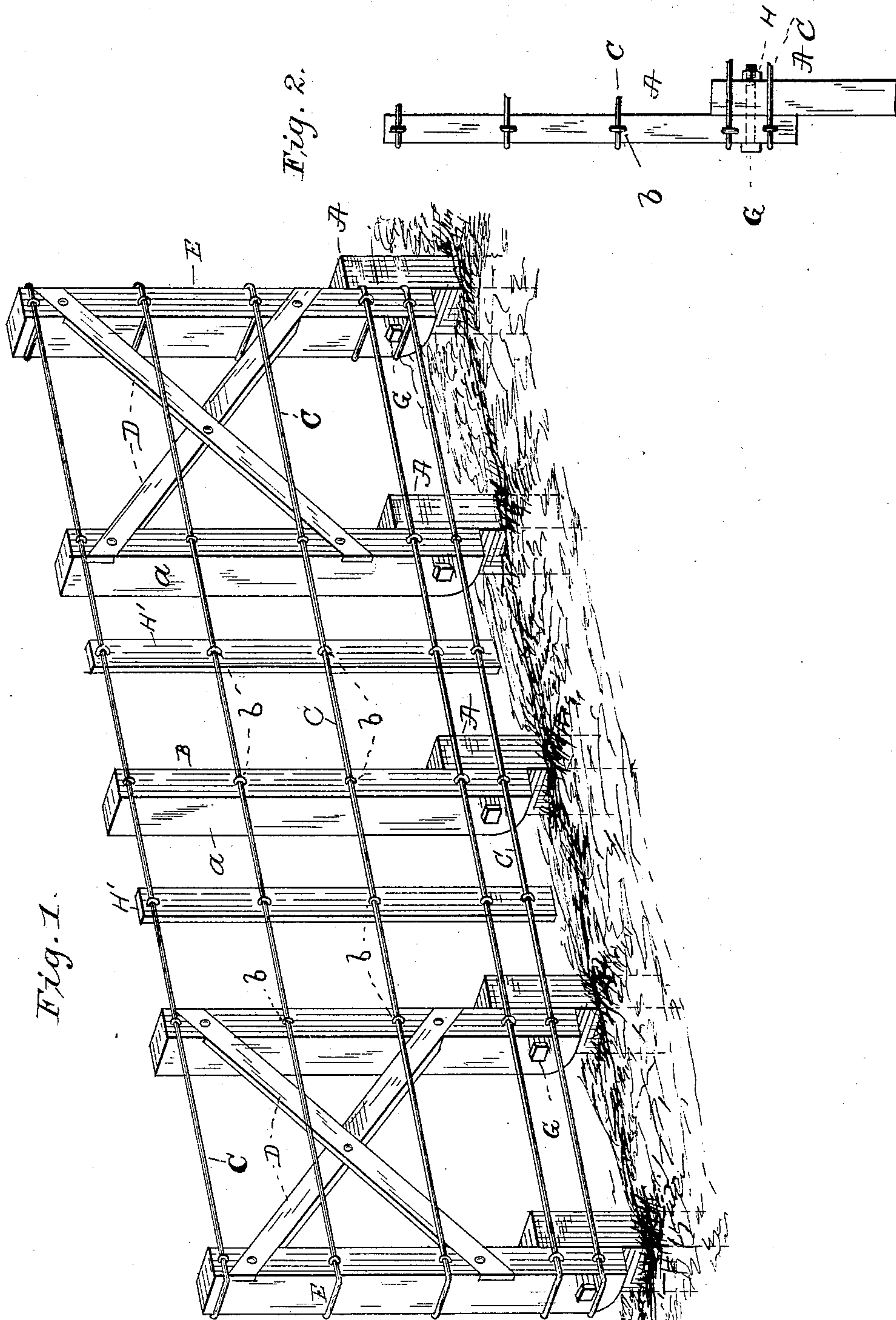


(No Model.)

