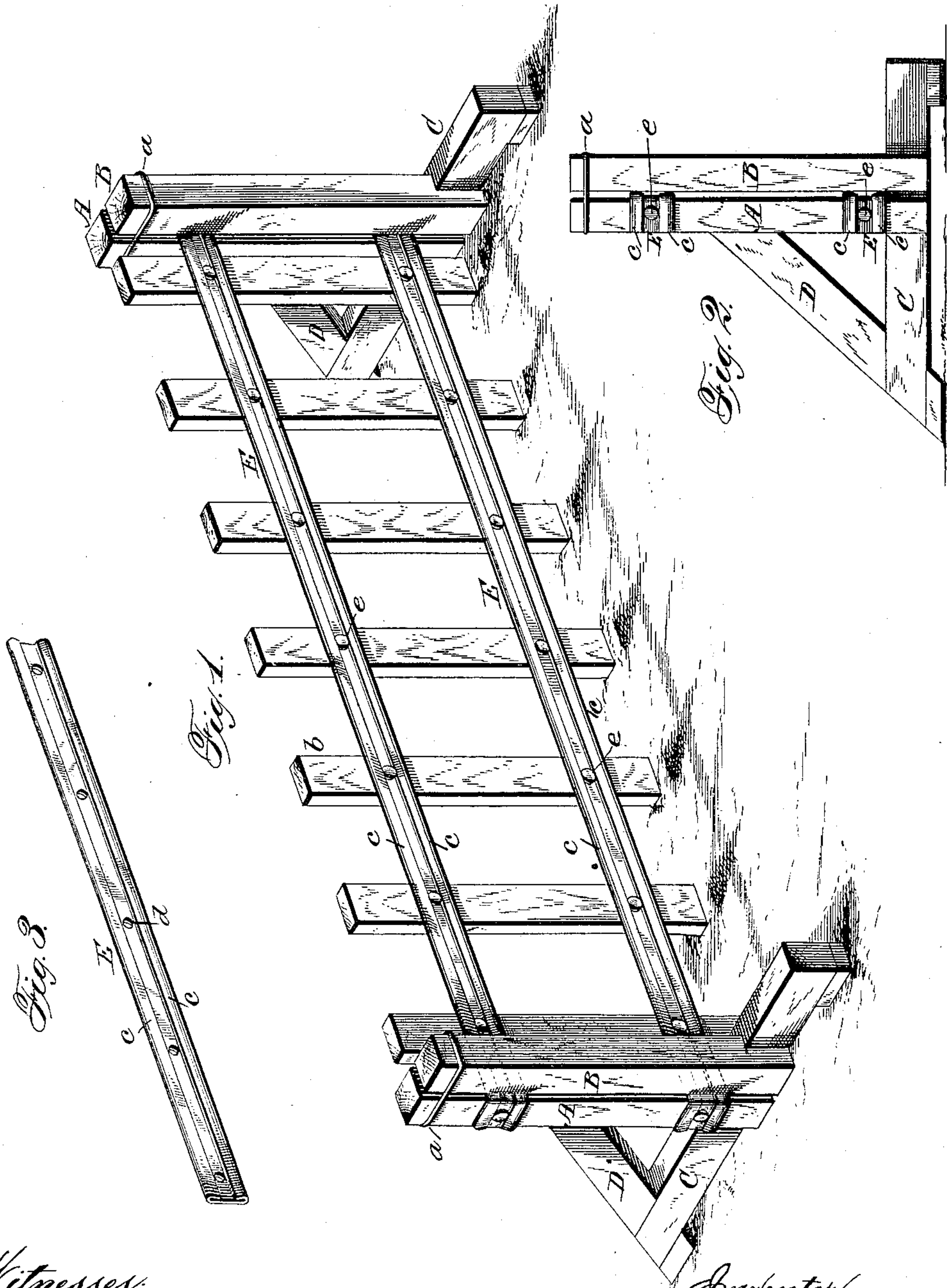


(No Model.)

M. STENTZ.
FENCE.

No. 344,211.

Patented June 22, 1886.



Witnesses:
Chas. J. Williamson,
L. L. Miller.

Inventor:
Michael Stentz,
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Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHAEL STENTZ, OF ALBION, OHIO.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 344,211, dated June 22, 1886.

Application filed March 12, 1886. Serial No. 194,934. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MICHAEL STENTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Albion, in the county of Ashland and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of a fence constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, an end view thereof, and Fig. 3 a detailed view in perspective of the metal trussing-strap.

The present invention has for its object to construct a fence that will possess increased strength and durability over the ordinary picket fence, and that can be set up in comparatively short time with little trouble, which objects I attain by the construction, substantially as shown in the drawings, and hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, A B represent the fence-posts, connected at their lower ends to a transverse support, C, which is connected at one end to a stake or brace driven in the ground, as shown at D. The posts A B may enter the ground or be secured to the support C in any suitable manner, as preferred, and the upper ends of said posts connected together by wire link *a*, encircling the same, grooves being made in the posts to form a seat for the link and hold it in place. The pickets *b* are attached by nails or other like fastenings to a metal strap, E, which I term a "trussing-strap." This strap is formed with beaded edges *c* to give it strength and finish, and perforations *d* to receive the nails *e*, and the extremities of the trussing-strap are bent around the posts A after passing between them and fastened thereto, as shown, thus making a very

strong, cheap, and durable fence; the beading of the strap E removing the sharp edges of the metal, and preventing injury to persons coming in contact with the fence or attempting to climb over it. The beading of the edges of the trussing-strap also prevent its twisting out of shape, and renders it much stronger for supporting the pickets. The extremities of the strap E, after passing between the posts A B, are bent at right angles against the sides of posts A and there fastened, forming a truss therefor, and making a firm connection between the posts and pickets. The straps E are two in number, so that the pickets may be secured thereto near their top and lower ends, although three or more straps may be used, as desired.

I am aware that strengthening ribs or flanges have been formed on the edges of rails, as shown in Patent No. 133,489, of 1872, and that corrugated rails have been used in connection with two-part posts, as shown in Patent No. 121,855, of 1871. These features I do not claim, broadly.

What I do claim is—

The fence described, consisting of the two-part posts A B, connected at their top by a wire loop, the rails E, of flat metal, each bent upon itself at the edges, as shown, passed between the posts A B, and bent at right angles and secured to the posts A, and the pickets *b*, secured to the rails E by nails, rivets, or screws, the heads of which lie flush with and between the bent-over edges *c*, the whole arranged for joint operation as herein specified.

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

MICHAEL STENTZ.

Witnesses:

LUCENA READ,
GEO. M. READ.