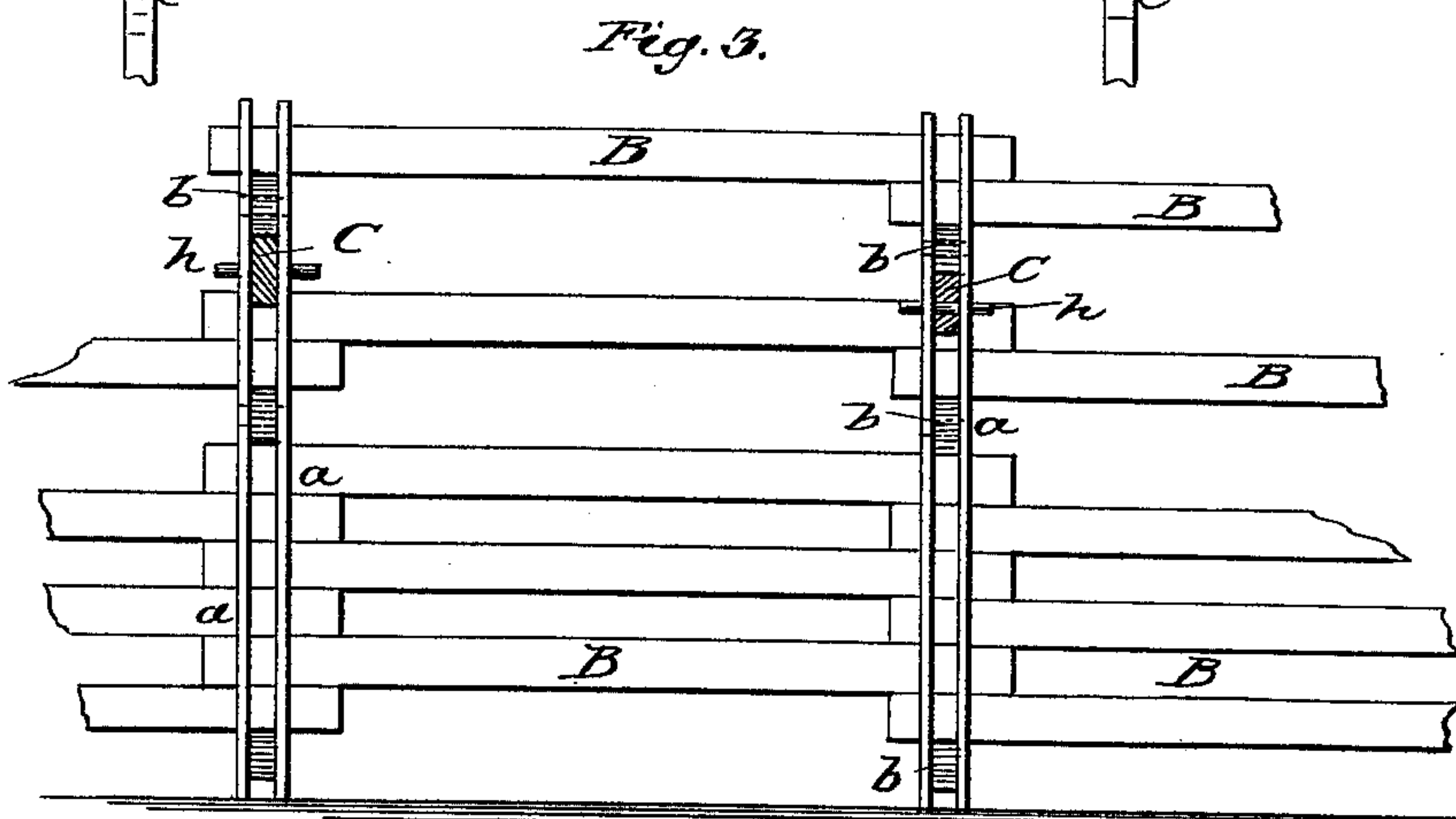
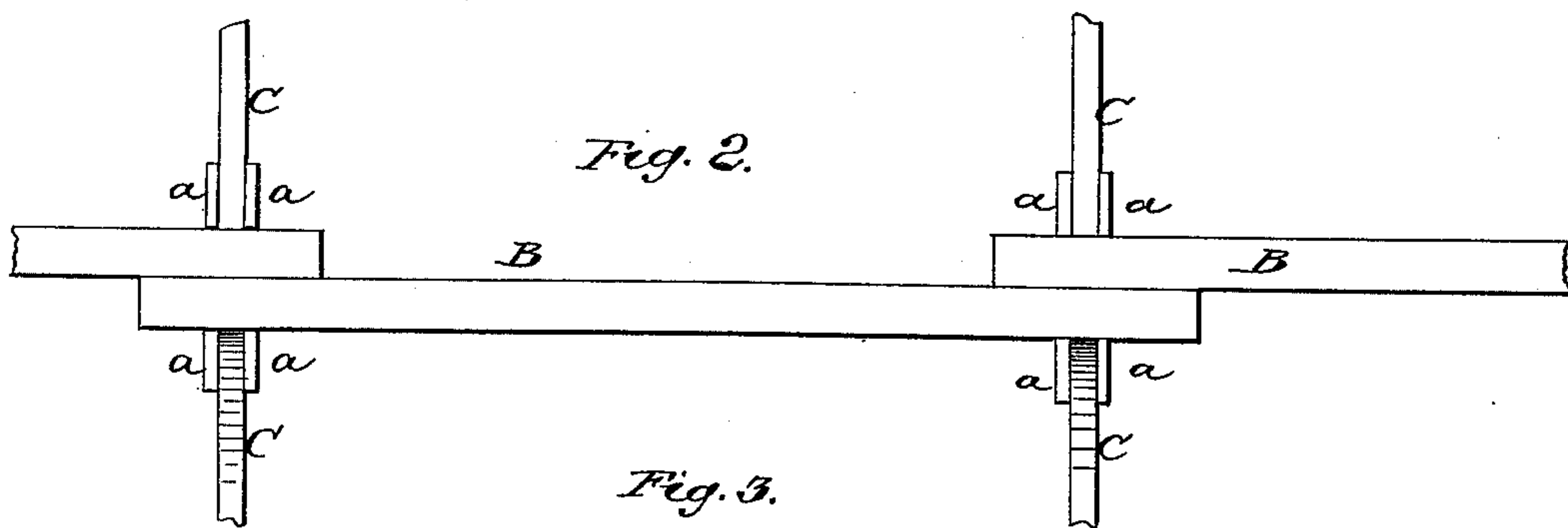
