

G. L. Gavett,

Wood Fence,

No. 66,826.

Patented July 16, 1864.

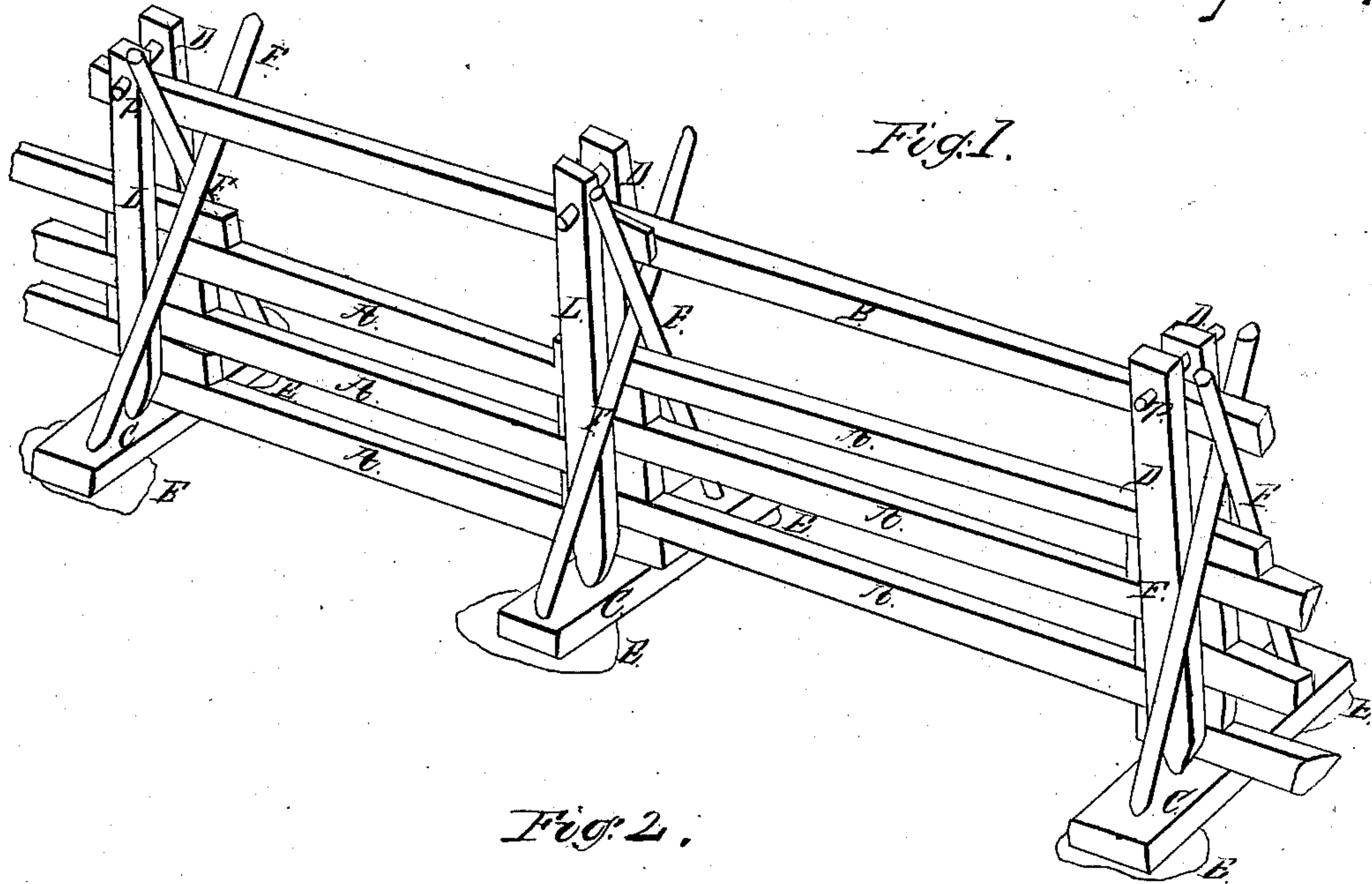
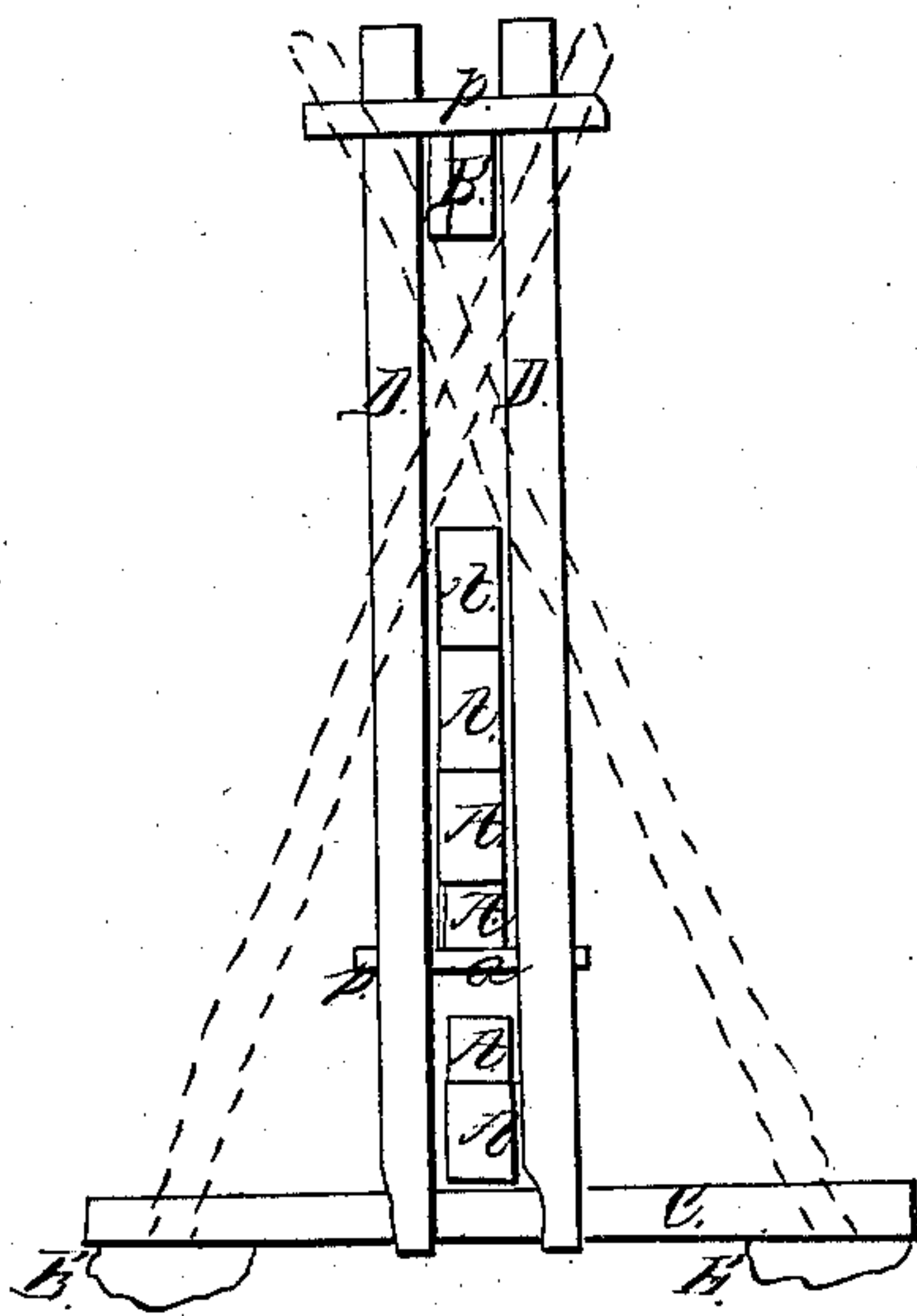


