

C. Milner,

Fence.

No. 96,719.

Patented Nov. 9. 1869.

fig 1

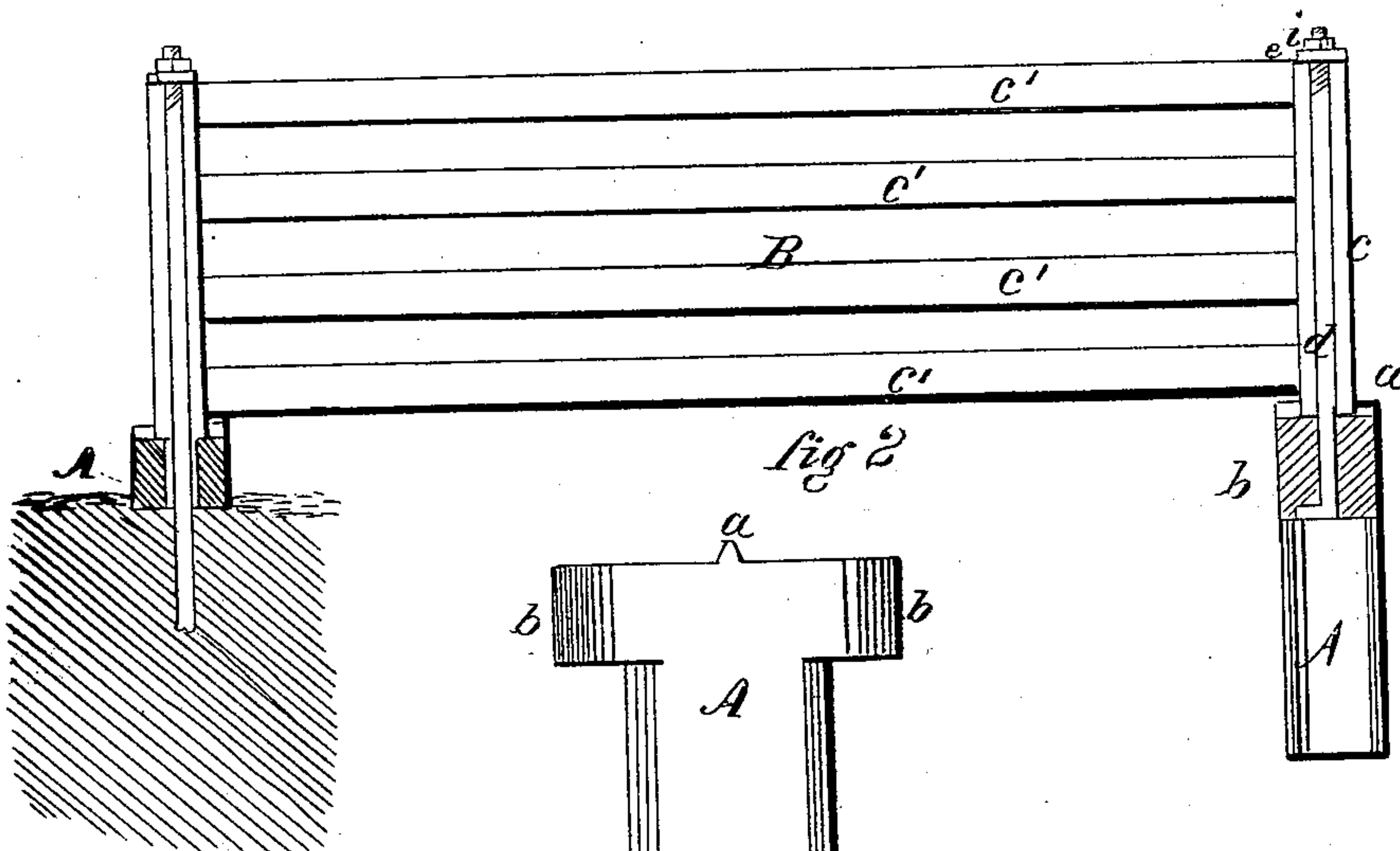


fig 2

