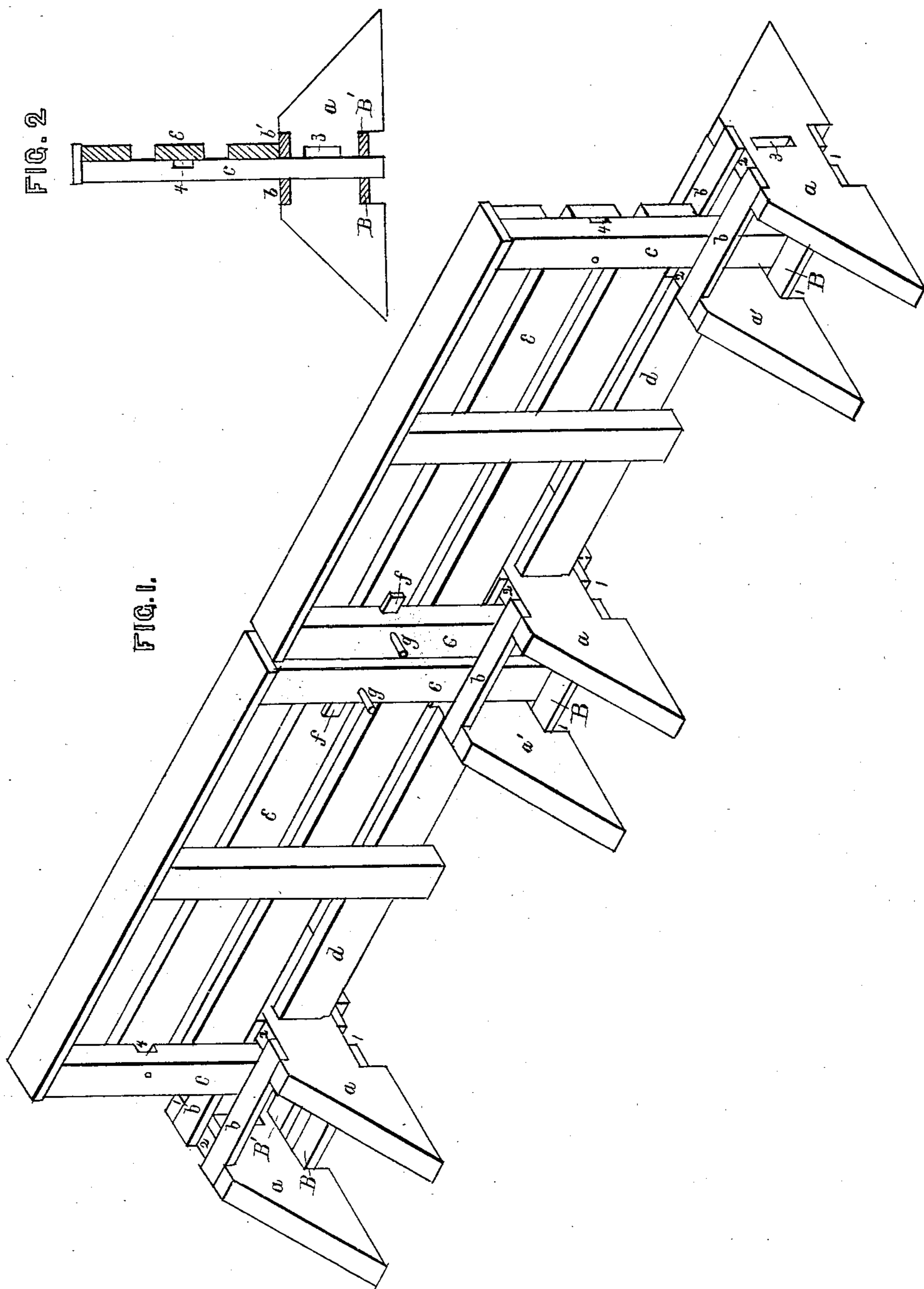


O. SPENCER.

Fence.

No. 16,406.

Patented Jan. 13, 1857.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ODED SPENCER, OF JACKSONBURG, OHIO.

BASE OR SUPPORT FOR POSTS OF FIELD-FENCES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 16,406, dated January 13, 1857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ODED SPENCER, of Jacksonburg, Butler county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Portable Fences; and I hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, wherein—

10 Figure 1 represents in perspective view two panels with their accompanying bases; and Fig. 2 is an end elevation.

The object of my invention is to provide a portable fence in which the chair or base 15 is of such construction as to secure the element of stability.

In the accompanying drawings (*a a' b b' B B'*) is a base or chair formed of a pair of slabs or boards (*a a'*) wide at bottom 20 and narrowing toward the top as represented. The bottom and top edges respectively of this slab are notched or recessed (1, 2) to admit ties or battens (*b b' B B'*) whose distance apart horizontally is equal 25 to the thickness of the post (*c*).

(3) is a mortise which receives the end of the lower rail (*d*).

4 is a notch in the side of the post which being covered with a rail (*e*) is thereby 30 converted into a mortise to receive the key

(*f*) which being inserted by its respective ends into corresponding mortises of two adjacent posts is secured by pins (*g*).

The superiority of my fence consists in the base affording firm support to the posts 35 independently of the rails, one advantage of which is that the lower two rails may be entirely dispensed with, without detracting from the stability of the fence when to economize time and material (as is frequently the case on the prairies) it is found 40 desirable to fence only against the larger animals. In this case the posts may be kept apart at bottom by a suitable wedge. My fence is also more durable than any other 45 now in use there being no chance for water to stand in the joints causing it to rot.

What I claim as new and of my invention herein is:—

The chair or base formed of the pieces 50 (*a a'*) and ties or battens (*b b' B B'*) in the described combination with the posts, for the purposes explained.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand.

ODED SPENCER.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,
JAS. H. GRIDLEY.