

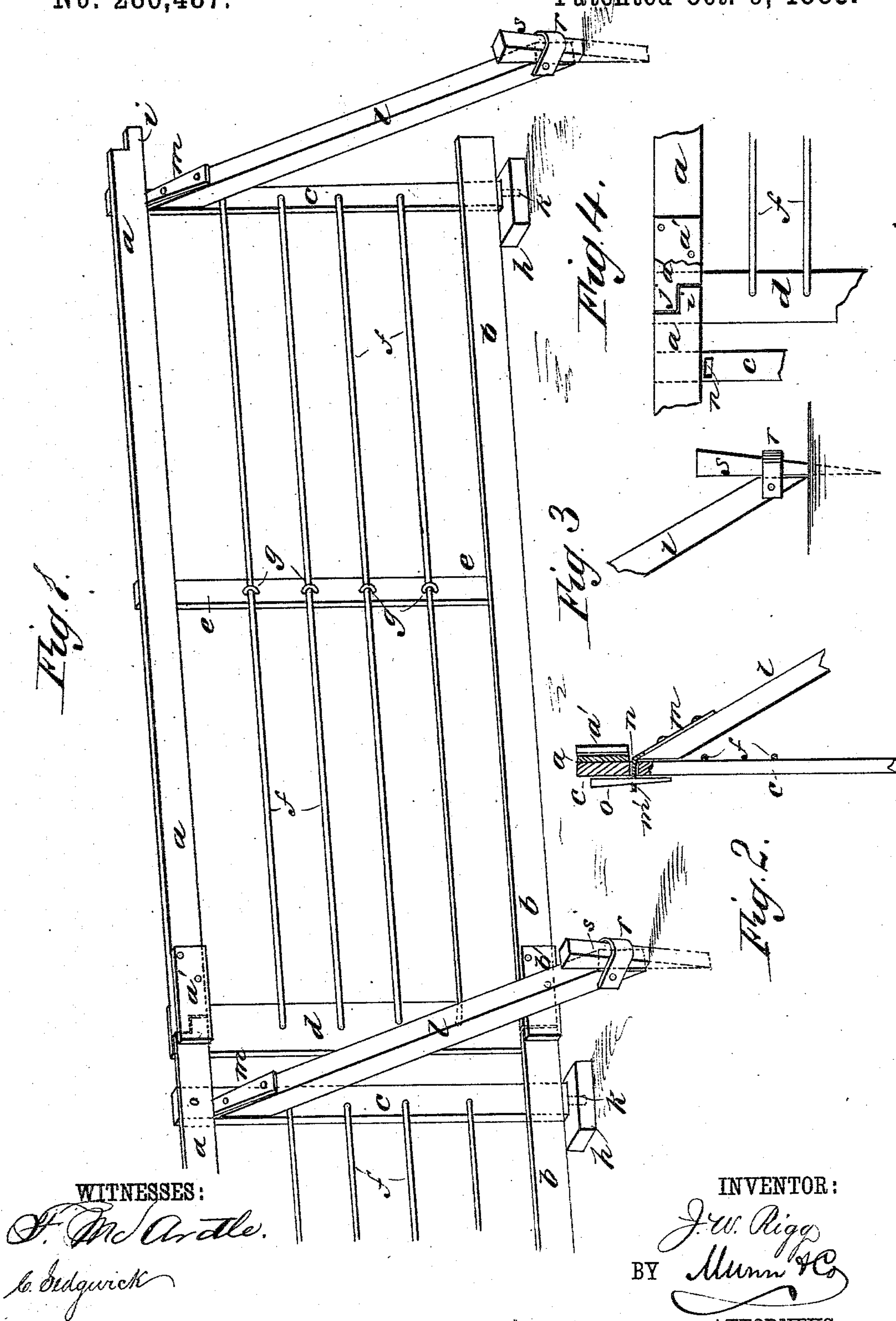
(No Model.)

J. W. RIGG.

FENCE.

No. 286,487.

Patented Oct. 9, 1883.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. RIGG, OF MOUNT CARMEL PRECINCT, ILLINOIS.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 286,487, dated October 9, 1883.

Application filed June 9, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. RIGG, of Mount Carmel precinct, in the county of Wabash and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Fence, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved fence of simple, cheap, and substantial construction, and one which may readily be made, set up, removed, and repaired.