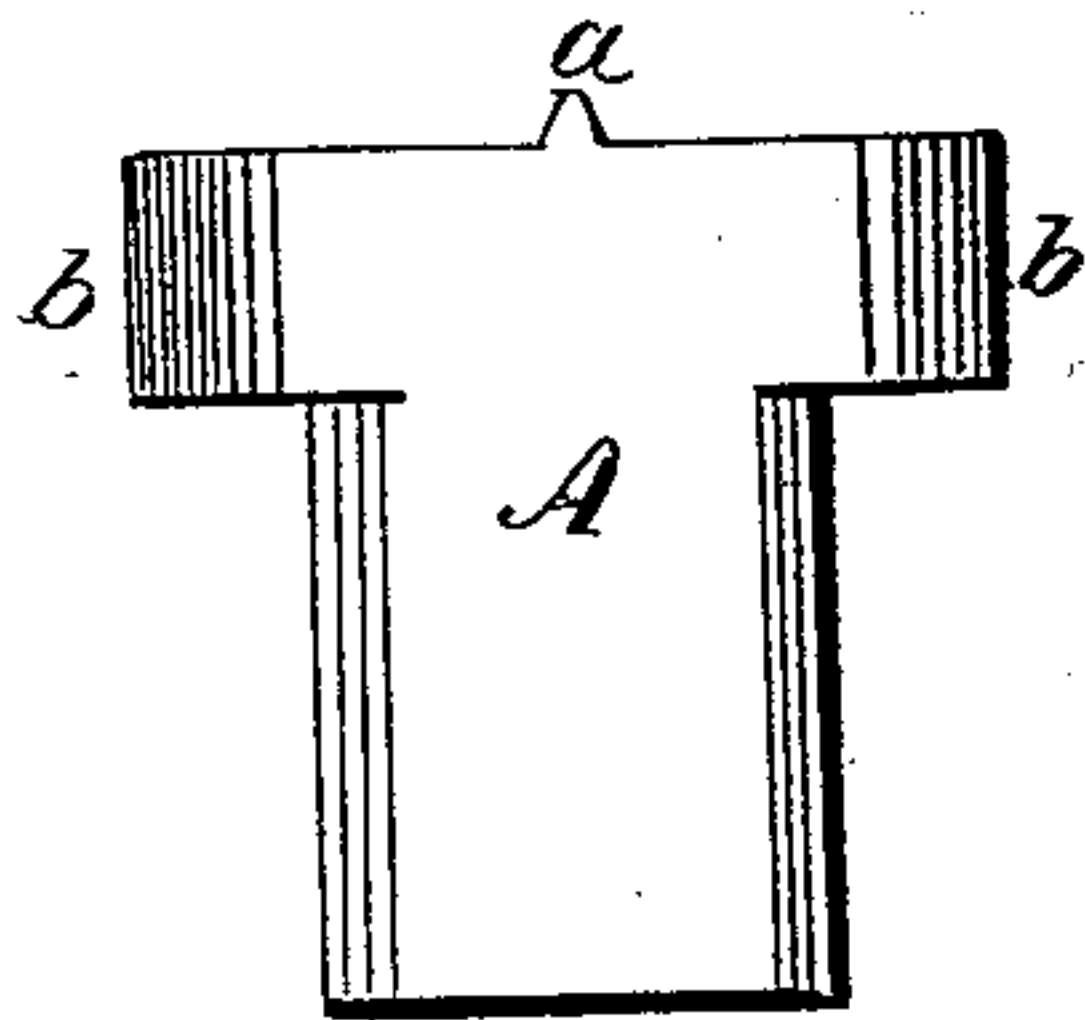
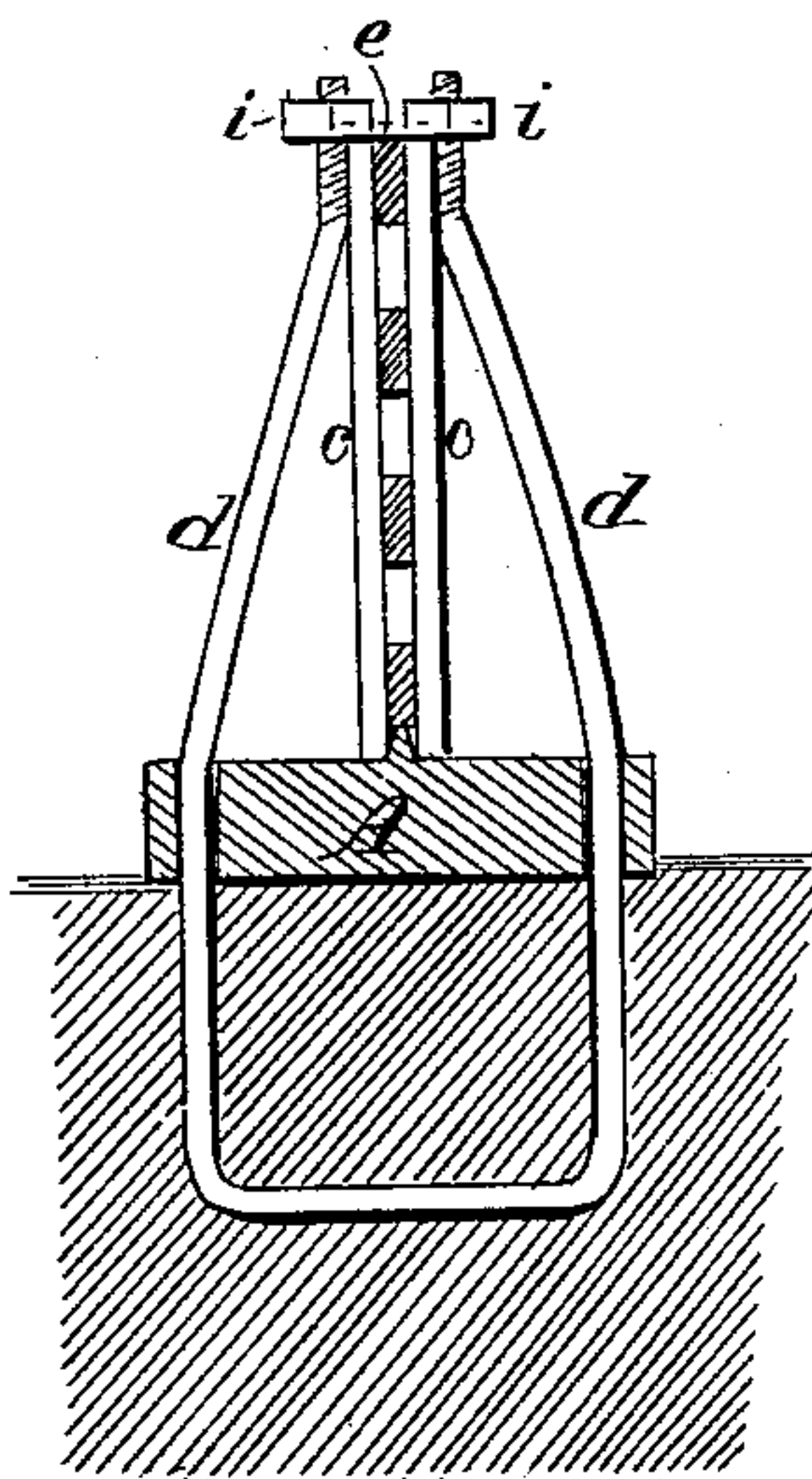


