J. EASTWOOD.

PORTABLE FENCE.

No. 271,322. Patented Jan. 30, 1883.

Fig. 1

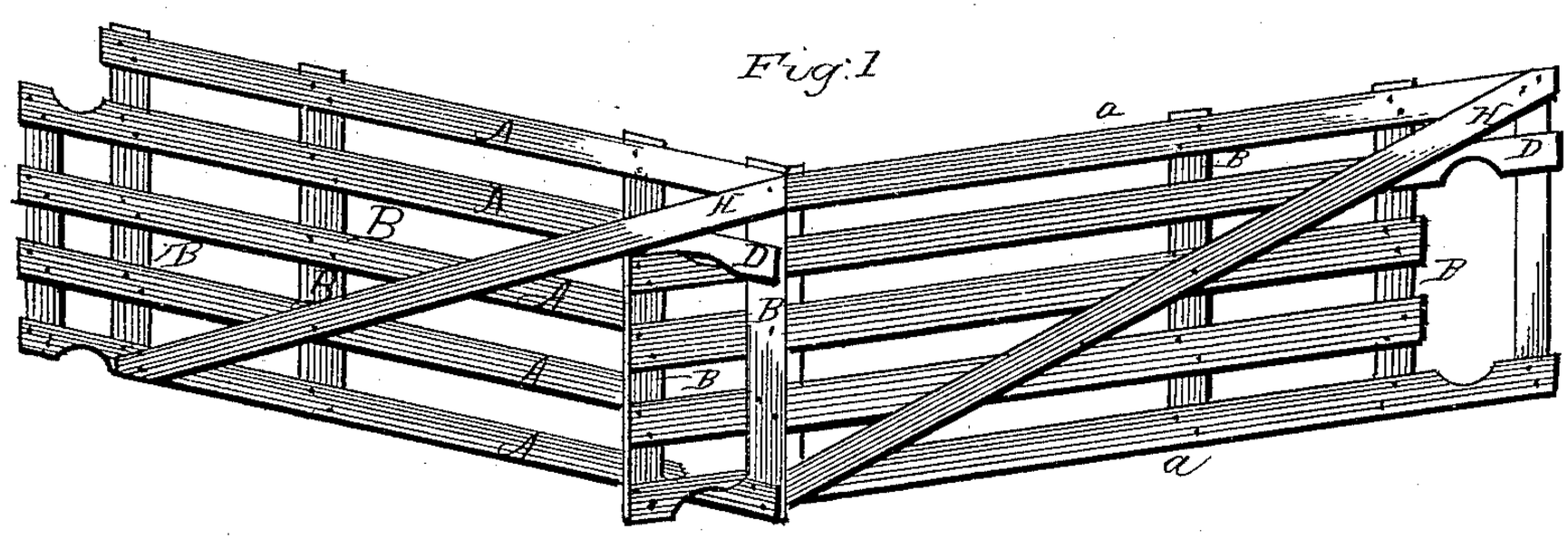


Fig. 2

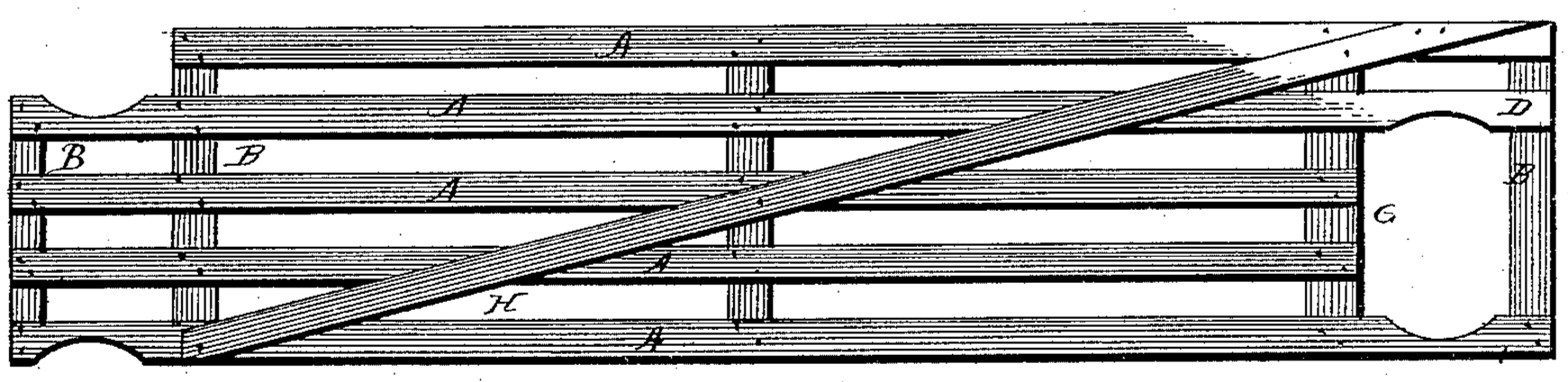
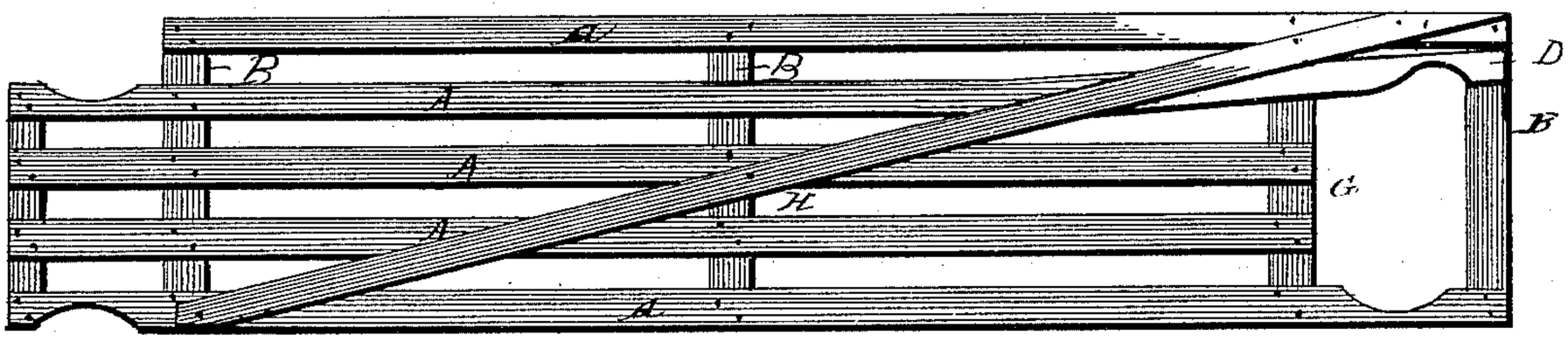


