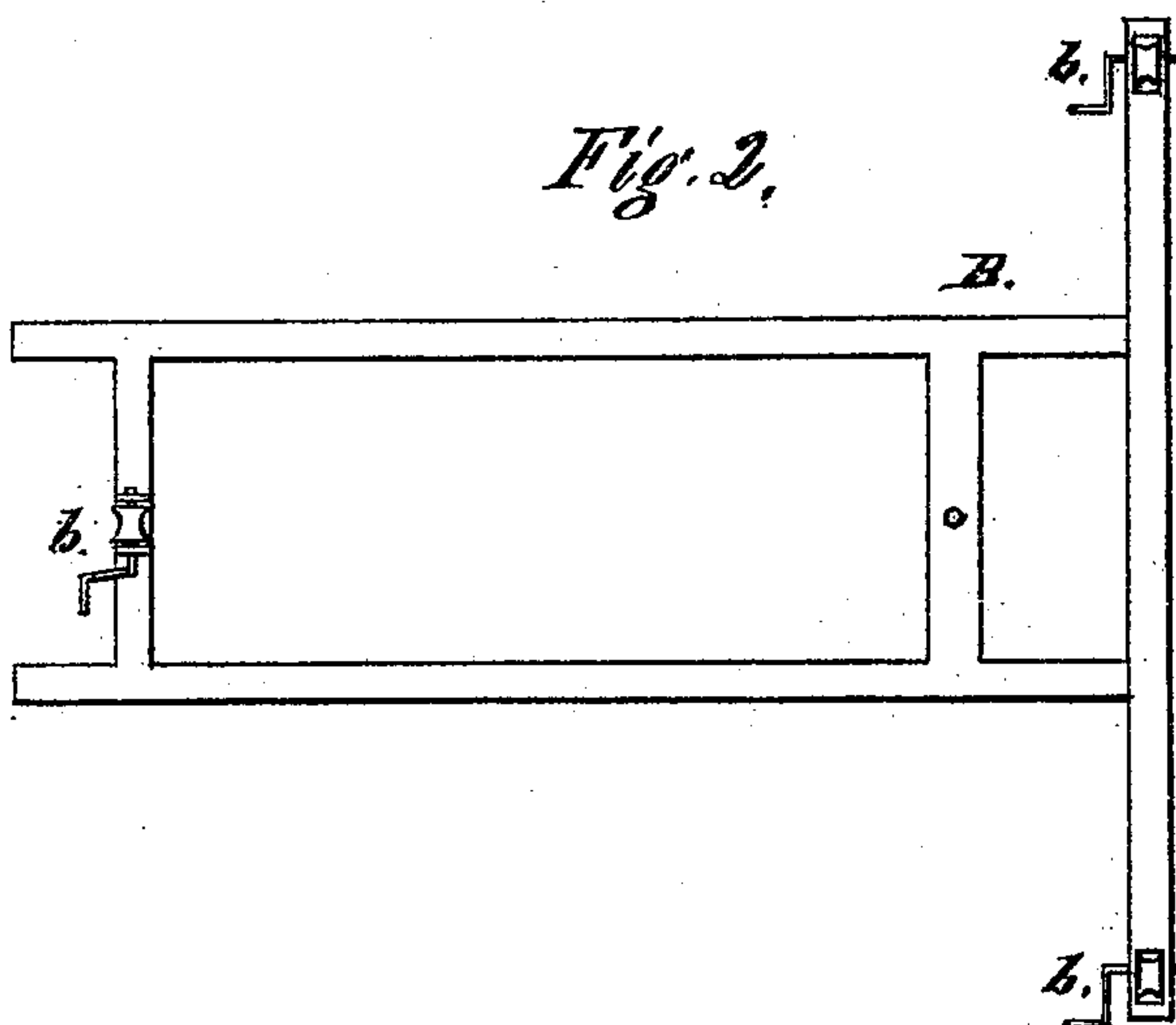
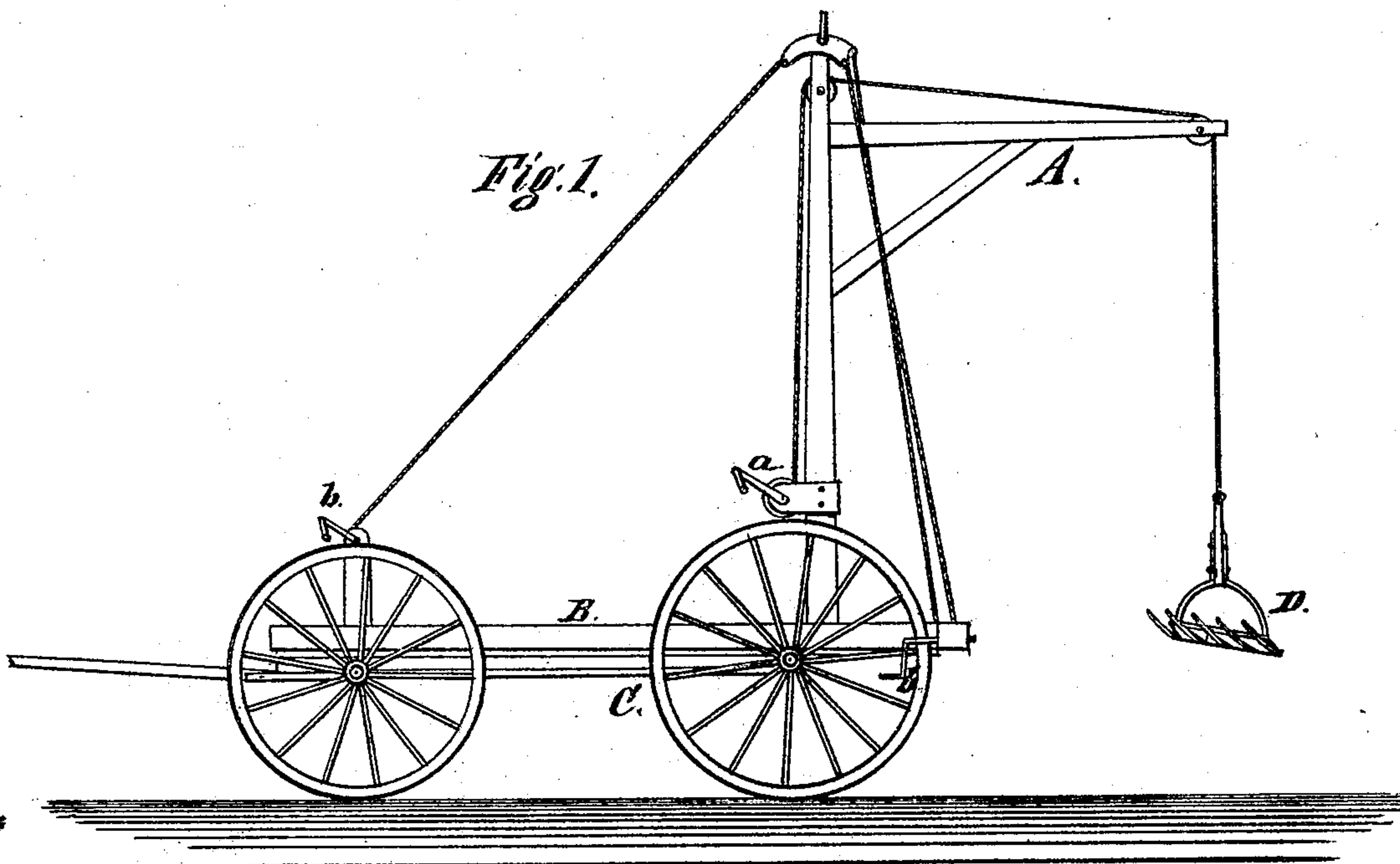


