

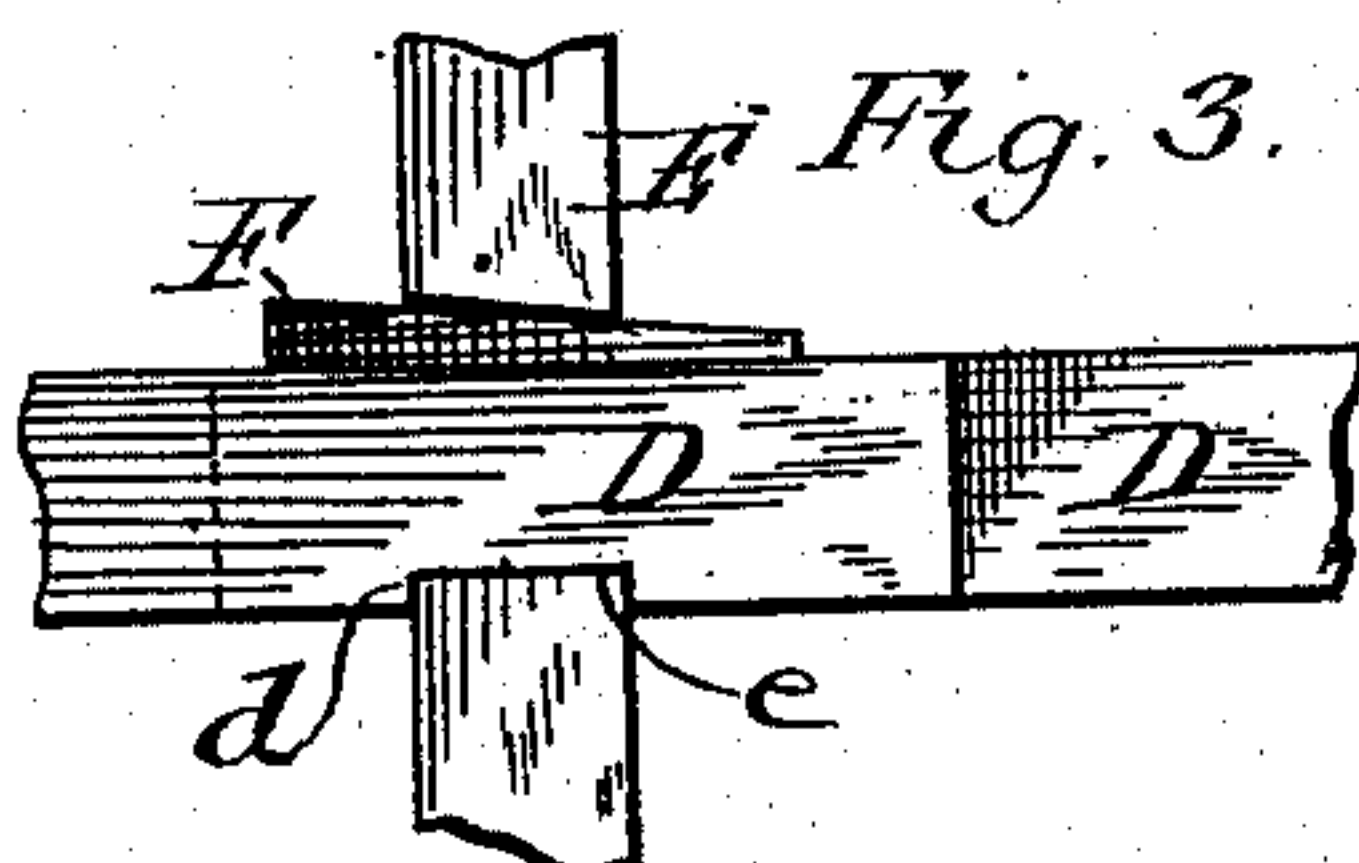
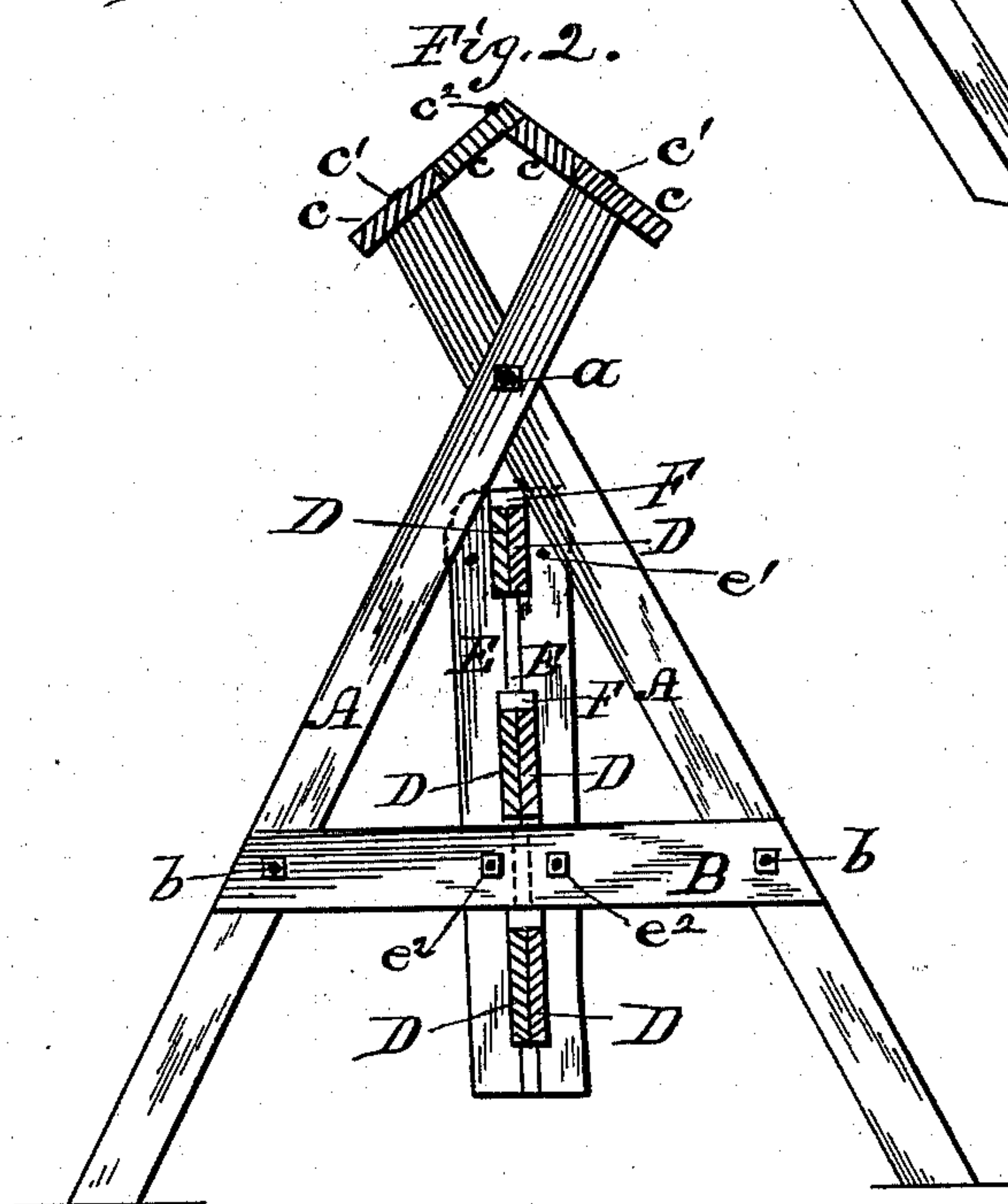
