

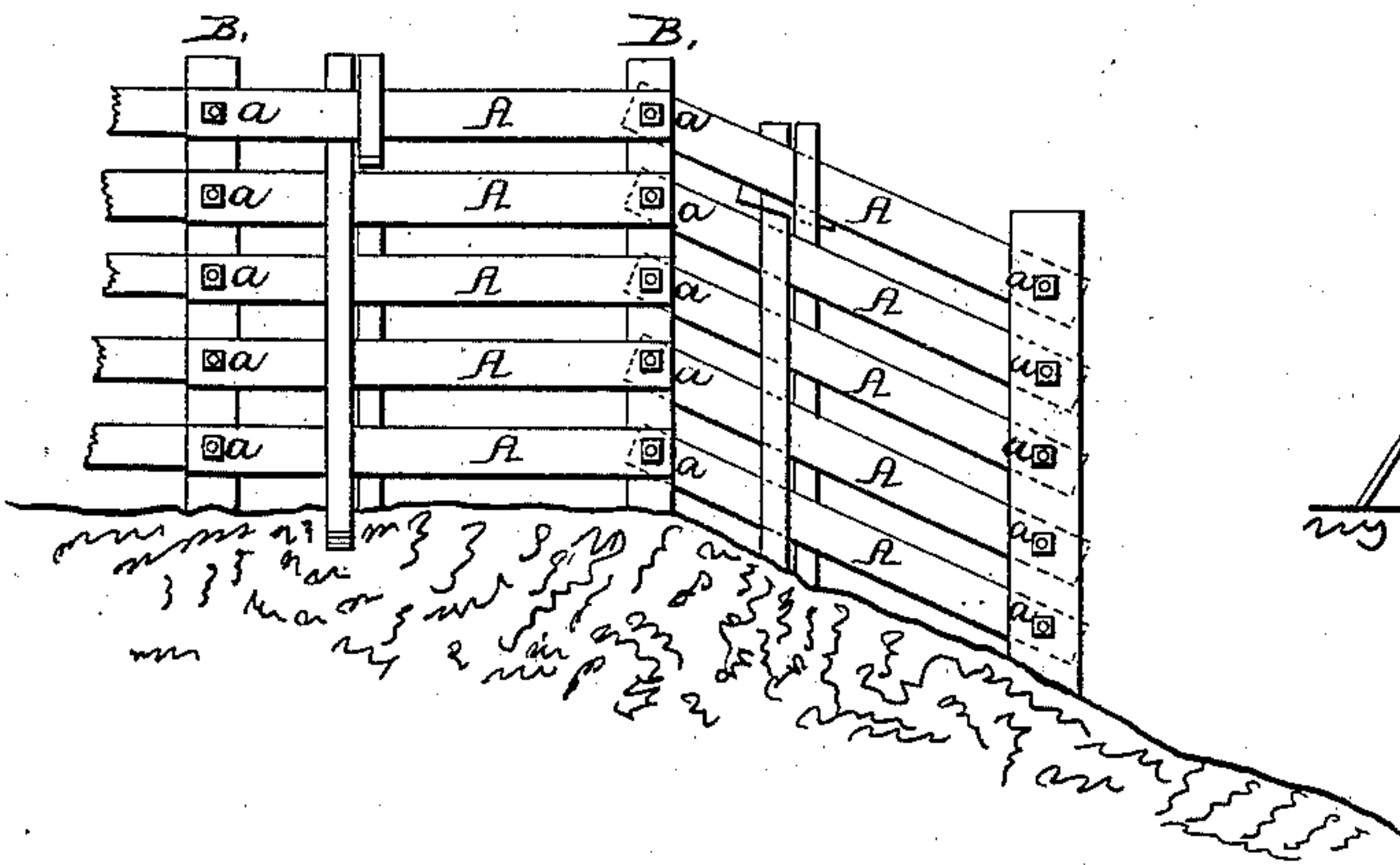
J. T. Campbell,

Portable Fence,

