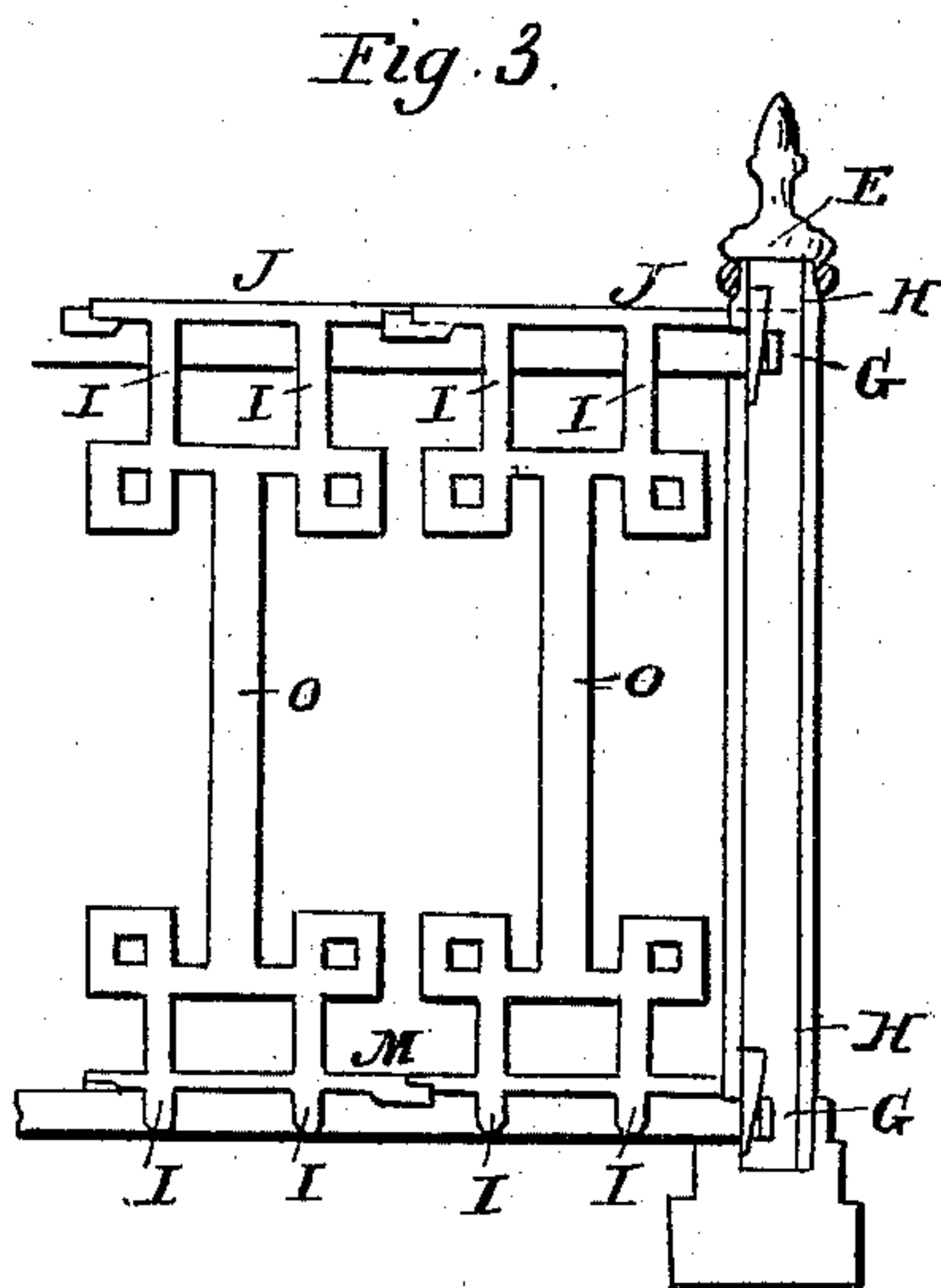
