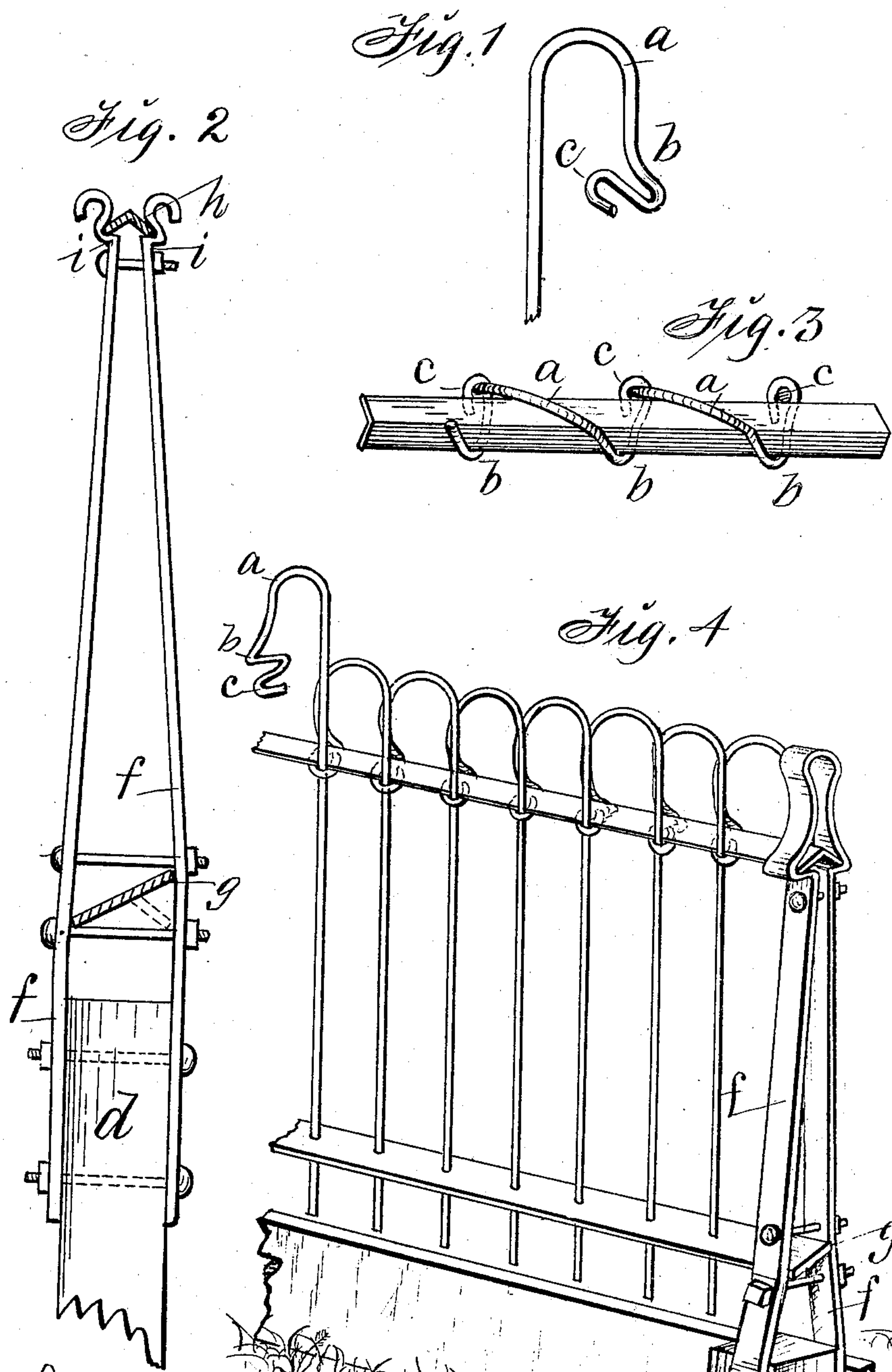


(No Model.)

