(No Model.)

D. B. MATLOCK.

FENCE.

No. 385,466. Patented July 3, 1888.

Fig 1

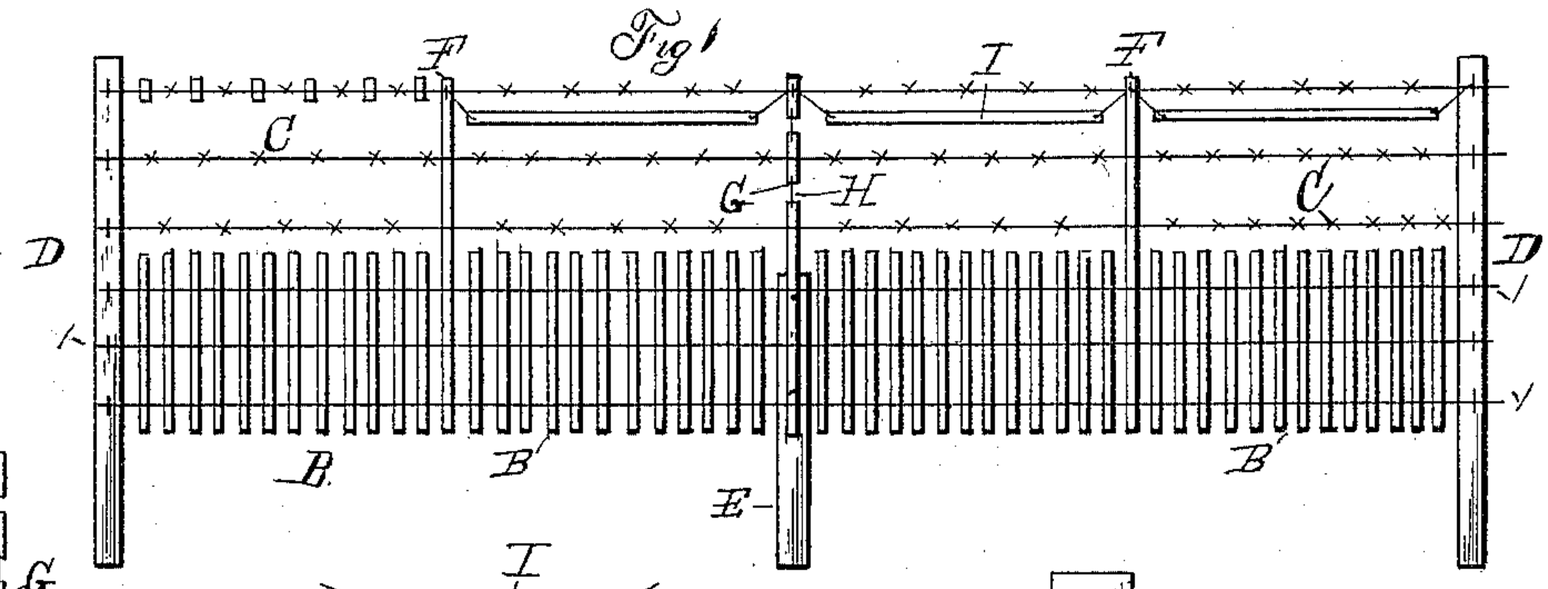


Fig 4

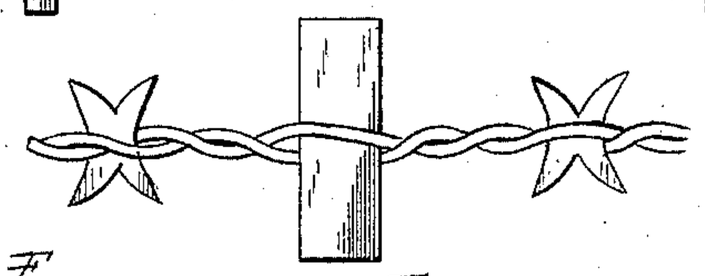


Fig 2

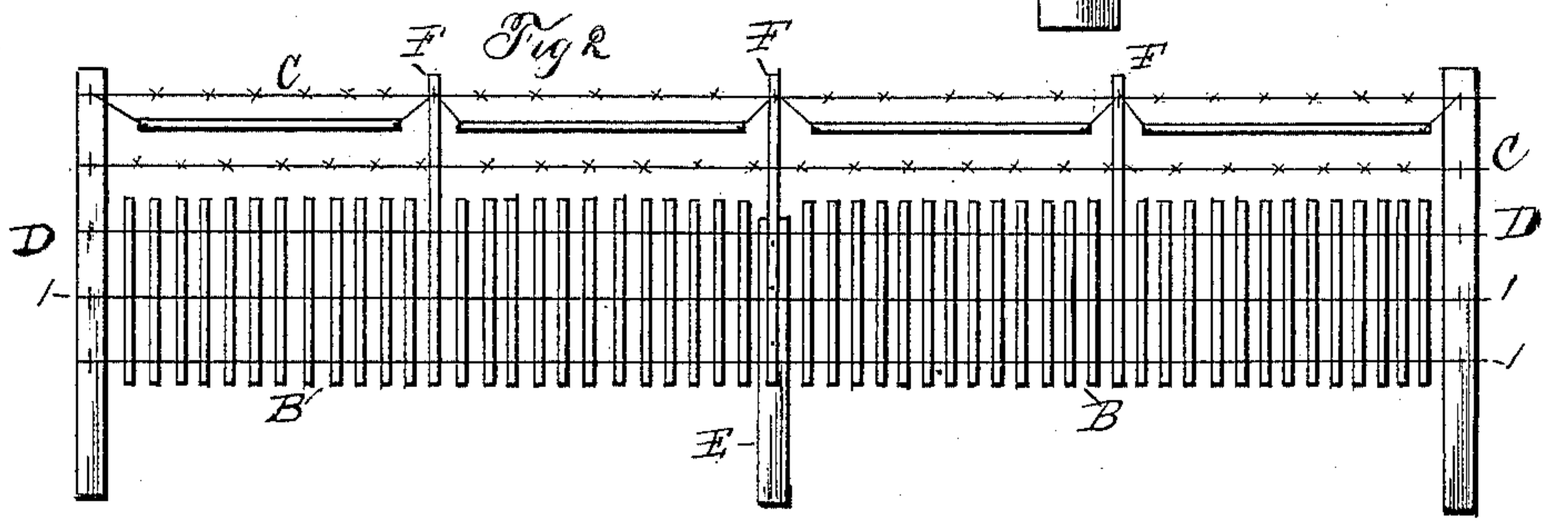
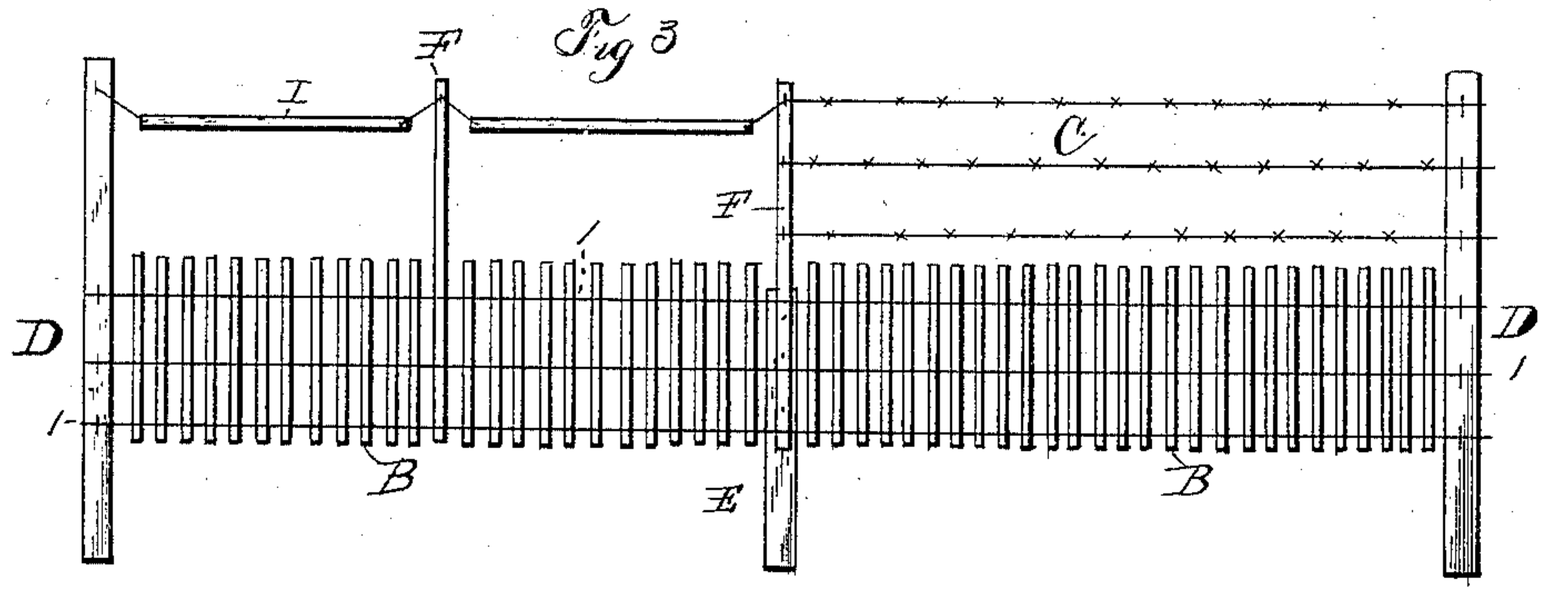


Fig 5

Fig 3



Witnesses.
F. L. Ourand
Chas. Rhodes,

Inventor,
D. B. Matlock.
By his Attorney A. G. Heyssner.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID B. MATLOCK, OF SAN JOSÉ, CALIFORNIA.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,466, dated July 3, 1888.

