

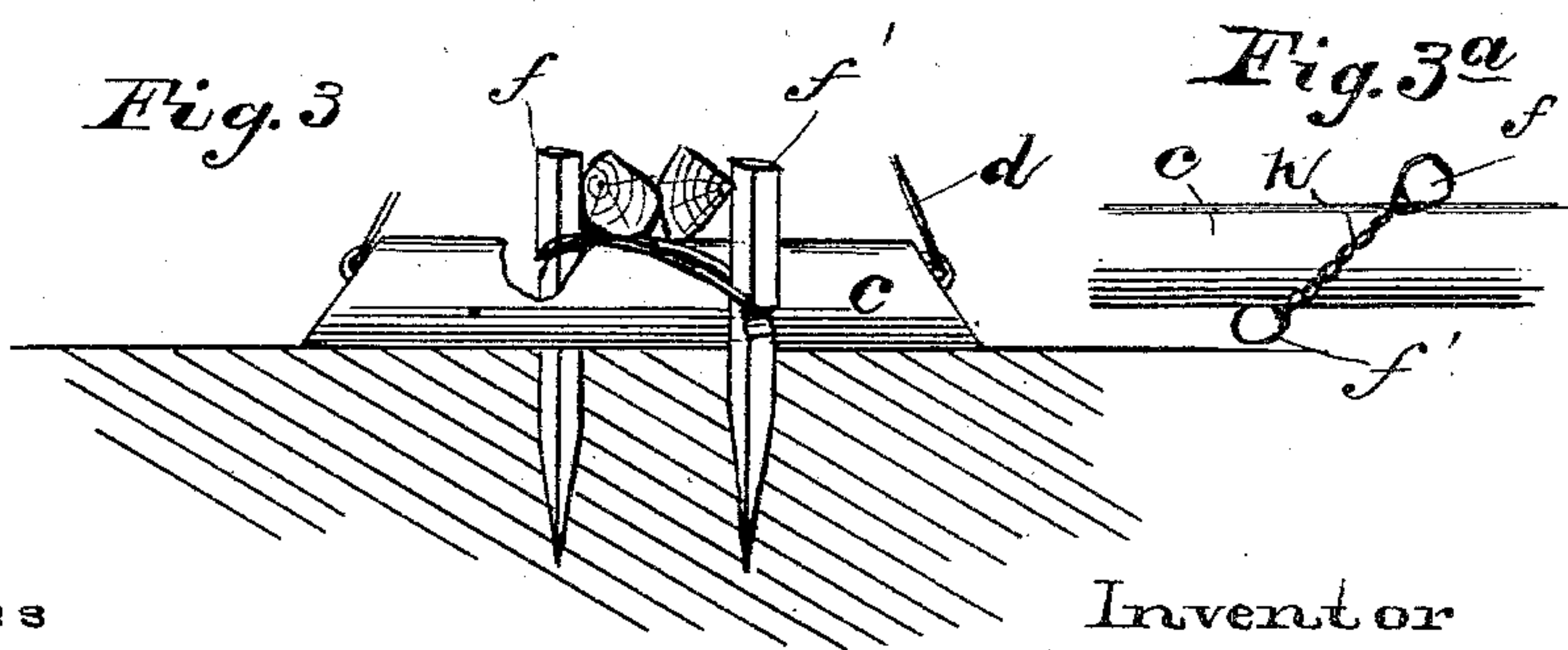
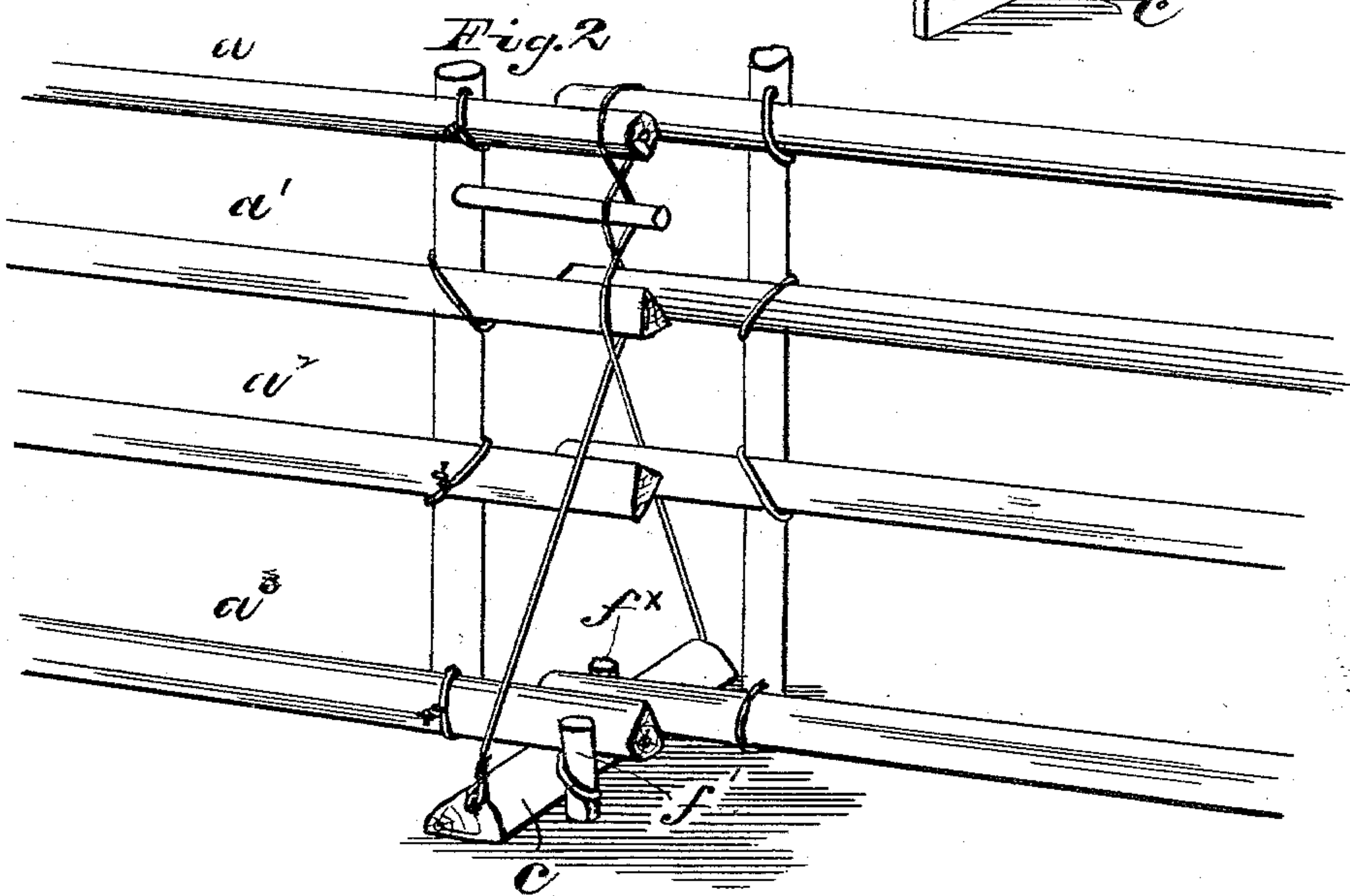
