(No Model.)

L. D. CATHER.

FENCE.

No. 285,570. Patented Sept. 25, 1883.

Fig. 1

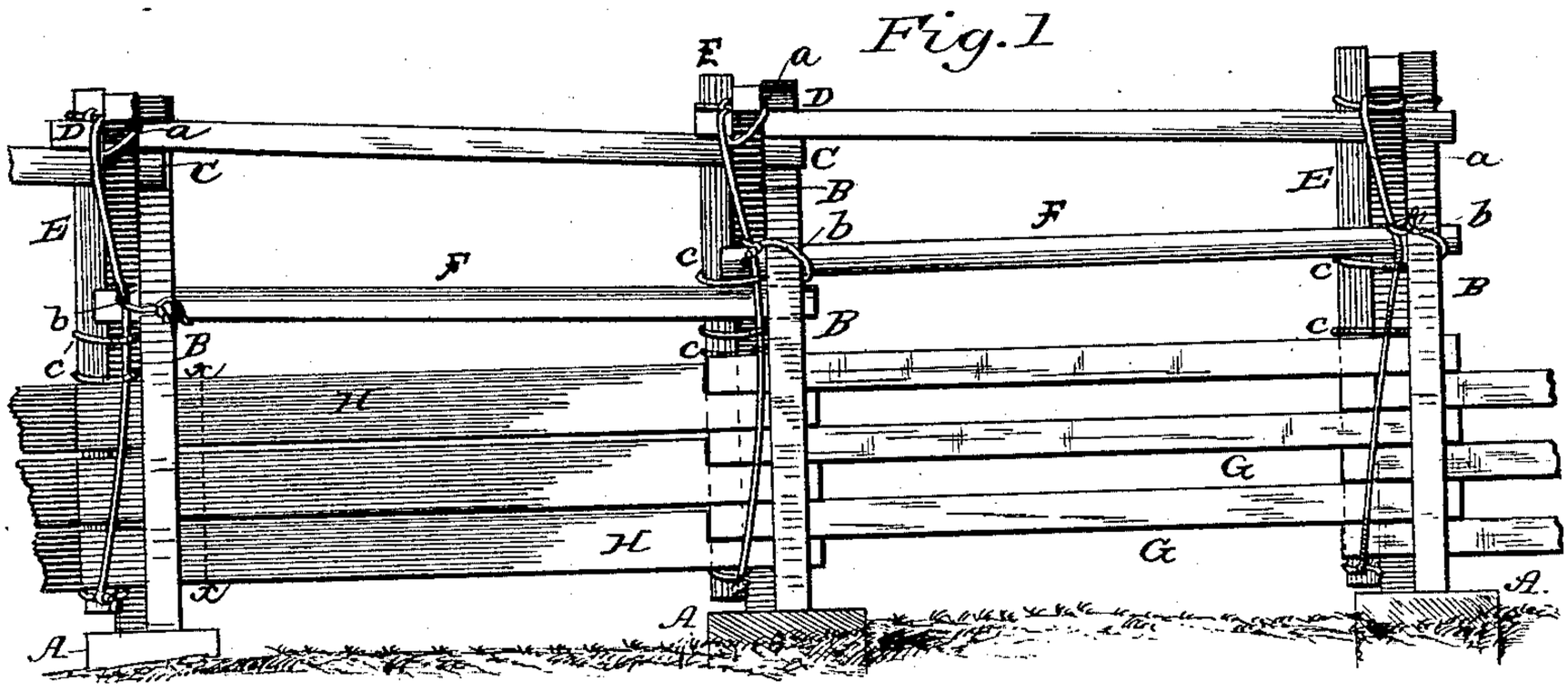


Fig. 2.

