

W. Gibson,

Portable Fence,

No 35230.

Patented May 13, 1862.

Fig. 1.

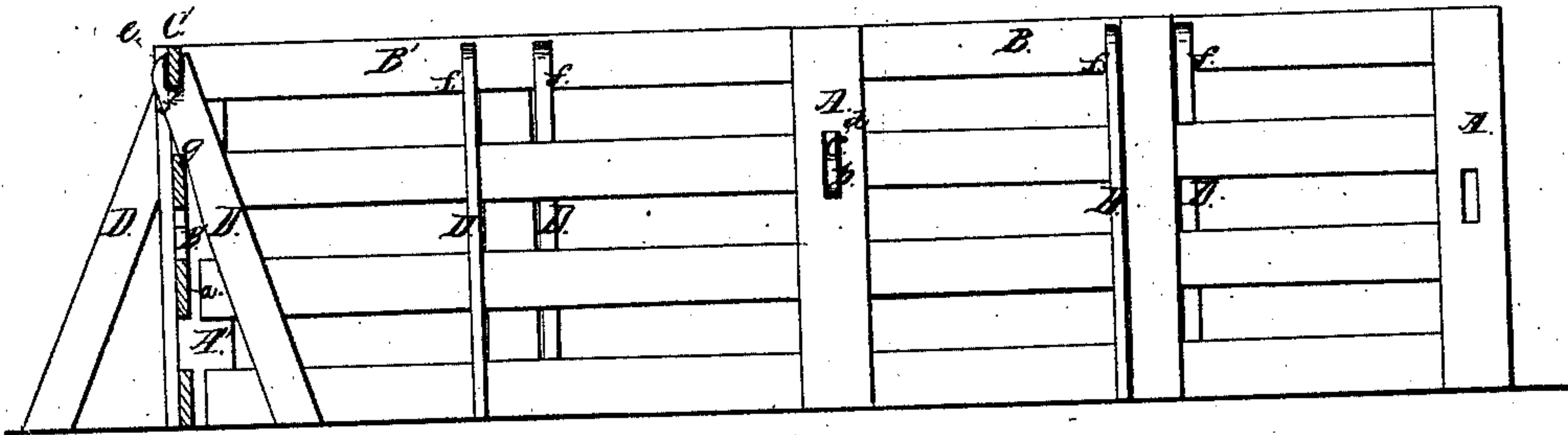


Fig. 3.