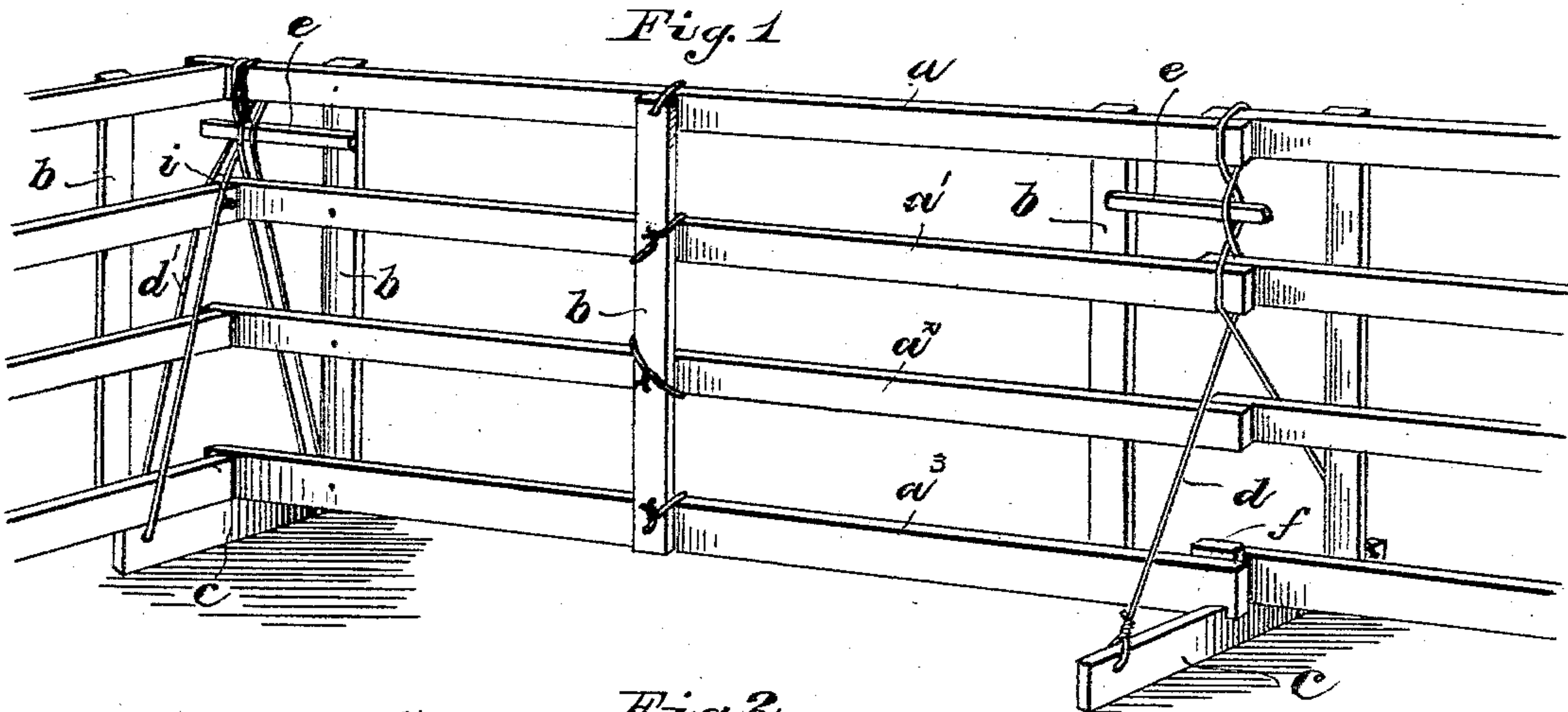
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. F. BAZILL.  
FENCE.

