

(No Model.)

V. T. MEREDITH.
RAILING FOR CEMETERY PLATS.

No. 278,579.

Patented May 29, 1883.

Fig. 1.

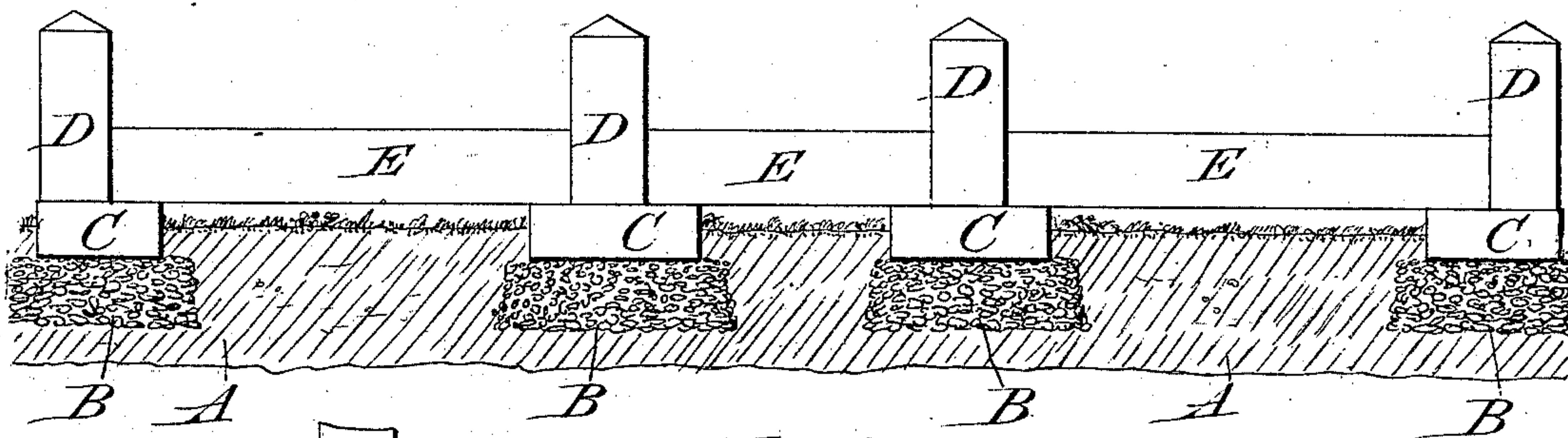


Fig. 2.

