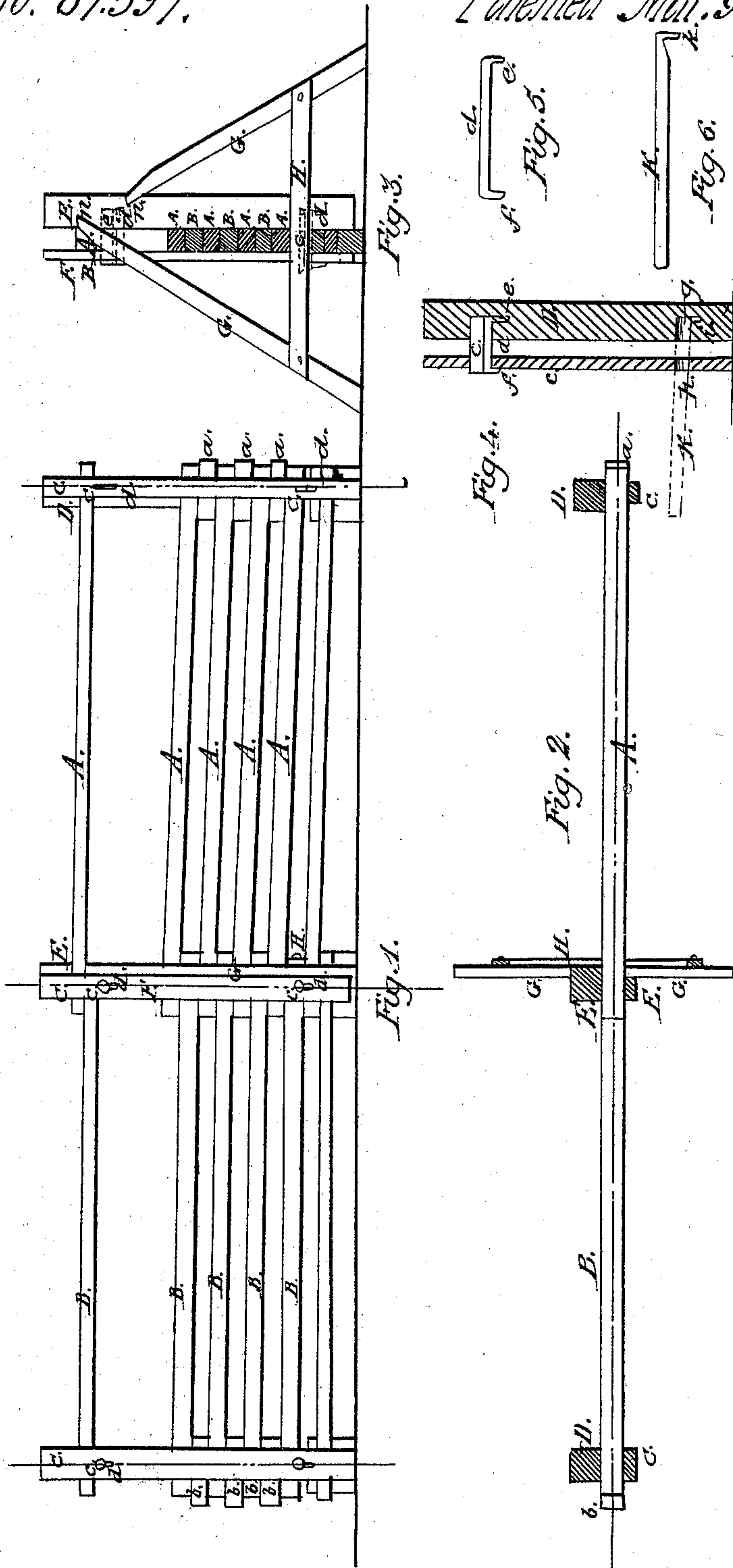


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Witnesses:  
 David Miller  
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# United States Patent Office.

JOHN K. STAMAN, OF MANSFIELD, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 87,597, dated March 9, 1869.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FARM-FENCES.

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 K. STAMAN, of Mansfield, in the county of Richland, and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Farm-Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of my invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, of which drawings—

Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved fence.

Figure 2 is a plan of the same.

Figure 3 is a front elevation of the middle truss of fence.

Figure 4 is a detail elevation, showing mode of uniting the main post and binding-post.

Figure 5 is an elevation of binding-iron.

Figure 6 is an elevation of an iron used to punch a hole in the main post, for the admission of the toe of the binding-iron.

The nature of my invention consists in the novel method of securing the outer post, or binding-batten, to the main post of a fence, said method consisting in the use of a binding-iron, in combination with a hole in the main post, a hole through the binding-post or batten, and a retaining-pin, whereby I obtain great durability and strength of construction, at a small expense of material and constructive labor.

