(No Model.)

D. R. BARTON.

METHOD OF FENCE BUILDING.

No. 400,429. Patented Apr. 2, 1889.

Fig. 1.

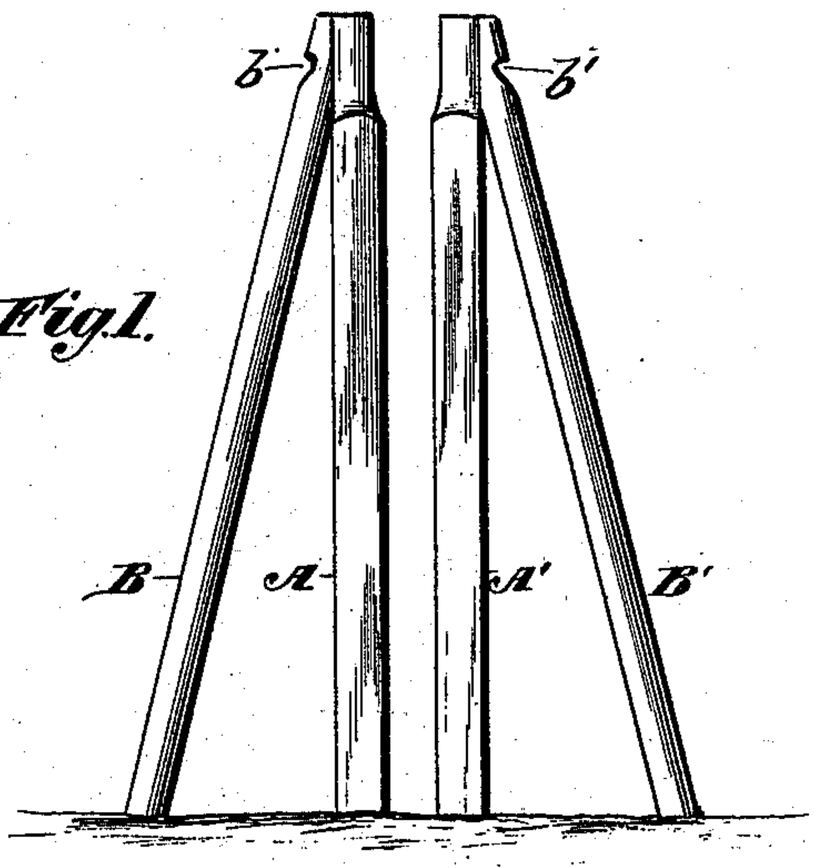


Fig. 2.