No. 378,425.

Patented Feb. 28, 1888.



Witnesses

L. B. Staley.  
H. A. Rathbun.

Inventor

Joseph F. Bazill.  
By *Amos B. Staley*

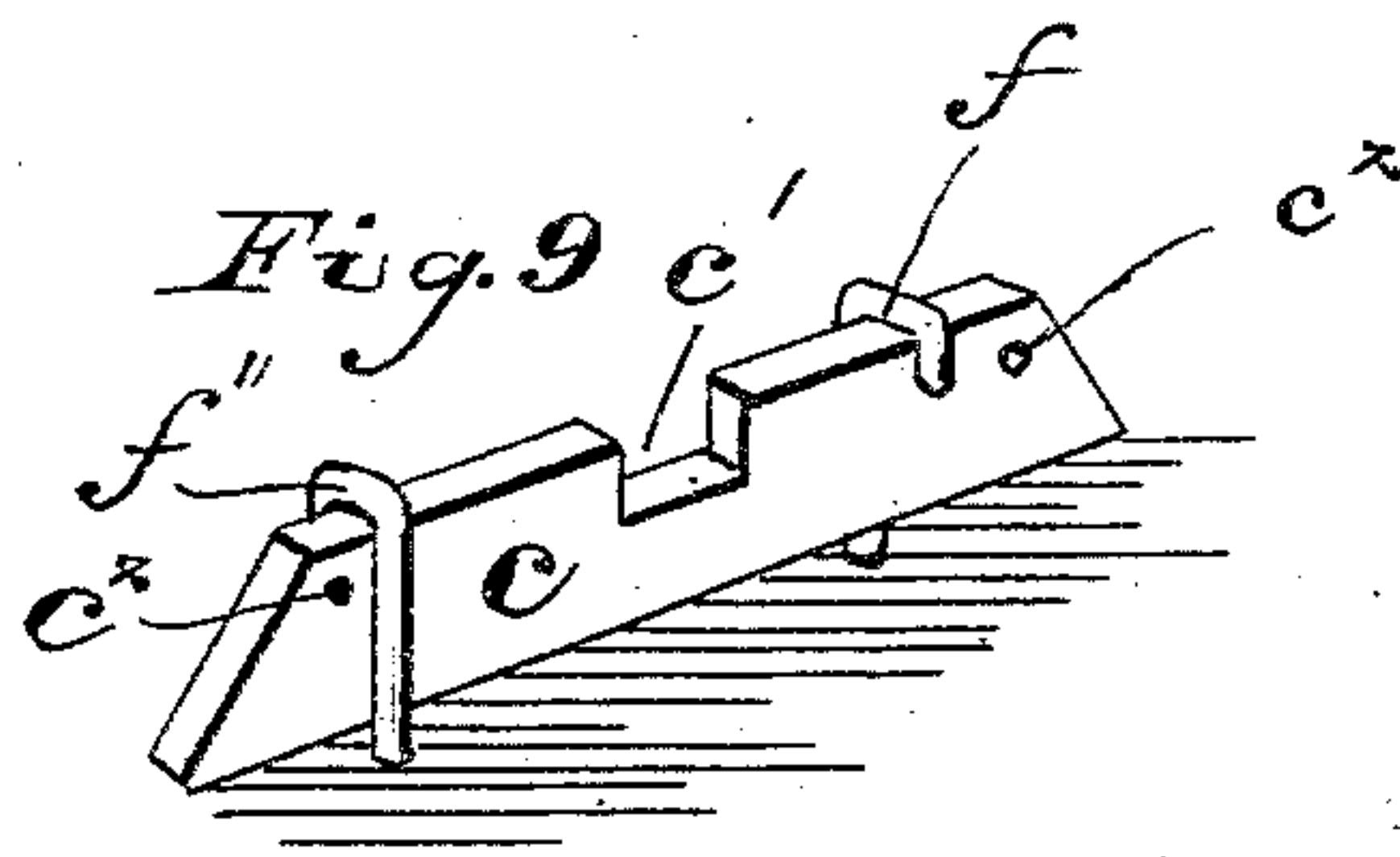
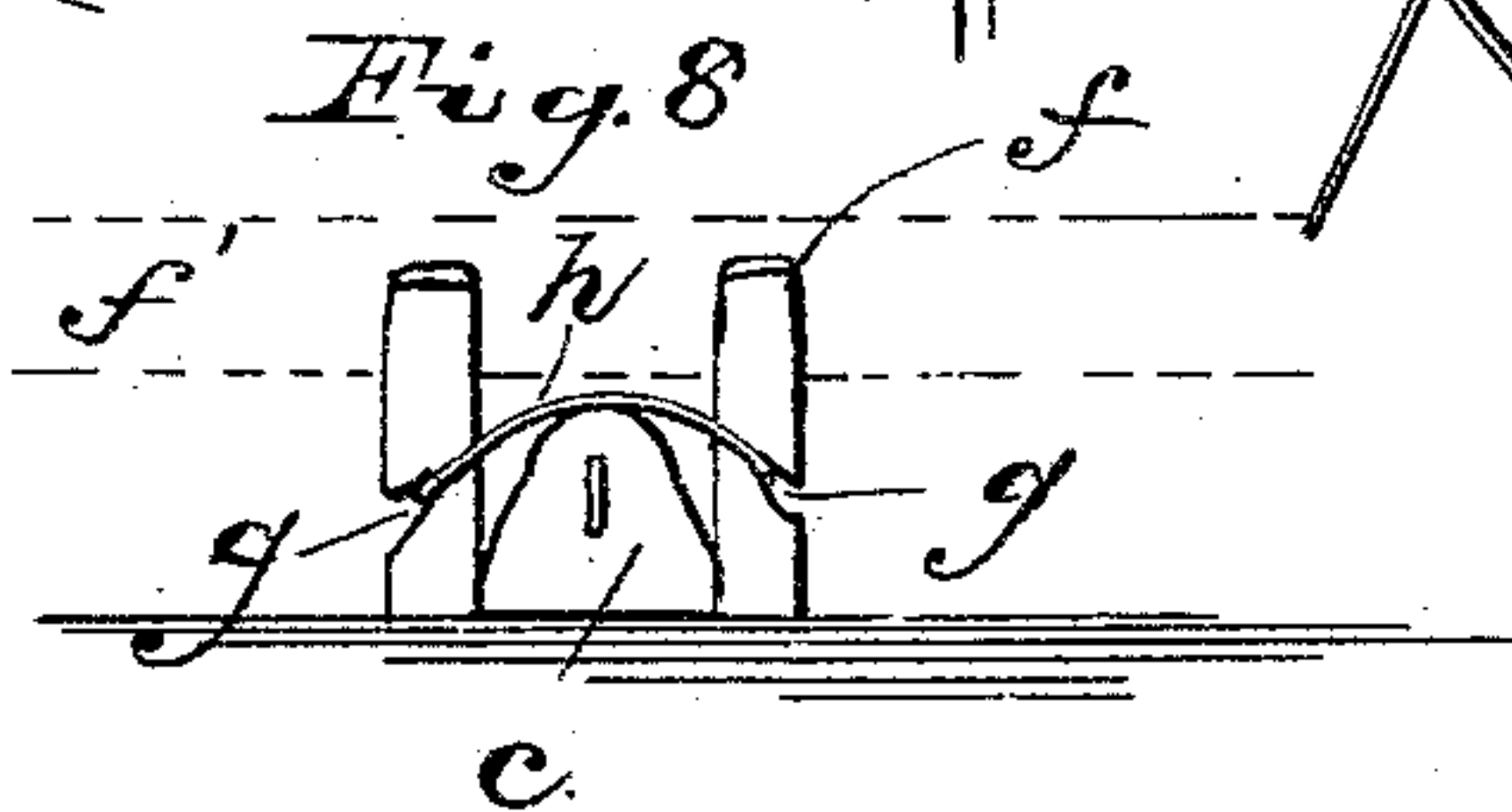