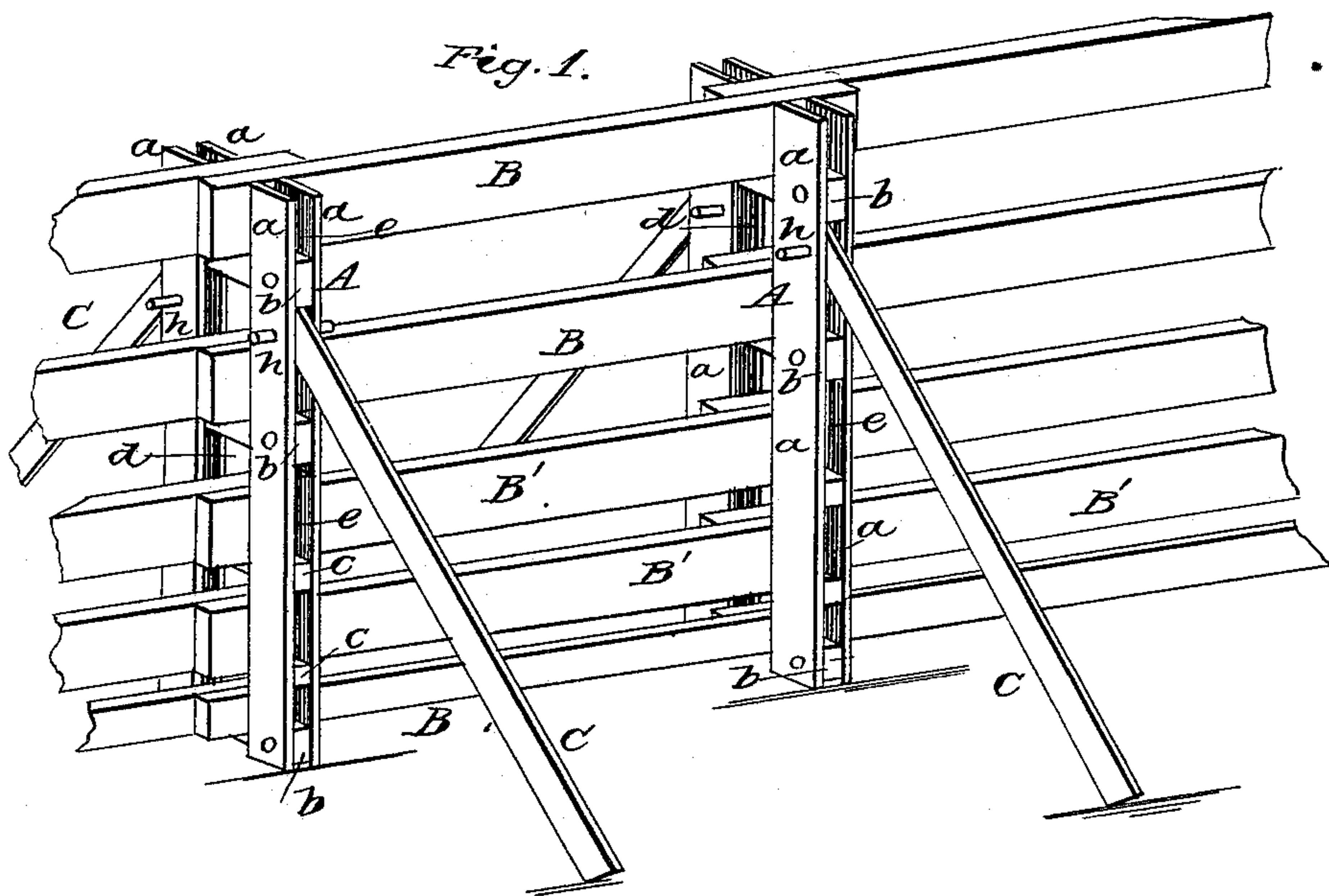


