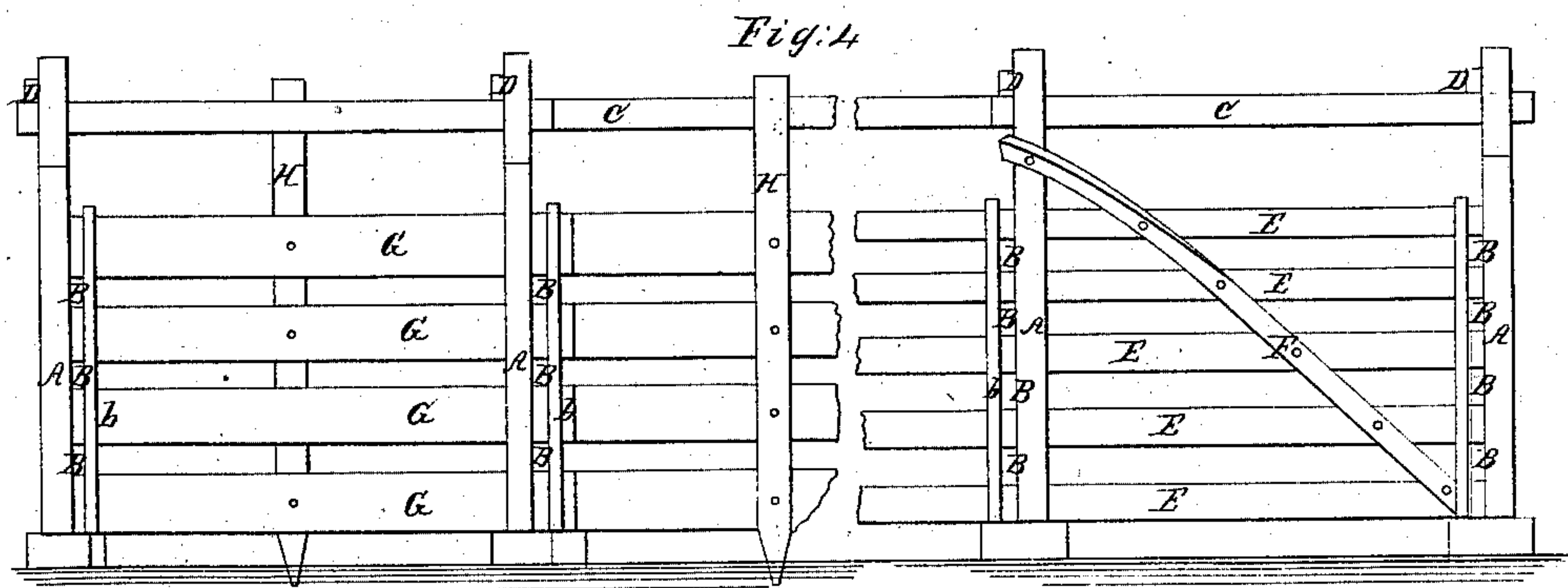
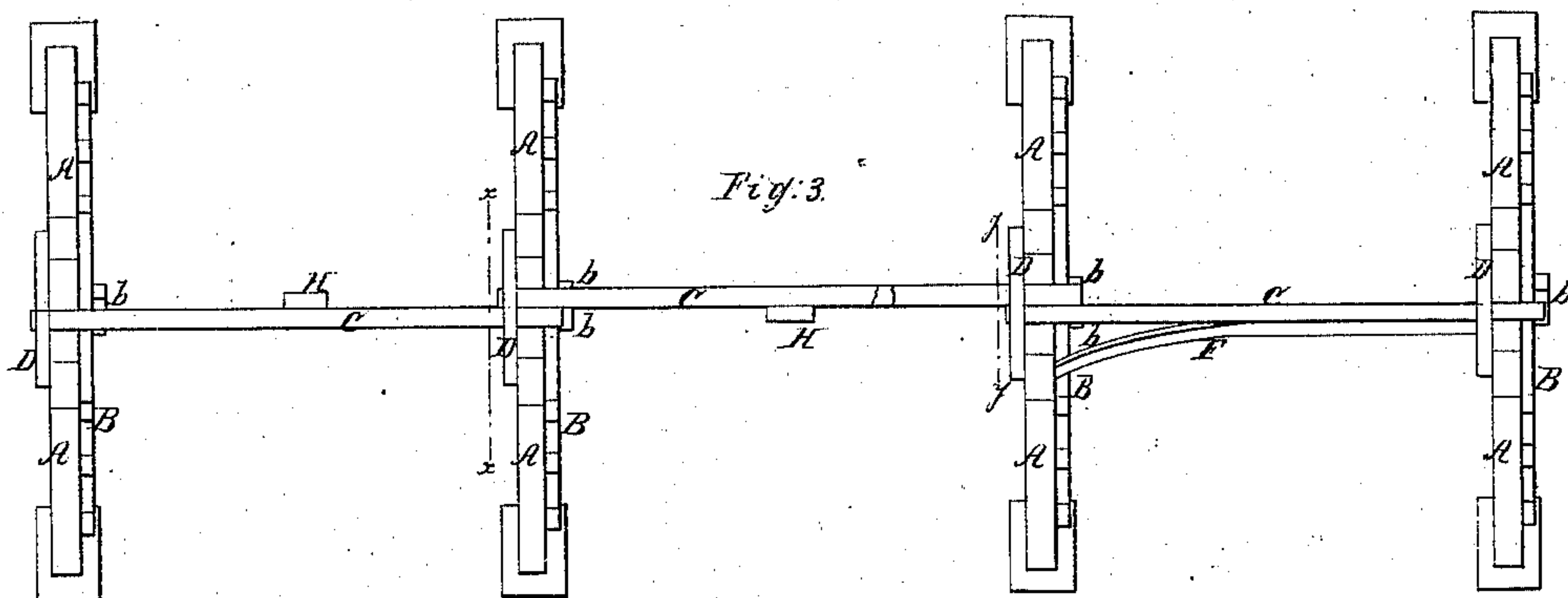