fig 3



Witnesses
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CYRUS MILNER, OF DES MOINES, IOWA.

Letters Patent No. 96,719, dated November 9, 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, CYRUS MILNER, of Des Moines, in the county of Polk, and in the State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in connecting the panels of the fence upon burned-clay or equivalent foundations, the form of which is hereinafter described, and securing the parts together by means of metal braces, bars, and nuts, as more fully to be stated.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains, to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe the manner in which it is or may be constructed and used, referring to the annexed drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a fence-panel, showing its attachment to the fence-post but;

Figure 2 is a side view of the but; and

Figure 3 is an elevation in section of the left-hand but in fig. 1.

A represents a block or but for fence, made in suitable shape, of clay, and burned to the requisite hardness.

It is provided with a projection, *a*, across its centre, and at each end with a projection, *b*, extending beyond the side of the body of the block.

Through the side projections *b b* are made holes for the insertion of braces, as seen in fig. 1, which holes are formed in the clay before it is burned.

The block A, thus constructed, is sunk into the ground until its upper side becomes on a level with the surface of the ground.

This is the position I prefer for the block, although it may, of course, be placed so as to project any desired height above ground.

The fence-panel B is then placed on the block A, the ends of said panel being each constructed of two vertical boards, *c c*, secured to the ends of the horizontal boards *c' c'*, the projection *a* fitting between the lower ends of the vertical boards *c c*.

Two iron rods or braces, *d d*, which have been previously passed, one through each projection, *b*, of the block A, and bent underneath said projections, are passed up to the upper ends of the boards *c c*.

A bar, *e*, with two holes, is placed on the upper ends of said rods, and nuts, *i i*, securing it.

By this means, the fence-panel B is firmly braced to the block A.

It will be seen that the part A, as shown in fig. 2, is so formed as to be placed upon the earth, or it may

be inserted into the earth as far as the under surfaces of the projecting flanges *b*.

In fig. 3 the same device is shown without the projecting or perpendicular base.

When used in this latter form, (as shown in fig. 3,) the braces *d* may be in one piece, and extend some distance in the earth under the plate-block A. The brace thus made and extended will be kept steady, and can be regulated at the top by the nuts *i i*.

The block A, as shown in fig. 2, is similar to the one upon the right-hand portion of the fence in fig. 1, while the block A, as seen in fig. 3, is similar to the one upon the left-hand portion of the fence in fig. 1.

I have thus shown and described the forms of both blocks, as I do not wish to be confined to either one, for I may use either. I consider them substantially the same in operation and use, and only differing in construction in so far as one has an extended base, while the other has not.

In places where no clay is to be found suitable for this purpose, the block may be made of a cement, composed of hydraulic lime and plaster of Paris mixed with gravel in suitable proportions, by moulding into any size and shape desired, but having the projection across the centre, as above described, for the clay.

The rods or braces *d d* may be made in one piece, as shown in fig. 3.

The advantages of my invention are not only in the diminished cost of the fence, but also in lessening the expense of keeping the fence in repair, as my fence-posts will not rot, nor will they burn up in case of fire.

Having thus fully described my invention,

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

1. The fence-but or foundation A, made of burned clay or equivalent material, with an orifice at each end, and a projection, *a*, in its centre, substantially as shown and described.

2. A burned-clay or equivalent foundation for a fence, whether placed on the surface of the earth or provided with a prolongation which is inserted into the earth, and with a suitable device for stationing the fence-panel upon, all substantially as herein shown and described.

3. In combination with a burned-clay or equivalent foundation for a fence-post, securing the panels by means of braces which pass through the foundation, and are connected by suitable mechanism to the ends of the fence-panels, substantially for the purposes specified.

4. A fence-panel, B, composed of a series of bars *c'*, and uprights *c*, which project beneath the under surface of the lower longitudinal bar *c'*, and over an

ward projection, *a*, upon a suitable foundation, substantially for the purposes set forth.

5. Clamping the upper surface of a fence-panel, B, under a cross-bar, *e*, at each end of the panel, when said bar is held close upon the surface by device or devices which extend to or under the earth, substantially as herein specified.

6. Bracing the fence-panel B by the bars *d*, whether made in one or two pieces, from the upper surface of the fence to a burned-clay or equivalent foundation A, substantially as set forth.

7. The combination of a burned-clay or equivalent foundation A, with projection *a*, and a single or double

brace, *d*, which passes through the ends of the block A, substantially as set forth.

8. The arrangement, under the fence-panel B, composed of the horizontal bars *c'* and upright bars *c*, of the block A, with a central projection *a*, and secured by the braces *d d*, substantially for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand, this 28th day of January, 1869.

CYRUS MILNER.

Witnesses:

J. M. MASON,

C. M. ALEXANDER.