(No Model.)

E. M. BAKER.

FENCE.

No. 353,437. Patented Nov. 30, 1886.

Fig. 1

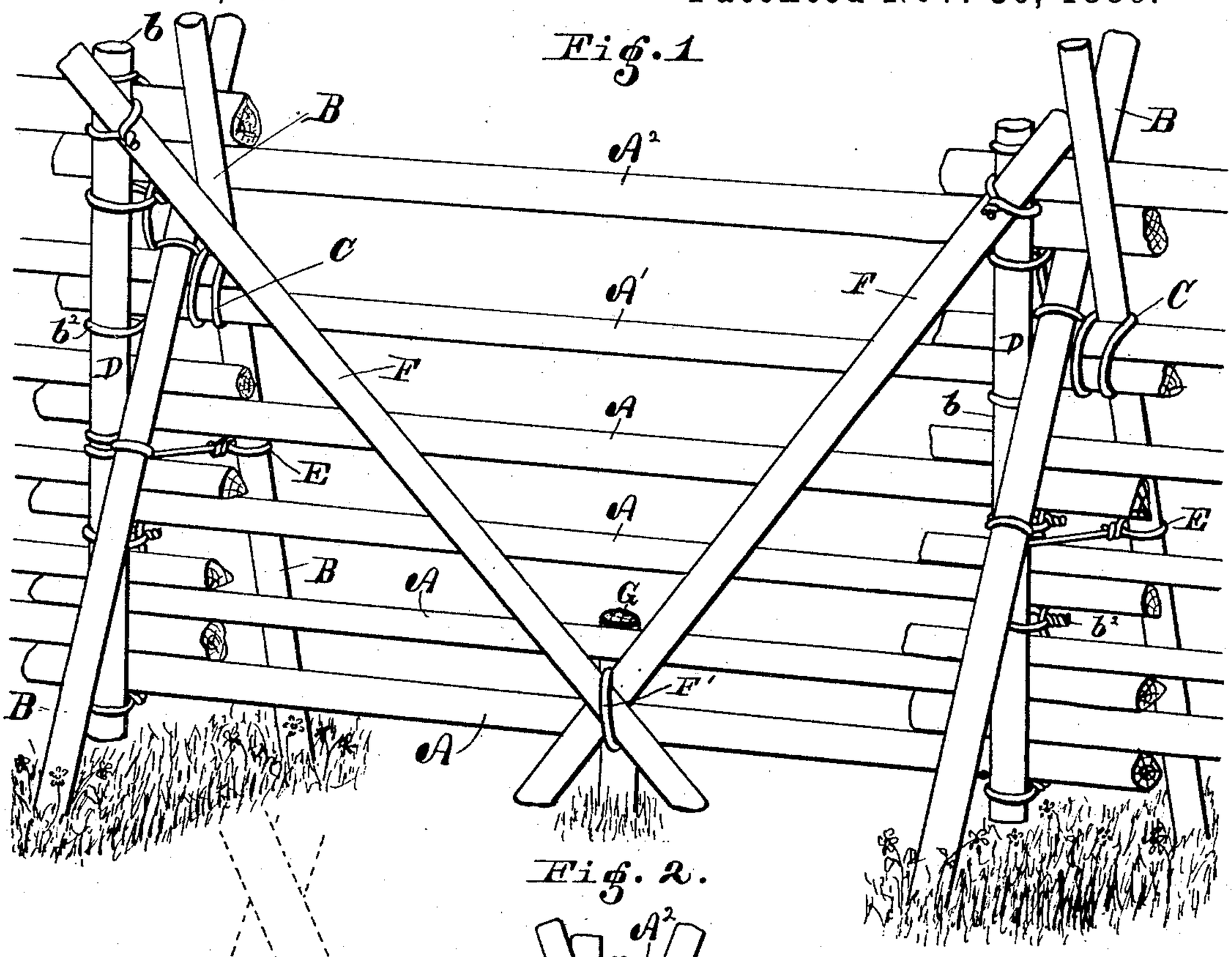


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3

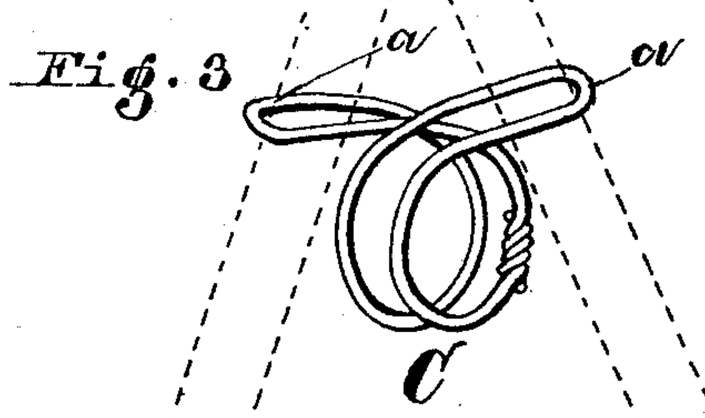
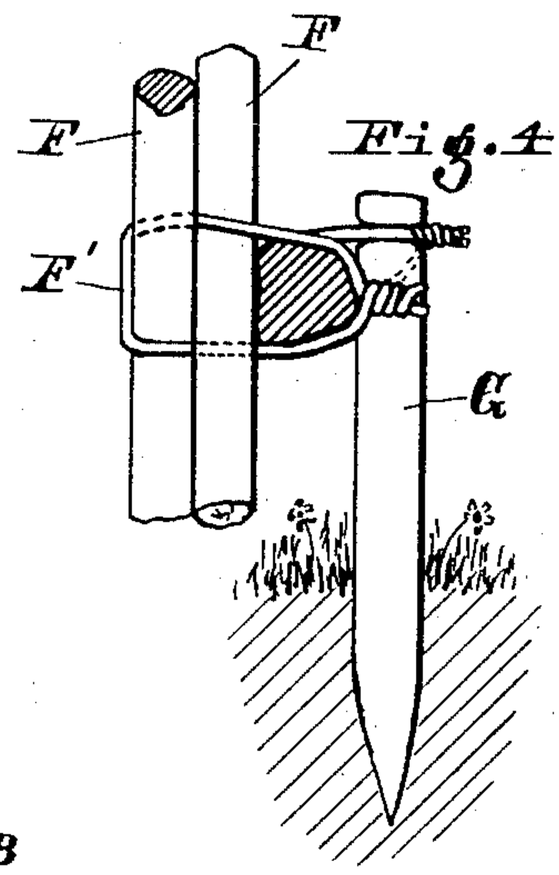