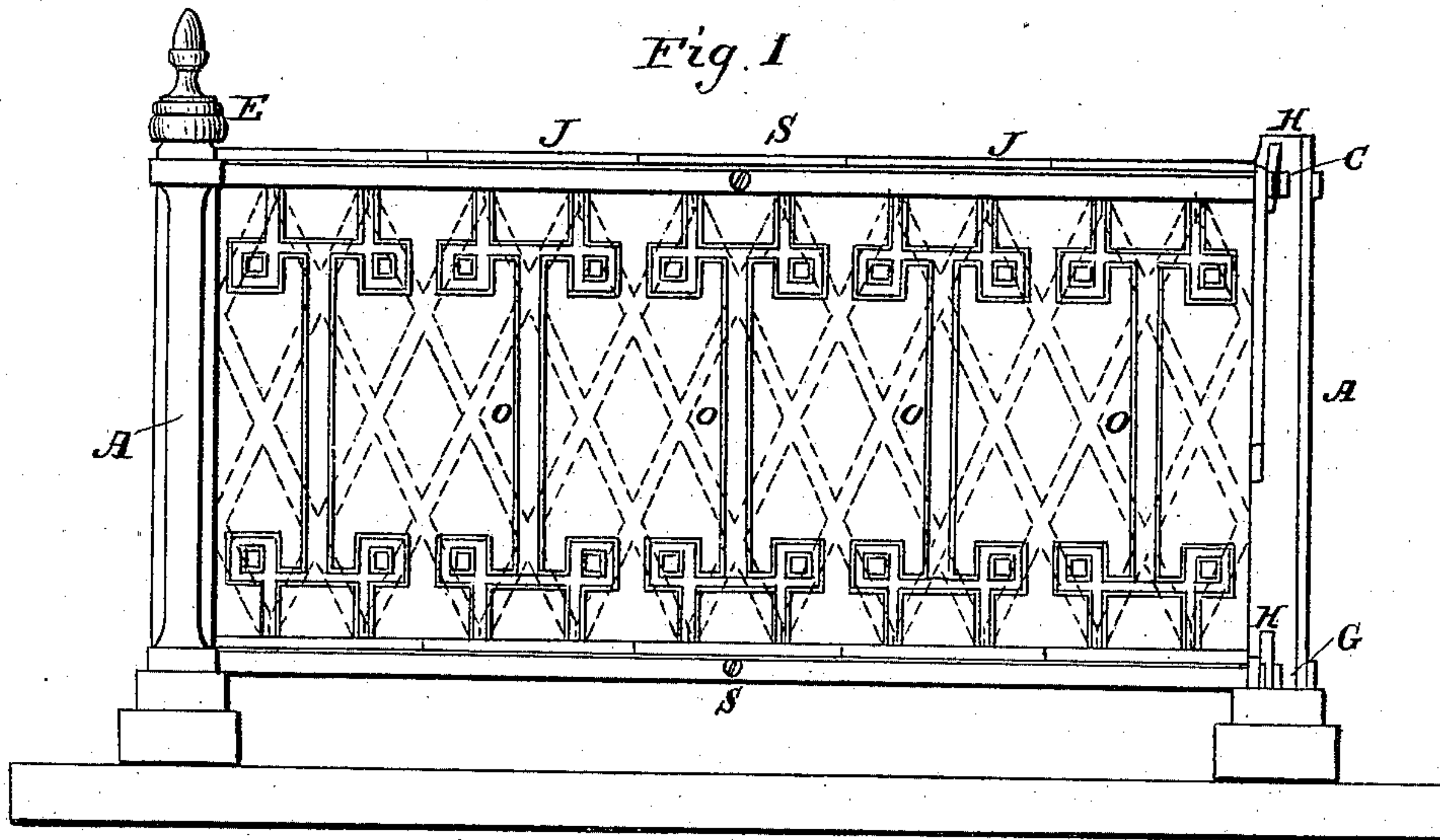


