

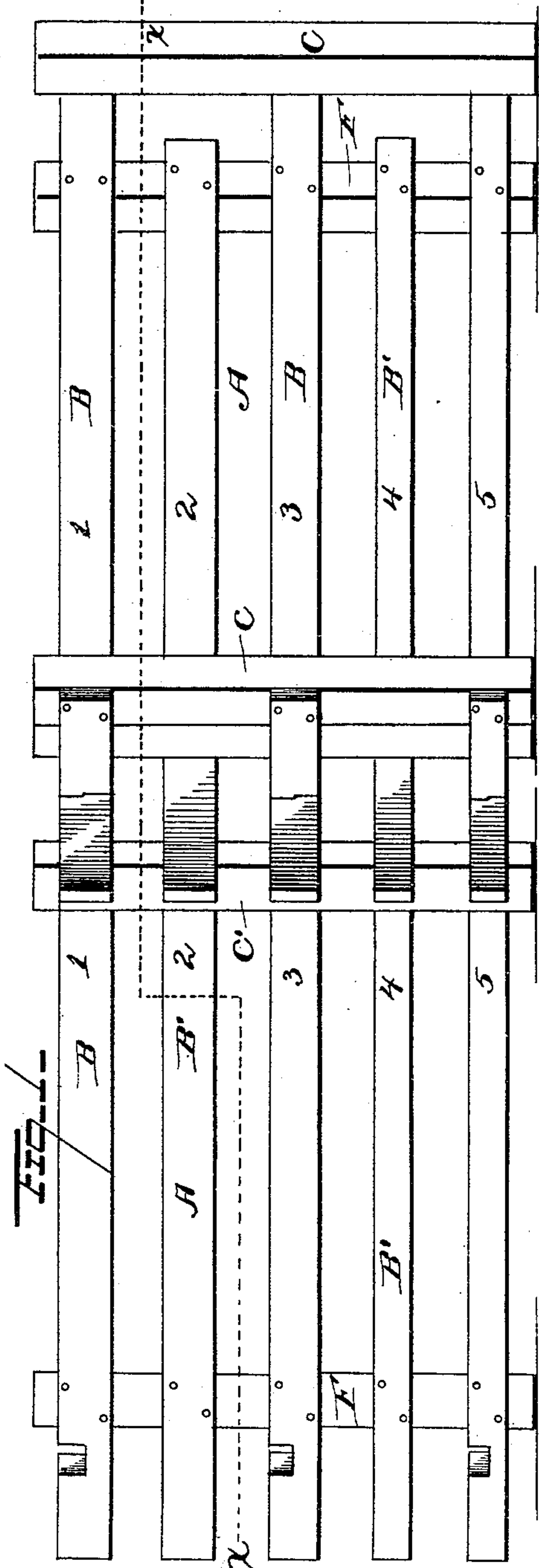
(No Model.)

G. W. HOLMES.

FENCE.