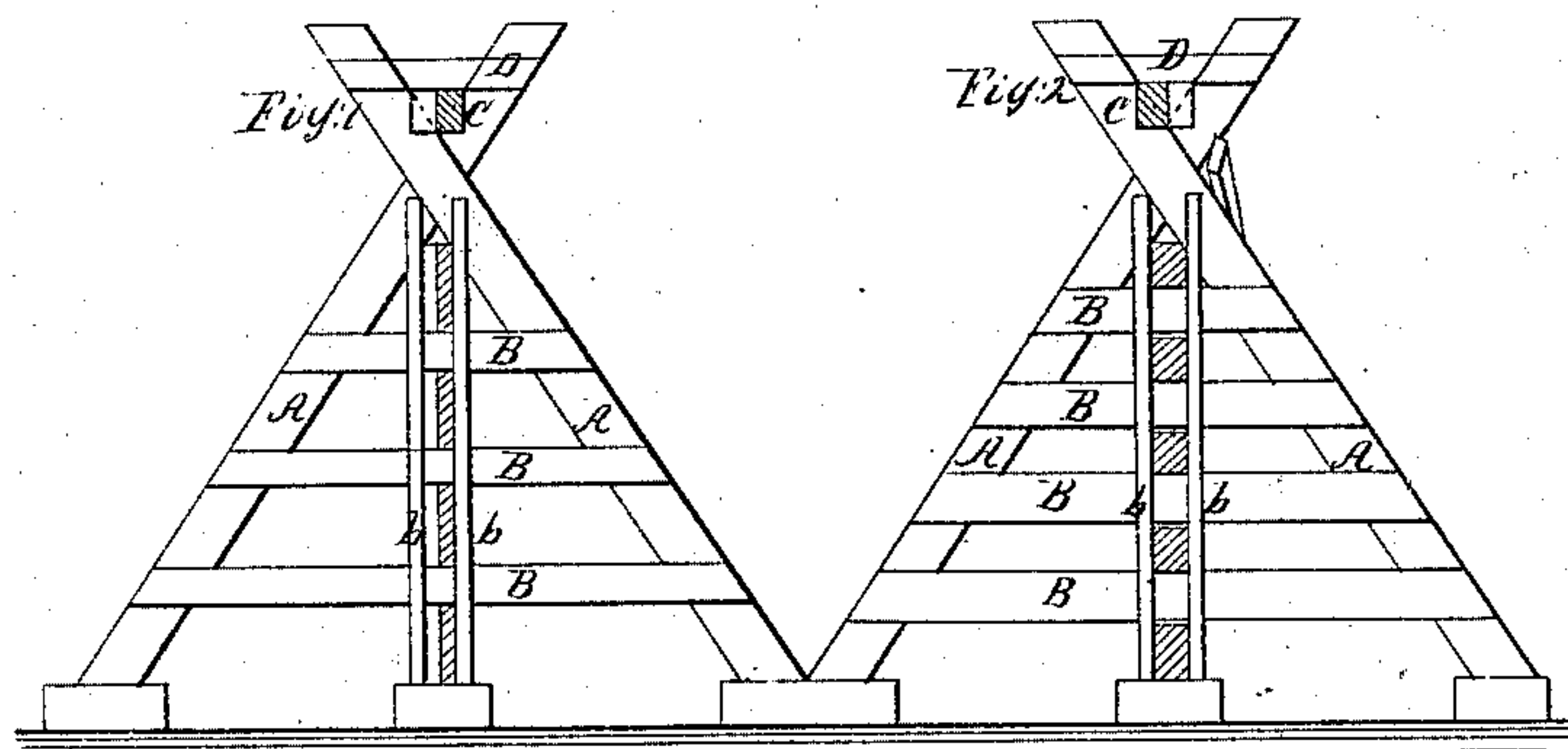