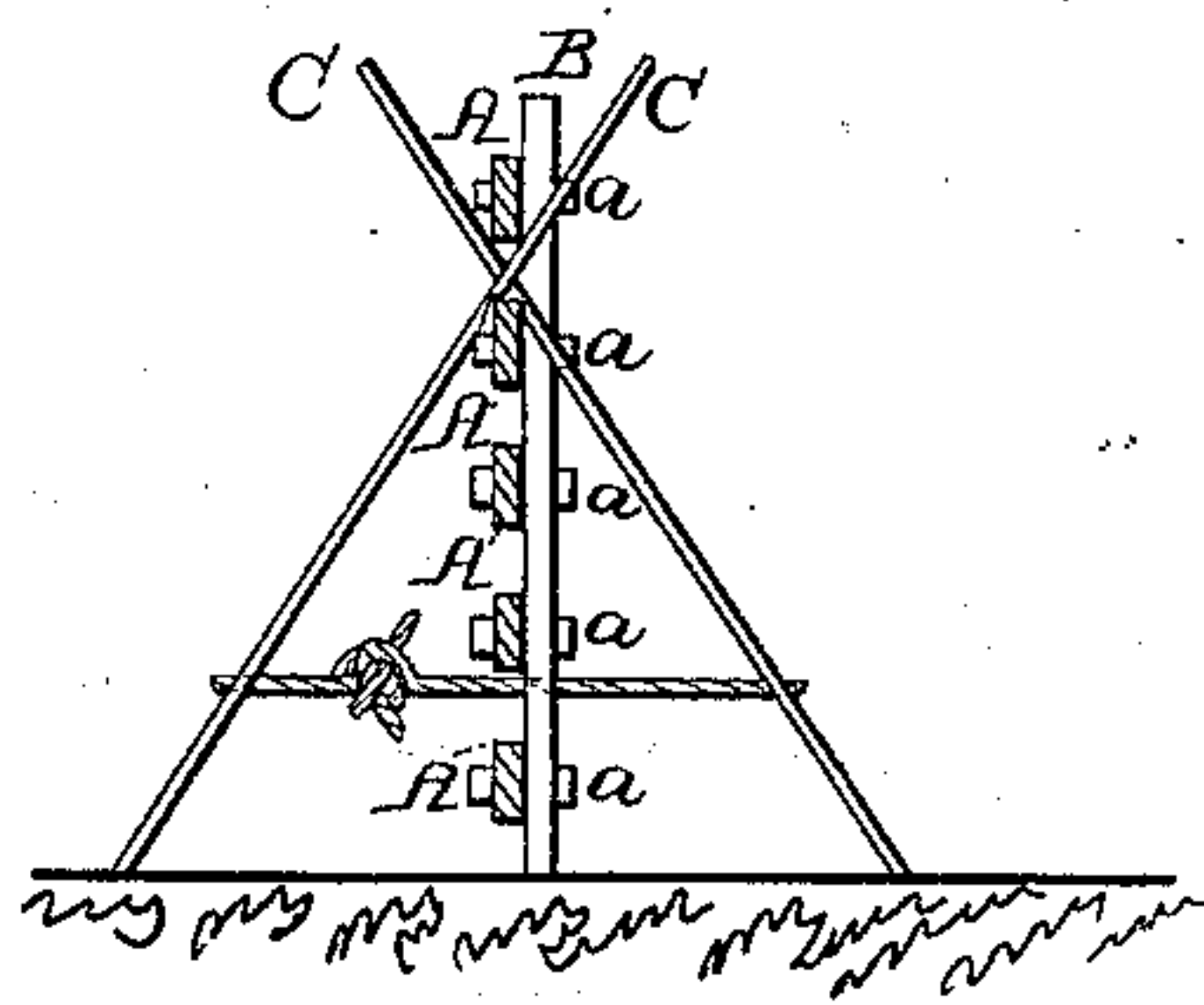
N^o 63,853.

Patented Apr. 16, 1867.