B. KRAFT.

Iron Fence.

No. 8,688.

Patented Jan. 27, 1852.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN KRAFT, OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA.

IRON RAILING.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 8,688, dated January 27, 1852.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN KRAFT, of the city of Reading, in the county of Berks and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Iron Railings; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 is an elevation of a section of the railing, having a portion of one of the posts removed in order to show the manner of attaching the rails. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a section of the post, in order to show the mortises and the position of the ends of the wrought rails therein, the upper wedge being removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of one of the posts, showing the connection of the panels and cap of the rail by the tongue. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the loose portion with the sides attached, forming when joined to Fig. 3 the perfect post.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and manner of erection.

The nature of my invention consists in casting the posts A, in two pieces which is shown in Figs. 2 and 4 for the facility of putting together or separating the railing; they have four mortises *a, a, a, a*, on each of the two sides, viz, two above and two below; the opening B Figs. 2 and 4 in the middle of the post is caused by the removal of the portions attached to the side removed, allows the ends of the rails C, to be dropped in the mortises *a, a*, giving free access to the ends of the bent rails F at G, when driving the adjusting or tightening wedges H; the loose portion of the post R Fig. 4, has a tenon *r*, which drops into the base at D Fig. 2, securing the foot; the upper portion of the post, forming the neck P, over which the cap E fits, thus fastening the top.

The rails F, F, C, C, to each section of the railing are four in number, formed of flat wrought iron bars, two plain C, C, and two bent ones F F, the hooked or bent ones formed by turning the ends G at right-angles to their faces, and are the thickness of the wedge H longer than the plain rails C, C; the object in thus constructing them is, that when the uprights or panels, *o, o, o*, do not fit the length of the rails, by driving the

wedges H between the ends of the bent rails F, F, and the inside of the post, the space on the rails between the posts may be shortened and the railing made firm.

The straight rail C at the top is not put in the mortises *a*, until the panels, *o*, or uprights are all introduced, and the wedges H driven, then it, as well as the lower one *c*, are connected with the hooked rail F by screws S, Fig. 1.

The panels or upright pieces O, Fig. 3 are cast with the tongues I, I, intended on the lower side to pass between the lower set of rails C, F, and having tongues on the upper side I, I, also passing between the upper set of rails C F and uniting the grooved cap J Fig. 2 of the railing with the uprights *o, o, o*. By means of these tongues I, I, the railing is more readily put up, the connection I of the panel and cap of the rail forming a hook by which it is hung upon the single rail F at the top, until all the panels are in. On each alternate end of the cap rail J Fig. 2 as also on the connecting base rail M of the panel, are cast tongues K, and grooves K' by which the joints of the railing are preserved.

The urn E Figs. 1 and 3 or any shaped cap is cast hollow, forming or serving as the band, connecting the tops of the posts A Fig. 2, and R Fig. 4. In the event of an accident occurring to any of the panels after the railing is up, the panels are slipped along the sets of rails, the top plain rail C, removed and another perfect panel, *o*, or upright introduced.

To set up the railing; put the posts A in their proper places, remove the loose side Fig. 4 of the post, then place a bent rail F and a plain one C in the lower set of mortises *a, a*, introduce a bent rail F in one of the mortises, *a*, of each post (near the top), hang the uprights or panels *o, o, o*, on the single rail F at the top, and let the tongues I, I, on the lower side of the panel, pass between the lower set of rails C F; when the space between the two posts is filled with panels, introduce the other straight rail C, into the remaining mortises *a, a*; drive the wedges H, between the turned ends G, of the rails F, F, and the inside of the posts, restore the loose piece Fig. 4 and screw on the cap or urn E; fasten the two sets of rails together with the screws S.

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

1. The method of constructing a self adjusting and fastening fence, by forming the posts in two pieces substantially such as herein described, making two sides of one
5 part of the post with mortises at the top and near the bottom, for the reception of the rails, and the other piece when in place, retaining them in position.

2. I claim the tongues I, I, connecting the
10 hollow cap J, provided with a tongue K and groove K, with the uprights or panels o o,

said tongues passing between the rails, and with the cap J serving as a hook to sustain the uprights or panels.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto 15 signed my name before two subscribing witnesses.

BENJAMIN KRAFT.

Witnesses:

JOHN F. CLARK,
A. E. H. JOHNSON.