G. W. MARTIN.
FLOOD FENCE.

No. 354,201.

Patented Dec. 14, 1886.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. MARTIN, OF LAFAYETTE, INDIANA.

FLOOD-FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 354,201, dated December 14, 1886.

Application filed July 27, 1886. Serial No. 209,232. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. MARTIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lafayette, in the State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flood-Fences; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention has relation to improvements in flood-fences; and it consists in the construction, novel arrangement, and adaptation of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claims appended.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved fence, showing the same in an erect position. Fig. 2 is a detail view showing the upper post secured to a ground-post.

Referring by letter to the said drawings, A indicates the stake or ground-posts, which are firmly placed in the ground and are designed to receive and support the upper or reclining section of fence. These ground-posts A have their upper ends a sufficient distance above the upper surface of the ground to receive the respective reclining posts.

B indicates the main fence or reclining section thereof. This fence is composed of the vertical posts *a*, having on their upstream side staples *b*, which respectively coincide in a horizontal plane to loosely receive the longitudinal wires C. The diagonal braces D, which connect the two outer posts at each end of the fence, are connected at their bisection, as shown. The ends of the wires are secured to the end posts, E E, by suitable fastening devices. The lower ends of the vertical posts *a* are secured to one side of each ground-post by bolts G and nuts H. The connections at these points are made sufficiently tight to normally hold the fence in an erect position, but not so tight as to prevent a flood from reclining it or turning it down. When a flood is anticipated, the nuts on these securing-bolts may

be loosened, and the fence allowed to readily recline, and the lower ends of the said posts *a* are beveled, as shown, to allow the same to recline and be free from the ground.

H' indicates a vertical bar, which is of less height than the post *a*. This bar extends from the top of the said posts, and is provided on its inner upstream side with staples for stringing the same upon the fence-wires. This piece is designed to prevent undue strain or pressure upon the fence-wires between the posts *a*, and prevent small stock from crowding the lower wires apart between the main fence-posts. The lower horizontal wire, C, is carried well down to the lower portion of the post *a*, and the second one brought on a plane coincident with the tops of the ground-posts, so that when the fence takes a reclining position the said second wire will not engage the tops of the ground-posts, but will be in such position with the lower wire as to prevent the passage of small stock between them.

From the above description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that no care need be taken in regard to the relative distance of the ground-posts in setting them, as the intermediate fence-posts being loosely strung upon the wires, they may be moved thereon for attachment to the desired ground-posts.

The ends of the wires being secured to the outer posts, E, it will also be seen that by means of the diagonal braces the posts may be moved and desirably secured so as to tighten the wires.

It will be observed from the foregoing that I have invented a fence-section adapted to be tilted automatically by the pressure of water against it, and which, under ordinary circumstances, will be sustained upright by the bolts G; also, that the two extremities of the tilting section are truss-braced, intermediate between which are stay-uprights H' for the horizontal wires. It will furthermore be seen that the two lower wires, C C, in consequence of their bearing against the stakes A, serve to resist undue strain against the fence in a direction upstream, as well as to exclude from a farm small animals.

I am aware that it is not new in swinging

gates to employ diagonal braces; also, that it is not new in wire and picket fences to employ short pickets between posts; nor is it new in flood-fences to pivot posts to ground-stakes by means of bolts and nuts, all of which I dis-

claim when separately considered.
Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

10 The within-described flood-fence, consisting of the ground-stakes A, posts connected together at the ends of the fence by diagonal braces and secured to said ground-stakes by pivotal clamping-bolts, the intermediate post,
15 also pivoted to a ground stake by a clamping-

bolt, the longitudinal wire rails secured to said posts, the lower two of which rails bear against one side of the ground-stakes when the fence is erect, and the short vertical bars H' H' between the said intermediate post and the braced posts, all constructed and adapted to operate substantially in the manner and for the purposes described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE W. MARTIN.

Witnesses:

D. E. STUDEBAKER,
JOHN B. MCCUTCHEN.