*C. W. Smith,*

*Derrick.*

*No. 97,130.*

*Patented Nov. 23, 1869.*



*Witnesses.*

*Wm. L. Dodge*  
*R. Herrick*

*Inventor.*

*C. W. Smith*  
*per J. A. Mosley & Co*  
*attys*

# United States Patent Office.

CYRUS W. SMITH, OF MORRISVILLE, NEW YORK.

*Letters Patent No. 97,130, dated November 23, 1869.*

## IMPROVED APPARATUS FOR BUILDING SOD 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, CYRUS W. SMITH, of Morrisville, in the county of Madison, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Apparatus for Building Sod Fence; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention, and

Figure 2 is a detail view.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

In constructing sod fence, I provide an ordinary wagon, C, with a hoisting-crane A *a*, fig. 1. The sod is plowed up in strips, and cut off into suitable lengths, and the wagon is then brought to the proper place, and the sods hoisted and swung into position on the fence by the crane, with the greatest readiness and despatch, the crane having a hoisting-winch, *a*, which is operated by a man on the wagon.

To attach the hoisting-rope to the sod, I use a series of sharp spikes or hooks, attached to a common head, as shown by D in fig. 1, and the spikes, being pushed into a long piece of sod, it is taken up without being broken, and the connection between the hoisting-apparatus and sod is thus quickly made, and the disconnection quickly made, when the sod has been placed in position upon the fence.

The wagon is provided with a frame, B, fig. 2, which has three small winches, *b b b*. The several guys for

holding the crane up are attached to these winches, and when the wagon is standing on uneven ground, the crane is adjusted to a vertical position by slackening one of the guys, and taking in on the opposite one, by its winch *b*, and by these means the crane is made to swing freely at all times.

A sled, or other suitable vehicle, can be used for moving the crane along the line of fence, in place of the wagon.

In this manner, much of the hard labor in building sod fences is avoided, and the work is greatly expedited.

Having thus described my invention,

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

1. The winches *b b*, in combination with, and arranged as described with relation to the guys, crane A *a*, and frame B, whereby the crane can always be readily kept in vertical position, even if the ground is uneven, as herein described.

2. The herein-described apparatus for building sod fence, consisting of the crane A *a*, adjusting-guys, and winches *b b*, the sod fork D, frame B, and a vehicle, C, all constructed, arranged, and operating as herein described.

The foregoing specification signed and executed by me, this 20th day of September, 1869.

CYRUS W. SMITH.

Witnesses:

WM. J. DODGE,  
F. A. MORLEY.