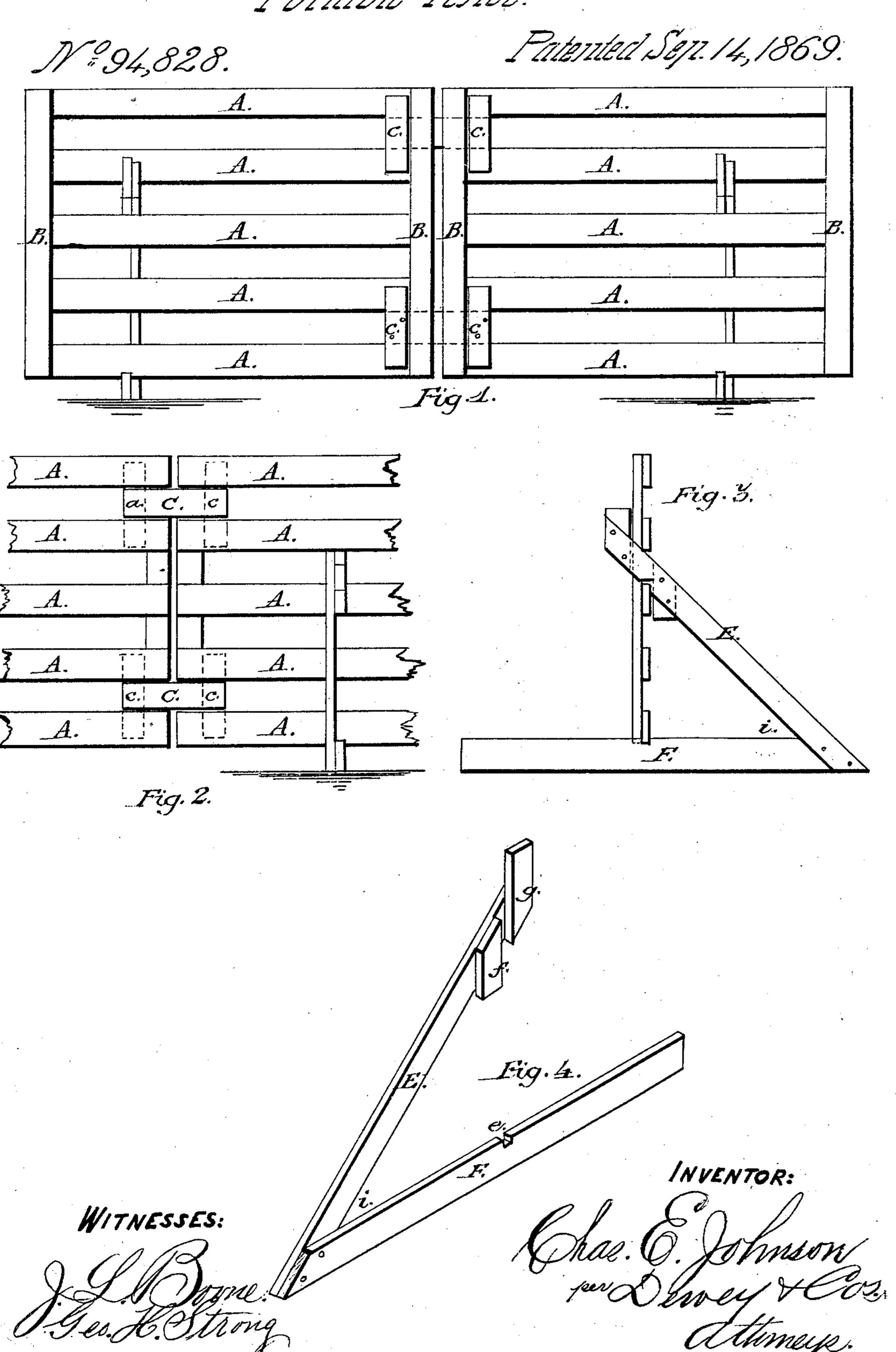


Portable Leize.



Anited States Patent Office.

CHARLES E. JOHNSON, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

Letters Patent No. 94,828, dated September 14, 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, Charles E. Johnson, of the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented an Improved Portable Fence; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawings are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains, to make and use my said invention or improvements without further invention or experiment.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved portable fence, which may be taken apart with little trouble, and packed in a small compass, and, when desired, placed in position, and secured in regular order, forming a complete and substantial fence. It also relates to an improved device for supporting the fence in an upright position, and keeping it firmly in place; and

It consists in forming the panels in the usual man-

ner, each panel being separate.

The panels are held together by keys, which prevent their being separated, and are held in position, as desired, by a peculiar brace, which is so constructed and arranged as to keep the fence from off the ground, and provide a solid foundation, and prevent it from being thrown down.

To more fully illustrate and explain the construction and arrangement of my fence, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this

specification, of which-

Figure 1 shows two panels in position.

Figure 2 shows the manner of placing the keys to connect the panels.

Figure 3 shows the manner of attaching the brace. Figure 4 is a view of the brace, showing its construction.

A A A are the boards of a fence, the ends of which are secured to battens B, forming regular panels. These panels are made separate, so that they can be packed in a small compass, for transporting from place to place.

When it is desired to construct the fence, the panels are placed back to back, so that the battens B will be on the outside, and keys or couplings placed between the boards at one end, their ends projecting on either side.

These couplings consist of a short board, C, having secured, at each end, cross-pieces a a, which, as the

panels are opened into line, bind against the boards and battens, and prevent the panels from separating.

To steady the fence, and cause it to stand firm, I take a brace, D, and place it as shown at fig. 3, which holds it firmly, and furnishes a foundation for it to rest upon, and keep it from off the ground.

This brace consists of two pieces of timber, E and E, joined together at one end, and forming an acute

angle, at i.

The timber F lies upon the ground, and has a small cut, at e, in which the bottom board of the fence rests, as shown in fig. 3.

The piece of timber E has two blocks, fg, attached vertically at its end, leaving space sufficient between them to receive the thickness of the board A.

The block f extends below, and the block g above the timber E, so that when the brace is placed in position, they will bind against the boards on each side of the fence, and keep it firm.

If desired, the block f may be extended to the tim-

ber F, and secured to it.

With this arrangement, I am enabled to construct a substantial and cheap portable fence, which may be placed in a comparatively small compass, and can be put together with the greatest ease and speed, and will be of great value where temporary or even permanent fences are desired.

Having thus described my invention,

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

1. The arrangement of the key C, constructed as described, with reference to the fence-panels, whereby the same are firmly held by said key when brought into line, substantially as specified.

2. The brace, consisting of the pieces of timber E and F, blocks f and g, and opening e, constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose herein

described.

3. The brace D and coupling C, in combination with the panels of a fence, the whole constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose herein described.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

Witnesses: CHAS. E. JOHNSON. [L. s.]
J. L. BOONE,
GEO. H. STRONG.