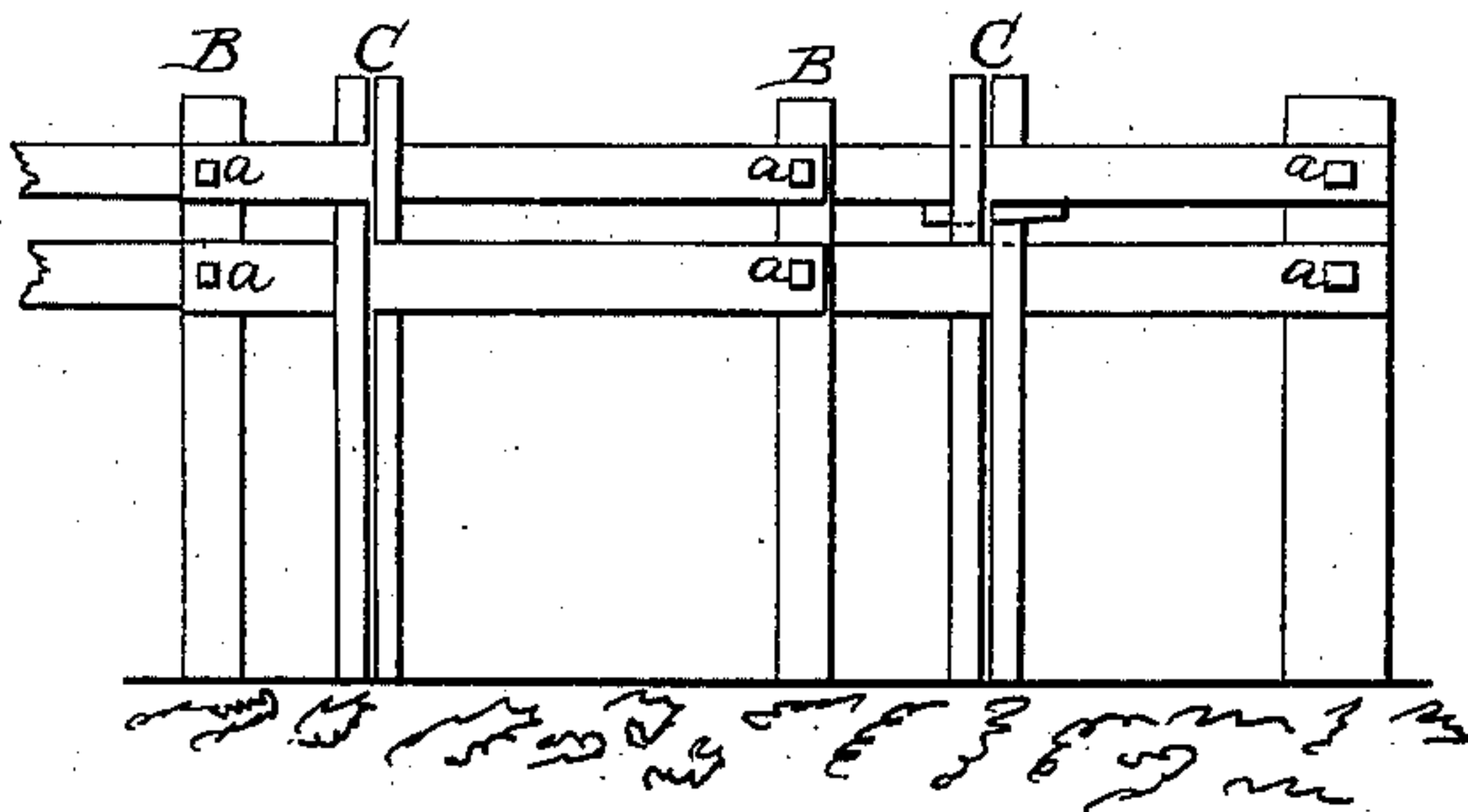
Fig; 1.