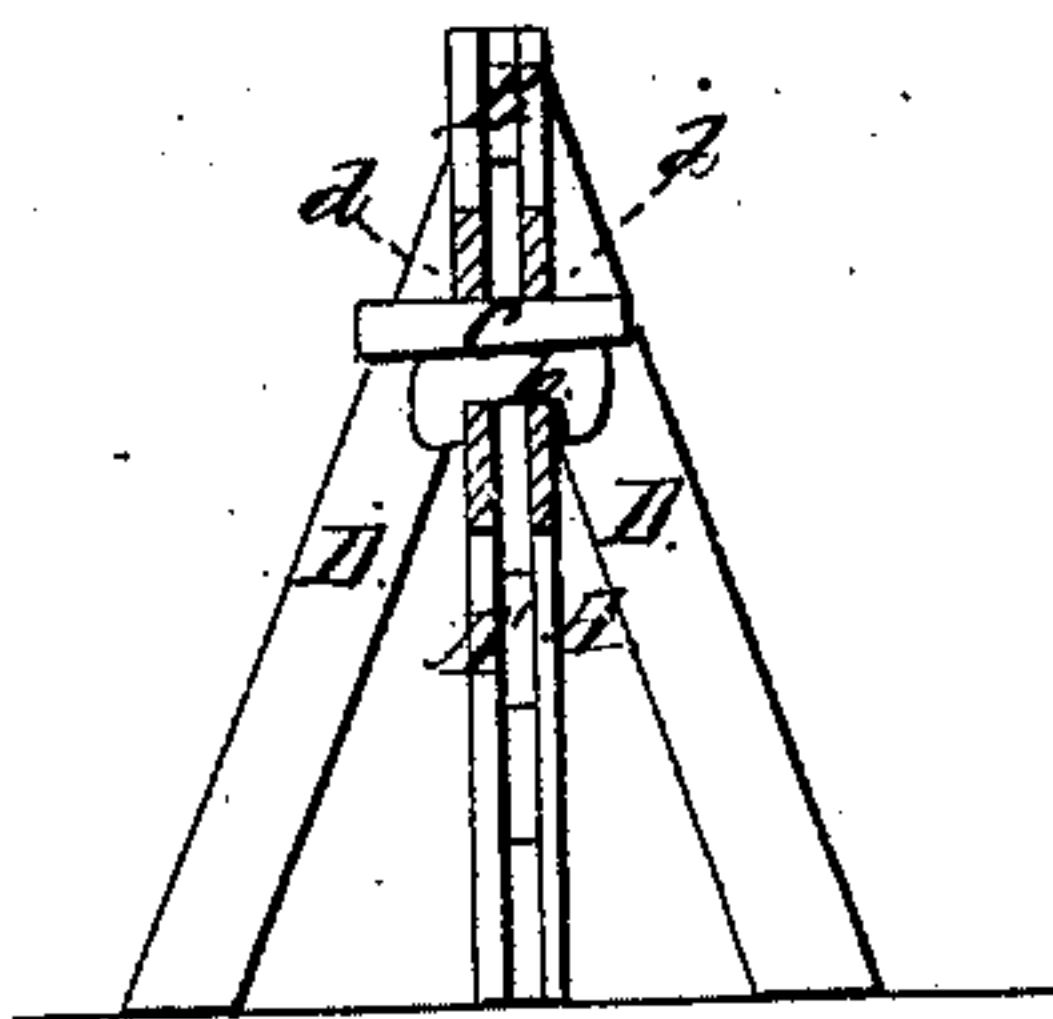
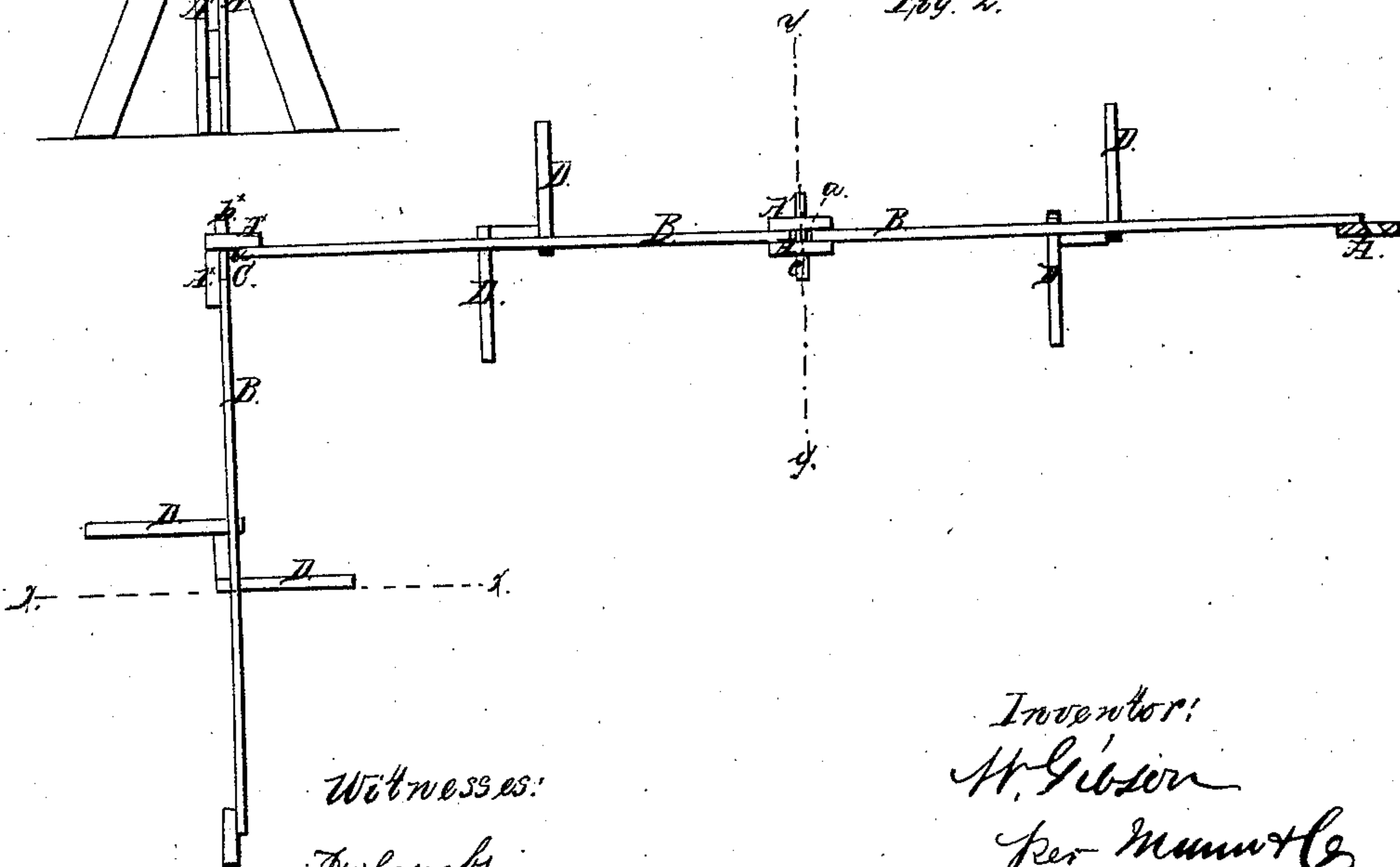