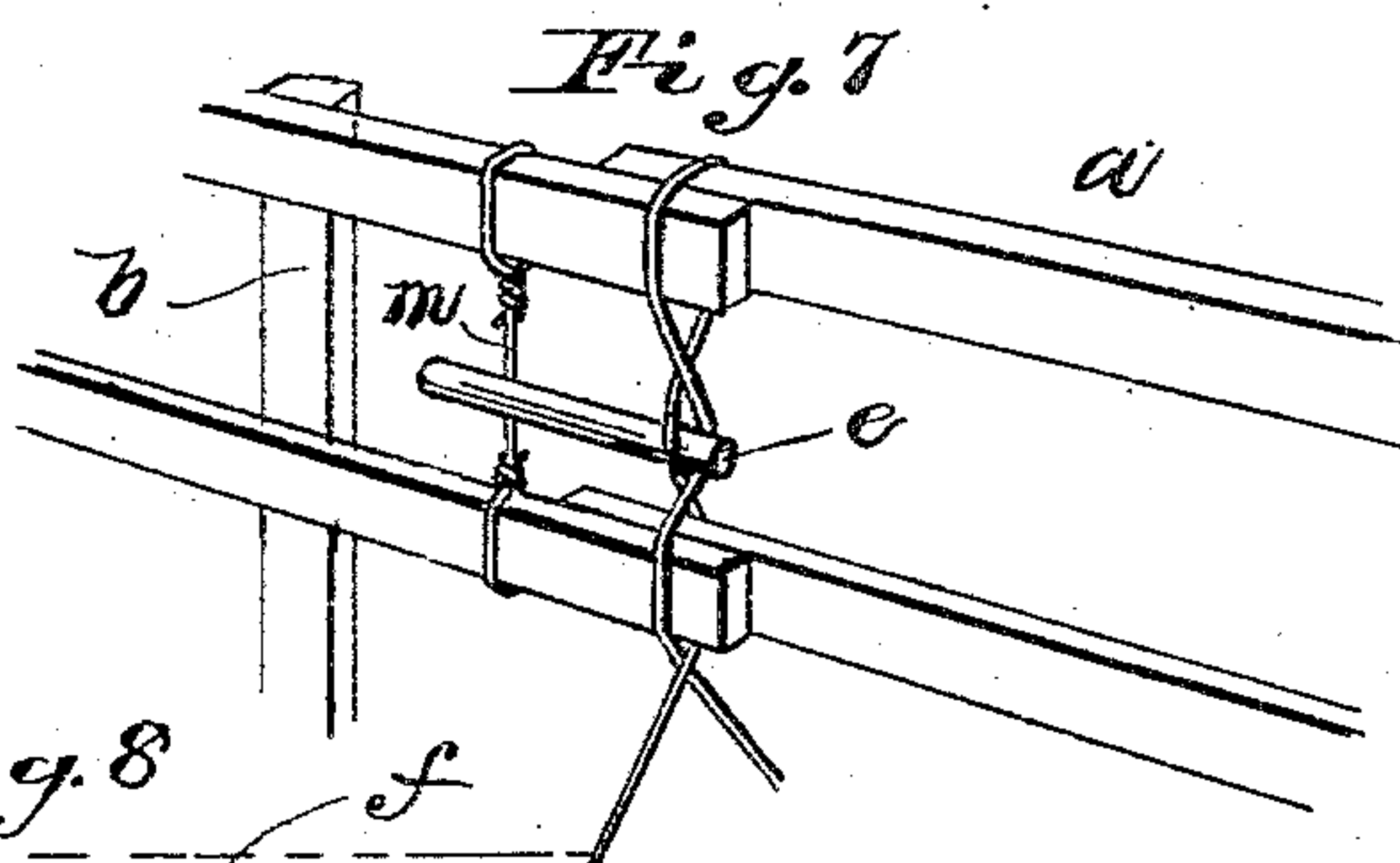
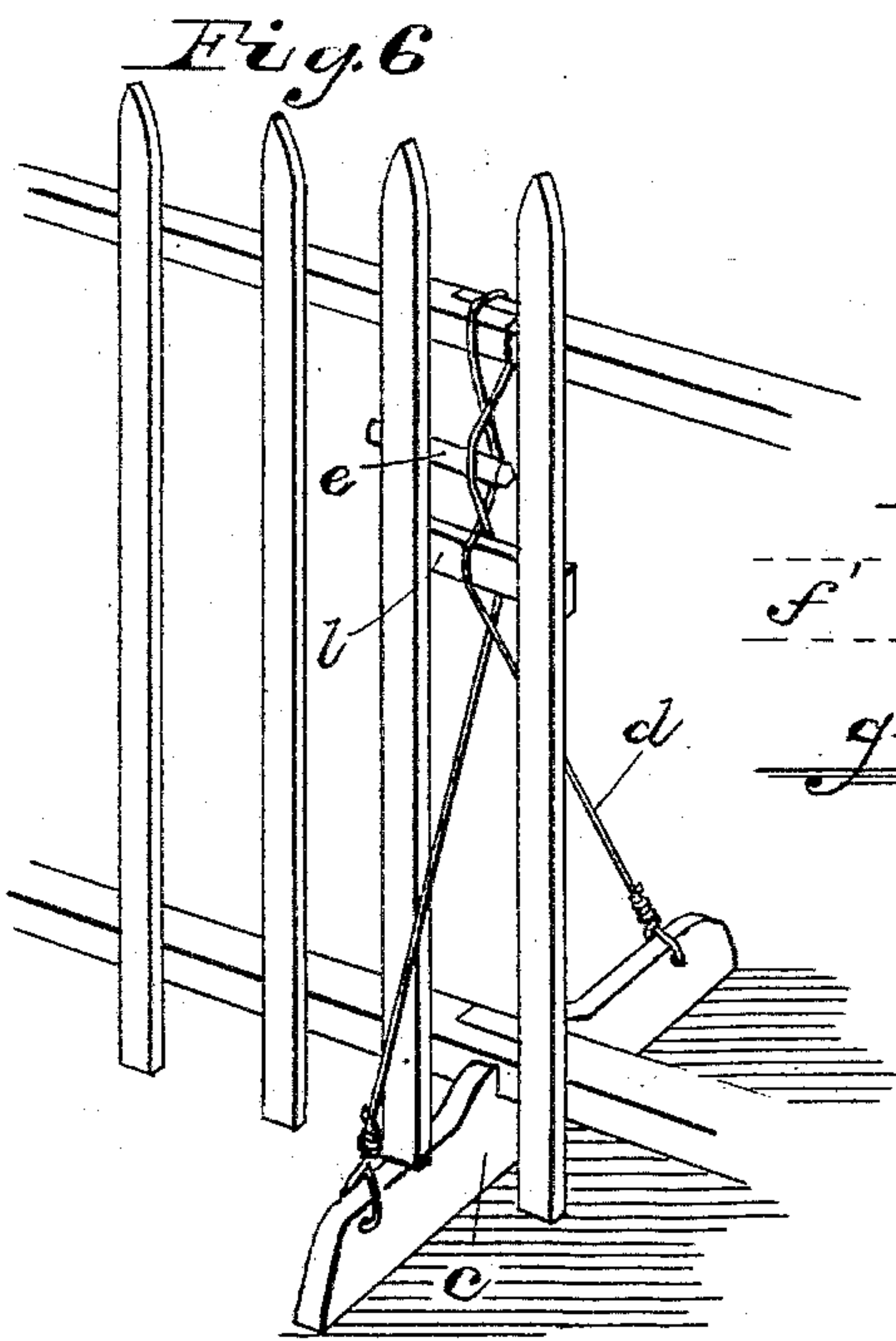
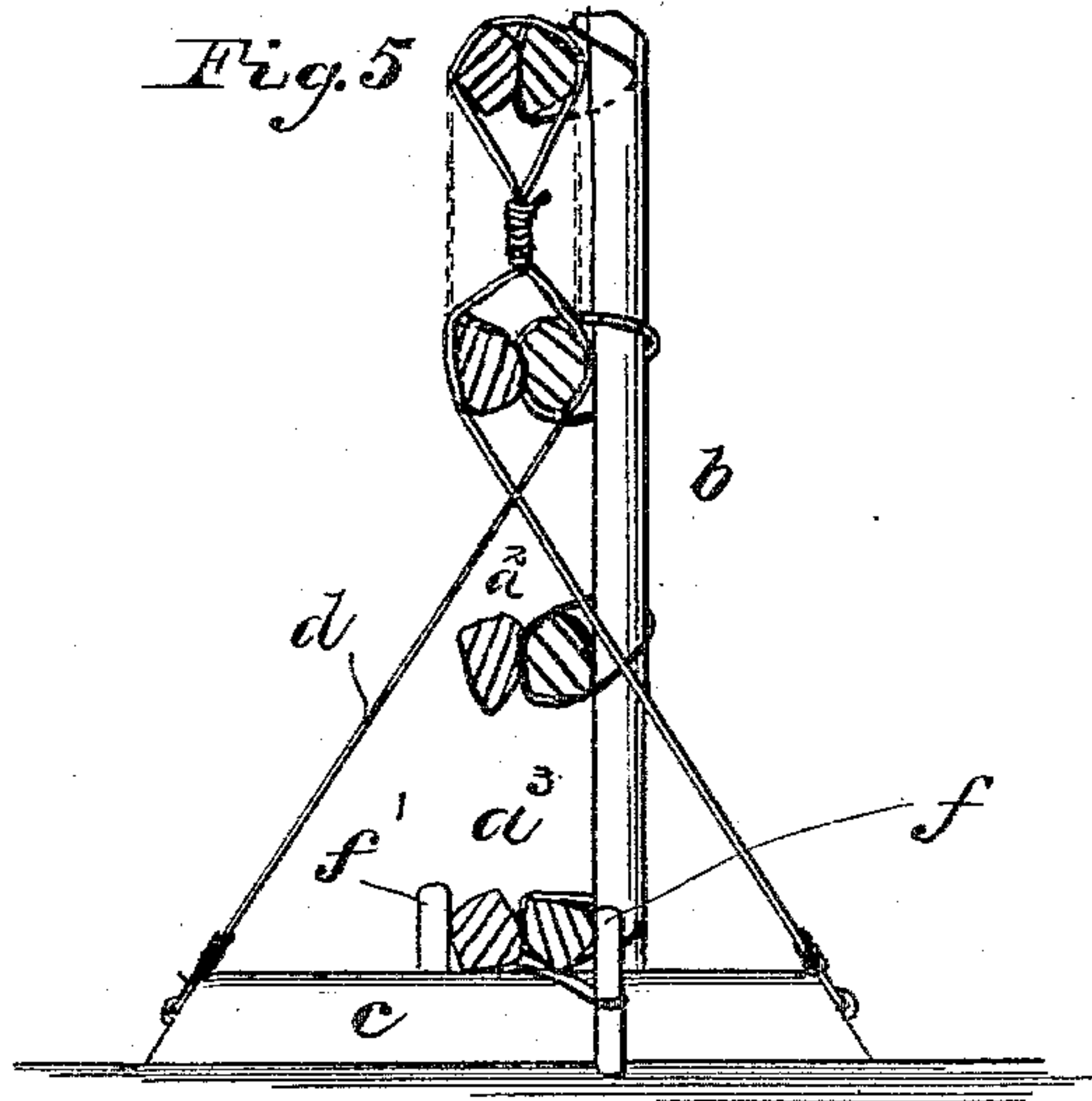
