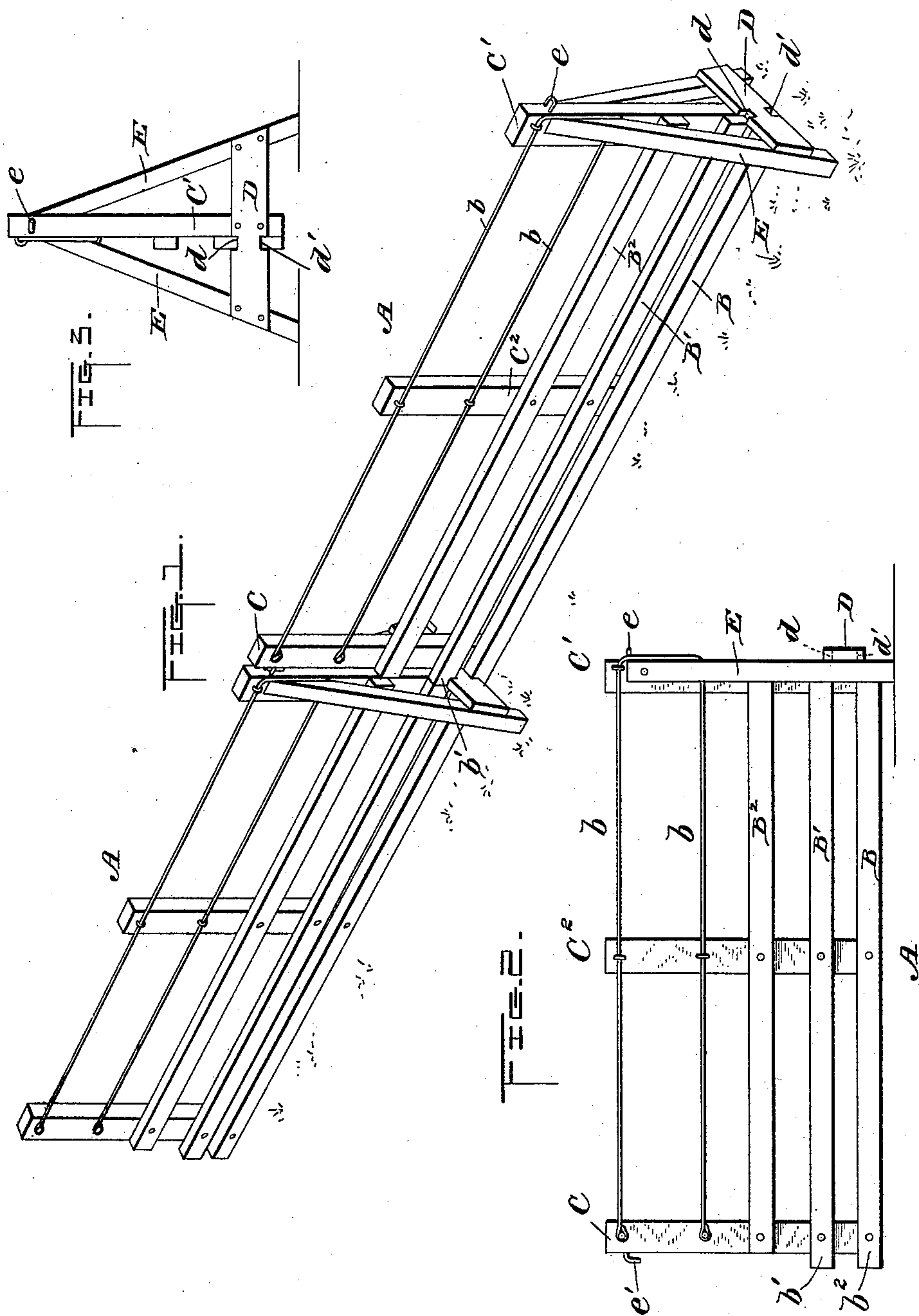


(No Model.)

W. A. FRUSHOUR.
FENCE.

No. 378,832.

Patented Feb. 28, 1888.



Witnesses

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WILLIAM A. FRUSHOUR, OF URBANA, INDIANA.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 378,832, dated February 28, 1888.

