

U. CRAYTON.
PORTABLE FENCE.

No. 173,592.

Patented Feb. 15, 1876.

Fig. 1.

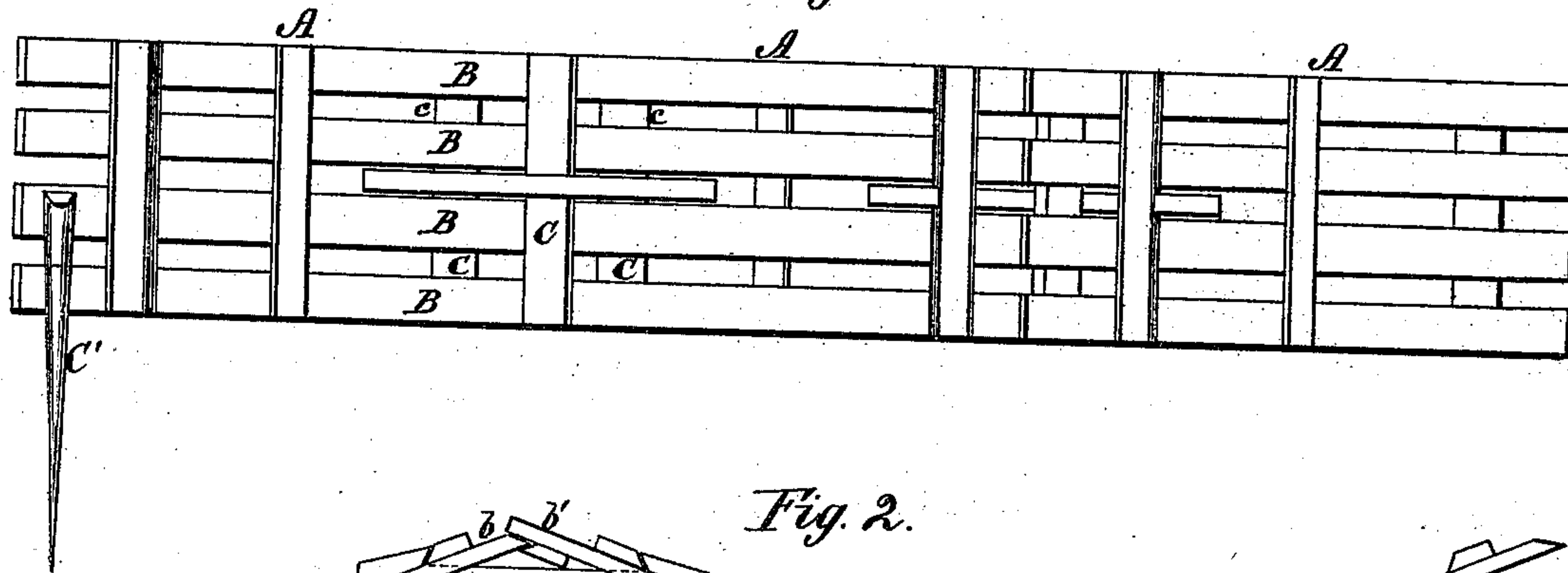
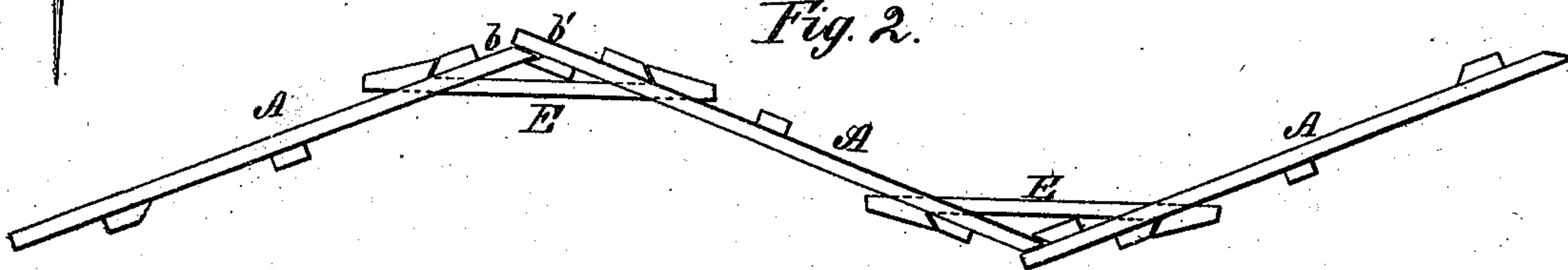


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

URIAS CRAYTON, OF DAVIDSON COLLEGE, NORTH CAROLINA.

IMPROVEMENT IN PORTABLE FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **173,592**, dated February 15, 1876; application filed December 22, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, URIAS CRAYTON, of Davidson College, in the county of Mecklenburg and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Portable Fence; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which—

Figures 1 and 3 are side elevations, and Fig. 2 a plan view.

The invention consists in causing a tapered edge of one of two coupled panels to fit into a corresponding groove of the next adjacent one, thus preventing the panels from being forced past one another, and from being blown or pushed out of position.

A represents a fence-panel, consisting of the rails B, having one tapering end, *b*, fitting a corner-groove, *b'*, in adjacent panel, and fastened to the vertical bars C, tapered on edges *c*. These panels are connected by keys E, that have a hook at each end, and are placed in the space between the middle rails of two panels, so as to hook upon the beveled edges *c* of vertical bars C.

C' represents the stake from which the fence is started.

The fence requires no mortising, and has but one brace to a panel, being thus extremely

simple and economical. The beveled ends of bars *e* make a groove at the corner, which serves greatly to strengthen at this point, and resist wind, flood, or stock.

It will also be perceived that any panel can be readily made to serve as a gate, while a farmer can build two panels of this fence to one of any other in a given time. It also requires but little waste of land, and a comparatively small quantity of material.

The posts or stakes F' may be simply driven into the ground about two feet where the fence is begun, and where a corner is turned, while a single tenpenny nail will secure a panel. Thus, with an ax and saw the commonest workman on a farm can readily and rapidly put up this fence.

The brace or key not only connects the panels, but binds the rails of each panel together.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

A portable fence formed of panels, having at one end the tapered edge *b*, and at the other the correspondingly-tapered groove *b'*, connected by keys or locking devices, as and for the purpose specified.

URIAS CRAYTON.

Witnesses:

T. W. SPARROW,
J. E. BRATTAIN.