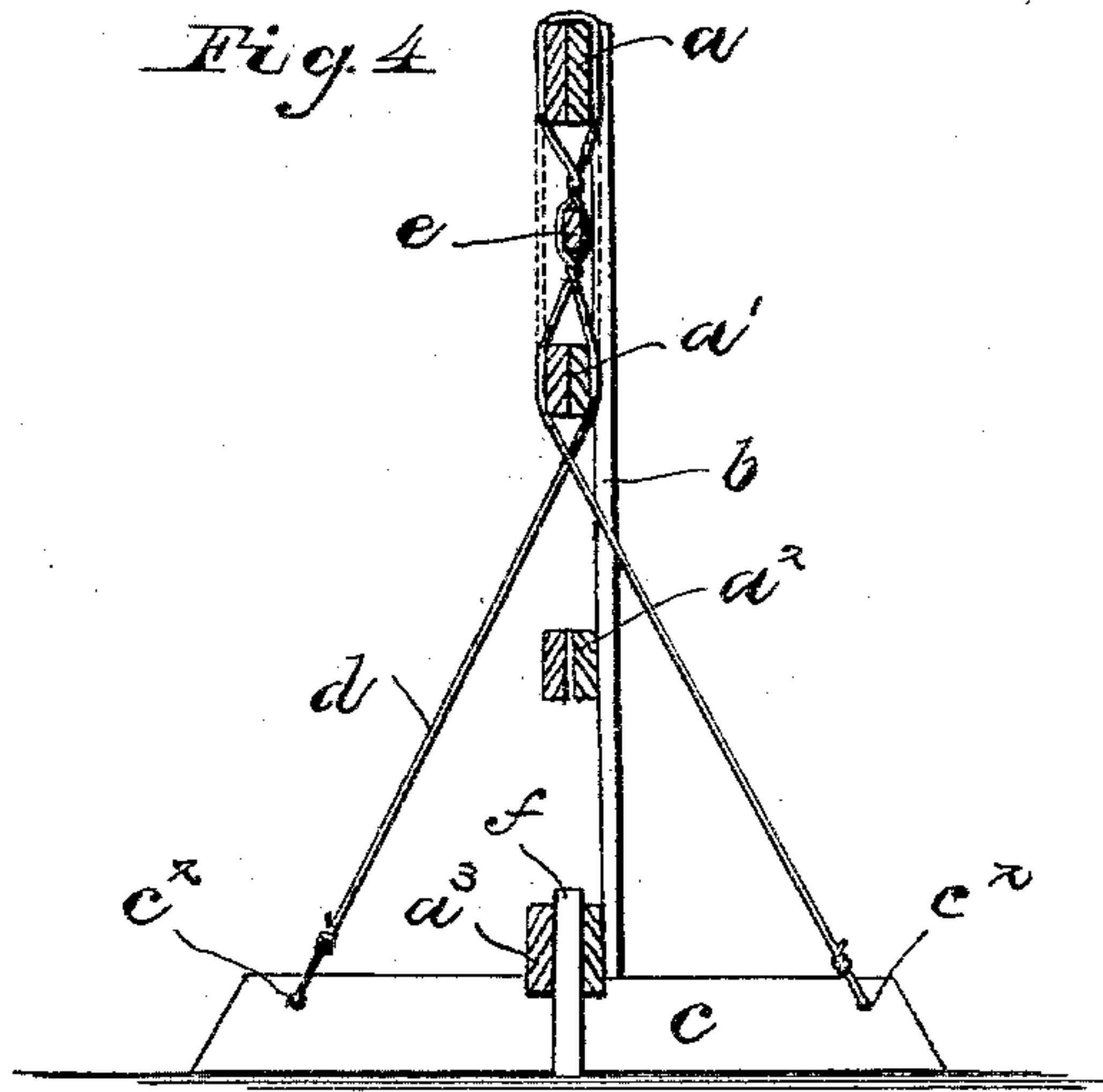
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