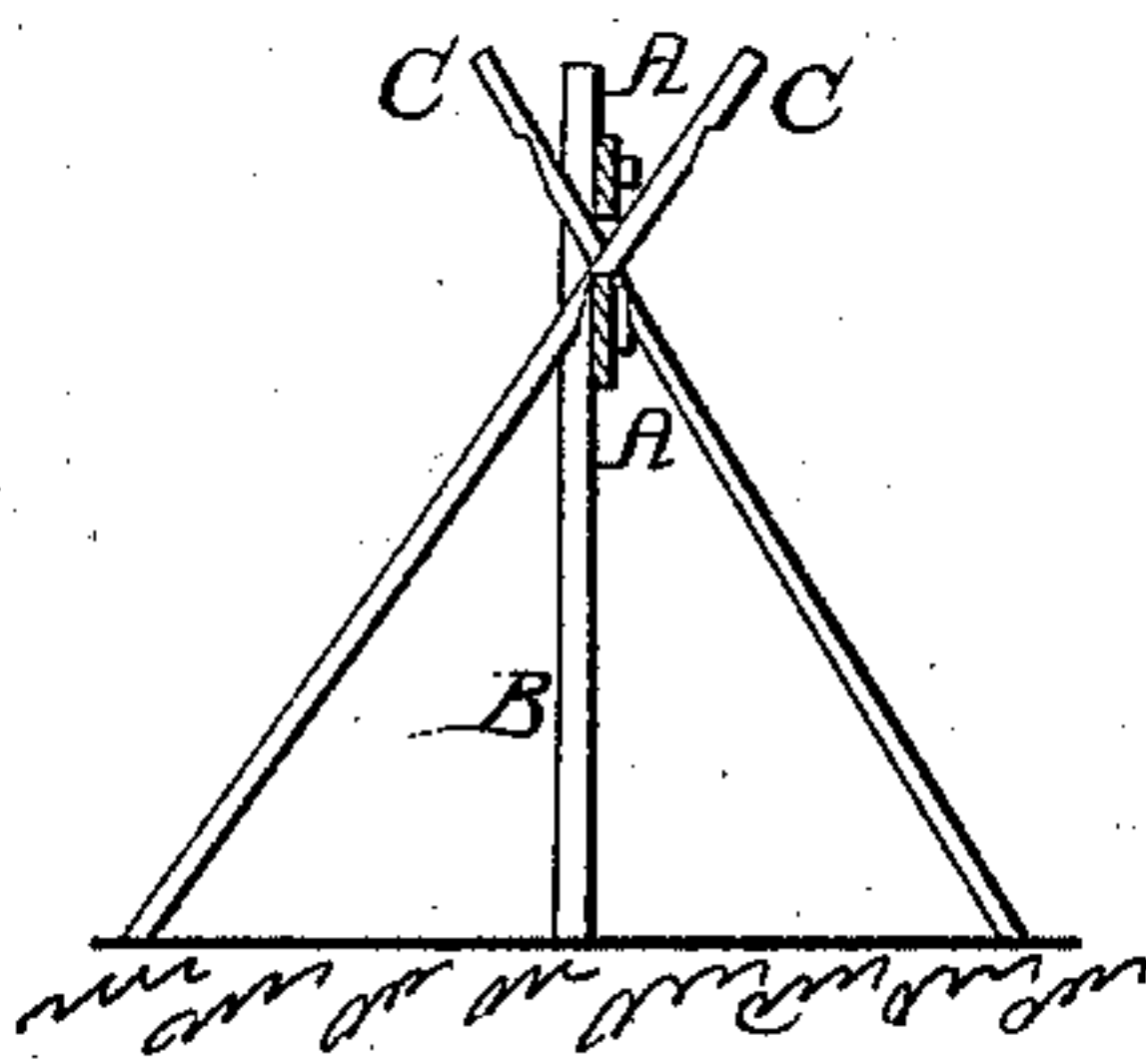
Fig; 2.



