Clapp & Blanchard,

Portable Fence,

No. 42,166. Patented Apr. 5 1864.

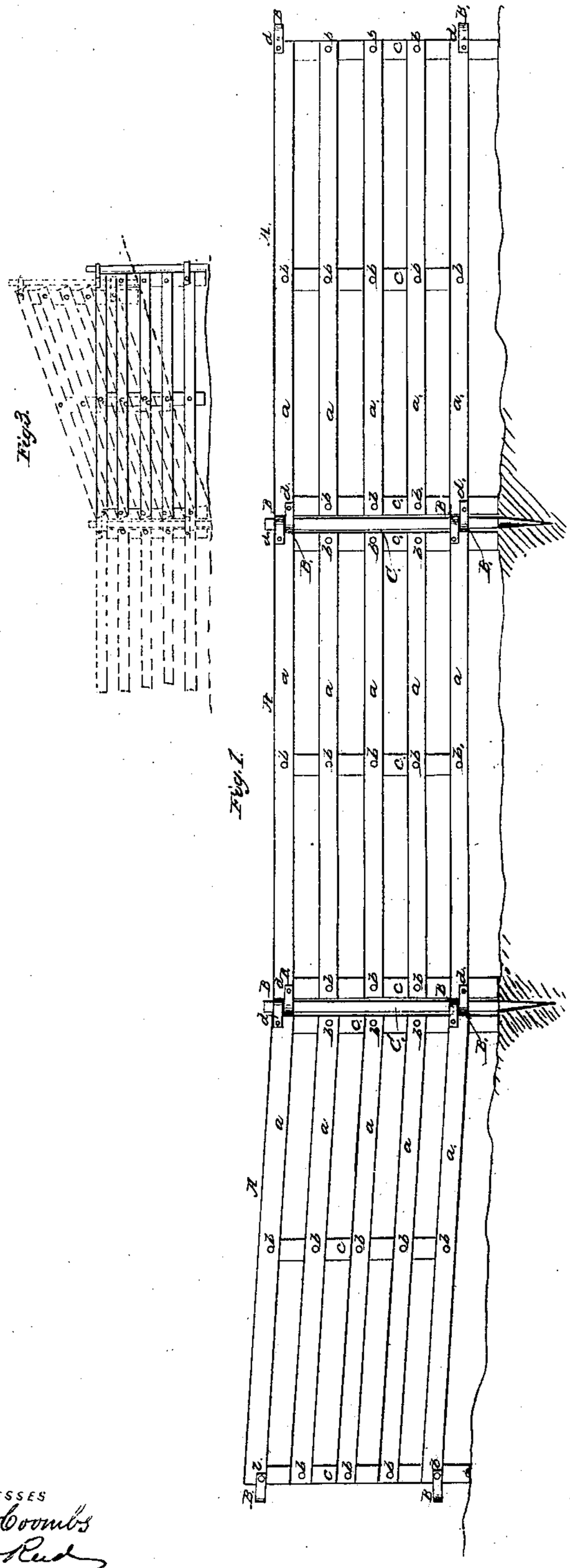

Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

WITNESSES

Jno Coombs

G. W. Reed

Inventors.

E. T. Clapp Jr.

Emery Blanchard

Per Munn & Co

Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

E. S. CLAPP, OF MONTAGUE, AND EMERY BLANCHARD, OF AMHERST, MASS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **42,166**, dated April 5, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, E. S. CLAPP, of Montague, in the county of Franklin and State of Massachusetts, and EMERY BLANCHARD, of Amherst, in the county of Hampshire, in the same State, have invented a new and Improved Portable 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, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of those panels of a fence constructed according to our invention; Fig. 2, a plan or top view of the same. Fig. 3 is a view of a portion of a panel, illustrating the manner of adjusting the fence to unlevel ground.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

This invention consists in constructing the panels of the fence of longitudinal strips attached parallelly to upright bars, a single nail or bolt passing through the strips and bars where they intersect each other, and connecting said panels together and securing them to the earth by means of stakes which pass through metal loops or eyes attached to the ends of the panels, all being so constructed and arranged that the panels may, with the greatest facility, be adjusted in a straight line or in a zigzag or other form, as desired, and on level or inclined ground, as circumstances may require.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand our invention, we will proceed to describe it.

A represents the panels of our improved fence, which are constructed of a series of strips or pieces of scantling, *a*, secured by nails or bolts *b* to upright bars *c*. There is but one nail or bolt *b* passing through the strips or bars where they cross each other, and the panels are therefore rendered capable of being adjusted in a horizontal or more or less inclined position, to conform to the surface of the ground on which they are to be placed. (See Fig. 1.) At each end of each panel A there are secured two or more metal loops or eyes, B, which may be constructed of scrap or sheet iron, bent in proper form and attached to the panels by means of bolts *d*. These should be at both ends of each panel—one loop at the upper and one at the lower part—and placed in such position that the loops at the adjoining ends of the panels may lap over each other to admit of stakes C being passed through them and driven into the ground. These stakes C may be constructed of chestnut or any suitable hard wood, and it will be seen that they connect the panels together, and also secure them to the ground.

The advantages of our invention are as follows: First, the fence may be very cheaply constructed and by almost any one familiar with mechanics' tools; second, it may be put up and taken down with the greatest facility and the panels made to conform to the undulating surface of the earth; third, the panels may be adjusted in a right line or in a zigzag position to form a "worm-fence," as may be required, or they may be adjusted in the form of a polygon to inclose any desired space; fourth, the panels A may have upright pickets nailed to two or more strips, *a*, and be capable of the same adjustment as when longitudinal strips *a* are alone used.

We are aware that fence-panels have before been jointed in such a manner as to permit the inclination of the boards upon the posts or vertical frames when the fence is to be erected on a hillside; but

We claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination of the projecting pivoted loops B B, stakes C, and pivoted panel A, all adapted to operate as herein described.

E. S. CLAPP.
EMERY BLANCHARD.

Witnesses:
T. M. DEWEY,
EDWARD S. DEWEY.