J. F. BAZILL.  
FENCE.

No. 378,425.

Patented Feb. 28, 1888.



Witnesses

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Att'y



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH F. BAZILL, OF ST. PARIS, OHIO.

## FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 378,425, dated February 28, 1888.

Application filed May 31, 1887. Serial No. 239,923. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH F. BAZILL, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Paris, 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 which are portable or semi-portable in their natures; and it particularly relates to those fences known as "straight-line fences," which are formed of rails or boards secured together and held in place to form a fence by means of wire.

The objects of my invention are, first, to provide a stay or brace wire of novel construction, having a tension device, by means of which it may be tightened against the respective panels of fence, and thus hold them securely in position, the stay-wire and tension device being so constructed and arranged that the fence may be readily adjusted to assume a perpendicular position without regard to the conditions or inclination of the ground on which it is placed.

My object is further to provide a fence of novel construction that is capable of being readily adjusted in place or removed as desired.

My invention consists in various constructions and combinations of parts, hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a fence embodying my invention, in which the respective panels are constructed from boards or slats. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the fence constructed from rails or poles. Figs. 3 and 3<sup>a</sup> are detailed views of the ground piece or support, showing the method of securing the same in place. Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view of a fence composed of boards. Fig. 5 is a similar view of a fence constructed of rails. Figs. 6 to 9, inclusive, are views showing modifications of my device, which will be referred to hereinafter.

It has become common to make fences with wire and rails or boards. It has also become common to use stay-wires, having devices for tightening the same for adjusting the fence in a vertical position. In the devices heretofore used for this purpose, however, difficulty has been experienced in holding the fence firmly

in place, and in securing the same in a proper upright position, owing to the peculiar construction and location of the tension device.

By my invention herein described I provide a stay-wire and tension device, which is drawn tightly against the fence, and at the same time draws equally from each side of the stay-wire, thus securely supporting the fence in any desired position of adjustment.

In the accompanying drawings  $a$   $a'$   $a''$   $a'''$  represent the respective rails or boards, which form a panel of the fence. These rails or boards are preferably secured together, at either end, by means of cross-pieces  $b$ , which may be wired or otherwise secured thereto to form separate and complete panels. These panels are each adapted at their respective ends to rest on the base-pieces  $c$ , which are fastened securely to the ground in a manner hereinafter described.

In placing the fence in position the ends of the respective panels are placed together, so that the boards or rails forming the same overlap, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The stay-wire  $d$  is passed over two of the boards or rails, so as to form a loop, as shown in dotted lines in Figs. 4 and 5, after which they are crossed below the lower rail contained in the loop therein, and secured at either end to the base-pieces  $c$ . While in this position the stay-wire  $d$  draws equally from both sides; but from the peculiar form of the loop the fence is adapted to be moved at the top in either direction to bring it to a vertical or other desired position, the wire forming the loop being adapted to slip over the rails inclosed thereby.

In order to secure the fence in any desired position I provide a tension device located between the respective rails contained in said loop, and so constructed that the sides of the loop are drawn tightly against the inclosed rails at the top and bottom, the location of the tension device being such that the slack from the stay-wire is taken up equally from both sides, thus firmly binding and supporting the fence without drawing it in either direction from the perpendicular or other desired position. I preferably accomplish this by inserting in the loop a tension rod or stick,  $e$ , and turning the same in a horizontal plane, so as to cross the wires of the loop above and below the respective inclosed rails, the ten-



sion-rod being held against backward revolution by bringing the end against the cross pieces or cleats *b*. By this construction it will be seen that the inclosed rails are bound tightly by the wire of the loop on both sides, each rail being completely inclosed thereby, the tension of the stay-wires *d* being regulated by the number of turns given to the tension-rod *e*.