E. C. STURDIVANT.
Fence-Post.

No. 214,323.

Patented April 15, 1879.



Witnesses.
Fred G. Dutcher
Henry Swain

Inventor.
Edward C. Sturdivant
by D. W. Allen
att.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD C. STURDIVANT, OF BROWNSVILLE, TENNESSEE.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCE-POSTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **214,323**, dated April 15, 1879; application filed March 14, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD C. STURDIVANT, of Brownsville, in the county of Haywood and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Posts; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a portion of a portable fence embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a top view of the same. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of a fence in which the common rails are used.

My invention relates to improvements in fence-posts adapted for portable or other fences, and has for its object the construction of a fence-post which is adapted to different styles of rails and different positions of same in the post; and to this end the invention consists in a fence-post formed from four uprights permanently connected together by three intermediate cross-strips for supporting the bottom, middle, and top rails of the fence, and intermediate removable strips upon which the intermediate rails are supported, in connection with suitable braces, all as will be hereinafter fully described.

In the drawings, A represents the fence-post, which is composed of four vertical uprights, *a*, permanently secured together at top, center, and bottom by the three intermediate cross-strips *b b b*, which support the top, center, and bottom rails, B B, of the fence. Intermediate removable cross-pieces *c c* support the intermediate rails, B', of the fence.

The arrangement and location of the uprights are such as to provide a space, *d*, between them of proper width to admit the adjacent ends of the rails, and also form a space, *e*, transverse to the plane of the rails, to admit the removable cross-pieces *c*, for supporting the intermediate rails.

C C represent the braces for supporting the fence-post, and which are pivoted between the

uprights by pins *h*, by which the braces can be folded close to the uprights for transportation, and also adapt the posts to the side of a hill close to the edge of a ditch or a railroad-cut, or on top of an embankment.

My improved fence-post can be adapted to the common flat or plank rails, as the openings for the rails in the posts can be suited to whatever kind of rails it is desired to use.

For common rails the openings should be made smaller at bottom than at top, and for flat or plank rails they can be made to correspond therewith.

In using the common rails the removable cross-pieces can be dispensed with, if desired, and the intermediate rails supported by the ends of the rails of one section of the fence resting upon the ends of the rails of the adjoining section of the fence, as shown in Fig. 3.

The removable cross-pieces are inserted in the post as the rails are placed in position, said removable cross-pieces also controlling the opening or distance between the rails, as may be desired.

The openings in the fence-post, as well as the dimensions of the several parts of the post, can be varied as may be deemed expedient, or in accordance with the kind of rails desired to be used, and the position of the rails in the post.

I claim as my invention—

The herein-described fence-post, consisting of the four uprights *a*, permanently connected together by three intermediate transverse cross-strips, *b b b*, for supporting the bottom, middle, and top rails of the fence, and intermediate removable transverse strips, *c*, upon which intermediate rails of the fence are supported, and the pivoted braces C C, the several parts constructed and relatively arranged substantially as specified.

EDWARD C. STURDIVANT.

Witnesses:

A. H. BRADFORD,
PHILIP YANCEY.