Application filed March 3, 1887. Serial No. 229,652. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID B. MATLOCK, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at San José, in the county of Santa Clara, in the State of California, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fences, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has relation to improvements in fences of that class made up of vertical pickets and horizontally-strung wires above the pickets; and the object is to improve existing similar constructions. I accomplish the object stated by means of the constructions illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a view of the preferred construction, showing the sectional binding and stretching post or picket. Fig. 2 is a view wherein the sectional picket is omitted. Fig. 3 is a view wherein one panel or section of fence is shown with the warning-slats omitted, and the other section with the slat shown and the wires omitted. Fig. 4 is a view of the sectional picket, and Fig. 5 is a view of the long binding-picket.

In the drawings, the same elements or parts shown in the different figures are designated by similar notations of reference.

D designates the main posts of the fence. These are of the requisite height and of such strength as to withstand the strain to which they may be subjected. These main posts are set in the ground, or are secured in such seats or fastenings as are known to the trade.

E designates the intermediate post, disposed at proper panel intervals between the main posts, and is also set in the ground. This post E is made shorter than the main posts, extending only as high, or not as high, as the length of the main line of pickets, substantially as shown in the drawings.

B designates the pickets. These are strung in the wires *l*, and extend as high as it is desired to have the picket part reach. The wires *l* are held to the main posts by any of the approved usual means.

Midway or at proper distances apart in each panel of pickets I secure long pickets F, which extend above the fence-line of pickets as high as it is designed to have the fence; and to the short posts E, I secure the lower part of one of these long pickets, as shown, which at the wire part of the fence I cut into sections G, as will be hereinafter more fully stated. These extended pickets are designed as binding-posts for the wires stretched above the line of short pickets.

C designates the wires of the fence, strung horizontally and secured to the posts, after which they are twisted by means of the sections G, such devices as barbs being inserted and secured between the wires during the process of twisting. To make these sections maintain a vertical position, I secure them in connection by links or staples H. The purpose of these sectional pieces is to give each wire of the fence a proper and independent resiliency, and in case the line becomes slack the connections may be disconnected and the sections used as means for twisting the wires to take up the slack, after which the connections may be replaced.

If barb-wire be used, the post is not divided into sections G, but the wires are secured to the post in any desired way.

The sectional pickets are woven solid in the fence, the twist on one side being the reverse of that upon the other side, so that when the pickets are cut up in sections, as shown, the sectional pieces can be turned to twist and tighten the wires still further.

The fence may be woven in the field by any of the machines made for that purpose, or it may be made in the shop and delivered in the field in rolls and then set up as usual.

To provide warning to approaching animals, I swing between the long posts or between the long pickets and the post warning-slats I, which may consist of wood or metal; or the usual short warning-tags may be fixed in the wires, as shown.

I do not herein broadly claim a fence composed of long and short pickets bound together by twisted wires, as herein described, as that forms the subject-matter of a separate application, No. 274,042, filed May 16, 1888.

What I claim is—

1. The herein-described fence, composed of the main end posts, D, short intermediate post, E, a panel of pickets formed of short pickets B and long binding-pickets F, secured together and to the end posts by wires and to the short

posts by one of the binding-pickets, and horizontally-arranged wires C above the short pickets and fixed to the end posts and the projecting parts of the long binding-pickets, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a line of fencing composed of a lower line of pickets and an upper line of wires, of binding-pickets consisting of detachably-connected sections G, whereby the slack of the strands may be taken up, substantially as described.

3. The fence herein described, composed of the main posts D, short intermediate posts, E, a line of pickets shorter than the line of fencing secured together and to the posts by wires, long binding-pickets at intervals in the line of pickets, long pickets consisting of detachably-connected sections extending above the main line of pickets, and horizontally-arranged wires C above the pickets and fixed to the main posts, the long binding-pickets, and the sectional binding-pickets, substantially as described, and for the purpose stated.

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

DAVID B. MATLOCK.

Witnesses:
FRANK L. VAN NICE,
W. L. MATLOCK.