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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE,

ALEXANDER H. SMITH, OF ELKHORN, WISCONSIN.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 118,398, dated August 22, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER H. SMITH, of Elkhorn, county of Walworth and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fences; 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 drawing forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 a

sectional view.

Similar letters of reference in each of the fig-

ures indicate corresponding parts.

This invention is designed as an improvement upon the fence patented to Charles Van de Mark March 24, 1863; and consists in the modifications hereinafter described.

The object of my invention is to produce a fence

easily put up and taken down.

A are the slats of the fence; B, posts to which the slats are nailed; C, end pieces nailed to slats A, the ends of slats A only projecting over these pieces half-way; D, an end piece nailed onto the end of one of the slats A to form a corner; E, a piece nailed onto one of the posts B for the end of one of the rails to pass under and be prevented from rising; F, wires passing through holes in the fence, with pins passing through a loop made in their lower ends and driven into the ground to hold the fence in a perpendicular position.

To put this fence together, take one of the pan-

els, after it is nailed together, and bring the end C up against the post B, the top and bottom slat A on the piece C brought outside of post B, and the ends against the slats in the other panel, the projecting pieces passing on the inside of the other post B. This makes a firm lock, and the wires F are drawn down and fastened to the ground with pins. To turn a corner, put the end D of the slats A through between the top and bottom rail, draw it up so as the piece D shall lock inside of post B, and fasten with the wire F, as described. Fig. 2 shows a crooked fence made as described.

This fence can be made of three, four, or five slats, as shown, just as it suits the farmers. Three slats are enough when the fence is not to guard

against hogs or such animals.

I do not claim the details above described separately; nor do I claim bracing a fence by means of a wire and stakes, as I am aware that it has been done before.

I claim—

A fence, when made with slats A projecting only half-way over the posts B, end pieces C and D, block E on post B, under which slat A passes to prevent the panel from being raised, and wires F fastened to stakes driven into the ground, all arranged in the manner described and shown.

ALEX. H. SMITH.

Witnesses:

HARLEY F. SMITH, DAVID R. JOHNSON.