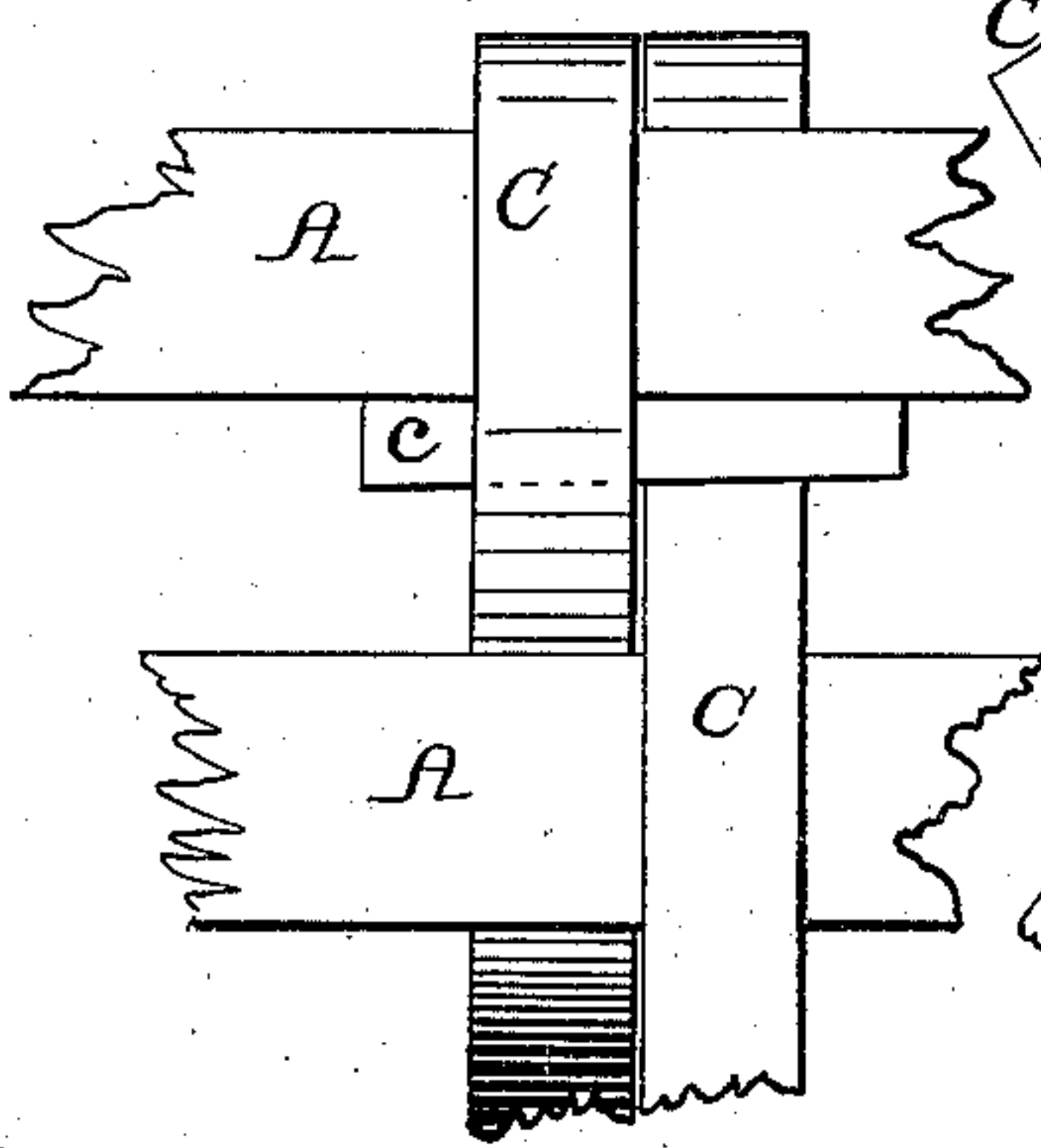
Fig; 3.



