

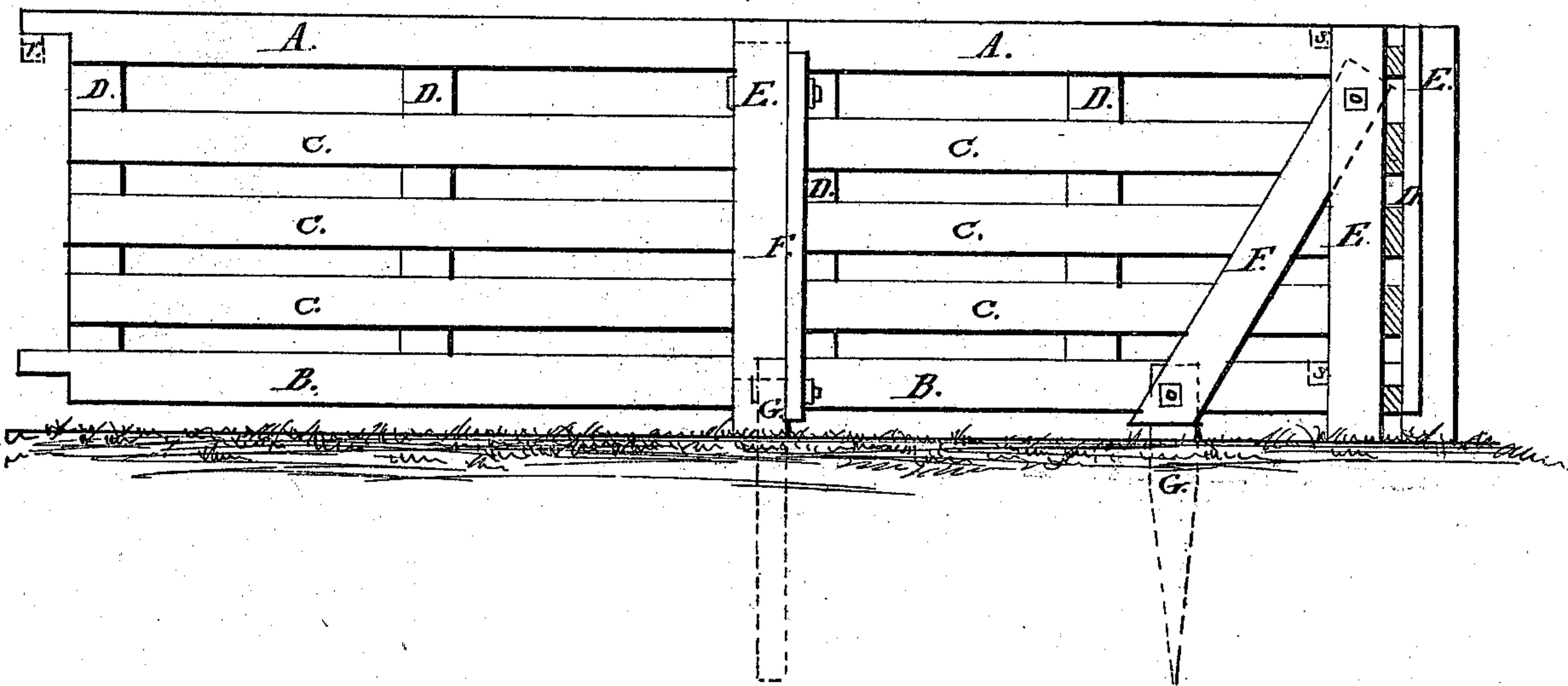
*T. E. Phillips,*

*Fence.*

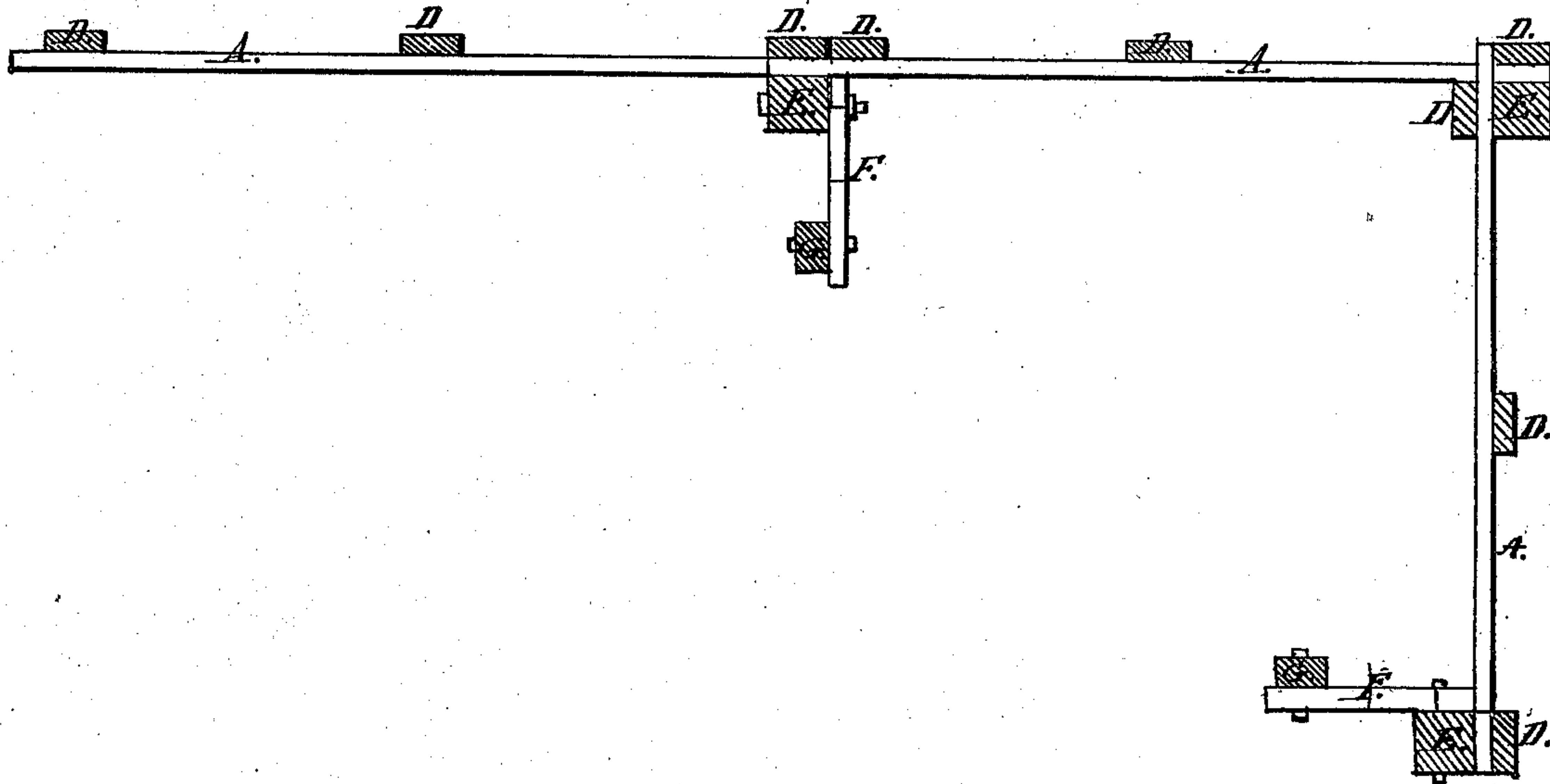
*No. 87,364.*

*Patented Mar. 2. 1869.*

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses:*

*O. F. Mayhew*  
*W. A. Weeks*

*Inventor:*

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# United States Patent Office.

THOMAS E. PHILLIPS, OF COATESVILLE, INDIANA.

Letters Patent No. 87,364, dated March 2, 1869.

## 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, THOMAS E. PHILLIPS, of Coatesville, in the county of Hendricks, and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Portable Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, that will enable skilled artisans to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making part of this specification.

This invention relates to construction and mode of interlocking the panels of portable fences, combined with the mode of supporting and bracing them, with a view to simplify and lessen their cost of construction, and expedite the labor of putting them up, and to make them perfectly adaptable to all the purposes for which either permanent or portable fences are used.

Figure 1 is an elevation of the fence, and

Figure 2 is a top or plan view of the same.

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

The panels of the fence are composed of one post, E, of, say, two by three-inch scantling, board rails A B C, and three vertical strips D, put together as clearly shown in the drawing.

The top and bottom rails, A B, are notched at the ends, the left-hand end having the notches cut out of the bottom edge, and the right-hand end out of the top edge, so that when set up they will match together, as shown, the projecting ends of the rails, at the left-hand end of the panel, entering the recesses formed between the post E and vertical strip D, by the notches cut out of the upper edges of the top and bottom boards, at the right-hand end of the panel.

This mode of constructing the panels obviates the necessity of using more than one post to each panel, as it admits of their being substantially interlocked, and the fence is supported in an upright position by braces F, that are bolted or otherwise secured, by their upper ends, to each post, near its top, and by their lower ends to stakes G, that are driven into the ground at the proper distance from the fence, as shown. These braces also perfectly subserve the purpose of supporting the fence against lateral pressure, whether of wind or stock.

