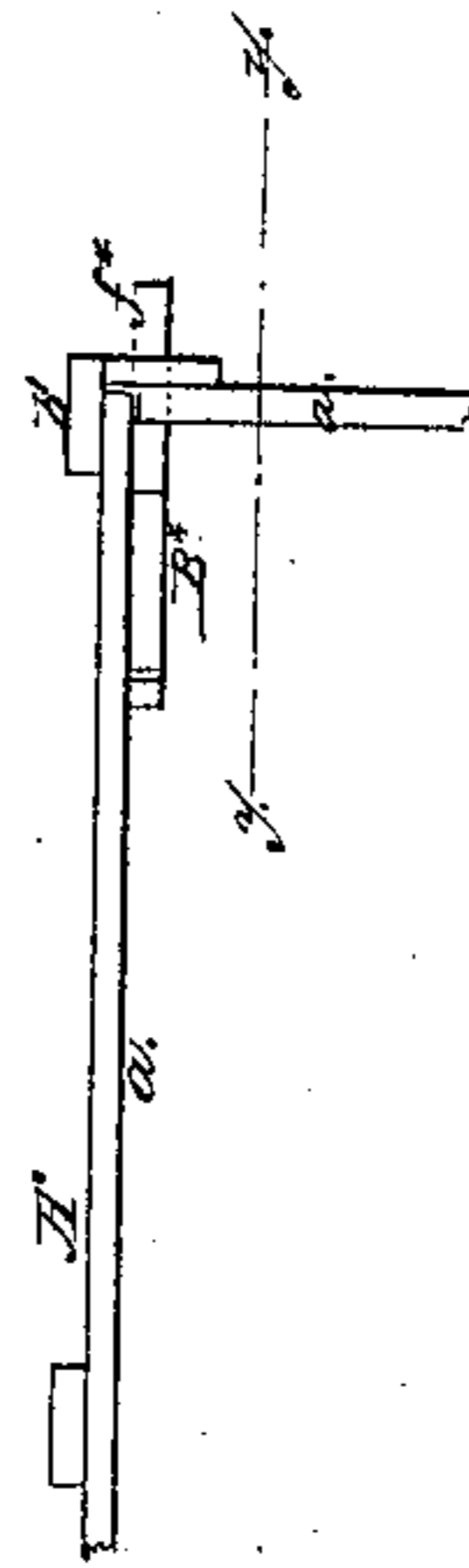