In constructing a fence the panels of which are formed from boards, I preferably form the base-piece *c* of board provided in the center with a notch, *c'*, adapted to receive the lower boards of the respective panels. These base-boards *c* are secured firmly to the ground by means of an anchor-stake, *f*, which is adapted to project between the lower rails or boards, *a*<sup>3</sup>, of the respective panels, the base-boards *c* being secured to the said anchor-stakes by nails or by wire in a suitable manner. When boards are used, I construct the base *c* at either end with openings *c*<sup>2</sup>, through which the respective ends of the stay-wire *d* are passed and secured in the ordinary manner. If desired, the notched base-board *c* may be dispensed with and any ordinary block of wood or piece of rail may be used in its stead, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, 3<sup>a</sup>, 5, and 8. In this construction the base-piece *c* is held firmly by two anchor-stakes, *f'* and *f*, adapted to engage the end of a loop-wire, *h*, which passes over the said base-piece *c*. The lower rails of the respective panels are placed side by side, and the anchor-stakes *f* and *f'* are driven on either side and close up to the respective rails and on opposite sides of the base-piece *c*. If desired, these anchor-stakes may be provided with notches *g*, as shown in Figs. 3 and 8. These notches, however, may be dispensed with, as shown in Figs. 2, 3<sup>a</sup>, and 5, by twisting the wires of the loop *h* until they bind upon the anchor-stakes. As the anchor-stakes are driven to their proper position the wire of the loop will cut into the same, and the loop thus drawn tightly over the base-piece *c*, holding the said base-piece firmly in position.

In forming the corners of a fence of this construction I preferably use a double stay-wire, as shown at *d'* in Fig. 1, the ends of the corner panel being adapted to come together at right angles, as shown, the ends of the rails of one of said panels being adapted to project between the side wires of the stay *d*, and provided with a pin or pins, *i*, passing through the rails of said panel behind the stay-wires *d*, as shown.

It will be seen that by this construction as the tension is applied to the stay-wire by means of the tension device *e* the ends of both panels will be secured firmly in place.

It will be seen that a fence as thus constructed may be readily replaced or removed, as desired, being portable in its nature. By loosening the tension device of the stay-wire the fence may be set to assume any angular position with relation to the ground on which it is placed, after which it may be securely fastened by the tension device *e*.

It is obvious that the constructions herein shown may be variously modified. For picket fences, where the top and bottom rail only is used, an additional rail or cleat, *l*, may be secured to two or more pickets by which to form the loop in the stay-wire, as shown in Fig. 6, the tension-rod *e* in this case being adapted to come against one of the pickets to prevent a backward revolution. In case the cleat *b* is not in a position to engage the end of the tension-rod *e*, an ordinary wire, *m*, may be provided, as shown in Fig. 7.

Instead of securing the base-piece *c*, as above described, it is obvious that the anchor-stakes may be made in the form of hooks, as shown at *f''* *f'''* in Fig. 9, adapted to hook over the base-piece *c*.

Where it is desired to make a permanent fence the tension may be applied to the stay-wire *d*, as shown in Fig. 5, by bringing the sides of the loop formed in the stay-wire together by means of a binding-wire which is passed around the respective sides of the loop, as shown, the tension of the stay-wire being determined by the amount of the loop which is engaged by the binding-wire.

It is obvious that various other modifications of my invention may be employed without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In a fence formed with panels having overlapping ends adapted to rest on the base-pieces, a stay-wire secured at either end to said base-pieces, said stay-wire being provided with a loop inclosing two or more of the overlapping rails of said panels, a tension-rod inserted between the sides of said loop and turned in a horizontal plane to cross the wires of said loop above and below the said inclosed rails, and means for holding said tension-rod against revolution, substantially as set forth.

2. In a fence the panels of which are adapted to join at right angles to form a corner, a base-piece on which the respective panels are adapted to rest, a double stay-wire wrapped about the upper rail of one of said panels and adapted to receive the inner end of the respective rails of the other panel between the sides of the said stay-wire, a pin or pins behind said stay-wire, and a tension device adapted to draw the stay-wire against the respective panels, substantially as set forth.

3. In a fence the panels of which are provided with overlapping rails adapted to rest on a common base-piece, anchor-stakes on opposite sides of said base-piece and on either side of the lower rails of the respective panels, said anchor-stakes being each adapted to engage with a wire loop extending over said base-piece, a stay-wire secured at either end to said base-piece and passing over the respective rails of the respective panels, and a tension device in said stay-wire, substantially as set forth.

4. The overlapping panels resting on a common base-piece, a stay-wire attached at either



end to said base-piece and provided with a  
loop inclosing two or more rails of the panels,  
anchor-stakes on either side of the said panels  
and on opposite sides of said base-piece, and  
5 a wire loop twisted and passed over said base-  
piece and engaging with said anchor-stakes,  
substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my  
hand this 21st day of April, A. D. 1887.

JOSEPH F. BAZILL.

Witnesses:

J. H. BALDORF,  
T. O. MITCHELL.