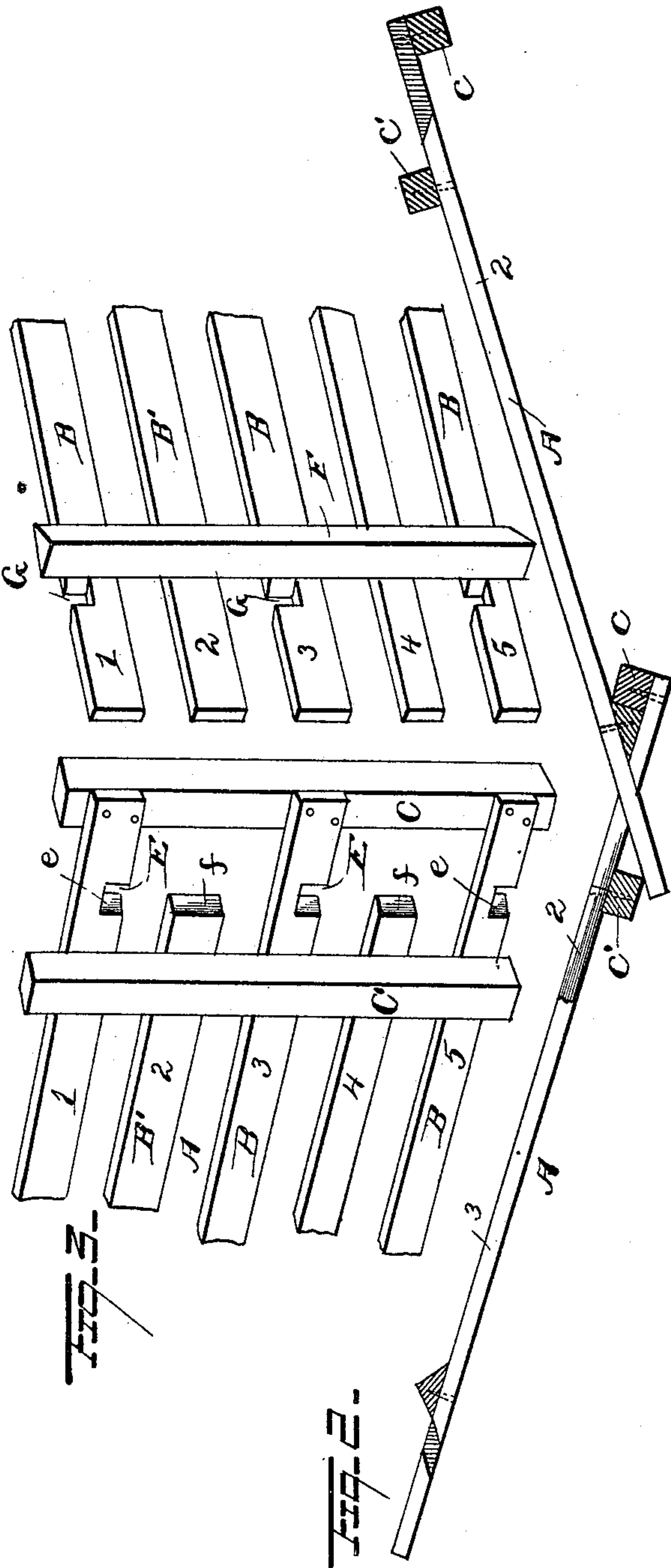
No. 353,859.

Patented Dec. 7, 1886.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. HOLMES, OF HUNTINGTON, INDIANA.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 353,859, dated December 7, 1886.

Application filed August 28, 1886. Serial No. 212,121. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. HOLMES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Huntington, in the county of Huntington and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fences, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in portable fences; and it consists of the peculiar combination and novel construction and arrangement of the various parts for service, substantially as hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved portable fence of simple and durable construction, which can be easily and rapidly taken apart and placed together.

The fence of my invention is constructed in sections, and the ends of the rails of the sections are cut or formed into miter-joints, so that they can be very securely locked together to prevent the fence from being blown or knocked down by the wind or efforts of animals confined thereby; and the panels or rails of the fence are braced and strengthened at the joints where they are connected together, so as to relieve the miter-joints of the weight and strain of the panels thereon.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a fence constructed in accordance with my invention, and Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view thereof on the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the adjoining locked ends of the rails of two sections of a fence detached or separated from one another.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures, A designates the sections of my improved portable fence, which are arranged at an angle to each other to form a "worm" or zigzag fence; and each of these sections consists of a series of horizontal rails, B B', and uprights C C' at or near one extremity of the rails. The panels are arranged parallel with each other, and are of any desired number, and the vertical uprights C C' of the section are secured to the rails on opposite sides thereof, one of the said uprights, C, being secured to the extreme outer ends of the rails and on one side thereof, and the other upright on the opposite side of the panel and

a short distance in rear of the said ends of the rails and the upright affixed thereto.

I preferably employ a series of five rails to each section of the fence, although the number can be varied without departing from the principle of my invention, and for the purpose of more clearly distinguishing the panels of one section of the fence from each other I have numbered them from one to five, inclusive, as shown.