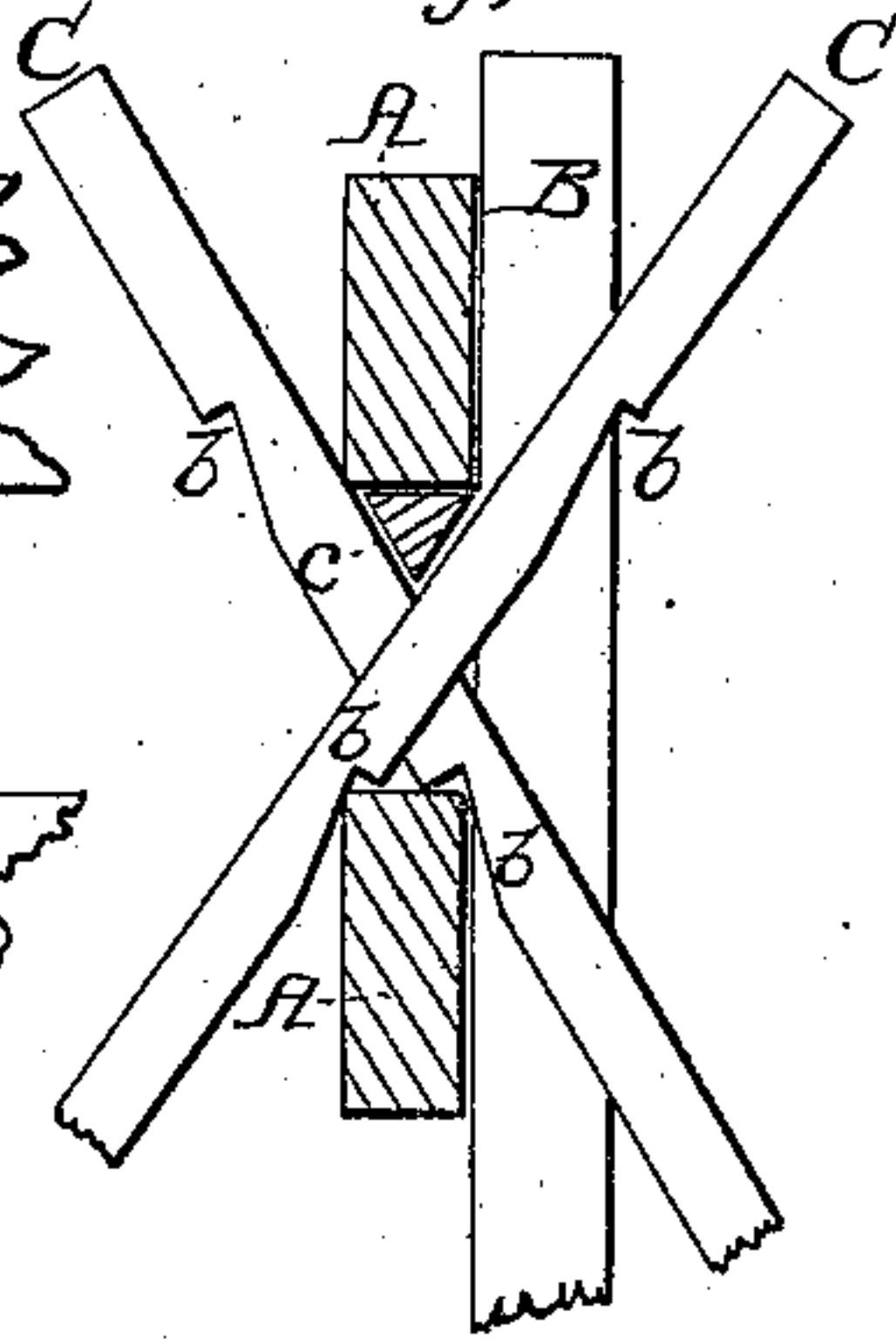
Fig; 4.



Fig; 5.



Fig; 6.



Witnesses;

Thos Tische

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Attorneys

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JOHN T. CAMPBELL, OF ROCKVILLE, INDIANA.

Letters Patent No. 63,853, dated April 16, 1867

IMPROVEMENT IN PORTABLE FENCE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN T. CAMPBELL, of Rockville, in the county of Parke, and State of Indiana, have invented a new and improved Portable Fence; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved fence, showing its adaptation to both level and uneven ground.

Figure 2 is a vertical cross-section.

Figure 3 is a side view of a modification of the same.

Figure 4 is a vertical cross-section of the same.