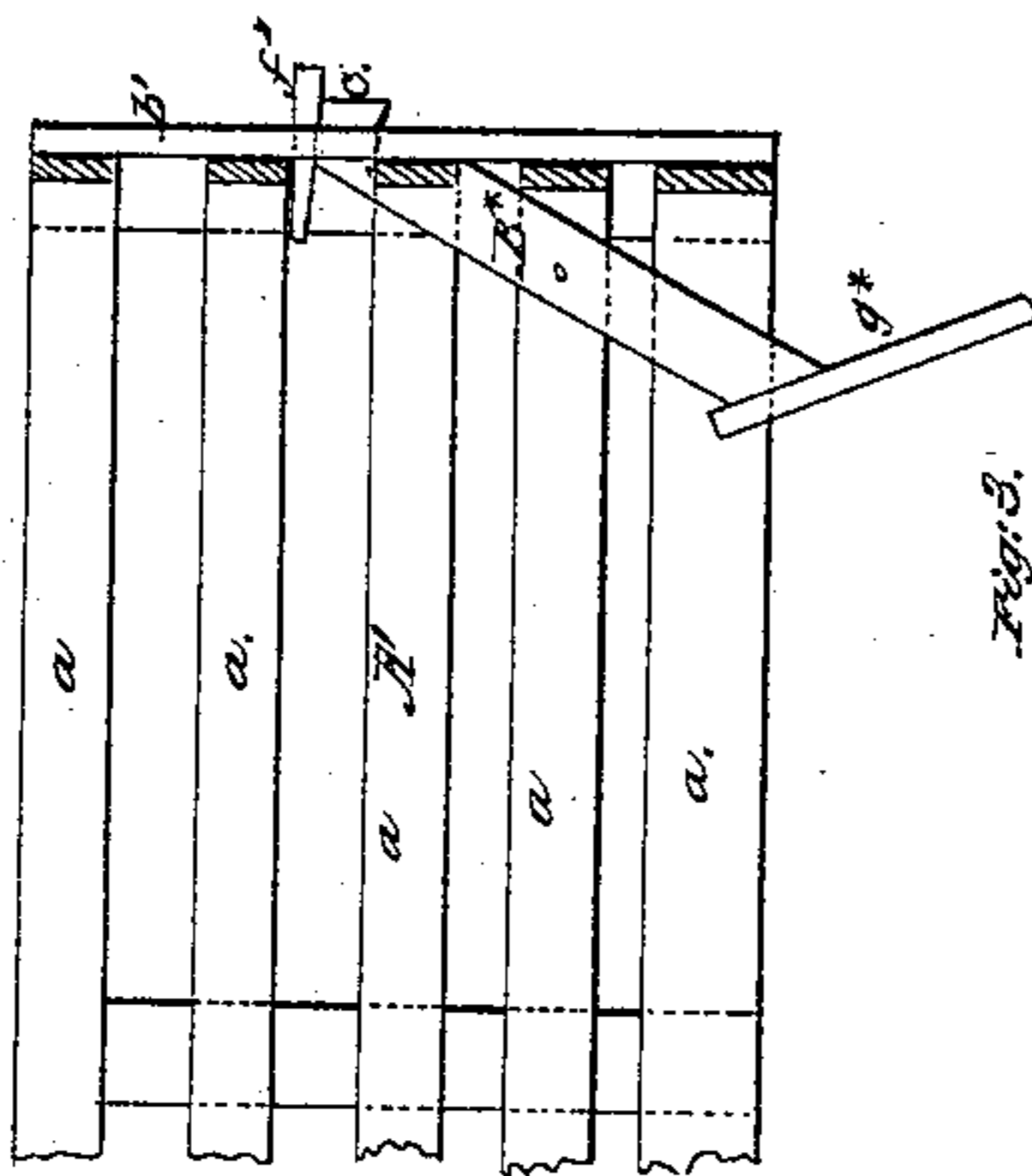
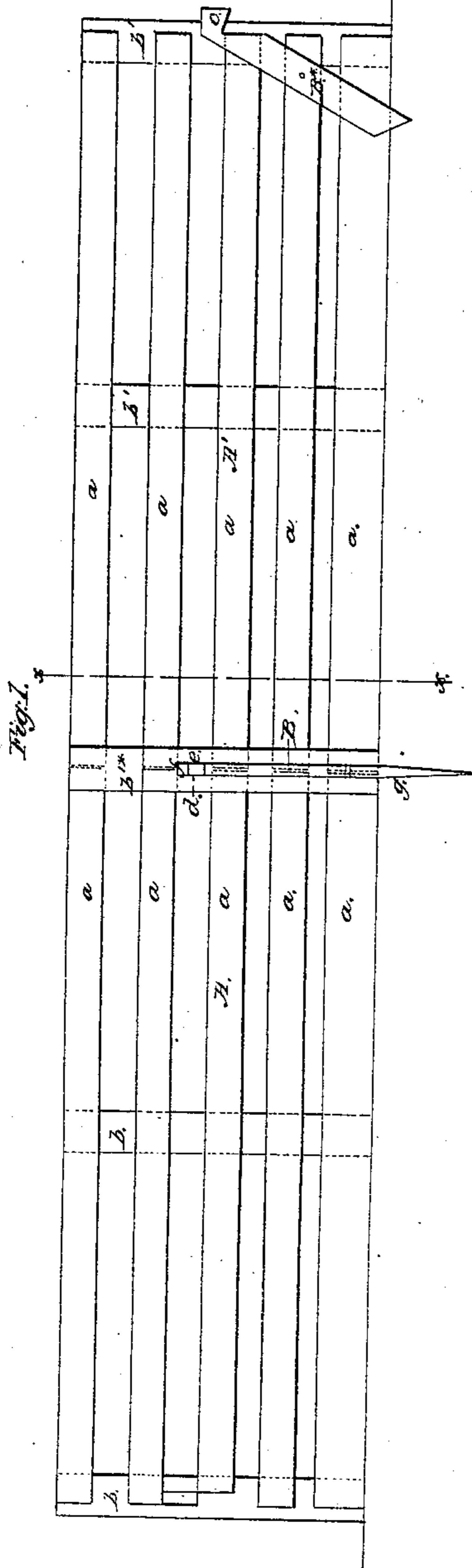