The upper, middle, and bottom rails, B, of the fence, which I have numbered 1, 3, and 5, respectively, are made longer at one end than the corresponding ends of the intermediate rails, B', of the fence, which are numbered 2 and 4, and these longer rails of the fence-section are provided on one edge with a notch, E, the sides of which are inclined in one direction, as shown at *e*. To the extended ends of the longer rails of the fence, 1, 3, and 5, is secured the upright C, and to the shorter rails, 2 and 4, as well as the longer rails, 1 3 5, is secured the upright C'.

One of the extremities of the shorter rails, 2 4, of each section of the fence is beveled or inclined at *f* in the direction of the inclination of the beveled sides *e* of the longer notched ends of the rails 1 3 5, and this beveled end of the shorter rails B' of one section of the fence lies in the same vertical line or plane as one of the beveled sides of the notch E of the extended ends of the longer rails B of the same fence-section.

The opposite extremities of the fence-panels of one section are secured and connected to a vertical upright, F, which is secured thereto by any suitable fastening devices, and this upright F is made substantially triangular or V shape in cross-section, so that when the fence-sections are put together at an angle to each other this vertical upright F will fit very snugly in the corner or an angle formed by one of the sides of the rails B and the upright C', whereby the rails of the fence-sections will be braced and strengthened and the fence thereby rendered more strong and durable.

The end of the fence-section to which the triangular upright is secured has its rails 1, 3, and 5 notched on their reverse sides or edges to the notches E, as shown at G, and the sides of these notches are beveled in the same direction as the sides of the said notches E. The

fence-sections as thus constructed are very light and simple and can be compactly stored for transportation. These sections are detachably locked or connected together, so that they
 5 can be easily and readily taken apart, and I will now describe the method of locking the same together.

One of the fence-sections which is to be interlocked with another section has its notches
 10 G beveled in reverse direction to the notches E of the said adjoining section with which it is to be locked, and the ends of the rails in which the notches G are formed are first passed beneath the rails in which the notches E are
 15 located, and the said notched rails are then brought together so that the inclined sides of the notches interlock with one another, and thus very firmly and securely connect the rails of the sections together. The triangular rail has
 20 its inclined sides bearing against one of the sides of the rails and the upright C', and this triangular rail serves to very materially brace and strengthen the fence and to relieve the rails thereof of a portion of the weight and
 25 strain of the uprights.

I am aware of Patent No. 96,805 for fences which employ a series of sections composed of horizontal rails, which are secured together by vertical rails, and notched at one end to adapt
 30 it to be detachably connected to the adjacent section of the fence. One end of each section of the fence is provided with a vertical notched rail having a beveled face, and the adjacent ends of the bars of the meeting fence-section
 35 are provided with beveled cleats, which bear against the beveled side of the notched vertical bar, after which the two fence-sections are connected by a sliding key fitted between the horizontal rails of the said sections. In my im-
 40 proved fence I affix a triangular vertical bar, F, on one of its sides to one side of the horizontal rails of one section of the fence, and the other section of the fence has a vertical bar, C, at its outer end and on one side, and another

vertical bar, C', on the opposite side and at a short distance in rear of the front bar, C.
 45 When the horizontal rails of the fence-section are fitted and locked together in the manner hereinbefore described, one of the outer ex-
 50 posed faces of the triangular bar F bears against one side of the vertical bar C, and the other face thereof bears against one side of the horizontal rails of one section of the fence, and the free ends of the bars of the section having
 55 the rail F bear or impinge upon the edge of the bar C', thereby firmly and securely locking or connecting the fence-sections together.

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

As an improvement in fences, the combination of the fence-sections, each having a series of horizontal rails provided with the beveled and notched ends, as described, one end of one of the sections having a fixed vertical bar, C,
 60 on one side thereof, and another vertical bar, C', on the opposite side and in rear of the bar C, and the other section having the vertical triangular rail F rigidly affixed thereto on one side and at a short distance from the notches
 70 in the rails thereof, whereby when the sections are arranged at an angle, with the rails interlocking with one another, one of the outer exposed faces of the triangular rail F will bear
 75 against one side of the bar C, and the other face thereof will bear against one side of the horizontal rails of the fence-section, and the free ends of the rails of one section will bear upon the vertical bar C' of the other section,
 80 all arranged and combined substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE W. HOLMES.

Witnesses:

WM. MCGREW,
 C. E. BRIANT.