The braces are made of the same kind of boards as the rails, and the stakes may be made of the same or of heavier material, as desired.

When it is desired that the posts shall stand directly upon the ground, without any intervening support, they are cut a few inches longer than the height of the panel,

so as to raise the bottom rail off the ground; but they may be cut the same length as the height of the panel, and be supported on blocks or stones, if desired.

The panels may be made, and the braces and stakes prepared, under shelter, and when ready to be set up, a line is stretched along the position to be occupied by the stakes, which are then spaced off the length of the panels apart, and driven into the ground.

If the fence is put up for temporary purposes, and soon to be taken down, it will be found more economical, to attach the braces F to the posts and stakes with light bolts and nuts, as it may be more readily taken down, without damage or loss to the material, and in this case the holes may be previously bored to receive them.

After the stakes are driven, the panels may then be set up, and the braces attached.

If the fence is to be permanently erected, the braces may be nailed to the posts and stakes.

Angles in this fence are readily and substantially formed by notching into the top and bottom rails, A B, as shown at S, fig. 1, and by leaving a projection on the top rail of the connecting-panel, to form a hook, as shown at r, at the left-hand end of fig. 1, by which they may be locked together.

If found desirable, a block may be put in at each post, above the bottom rail, that will fill the space between it and the next rail above, that will serve as a key, to keep the panels from becoming detached by breachy stock.

I am aware that panels of fence, both for permanent and portable purposes, have been constructed in a manner somewhat similar to those here shown, and that stakes and braces have been used in an analogous manner; but I am not apprised that the several elements of which fences are composed have been constructed, arranged, and combined, so as to be as cheaply, conveniently, and expeditiously made, and substantially put up, as this.

Having thus fully described my invention,

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

The combination and arrangement of the panels, composed of notched rails A B, rails C, post E, and vertical strips D, when constructed as described, with the braces F and stakes G, as set forth.

THOMAS E. PHILLIPS.

Witnesses:

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