J. H. WATERS.
IRON FENCE.

No. 257,194.

Patented May 2, 1882.



Witnesses:
H. C. Farnsworth
S. R. Dawson

Inventor:
James H. Waters,
By Thomas G. Orwig, attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. WATERS, OF DES MOINES, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
T. L. PALMER AND O. P. McCRAY, OF SAME PLACE.

IRON FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 257,194, dated May 2, 1882.

Application filed March 7, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. WATERS, of Des Moines, in the county of Polk and State of Iowa, have invented an Iron Fence, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to save material, labor, and expense in constructing an ornamental iron fence adapted for door-yards, cemetery-lots, gardens, parks, or fields.

It consists, first, in forming a bend or eye on the end of the curved or arched top or head of a metal picket to adapt a series of pickets to be interlocked and jointly fastened to a rail; second, in the manner of forming and combining vertical iron bars and horizontal bars or rails to produce posts and complete fence-panels adapted to receive and retain my interlocking-pickets, all as hereinafter fully set forth.

Figure 1 of my accompanying drawings is a perspective view of my improved picket. Fig. 2 is a sectional transverse view of one of my panels or post and rails combined. Fig. 3 is a top view of one of my top rails having interlocking pickets attached. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a complete panel-section. Jointly considered these figures clearly illustrate the construction and utility of my complete invention.

a represents the arched head of a metal fence-picket that is preferably made of common round iron bars or heavy wire.

b is a lateral bend, bight, or loop near the end of the arch, adapted to admit a horizontal bar or rail of corresponding form and size.

c is a hook or eye, formed by bending the end of the rod horizontally and at right angles from the loop *b* toward the vertical body of the picket.

d represents the upper end of a post-butt that is fixed in the ground or the coping of a wall upon which a fence is to be placed.

f f are flat metal bars, fixed to the post or wall *d* by means of bolts or in any suitable way so they will project upward.

g is a metal rail clamped between the vertical post-pieces *f* by means of transverse bolts in such a manner that it will serve as a stay-block in the post, and also as a rail to support pickets. It is preferably made of angle-iron or a flat bar set at an angle relative to the post,

and perforated to receive the lower ends of the pickets. In place of using two pieces *f* to form the post, one metal bar may be bent double and an ornamental head formed to the post, as shown in Fig. 4.

h is a metal top rail, preferably angle-iron, clamped fast to the vertical bar or bars *f* by means of shoulders *i*, formed in the bars *f* by lateral bends and a transverse bolt. To apply and fasten my interlocking-pickets to the rails *g* and *h*, thus supported by post-pieces *f*, I simply insert its lower end in a perforation in the lower rail, and then slip the bend and bight *b* over the top rail at the end of a panel or fence, and fasten it to the top-rail or post by means of a wire or in any suitable way. I then pass the bottom end of a second picket through the eye *c* of the first one, and from thence down through the lower rail. The third, fourth, and entire series can then be successively applied and interlocked in the same manner, and firmly fixed in their respective places and at regular distances apart to the two rails in such a manner that they can also be successively withdrawn whenever desired. The rails and posts, combined by means of detachable bolts, can also be readily detached and removed from the fixed post-butts or wall when it is desired to remove my fence from one place to another or take it down to store away or ship.

I claim as my invention—

1. A fence-picket having an arched head, *a*, bight *b*, and eye or hook *c*, substantially as shown and described, for the purposes specified.

2. In a fence, the combination of the upright bars or pieces *f*, having bends or shoulders *i*, and a horizontal rail, *h*, substantially as shown and described, for the purposes specified.

3. The improved metal fence composed of fixed posts *f f*, having bends and shoulders *i*, horizontal rails *g* and *h*, and a series of pickets having arched heads *a*, a bight, *b*, and a hook or eye, *c*, substantially as shown and described.

JAMES H. WATERS.

Witnesses:

D. G. EDMONDSON,
L. M. SANDFORD.