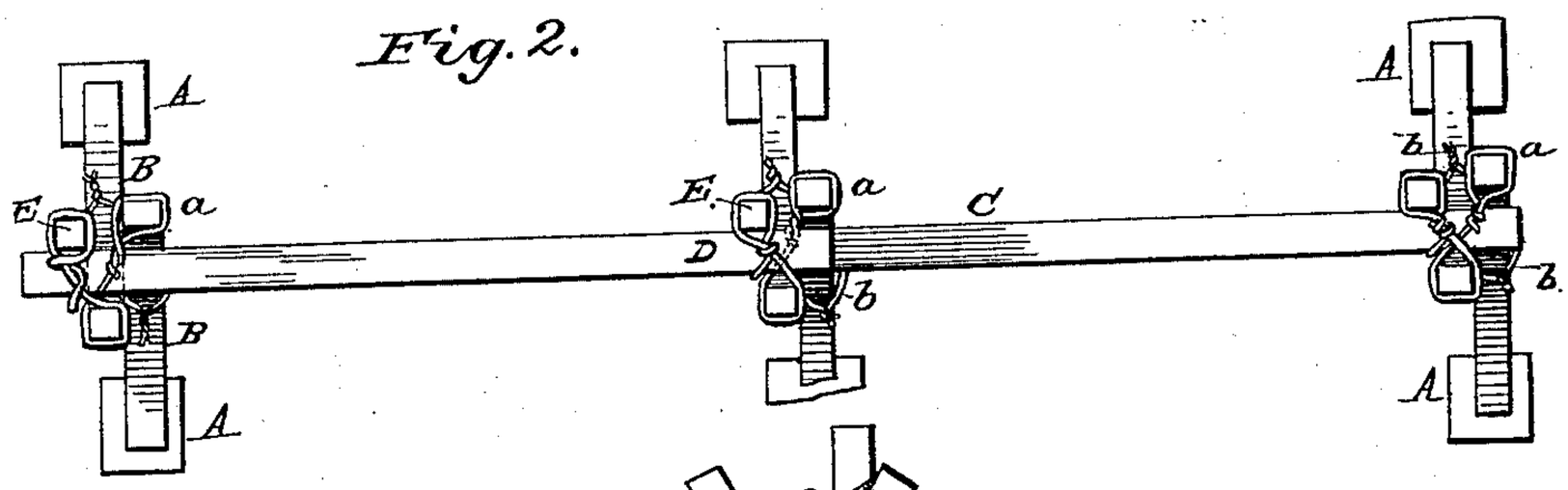
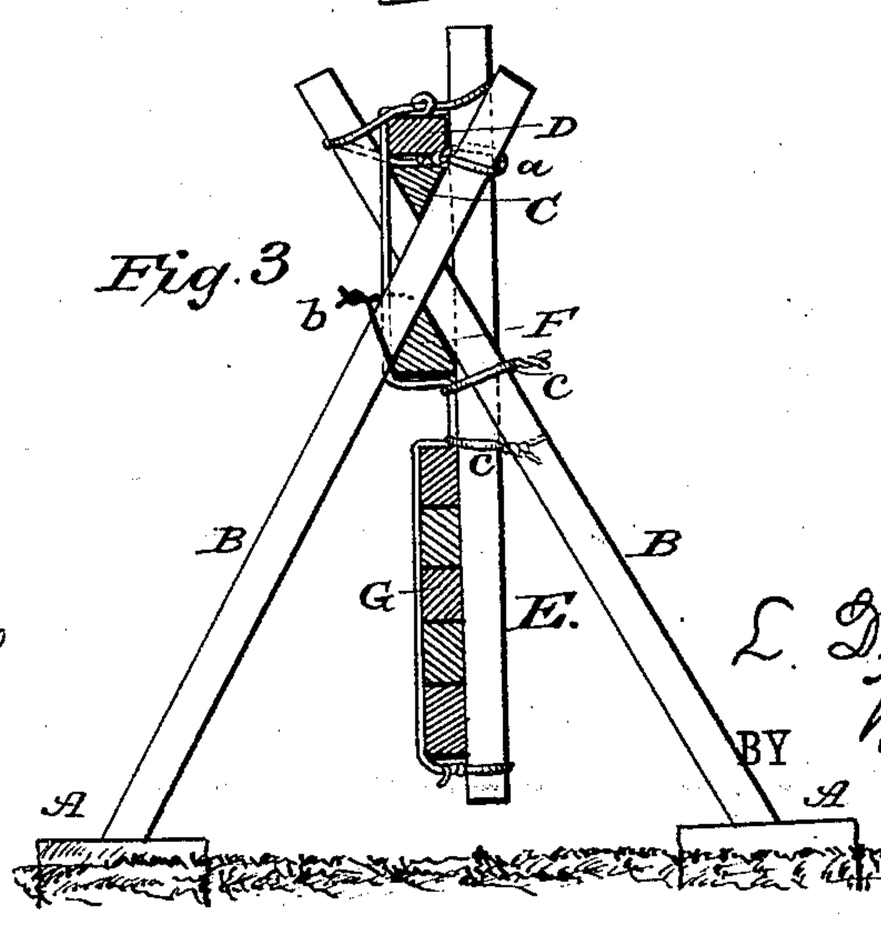


Fig. 3



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LORENZO D. CATHER, OF WHITE PIGEON, MICHIGAN.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 285,570, dated September 25, 1883.