My invention also relates to the novel combination of the several parts of a suspended truss-post, which is of very simple construction and moderate cost, and of great utility in the construction of any farm-fence, but especially of that class known as "portable fences," as its construction is peculiarly adapted to the easy and rapid putting up or taking down of fences composed of truss-posts and common rails.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawings, two kinds of posts are represented, the end posts being secured in an upright position by having their lower ends buried in a hole dug in the ground, while the centre post is a suspended truss-post; but the method of securing the batten or binding-post to the main post is the same in each of the posts shown.

In each of these main end posts D D, either before or after they are planted in holes in the ground, are bored two or more holes *g g*, which holes extend from one-half to two-thirds of the distance through the post D, as seen in fig. 4.

In the battens or main posts C C are bored the holes *h h*, which holes are bored entirely through the battens C, and which are so arranged as to come directly opposite the holes *g g* in the main post D, when the batten C is in position.

The binding-iron *d*, shown in fig. 5, is made of round or square iron, and is provided at its ends with the arms *f* and *e*, of about one or two inches in length.

An iron, K, of from one to two feet in length, is pro-

vided with a point, *k*, at its end, said point *k* being of about the same size and length as one of the arms *e* or *f* of the binding-iron *d*, as shown in fig. 6.

By means of this iron K, with point *k*, a hole, *i*, is formed at the rear of the hole *g* in the main post D, as seen in fig. 4.

The binding-iron *d* is then inserted in the hole *g* of the main post D, its arm *e* fitting into the hole *i*, as shown; while the other end of said iron extends through the hole *h* in the batten C, the arm *f* holding against the outside of the batten C, as shown.

A pin, *c*, of the size of the holes *h* and *g*, less the size of the iron *d*, is then driven in over said iron, as seen in fig. 4, thus firmly securing the batten C on the iron *d*, and said iron *d* in the main post D, as is readily seen.

The number of these binding-irons *d*, and retaining-pins *c*, to be used between the main post and its batten, depends somewhat on the thickness of the batten, and the weight of the fence-rails used, and can be varied to suit circumstances, two or three being usually a sufficient number, but more being used if found desirable.

The fence-rails A A, B B, are laid on the pins *c c*, and between the battens C C and D D, as shown in figs. 1 and 2, and the pieces *a a* and *b b* are inserted between the ends of the rails A A and B B, and between the battens C and posts D, at the ends of the fence, to keep said rails at the proper distances from each other, as is readily seen.

Where rails are desired below the lower pins *c c*, they are laid between the battens C and posts D, and their ends rest on stones or blocks, in an obvious manner.

The centre truss-post shown is composed of the main post E and batten F, which is united to the post E by binding-irons *d d*, and retaining-pins *c c*, as before shown.

This post E is not fixed in the ground like the posts D, before described, but has the notches *n n* cut in its sides, in which fit the oblique ends of the truss-braces G G, as shown in fig. 3, the lower parts of said braces being united by the cross-bar H, which is nailed to the main post E and braces G G, as shown, from which it is readily seen that the whole weight of the truss and rails may be thrown on the braces G G, the bottoms of both the batten F and main post E being clear of the ground, if desired.

The manner of arranging the main post E, batten F, braces G G, and cross-bar H, with respect to each other, as well as the mode of arranging the ends of the rails A A and B B in said truss-post, is too obvious, from an inspection of figs. 1, 2, and 3, to require particular description.

The hole *i* is formed within the hole *g* of the main post D, by inserting the iron *k* in said hole, and then raising the outer end of the same, which forces the toe *k* into the bottom of the hole *g*, thus making the hole *i*, by reason of the outer and upper part of the hole *g* acting as a fulcrum to the iron K, as shown by dotted red lines, in fig. 4, or the toe *k* may be forced in by



hammering on the iron K, outside of the hole *g*, in a manner readily seen.

Having thus fully described my invention, I do not here claim the iron K, which I use in forming the inner hole *i*, in the hole *g* of the main post D, as I have shown this iron, in this specification, simply to show what I consider as the best mode of forming the inner hole *i* in the fence-post; but

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

1. The binding-iron *d*, with arms *e* and *f*, when used in combination with the main post D of a fence, having a hole, *g*, cut partially through the same, and provided with a small hole, *i*, the batten C having the hole *h* cut through the same, and the retaining-pin *c*, the

several parts being arranged substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The suspended truss-post herein described, consisting of the main post E, provided with notches *n n*, and the batten F, secured to it by means of the binding-irons *d d* and retaining-pins *c c*, as is herein shown, the braces G G and cross-bar H, the several parts being constructed, combined, and arranged substantially as and for the purpose specified.

As evidence that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand, in presence of two witnesses, this 10th day of December, A. D. 1868.

Witnesses: JNO. K. STAMAN.  
GEO. A. CLUGSTON,  
HENRY C. HEDGES.