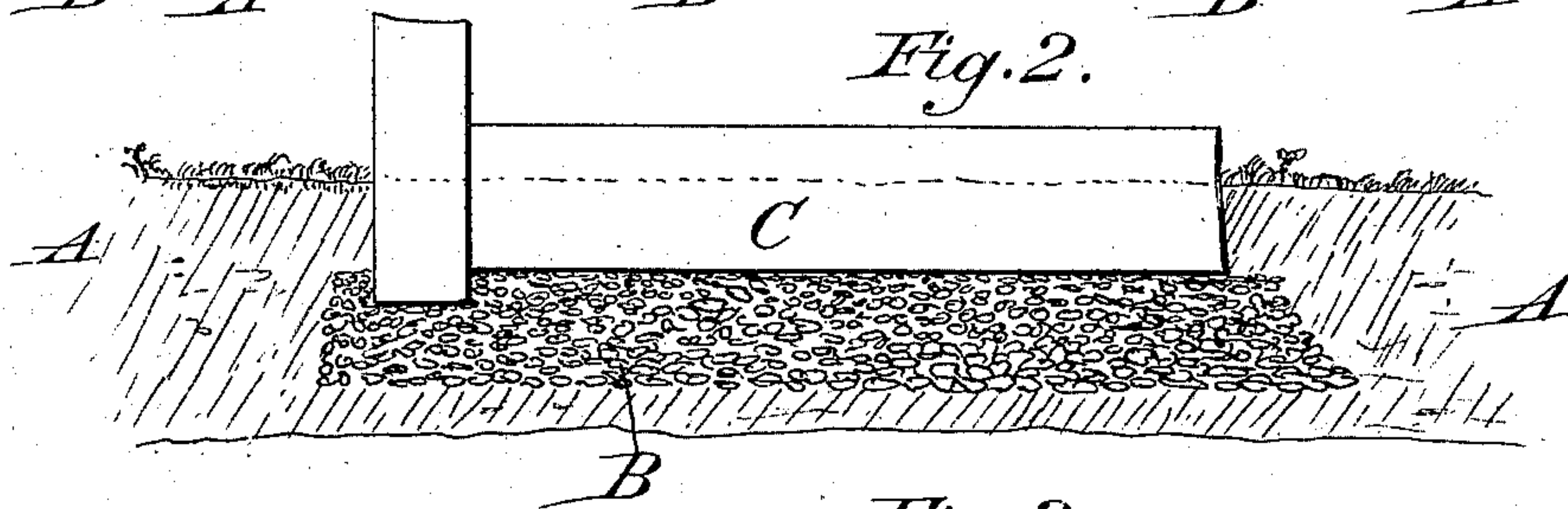
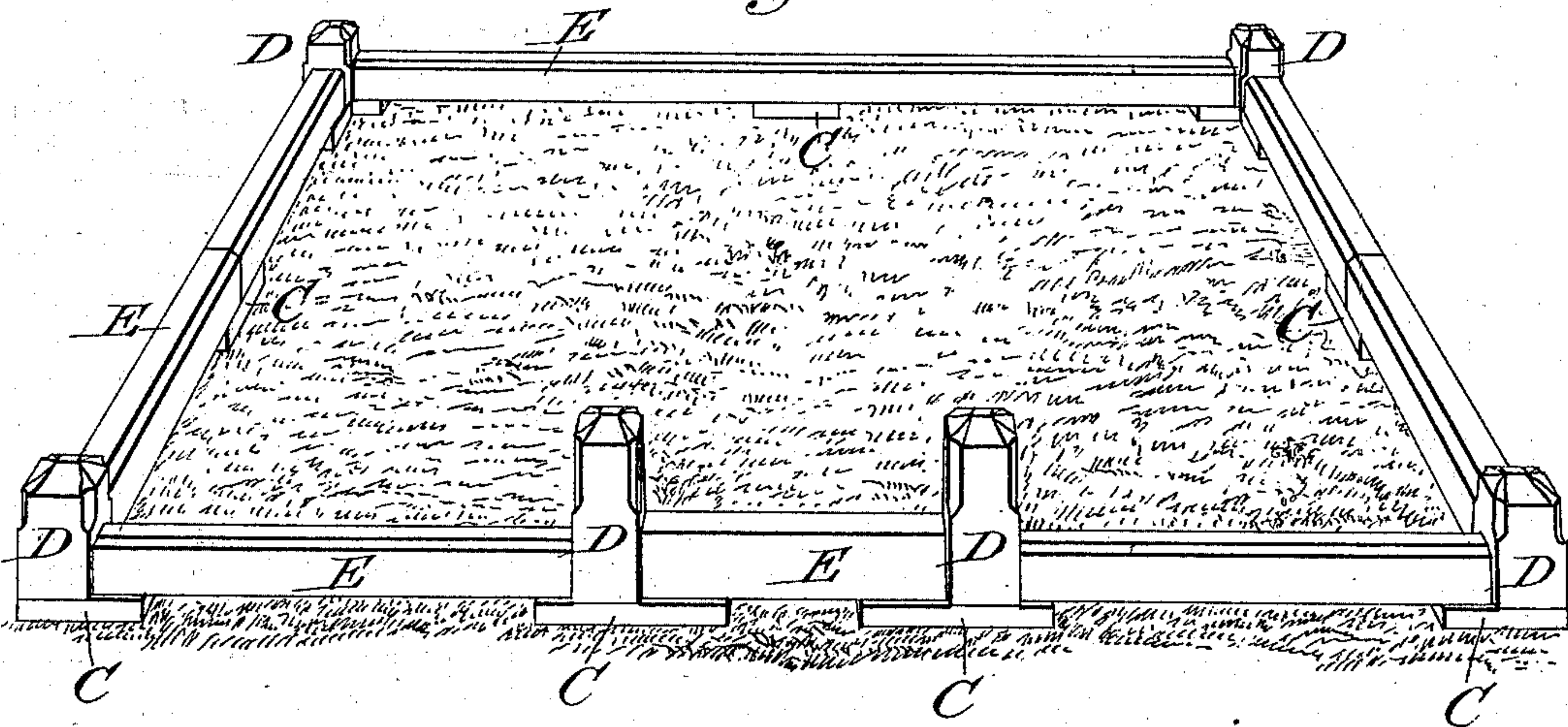