Application filed March 17, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LORENZO D. CATHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at White Pigeon, in the county of St Joseph and State of Michigan, have invented a new and Improved Fence, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of fences known as "stake-and-rider" fences, used on farms; and it has for its object to produce a fence that shall be easily set up by unskilled labor, economical in the amount of labor used, and strong and durable.

To this end it consists in the construction and combination of parts forming a fence, hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, showing my fence. Fig. 2 is a plan view, and Fig. 3 is a transverse section at *x x*, Fig. 1.

I will here describe a fence five feet high.

Two stones or blocks of wood, A, are placed in the ground about four feet apart across the line of the proposed fence. On these blocks, as a foundation, two braces, B, about six feet long each, are erected, crossing each other about eighteen inches from the top end. In the upper fork thus formed the rider or top rail, C, of the fence is placed. To make the fence as rigid as possible, an acute angle of this rail should be placed in said fork to fit the same closely. To one of the braces B, I secure the end of a wire, *a*, and, drawing it across the top of rail C, wind it around the other brace B. I then place another rail, D, on the wire on the top of rail C and over it I draw the wire back, and pass it around the top of a vertical binding-stake, E. Here the wire is drawn very tightly, the binder being pried against the rider as a lever, and the wire permanently secured by wrapping it around itself. It is then drawn over both rails and down in front thereof, as shown in the drawings, to near the foot of the binder E, where it is secured thereto and cut off. As is usual in stake-and-rider fences, one end of each rider-rail rests directly in the fork of the braces, and its other end rests on the next rider-rail in the length of the fence similarly placed. Having thus secured a line of stakes, riders, and binders, I place the angular edge of another rail, F, up in the lower forks of two pairs of braces B, and firmly secure it at both ends to the front braces by wrapping wires *b* around, twisting the wires and cutting them off. These rails F, I usually secure only to alternate panels of the fence—that is, beneath alternate riders—but they may be secured to every panel in a manner similar to the riders. In its present condition it is a complete fence against horses and cattle; but where smaller stock is to be fenced lower rails, G, or boards H are placed between the binders E and the first wire, *a*.

If rails are used, they will be placed alternately one above the other; but if boards are used it will generally be to make a tight fence, and they will be lapped one against another in the direction of their thickness; then as many cross-wires *c* as may be required will be drawn and secured around the binders E and wires *a* between the said rails or boards H, firmly securing said rails or boards as parts of the fence.

The blocks A are the only parts of this fence which touch the ground. Consequently they are the only parts liable to rapid decay, and they may be easily replaced by prying up each section end, one at a time, removing the old and inserting new ones.

The fence with only two rails, or with its full complement of rails, is so firmly secured together that it may be bodily moved a considerable distance without damage to it. Of course it is not dependent on the base-blocks, and may be set up without them.

This fence may be set up by a common laborer, without cutting or shaping any part of the lumber after the rails, braces, and binders of given lengths are furnished.

I am aware that a fence similar to mine is the subject of a patent, No. 267,596, in which bracing-stakes, longitudinal rails, and a vertical post are shown; but this post does not, like mine, serve as a binder to pry the top wire tight with. Another piece serving that purpose is bound, as a longitudinal brace, to the fence-rails.

What I claim as my invention, and wish to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with the braces B, cross-

ing each other, the rail C, resting in their fork, the rail D, resting on rail C, the rail F, bound up into the lower fork of said braces, the wire *b*, binding rail F to brace B, the rails or boards below rail F, the vertical binding-stake E, secured by wire *c* to brace B, and the wire *a*, made fast to one of the braces B, passing between the rails C and D, crossing over the top rail, looped around binding-stake E, returning opposite thereto down beside the rails, and passed around said binding-stake, as shown and described.

LORENZO DOW CATHER.

Witnesses:

GEORGE A. GUERRIER,

CHAS. A. STURGIS.