Fig. 4



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN M. BAKER, OF CRAYON, OHIO.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 353,437, dated November 30, 1886.

Application filed July 1, 1886. Serial No. 206,887. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN M. BAKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Crayon, in the county of Champaign and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of fences in which the boards or rails which form the body of the fence are supported in place by means of wire used in connection with an arrangement of braces, by which the fence is supported and maintained in an upright position without the aid of posts set rigidly in the ground, the fence being thus rendered portable in its nature.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and novel arrangement of the braces and supporting-wire by which a strong and durable fence is secured, which may be quickly and economically constructed.

My invention consists in the constructions and combinations hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fence embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detailed view of the supporting-loop, the braces being shown therein in dotted lines. Fig. 4 is a detailed view showing the arrangement of the diagonal braces and the anchor-stake.

Like parts are indicated by similar letters of reference throughout the several views.

The body of the fence I preferably make of a series of rails, A, which extend parallel with each other to form a panel, the ends of the rails in the respective panels being adapted to overlap each other, as shown. The respective panels are supported at each end by braces B, which cross each other at or near the top, and are held together by a supporting-loop, C, of novel construction, which also serves to support, or rather to suspend, the fence-panels from the braces, as hereinafter more fully described. This loop C is formed of a single piece of wire, the ends of which are joined together to form an endless band. In constructing the fence the endless band thus formed is doubled together, forming a straight band of two strands, the ends of which consist of small loops *a*. In constructing the fence the band thus formed, constituting the supporting-loop C, is passed around the overlapping ends of the top rails, A′, of the panel proper and brought over the top thereof until the ends are crossed, as shown in Fig. 3. The upper ends of the braces B are then inserted through the small loops *a a* in the ends of the supporting-loop C, and the lower ends of said braces closed together until the sides thereof fulcrum against the upper rails, A′, and with the leverage thus obtained draw the supporting-loop tightly around said rails.

I preferably make the braces B sufficiently long to cross above the top of the panel proper, as shown in the drawings, and provide an additional row of rails or riders, A^2, though, if desired, these may be dispensed with, in which case the braces B need only be long enough to engage the looped ends of the supporting-loop C.

The lower rails of the series which form the panel are suspended from the top rails, A′, of the panel or the riders, as the case may be, by cleats D, which are each composed of an unyielding strip, *b*, and a flexible wire, *b′*. Under the overlapping ends of each row of rails a tension-wire, b^2, is passed around the suspending-cleat D, thus drawing the strip *b* and wire *b′* firmly against the said rails, holding them securely in position. By having the cleat D composed of one flexible strip and one unyielding one the rails of the lower rows are held in line with each other, and at the same time the said cleat is adapted to conform to the shape of the rails and accommodate itself to rails of different or varying sizes.

The braces B are secured together below the supporting-loop C by means of a tie-wire, E, which passes around the cleat D, and is made fast at each end to the respective braces B. This tie-wire E, I pass around the cleat D, immediately below one of the rows of rails A, as shown in Fig. 2, where it is drawn tightly and secured to the braces B, and thus answers the purpose of one of the tension-wires b^2, which may be dispensed with.

Extending from each of the cleats D, at the top to the middle of the panel at the bottom, are diagonal braces F. These diagonal braces

are secured at the bottom to the lower rail, A, of the series by means of a loop, F′, which is passed around the said braces and lower rail, while the braces are parallel to the said lower rail, after which the braces are raised to their normal position, which thus tightens the loop firmly around the braces and rail. The braces are then secured to the cleats at the top, thus binding the whole together. At the center of each panel, preferably at a point opposite the loop F′, I place an anchor-stake, G, to which I secure the lower rail by means of a suitable fastening, preferably of wire. This anchor-stake, in connection with the tie-wire E, holds the panels rigidly between the braces B. If desired, the same fastening which secures the diagonal braces to the lower rail may be used for securing the lower rail to the stake G, so that when the braces are raised to their normal position after the said fastening has been placed in position around the respective parts the whole will be tightened together, thus making it very firm and secure.

It is obvious that, instead of rails, boards may be used to form the panels with equally good results. In this case, however, instead of the overlapping ends of the boards being placed one upon the other they would preferably be placed side by side, the riders A^2 would be dispensed with, and the supporting-braces B would be made just long enough to engage the looped ends of the supporting-loop C.

Other modifications of construction may be employed without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I am aware that it is not new, broadly speaking, to construct a fence of rails and wire, and that fences of the same general construction of the one herein described have heretofore been used. I do not therefore claim this construction, broadly; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with the longitudinal rails and the supporting loop and braces, of the suspending-cleats composed of one flexible and one unyielding side, tension-wires around said cleats, a tie-wire connecting said cleats and braces, diagonal braces from said cleats to the lower rail, and the anchor-stake secured thereto, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of June, A. D. 1886.

EDWIN M. BAKER.

Witnesses:

PAUL A. STALEY,

W. F. M. SMAIL.