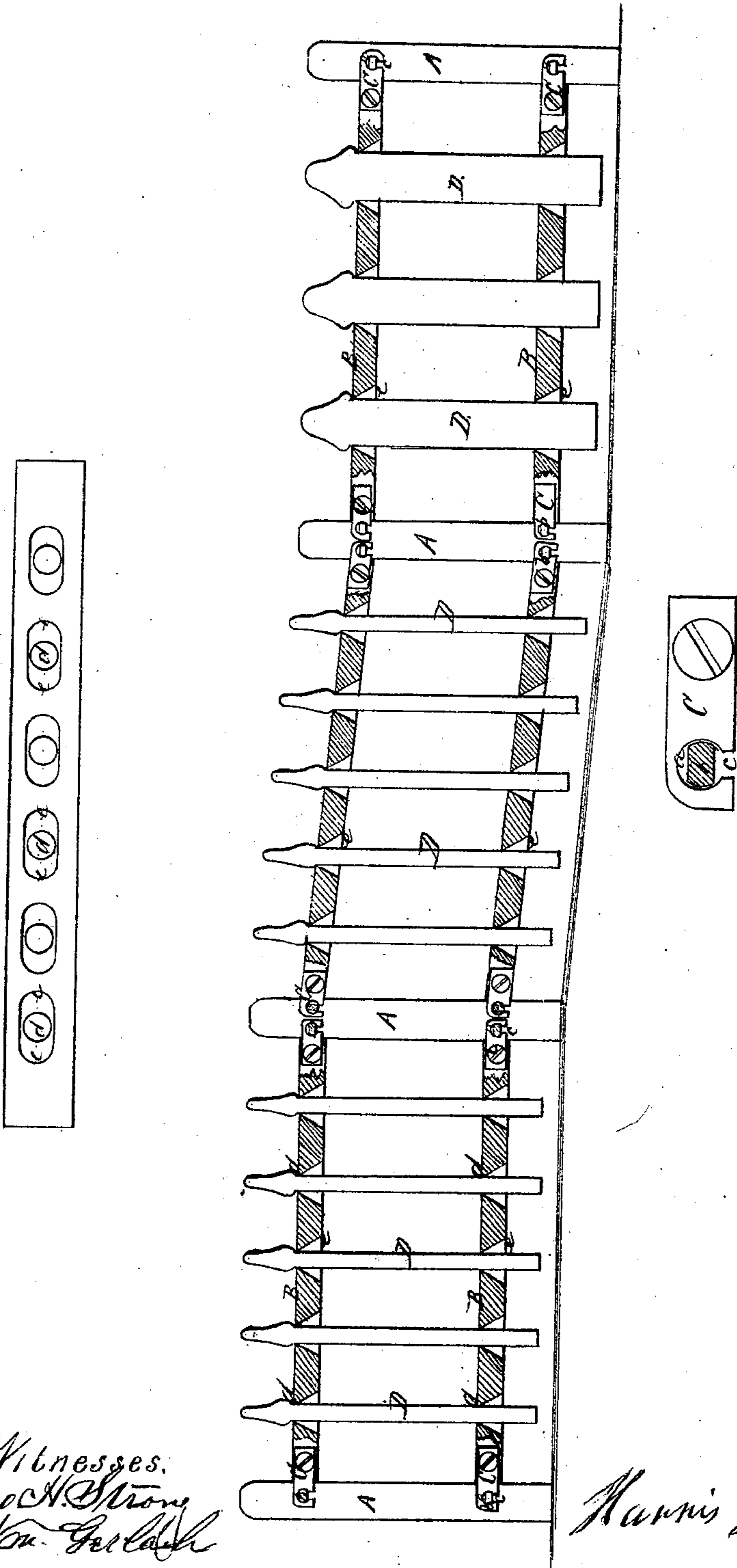


H. H. Mangeson,

Fence.

No. 100,169.

Patented Feb. 22, 1870.



Witnesses.
Geo. H. Strong
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HARRIS HARDING MARGESON, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

Letters Patent No. 100,169, dated February 22, 1870.

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, HARRIS HARDING MARGESON, of the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented an Improved Self-Adjusting 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 a fence which can be constructed at any convenient place, and which, when taken to the ground and set up, will adjust and accommodate itself to any conformation of the land over which it is built.

This is done by attaching the rails to the posts by means of a loose joint or connecting-strap, so that any post may be elevated above or depressed below the next without destroying the parallelism of the rails.

In order to allow the pickets, which pass through the rails, a sufficient motion, and to preserve them perpendicular with any inclination of the rails, the lower part of each rail is mortised out so as to make an angular slot, in which the pickets are free to move from one side to another, as the rails are inclined.

The connecting-link or strap between the rails and posts is so made that a length of fence can be locked firmly in place, or it may be removed at short notice.

To more fully explain my invention reference is made to the accompanying drawings, in which—

A A are posts, which may be set permanently in the ground, or they may have such bases as will make them portable.

The connecting-rails B B are in this case pierced, so that the uprights or pickets pass through them, and they are connected to the posts by straps, C C.

These straps are each made with a hole, *a*, and a slot, *c*, opening downward from it, so that when the bolts *b* which fasten them to the post are turned with the longest side standing vertically, the straps and the panel of fence which they hold can be lifted up and easily removed. If the bolt be simply turned at right angles to this position after the panel is in place, the whole will be secured firmly, as shown.

The pickets D may be made of any suitable form, and they pass through holes made in the rails, as shown at *d*, and drive closely enough to be held in place.

A slight shoulder or bead is made on each picket at a point which will prevent it from passing any further than the top of the upper rail, thus holding them in place.

In order to allow them motion from side to side, so that they can adjust themselves and stand vertically, even when the fence is on an incline, the bottom of the holes in each rail are beveled, either one or both ways, according to the nature of the ground, and in the direction of the length of the rail, as at *e*, so that the hole at the top of the rail will clasp the picket, but at the bottom it is wide enough to let the picket move to one side if necessary.

The fence being finished is taken to the place where it is to be used, and set up in the following manner:

One post is first set into the ground, and a panel is attached to it by the straps C C. The next post resting on the ground, its position is marked, and it may be raised out of the way till the hole is dug. The following lengths are then set in the same manner successively, and will readily accommodate themselves to any inequalities of the ground.

By constructing my fence in this manner the whole of it may be completed in a shop or factory, where all the operations are facilitated by the use of machinery, and very little time will be employed in setting it up.

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

1. Constructing a fence with the angular apertures in the rails to render it adjustable, substantially as herein described.

2. The combination with the rail B of the plate C and bolt *b*, when constructed and arranged to operate substantially as described.

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

HARRIS H. MARGESON. [L. s.]

Witnesses

GEO. H. STRONG,
WM. GERLACH.