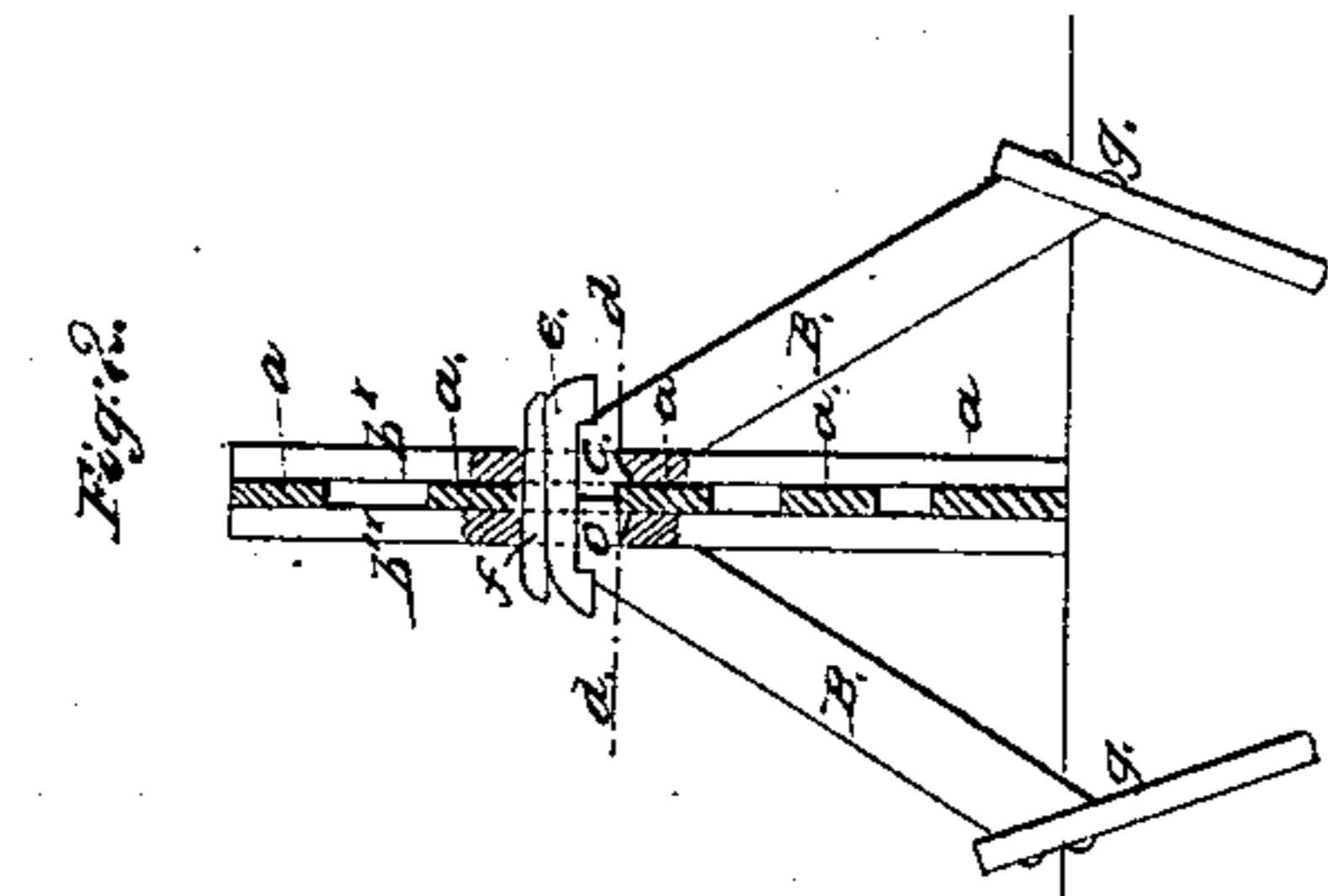