Application filed December 22, 1887. Serial No. 258,729. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. FRUSHOUR, of the village of Urbana, in the county of Wabash and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which 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 of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in fences, and more particularly to that peculiar class of portable fences described and shown in the patent to David Reniker, No. 277,930, upon which the present invention is an improvement.

Heretofore the panels or sections of portable fences have been joined together by hooks and staples secured to the upper and lower portions of the side faces of posts at each end of the panels or sections; but this form of connection has many objectionable features when put to practical use, for the hooks must be held in place when the fence is put up by means of pins or other fastenings, to prevent the sections from being separated when any one of them is slightly raised by accident or otherwise. This of course is very inconvenient, and necessitates extra material and work when putting up the fence.

The object of my invention is to provide a portable fence which shall overcome the objectionable features heretofore found in fences of this class, and which shall be simple and cheap in construction and can be put in position and connected together in less time and with less difficulty than the fences heretofore in use.

With these ends in view my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts, fully described hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my fence, showing the panels in position and connected. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of one of the panels; and Fig. 3 is an elevation of the end of the panel, which is provided with the supporting-post, sill, and braces.

In the drawings, the reference-letter A represents a removable section or panel composed of the horizontal rails or bars $B B' B^2$, connected at their opposite ends by upright posts $C C'$ and braced at about their middle portion by the upright piece or bar C^2 . The top rails of the panels are preferably formed by the wires $b b$, although it is evident that rails of other form could be substituted, as found most desirable.

To the lower portion of the outer end face of upright post C' , at one end of the panel A' , is secured a horizontal sill, D , at about its central portion. Slanting braces $E E$ are secured at their upper ends to the upper part of the post C' , and extend downward, being fastened to the outer ends of the sill D . The opposite end of the panel is simply provided with the upright post C , beyond the outer edge of which the ends b' and b^2 of the two lower rails, B and B' , project a suitable distance, and are adapted to rest in the notches or recessed portions d and d' , oppositely located in the top and bottom edges of the horizontal sill, when the panels are connected. The notches or recesses $d d'$ are so located in the top and bottom edge of the sill that when the projecting ends of the two bottom rails of the adjoining panel rest therein their ends will abut, or nearly so, against the ends of the rails of the adjoining section, and thus the corresponding rails in each section will form a continuation of each other when the fence is erected.

A staple, e , is driven into the upper portion of the outer edge of the post C' , which is provided with the braces and sill, and a hook, e' , is rigidly secured in the upper portion of the outer edge of post C at the opposite end of the panel. Thus it will be readily seen that when the fence is being erected the panels are placed so that their ends provided with the sills and braces will adjoin the ends provided with the simple brace or post C , and in connecting the panels the hooks e' will engage the staples e , and the projected end b' of rail B' will rest in the notch d in the upper edge of the sill and the end b^2 of rail B will enter notch d' in the lower edge of the sill. Thus the panels are held firmly connected, for the projected ends and notches will prevent them from being raised and thereby disengage the hooks and staples, and yet they will admit of lateral movement for changing the direction of the

fence. It should also be observed that the sills are secured to the braces and end posts, C', so that the ends of the braces will project below them and form supports for the fence, while
5 the sills do not ordinarily come in contact with the ground.

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

10 In a fence, a panel consisting of horizontal rails, upright posts secured to the opposite ends of said rails, the ends of the two bottom rails projecting beyond the post at one end of the panel, a horizontal sill secured to the outer
15 edge of the post at the opposite end of the panel, inclined braces secured at their upper ends to said post and at their lower ends to the sill, said sill being provided with notches or

recesses oppositely located in its top and bottom edges, a hook projecting from the upper
20 outer edge of one post, and a staple similarly located upon the upper outer edge of the opposite post, whereby one end of the panel is supported by the braces and the opposite end is supported at its upper portion by the hook
25 and staple and its lower portion by the two projecting ends of the rails entering the recesses in the sill of the adjoining panel, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as
30 my own invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM A. FRUSHOUR.

Witnesses:

WARREN BIGLER,
JOHN H. DICKEN.