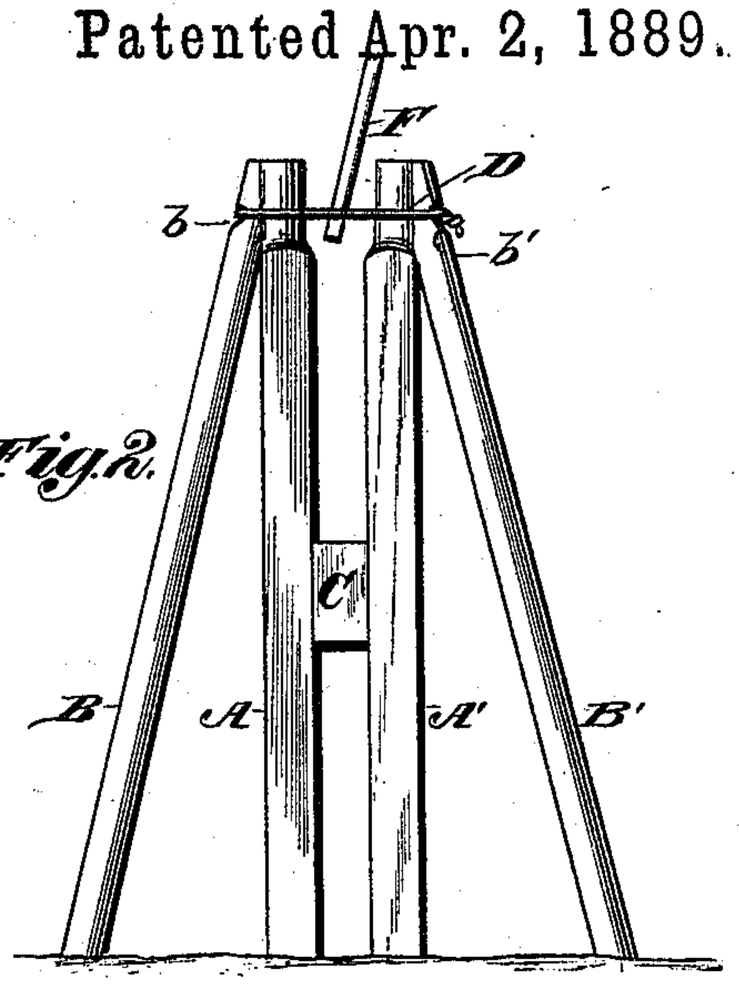


Fig. 3.

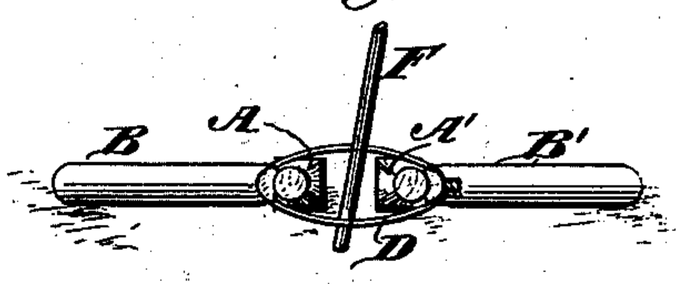


Fig. 4.