B. Force,
Wood Fence,

N^o 68,177.

Patented Aug. 27, 1867.



Witnesses.
Wm. E. Lyon
Geo. B. Livingston

Inventor
Benny Force
Munn & Co
Attorneys

United States Patent Office.

BENJAMIN FORCE, OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA.

Letters Patent No. 68,177, dated August 27, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN 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, BENJAMIN FORCE, of Mount Pleasant, in the county of Henry, and State of Iowa, have invented a new and improved 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—

Figures 1 and 2 are transverse vertical sections of my invention, taken respectively in the lines *xx*, *yy*, fig. 3.

Figure 3, a plan or top view of the same.

Figure 4, a side view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

This invention relates to a new and improved fence of that class which is commonly termed "portable," and is designed to be readily put up and taken down.

The object of the invention is to obtain a simple, strong, and durable fence of the class specified, one which will be better braced than hitherto, and which will admit of being properly supported without having its stakes sunk into the ground.

The posts or stakes of the fence are represented by A. These stakes cross each other near their upper ends, being halved together, as shown in figs. 1 and 2. The two stakes of each pair are connected below their point of intersection by parallel bars or slats B, which firmly hold the stakes in position and render it unnecessary to drive them into the earth; they, in consequence, may rest upon flat stones *a*, and therefore be protected from decay. The several pairs of stakes, above their point of intersection, are connected by riders C, which are notched to receive the upper parts of the stakes, and are secured down in the forks of the latter by cross-bars D. By this arrangement it will be seen that any longitudinal play of the riders is effectually prevented and the stakes also firmly supported in a lateral direction. E represents the bars or slats of the fence, which rest on the bars B of the stakes, and are retained in position by upright slats *b*, nailed to the bars B at each side of the bars E. These bars E are braced between the pairs of stakes A by diagonal bars F, the upper ends of which are nailed to the stakes A, and the bars E nailed to the bars F. Instead of bars E, boards or thin slats G may be used, and upright battens H nailed to them centrally between the pairs of stakes, the lower ends of the battens being driven a short distance into the ground, (see fig. 4.) These battens will prevent the boards G from springing laterally.

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

The diagonal braces F, in combination with the stakes A, riders C, parallel bars E and B, all arranged substantially as set forth.

I further claim the battens H, in combination with the stakes, riders, and bars, all arranged as shown and described.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 13th day of November, 1865.

BENJAMIN FORCE.

Witnesses:

H. C. SAUNDERS,

J. R. LEISENRING.