Figure 5 is an enlarged partial view, showing the manner of fastening with a wedge and notched stakes.

Figure 6 is an enlarged partial sectional view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in the construction of fences for the boundaries and divisions of farms, the object of which improvements is to provide a cheap and portable fence that can be easily put up and taken down at pleasure by a farmer, and is especially designed for use in the western States, where the cost of fencing is so important an item in farming.

My improvements consist in the application and arrangement of well-known mechanical devices in the construction of board fences, by which means all the parts can be prepared and made ready at the saw-mill so that the boards can be transported as common lumber and be put together at once whenever they are needed. The boards or rails are handled and transported separately, and not joined together in panels as portable fences are sometimes made, and for this reason they can be set up on uneven ground, with the posts upright, while the rails are parallel with the ground. The posts, except at the corners, are also made of plank, and the fence is supported by stakes which are notched on one side to catch on the top of a rail, and are held in place by wedges.

My improved portable plank fence is put together with screw-bolts and nuts with great facility and dispatch by common laborers, and for general purposes on a farm possesses also the following advantages: first, it can be taken all to pieces without injury to any part, and can be hauled about as common lumber, to be put together again anywhere; second, when not in use it can be piled up safely out of the way in such a manner that the last plank will form a cover to protect the rest from the weather; third, it is equally adapted to level or uneven ground; fourth, it can be easily opened for the passage of stock at any point by merely drawing a few screw-bolts; and fifth, it has the advantage of being very cheap.

Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, represent the fence when set up; A A are the plank rails, all of the same length, breadth, and thickness, to wit, ten feet long, seven inches broad, and one inch thick; B B are plank posts, all alike, to wit, five feet long, three inches broad, and one inch thick; C C are supporting stakes, all alike, to wit, seven feet long and about one and a half inch square. These parts of the fence are all cut to size at the saw-mill, and the above dimensions are given as suitable for general purposes in their proportions, but not as absolute conditions of my improved construction, the essential features of which are that the rails, posts, and stakes are all made alike respectively. The rails A A are fastened to the posts B B by screw-bolts and nuts *a a*, which pass through holes made in the ends of the rails, and at proper distances apart in the posts, by suitable machinery at the mill, so as to prepare them for putting together, as shown in the drawings, with facility. The stakes C C are set astride of each panel of fence, and are usually stuck into the ground a little way, but when the ground is frozen they may be secured at the lower ends by tying them with a cord or wire passing through the fence, as indicated in red lines in fig. 1. The stakes C C are provided at the upper part with several notches *b b*, which catch on the upper side of the rail, and they are made fast where they cross each other by a wedge, *c*, that bears against the crotch and the edge of a rail, as shown clearly in figs. 5 and 6. The fence may be made complete of five rails for protection against sheep and hogs, but for enclosing cattle and horses a fence of two rails will serve an excellent purpose, both of which modes of construction are represented in the drawings. In fig. 1 it will be seen that the rails may be secured to the upright posts at any angle, so that they will conform to the surface of the ground, whether level or sloping, or however uneven.

The construction of the plank rails and posts admitting of any degree of angularity being given to the inclination of the plank rails enables this form of fencing to be easily converted to use in the construction of cattle sheds, &c., where one side and one end of the shed may be formed by the fence at a corner thereof, leaving but one end and the roof to be added to complete the shed. This may be effected by using longer plank rails and a longer middle post, throwing up the ends of the planks so as to form an acute angle in the ordinary form of the gable ends of buildings, and adding another panel similarly constructed at the opposite end of the shed and putting on the roof. The panels thus used may be at any time taken down and used in the construction of a fence.

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

1. The cross-stakes C, with the notches *b*, combined with the wedge *c*, and arranged for supporting the plank rails A in the manner herein specified.

2. A fence constructed with the plank rails A and posts B, so united by bolts and nuts *a* as to permit any required degree of inclination to be given to the rails, the posts remaining vertical, thus permitting its adaptation to convertible use, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 12th day of December, 1866.

JOHN T. CAMPBELL.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. LINDLEY,

JOHN M. M'LAUGHLIN.