Cosgrove & Westerman,

Portable Fence,

Patented Jan. 20, 1863.

N^o 37,134.



Witnesses.
J. W. Coombs
Geo. W. Paul

Inventor.
A. H. Cosgrove
R. Westerman
per Munroe & Co.
attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANKLIN K. COSGROVE AND RUDOLPH WESTERMAN, OF FORT WAYNE,
INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 37,434, dated January 20, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FRANKLIN K. COSGROVE and RUDOLPH WESTERMAN, both of Fort Wayne, in the county of Allen and State of Indiana, have invented a new and Improved Field-Fence; and we 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 our invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same, the line $x x$, Fig. 1, indicating the line of section. Fig. 3 is a plan of a corner of a fence constructed according to our invention. Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section of the same, taken in the plane indicated by the line $y y$, Fig. 3.

Similar letters of reference in the several views indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to produce a fence that would suit nearly all kinds of localities and soils, one that could be conveniently and cheaply built by a person of ordinary mechanical skill—a portable or permanent fence which does not require the use of posts in its construction, which cannot be easily displaced by frosts or thaws, storms or floods, winds or animals running at large, and that is adapted by its peculiar structure alike for prairie as well as timber lands.

The invention consists in the employment of braces with bill-shaped ends catching over the chamfered edges of mortises in the end battens of adjoining panels of a fence, and provided with shoulders bearing against the surfaces of said battens in combination with gibs catching over the edges of said braces and secured by keys and with anchor-stakes fastened to the lower ends of the braces in such a manner that by driving said stakes down in the ground the braces are held in position by the stakes and the panels by the bill-shaped ends of the braces, and a firm, simple, and durable fence is obtained.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will proceed to describe it with reference to the drawings.

The panels $A A'$ are constructed of a series of horizontal boards or rails, a , which are secured to the battens or uprights $b b'$ in the ordinary manner. The end battens, $b^x b'^x$, project beyond the ends of the rails, and the batten b'^x on the panel A' is secured to that

side of the fence opposite to the one to which the batten b^x is fastened so that the ends of the rails of adjoining panels are inclosed between the end battens, $b^x b'^x$, as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

$B B$ are the braces, which serve to steady the fence. The upper ends, c , of these braces are bill-shaped, and they catch over the lower edges of mortises d , which are cut in the battens $b^x b'^x$. Said lower edges are chamfered off toward the inside to conform to the bill-shaped ends of the braces, and the form of these ends is such that the same, when brought in the proper position, bear against the chamfered edges of the mortises, and also against the outer surfaces of the battens, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

In order to retain the braces B firmly in their places, gibs e are inserted into the mortises d , and these gibs are secured by keys f . The lower ends of the braces are attached to stakes g , which are firmly driven down in the ground in an inclined position. When the fence is put up only temporarily, the stakes g can be omitted, but whenever the fence is to be permanent, and particularly if the same is exposed to high winds, the stakes are essential to give to the fence the required stability. In a corner the brace B^x is firmly secured to one of the panels forming said corner, and its bill-shaped upper end catches into a mortise in the end batten of the other panel, as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4. A key, f^x , retains the upper, and a stake, g^x , the lower, end of the brace. No gib is needed in this case.

This fence is very light. It can be constructed at a small expense. It is easily put up and taken down, and when put up it is firm and capable to resist winds or floods.

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The arrangement of the bill-shaped ends c of the braces B , in combination with chamfered edges of the mortises d in the battens $b b'$, and with gibs e , keys f , and anchor-stakes g , all constructed and applied in the manner and for the purpose herein shown and described.

FRANKLIN K. COSGROVE.
RUDOLPH WESTERMAN.

Witnesses:

JOHN BEECHGOOD,
HENRY TRANGER.