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

J. W. Coombs.
G. W. Reed.

Inventor:
W. Gibson
per Munn & Co.
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM GIBSON, OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 35,230, dated May 13, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM GIBSON, of Fort Wayne, in the county of Allen and State of Indiana, have invented a new and Improved 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 sectional face view of my invention, the line *x x*, Fig. 2, indicating the plane of section. Fig. 2 is a plan or top view of the same. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section of the same, taken on the plane indicated by the line *y y*, Fig. 2.

Similar letters in the three views refer to corresponding parts.

This invention consists in arranging the uprights on the ends of the panels of a fence in such relation to the longitudinal rails that they project beyond the ends of those rails which are secured to them, and that they catch over the ends of the rails of the adjoining panel, leaving an open space between the adjoining ends of longitudinal rails, whereby the fence is enabled to adjust itself to uneven ground.

It consists, further, in the employment of gibs and keys passing through mortises in the uprights and between the ends of the longitudinal rails in such a manner that the panels are firmly secured, and at the same time they are not prevented from following the inequalities of the ground.

It consists, further, in the arrangement of notches in the upper ends of the braces to catch into notches in the lower edges of the upper rails, together with notches in the edges of said braces catching over the upper edge of the second rail from the top, so that said braces are firmly retained without the use of nails, and that they steady the fence in the most perfect manner.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

The uprights *A A'* are secured to the ends of the longitudinal rails *B B'* on opposite sides of the fence, and so that the upright *A* projects beyond the ends of the rails *B* and catches over the ends of the rails *B'*, and the

upright *A'*, which is secured to the rails *B'*, projects over their ends and catches over the ends of the rails *B*, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

Between the ends of the rails *B B'* a space, *a*, is left of about two and a half inches, (more or less,) and the panels are secured together by a gib, *b*, and key *c*, which pass through mortises *d* in the uprights and through the space *a* between the ends of the rails *B B'*. The noses of the gib *b* catch over the uprights *B B'*, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, and said gibs as well as the keys *c* are fitted into the mortises *d*, so that they have a side play. By means of the spaces *a* between the ends of the adjoining panels the fence can adjust itself to the inequalities of the ground, and the gib and key, being thinner than the width of the mortise, do not prevent the fence from following the ground, and at the same time they firmly fasten together the adjoining panels.

At the corner *C* the uprights *A* A'** are arranged in relation to the longitudinal rails precisely in the same manner as above described, leaving an open space between the ends of the rails, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. The gib *b**, however, instead of passing through mortises in both uprights, is firmly secured to the upright *A** and passes through a mortise in the upright *A'**, being retained by a suitable key. By these means the corner is also enabled to adapt itself to the inequalities of the ground.

When it is desired to make a worm fence, the mortises in the uprights are made in an angular or oblique direction, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, where one of the uprights is shown in section.

The braces *D*, which serve to steady the fence, are provided with notches *e* in their upper ends to catch over the lower edges of the upper rails, *B B'*, and notches *f* are cut into the lower edges of said rails to catch over the sides of the braces, as clearly shown in Fig. 1, so that said braces and rails are firmly locked together. The fence is further steadied by notches *g* in the edges of the braces catching over the upper edges of the second rails, and at the same time by these notches the braces are prevented disengaging spontaneously from the upper rails. By the

combination of the notches *e*, *f*, and *g*, therefore, said braces can be secured to the rails without the use of nails, and the fence is rendered perfectly firm and steady.

This fence is exceedingly simple and cheap. It can be easily put up or taken down whenever it is desired, and it can be used in any locality, as it adapts itself to the inequalities of the ground.

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

1. The space *a*, formed between the ends of the rails *B B'* and between the uprights *A A'*, in the manner and for the purpose herein shown and described.

2. The employment of gibs *b* and keys *c* in combination with the uprights *A A' A* A'**, and passing through the spaces *a* between the ends of the longitudinal rails, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The arrangement of the notches *e* and *g* in the braces *D*, in combination with the notches *f* in lower edges of the upper rails and with the upper edges of the lower rails, all constructed and operating as and for the purpose specified.

WILLIAM GIBSON.

Witnesses:

ISAAC BICKHART,
SIMON BARTLETT.