Fig. 3.



Attest:

H. H. Schott
A. R. Brown

Inventor:

Verniah T. Meredith
Geo. J. C. Parker atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VENIAH T. MEREDITH, OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND.

RAILING FOR CEMETERY-PLATS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 278,579, dated May 29, 1883.

Application filed September 27, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VENIAH T. MEREDITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hagerstown, in the county of Washington and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Copping or Railing for Cemetery-Plats; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Heretofore great difficulty has been experienced in constructing the foundation and superstructure of stone railings for cemetery-plats and other similarly-exposed places, (where the railings were subjected to all the disintegrating influences of the weather,) in such a manner that the several stones forming the superstructure—that is, the posts and rails—should keep their places unmoved by rain or frost for a long term of years.

This invention therefore relates to an improved method of constructing such railings, by which the difficulties above named are believed to be wholly overcome, and at the same time the cost of construction reduced.

In constructing railings of this class it has been common heretofore to make an excavation under the whole line of work, and to place therein a continuous wall or bed of rubble-work or concrete. This was brought up nearly to the surface of the earth, and the cut stones forming the rails and posts bedded thereon throughout their whole lower surface. The rain and moisture during the autumn penetrates this foundation, and when the freezing weather comes the stones forming the superstructure are lifted out of place. The only way to avoid this difficulty heretofore known has been to make the stones forming the posts and rails of such great dimensions that they would extend far enough beneath the surface of the earth to avoid the action of frost, and still have sufficient above to form the desired railing. This was very expensive, as these large stones cost more in proportion than smaller ones, being much more difficult to han-

dle, as well as requiring much more labor in their preparation.

My invention therefore consists in using comparatively small supports extending below the frost, and placing the posts and rails entirely above the surface, with clear spaces below the rails to prevent the action of frost upon them, all as will be hereinafter fully described, and the special points of novelty stated in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a railing constructed upon my improved plan. Fig. 2 is a section of a similar railing placed in the ordinary manner. Fig. 3 is a perspective of a cemetery-plat surrounded by my improved railing.

Referring to Fig. 1 of the drawings, A shows the earth in and upon which the railing is to be constructed.

B is the rubble or concrete foundation, placed below the frost-line and extending under the whole line of work, or in detached blocks at the points needed.

C are blocks of stone resting upon the foundation and extending above the surface. These blocks are placed beneath the posts D, and are of sufficiently greater dimensions to furnish a support for the ends of the rails E, which rest thereon.

It will be seen that the whole superstructure is so constructed as to be entirely relieved from the deleterious influence of frost, while the several parts are of such small dimensions as to be easily handled and reduce their cost to a minimum.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent the following:

As an improvement in railings for cemetery-plats and other purposes, the combination, with the blocks C, resting on a rubble foundation below the frost-line and extending above the surface of the ground, of the posts D and the rails E, resting on said blocks, as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

VENIAH T. MEREDITH.

Witnesses:

S. MEREDITH,

F. A. MEREDITH.