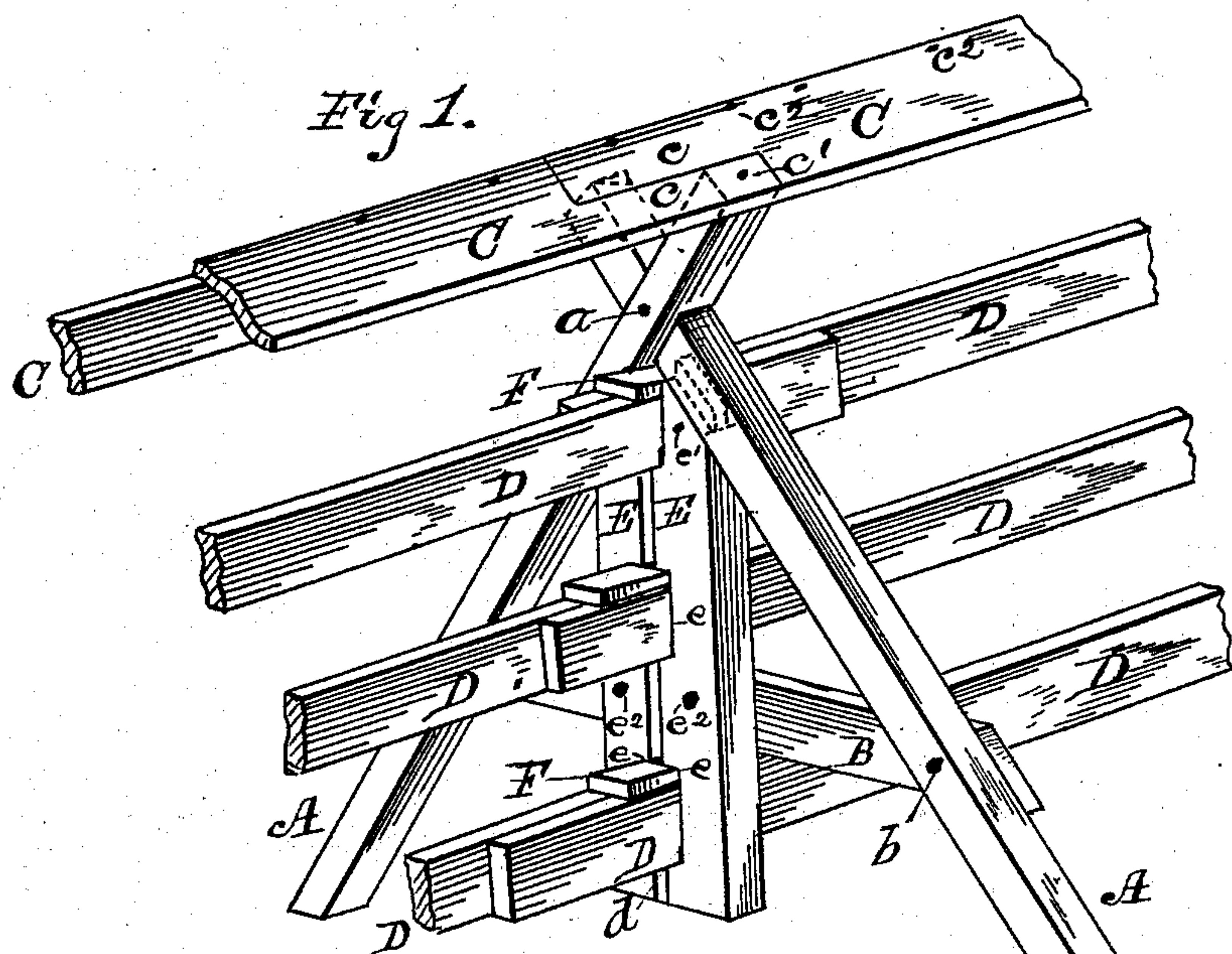
(No Model.)