Fig. 3



WITNESSES:

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JOHN EASTWOOD, OF HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN.

PORTABLE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 271,322, dated January 30, 1883.

Application filed April 19, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN EASTWOOD, of Hillsdale, in the county of Hillsdale and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Fences; 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 is a perspective view of two panels or sections of fence locked together in position for use. Fig. 2 is a view of one of the panels or sections. Fig. 3 is a view of one of the panels, showing the spring locking-bar raised to receive the reverse end of another panel.

This invention relates to improvements in the class of portable fences in which one panel or section is so constructed as to pass into an opening left in the end of another panel, and secured to it by a spring locking-bar; and the invention consists in the combination, in a portable fence, of a series of panels, each panel being provided at one end with an oblong opening, a longitudinal notched spring locking-bar, and a lower notched bar or rail, and at the other end with a series of projecting rails, the upper and lower ones of which are provided with notches, whereby the panels or sections of the fence can be easily connected together and turned at any desired angle to each other, all as will be hereinafter fully described.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will now proceed to describe the exact manner in which it is carried out.

In the drawings, A and B represent rails or bars, connected together in any suitable manner, forming the panel or section of a fence. Two of the longitudinal rails or bars, not extending the whole length of the panel, form in connection with the notched spring locking-bar and the lower notched rail an oblong opening, G, for receiving the projecting rails of another panel, the upper and lower projecting rails having notches adapted to fit the notches in the locking-bar and lower rail, the projecting rails of one panel being easily and readily inserted through the oblong opening in another panel by simply raising the spring locking-bar D, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and which upon being released will resume its natural position and engage with the top notched projecting rails, thus securing the two sections or panels together. It will be observed that by having the notch on the under side of the spring locking-bar said bar can be adjusted upward when the sections of the fence are put up on uneven ground, and without unlocking from the projecting rail of another section with which it engages. The notches in the rails are curved or hollowed outwardly, so that when the panels are connected together as above described they can be turned at any desired angle to each other without the rails splitting out as easily as if the notches were made square or diagonal, as heretofore in this class of fences, and the rails, being notched as shown, form (when the panels are connected together) hinges upon which the sections can be easily and readily turned, so that by unlocking two panels where they are connected together either of said panels can be readily turned to form a temporary gate. Each panel or section of the fence is provided with a diagonal brace, H, which, being arranged as shown, covers and holds the spring locking-bar in position. It will thus be seen that by inserting the projecting end of one panel through the oblong opening in another panel, first on one side, then from the other, a continuous fence will be formed; or by inserting each additional panel of fence from the same side a circular pen or yard may be formed. Also, any desirable form of yard or inclosure may be formed by means of my improved construction of panels, and the panels adjusted after being connected together on uneven ground without danger of breaking the lock or unlocking the sections.

I am aware that portable fences formed by panels, one of which is constructed to receive the projecting end of another panel, and secured together by a notched spring locking-bar, and also by a double latch bar and brace, are old, and such I do not desire to claim broadly as my invention; but

I claim as my invention—

In a portable fence, the series of panels each of which is provided at one end with an oblong opening, G, the longitudinal spring locking-bar forming one of the rails of said panel,

and provided with a notch on its under side, and the lower notched rail, D″, and at the other end with the series of projecting rails, the upper and lower ones of which are provided with notches, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN EASTWOOD.

Witnesses:
S. D. BISHOPP,
M. MCINTYRE.