The invention consists of the combinations and arrangements of parts, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a section of a fence embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a sectional side elevation of the head-connections of the side braces. Fig. 3 is a like view of the foot or ground connections of the side braces, and Fig. 4 is a partly-broken side elevation of the end joint of the top rails and adjacent parts.

I propose to construct the fence in sections or panels of convenient length for handling, and of top rails, *a*, bottom rails, *b*, end uprights or posts, *c d*, and one or more intermediate posts, *e*, which panel-frame I secure at the cross-joints by pins, nails, or screws in any suitable manner; and for intermediate rails I may use wood or metal bars or slats of any approved form; but for lightness of structure and appearance, and for presenting smaller surface to the wind, I prefer to use the rods or wires *f*, which I shall secure to the uprights *c d* by staples *g* or otherwise, and the wires *f* may be barbed or plain, as desired.

To adapt the panel-sections to be easily joined to make a fence of a portable character which may readily be disjointed for removal, but which shall be equally serviceable as a permanent structure, I extend the rails *a b* beyond the side or edge of upright *c*, to lap upon the face of the upright *d*, which extends edgewise beyond the ends of the rails, to which it is secured for that purpose, and so that the abutting joint of the rail ends shall come about centrally upon the face of post *d*, as in Figs. 1

and 4; and to support the adjacent or joining ends of the fence-panels above the ground, to better preserve the fence from decay by a single ground-block, *h*, for the meeting ends of both panels, I box or halve the rails together by forming the lower projection, *i*, of the abutting rail-joint on the rail of the panel which rests on the ground-block, so as to come beneath the upper half, *j*, of the rail of the adjacent fence-section.

It will be understood that both upper and lower rails, *a b*, may be lap-jointed together for support of one panel-section by the other on a single ground-block; but in this instance I have so jointed the upper rails, *a*, only, and so that the ground-block *h* rests beneath the end post or upright *c*, to which I fit the block by a stout dowel-pin, *k*, (shown dotted in Fig. 1;) and to lock the fence-panels sidewise and in line with each other I employ the blocks or cleats *a' b'*, fixed to the rails *a b* to overlap their abutting joints, as in Fig. 1.

To afford a substantial sidewise brace to the whole fence both ways by braces erected at one side only of the fence, I provide braces *l*, beveled at both ends, and having at the top the firmly-fixed lock-plate *m*, which is bent at about right angles with the bevel of the end of the brace, passes through the aperture *n* of the post *c*, and projects from the opposite side of the post sufficiently to receive the locking-key *o*, which passes through an aperture of the bent-over portion *m'* of the plate *m* in a manner to draw the beveled end of the brace firmly to the face of the upright, and at the foot of the brace I secure by any suitable pin or other fastening the yoke-plate or clevis *r*, through which the stake *s* is driven firmly into the ground. This stake *s*, I prefer to make in wedge form, so as to tighten against the beveled end of brace *l* and yoke-clevis *r* in a manner to prevent any rise of the foot of the brace, and hold it firmly in place.

It is evident that an upwardly-bent hook of plate *m*, to take against the back of the post *c* or *d*, may be substituted for the key *o*; but the use of the key is preferred, as it affords a means of taking up any slackness of the joint of the brace with the fence, and prevents all noisy shaking or rattle of the joints of the fence.

Thus constructed, the braces *l* at one side of the fence brace it firmly both ways, and the tops of the braces may be connected to either post *c d*, but preferably to the one connected
5 to the ground-block *h*. The tops of the braces *l* may also connect with the top rail, *a*, or other rail of the fence; but the construction shown is preferred.

Having thus described my invention, what I
10 claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the posts *c d*, of the rails *a b*, projected past post *c* and but partly across post *d*, said rails *a* or *a b* being
15 butt-jointed in a manner to support the adjacent ends of two fence-panels from a single

block, *h*, and the plates *a' b'*, the former, *a'*, being fastened to the rail *a*, and the latter, *b'*, to the rail *b* opposite to the post *d*, and projecting past the notches of the rails *a b*, substantially
20 as shown and described.

2. The combination, in a fence, of panel-sections *a b c d* with intermediate posts and rails, as described, the lock-joint *i j*, plates *a' b'*, ground-plates *a*, pins *k*, braces *l m r*, key *o*,
25 and ground-stake *s*, substantially as shown and described.

JAMES W. RIGG.

Witnesses:

E. F. BEALL,
WM. H. HUGHES.