J. B. HUNGERFORD.

FENCE.

No. 284,207.

Patented Sept. 4, 1883.



Witnesses

L. C. Hills.

J. H. Paine.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. HUNGERFORD, OF HILLHOUSE, OHIO.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 284,207, dated September 4, 1883.

Application filed May 21, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. HUNGERFORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hillhouse, (Leroy township,) in the county of Lake and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective, Fig. 2 a vertical transverse section, and Fig. 3 a detail, of a fence constructed in accordance with my invention.

Like letters refer to like parts in all the figures.

Two crossed half-jointed pieces, A, fastened to each other at the half-joint by a single bolt, *a*, and having secured thereto a bridge-piece, B, by means of single bolts *b b*, constitute the jack-frame of the fence.

Upon the jack-frame is secured a roof board or boards, C C, each splice jointed, as at *c*, and secured to the cross-piece A by a nail or nails, *c'*; or, if desired, a top rail may be laid within the upper V of the cross-pieces A, and secured by a wire passing over said rail and under or through the lower A of the cross-pieces, and upon this upper rail the roof board or boards, half-jointed or splice-jointed, as shown, may be secured by nails. When the roof-boards are arranged in A form, as shown, additional nails, *c''*, are driven through one into the edge of the other.

D represents the rails, each of which is at each end notched, as at *d*, to embrace the rail-posts E, each of which is notched, as at *e*, on its inner face to receive the rails. The rail-posts may be stationed at their upper ends, as shown in dotted lines, to fit mortises in the under faces of the cross-rails, or may be secured thereto by a nail or nails, *e'*, as desired, said nails being driven slanting, as usual in this class of work. Wedges F are driven in between the posts E and over the rails D, and not only firmly hold the rails in the notched posts, but tend to spread the upper ends thereof firmly against or into the mortises in the under surface of the cross-piece A, the lower

portions of the rail-posts being held by single bolts *e''* above their lower ends, permitting this movement, and also an inward movement, in the same degree at the lower rails, D, so that the wedges serve as a tightening means and render the whole structure exceedingly firm. The posts E may be adapted to receive ordinary hewn rails, or the rails of a panel of ordinary picket fence, by simply setting them farther apart.

The fence, as a whole, is simple, cheap, and easily constructed, and the material employed may be selected from partly-worn board fences, and thus economy and increased service of said material may be secured.

By using a single bolt at the intersections of the bridge and cross pieces, and constructing the half-joint roughly or loosely—an item usually accompanying the unskilled work of a majority of farmers—the binding action of the posts upon the rails may be determined or increased by drawing the feet of the cross-pieces A toward each other, and then fastening the bridge-piece.

Other advantages are secured by the construction disclosed, and in practice it has been demonstrated that the entire fence can be built by the farmer himself, and at a greatly-reduced cost over ordinary board fences. If desired, the bridge-piece B may be below the lower rails, D.

Having described my invention and its operation, what I claim is—

The combination of the half-jointed cross-pieces A A, secured by a single bolt, *a*, the bridge-piece B, secured thereto by single bolts *b*, the rail-posts E, notched, as described, and secured to the bridge-piece by single bolts *e''*, the rails D D, wedges F, and roof-boards C C, splice-jointed and secured to the pieces A A and to each other, substantially as shown and described.

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

JOHN B. HUNGERFORD.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR FRED. WOOD,
HOMER HARPER.