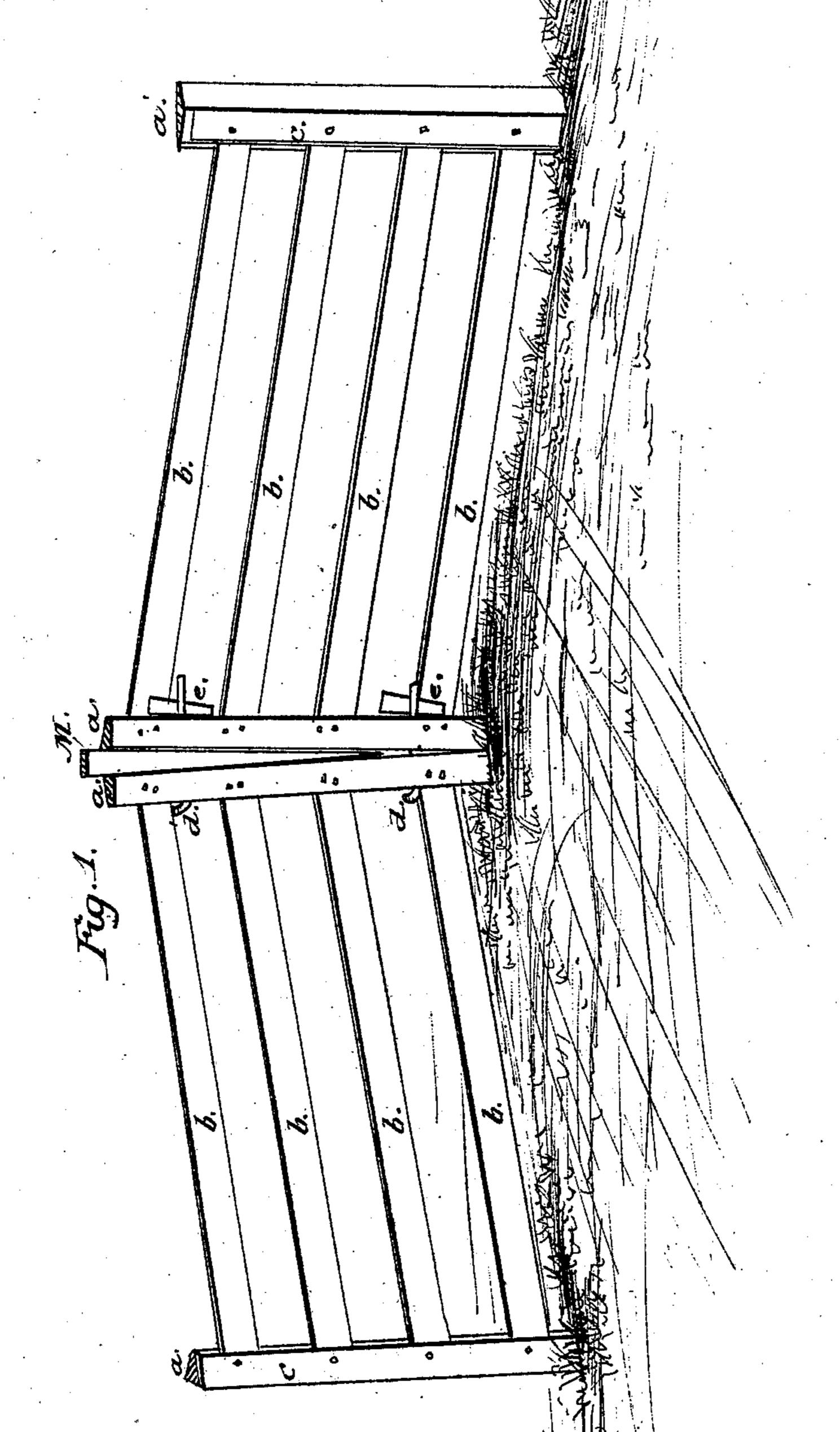
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HENRY C. WILSON, OF WEST ELKTON, OHIO,

Letters Patent No. 88,427, dated March 30, 1869.

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, Henry C. Wilson, of West Elkton, in Preble county, in the State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Portable Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of two panels of my improved fence connected together, with the adjusting-wedge interposed; and

Figure 2 represents the bifurcated adjusting-wedge.
The object of my invention is to so construct a portable board fence, as to cheapen its cost, and to provide the means of adapting it to be erected upon undulating, or side-hill lands.

To enable the fence to stand firmly, without the aid of stakes, or braces driven in the ground, or otherwise secured, I erect it in the usual zigzag manner. And the posts a are first formed, as represented at a, of a single piece of wood, and they may be divided longitudinally, that the parts a may be connected to the separate panels. These parts are of triangular shape, as represented in the drawings.

The boards b are secured by nails to the posts, and cleats, c, are fastened across the ends of the boards, in the usual manner.

The leading feature of my invention consists in connecting the panels together by hook-bolts, d d, which are slotted, to admit keys e, and in the use of the forked wedge, m, to give rigidity to the fence when erected upon uneven ground.

When the posts rest upon an elevation, or ridge, the

long bolt, d', is used to connect the upper ends of the posts, as represented in the drawings, and thereby allow space between the upper ends of the posts for the insertion of the wedge M; but when the post is upon a depression of the ground, or between two higher points in the line upon which the fence is erected, the longer hook-bolt d' will be inserted in the holes near the bottom of the posts, and the shorter bolt, near the top of the posts; and in that case, the wedge M will be inserted between the bottom ends of the posts. The wedge is bifurcated, to enable it to bestride the bolts when inserted between the posts.

The long bolts and wedge are designed to be employed only when the fence is erected upon uneven ground, and in that case, they will be inserted after the panels are arranged in position, and the key e and wedge m will be adjusted in their places, in proper relation to the angular space between the posts, caused by the irregularity in the ground.

Having fully described my improvement in fences, What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The divided posts a a, in combination with the bolts d d, keys e, and forked wedge M, when the parts are constructed, arranged, and used, for erecting portable fences, in the manner substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this day of March, 1868.

HENRY C. WILSON.

Witnesses:

H.P. K. PECK, S. E. PECK.