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

*Nathan C. & H. Shley.
Jason P. Church.*

Inventor.

George L. Gavett

United States Patent Office.

GEORGE L. GAVETT, OF SANDSTONE, MICHIGAN.

Letters Patent No. 66,826, dated July 16, 1867.

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, GEORGE L. GAVETT, of Sandstone, in the county of Jackson, and State of Michigan, have invented a new and improved Mode of Constructing and Erecting Farm-Fences of a portable character; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view.

Figure 2 is a transverse section.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

My invention relates to an improved arrangement of parts for bracing and tying the posts and rails of a fence, designed either for the permanent enclosure of fields or for temporary enclosures; and the better to enable others skilled in this branch of rural art to construct the same, I will now proceed to describe it, premising that although my design and object are chiefly the erection of a rough farm fence of split timber, which may be built by the use of an auger and axe, yet there is nothing in the arrangement of its parts inconsistent with the use of the sawn material, or more elaborate finish.

The rails composing the panels of my fence are shown at A and B arranged in a right line, the overlapping ends resting alternately upon the transverse sills C and upon each other, as seen, and confined laterally by insertion between two posts D, the lower ends of said posts being properly shaped and driven snugly, a correct distance apart, into auger holes bored near the centres of the transverse sills aforesaid. I usually prepare and frame together all the bed-sills and posts first, and then proceed to erect the fence, panel by panel, by setting up each sill on two stones or blocks E, and fitting and inserting snugly between the posts the panel rails, as before described, to a sufficient height to keep out small animals. Then by means of a long-stemmed auger of proper size I bore holes near the ends of the sills to receive the diagonal tie-braces F, keeping, while boring, the stem of said auger in close contact with the corners of the upper course of rails then erected, and also with the edges of the posts, in order that when the said tie-braces (usually hard-wood saplings) are fitted and driven into the holes in the sills they may be sprung into close contact with the posts, rails, and with each other. As this will throw the braces out of perpendicular, when viewed in front, I find it best to frame the posts a little out of perpendicular in the opposite direction, so as to lessen the angle of inclination of the braces. When the diagonal tie-braces are all driven into the sills, as previously stated, I lay the upper rails B, as riders, in the crotches formed by said braces, the overlapping portions of the rails lying between the posts being generally chamfered, splice fashion, as seen at *e*, when each pair of posts may be stayed and the rails tied down, by driving pins *p* through the upper ends of the posts immediately over the upper rails B, and similar pins may be driven here and there upon which a thin-ended rail, as seen at *a*, fig. 2, may rest, for the purpose of equalizing the spaces between.

In this mode of construction no nails are requisite to construct or sustain the several parts, unless, indeed, it may be thought best to put in a few check nails to prevent any of the rails from sliding endwise, a precaution which I have not yet discovered any necessity for.

I am aware that it is nothing new to construct portable fences with double posts framed into cross-sills, and that such posts are usually braced by angle braces framed or nailed to them; but framing is costly and shrinks loose; nails rust and break, and all such modes are utterly inapplicable with rough, split material; and I am not aware of any other fence in which the posts, sills, and rails are self-supported and tied with diagonal tie-braces as in mine, by which arrangement many important advantages are obtained, such as minimum amount of cheaply prepared material, self-adjustment of parts without expensive fitting, strength, durability, and portability.

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

The employment of diagonal tie-braces F, in combination with sills C and posts D for bracing and tying the panel rails of a farm fence, (either with or without the pins *p*), substantially in the manner herein specified,

GEORGE L. GAVETT.

Witnesses:

NATHAN C. G. ASHLEY,
JASON P. CHURCH.