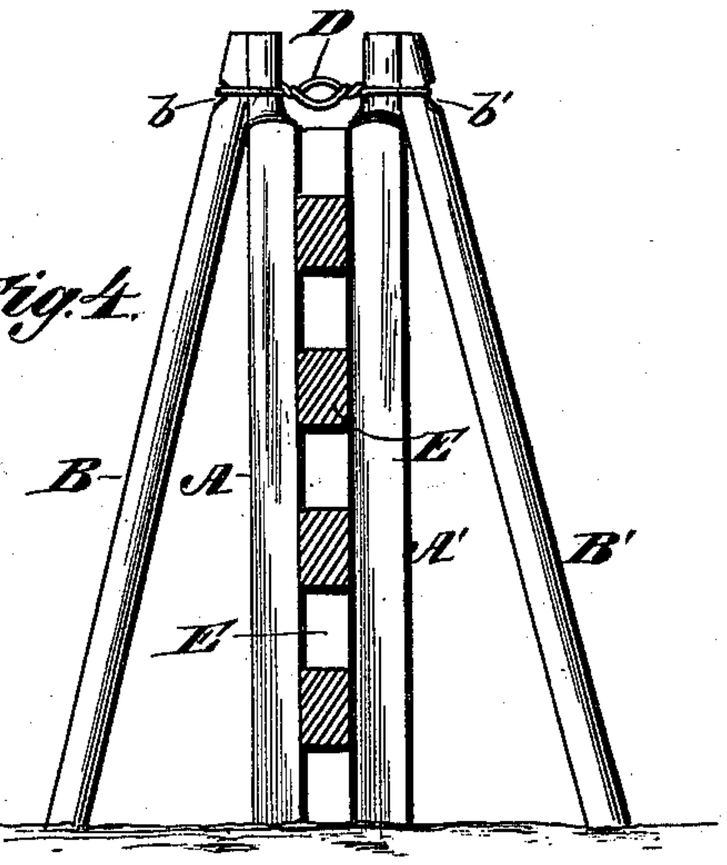
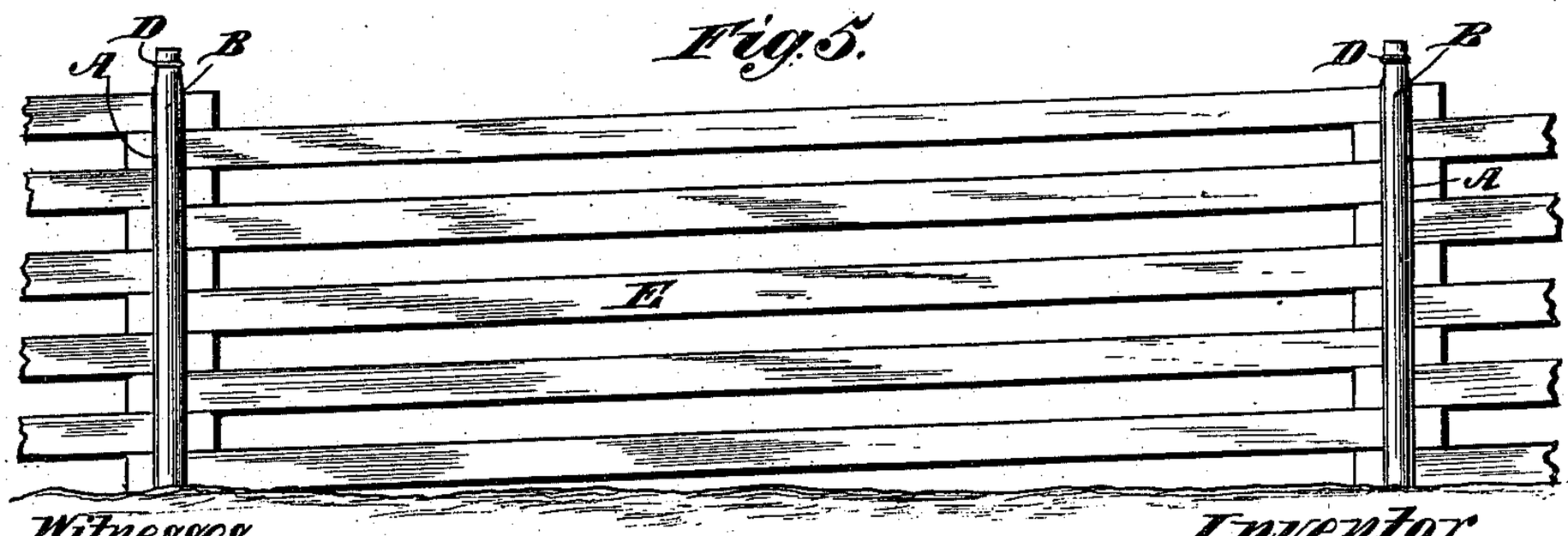


Fig. 5.



Witnesses.
Robt Pruett,
H. A. Daniels

Inventor.
David R. Barton,
by Wm H. Babcock,
Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID RITTENHOUSE BARTON, OF CENTREVILLE, MARYLAND.

METHOD OF FENCE-BUILDING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 400,429, dated April 2, 1889.

Application filed October 19, 1888. Serial No. 288,560. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID RITTENHOUSE BARTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Centreville, in the county of Queen Anne and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Method of Fence-Building; and I do hereby 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.

This invention relates to the making or building of permanent fences consisting of upright posts or stakes, braces, horizontal rails, and fastening devices.

The object of said invention is to put up said fences expeditiously and cheaply, making them strong and durable. To this end I have invented the method of construction hereinafter particularly set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a pair of stakes and their braces before a wire loop and spacing-block have been applied. Fig. 2 represents a similar view after the placing of the block and wire binding-loop in position for use. Fig. 3 represents a plan view of the devices as in Fig. 2, but with the twisting-rod in place, the binding-loop being not yet twisted. Fig. 4 represents a view similar to Figs. 1 and 2, after the twisting of said loop, the withdrawal of said block, and the placing of the rails, which are shown in cross-section. Fig. 5 represents an elevation of a part of the completed fence, taken at right angles to Fig. 4, and showing two pairs of stakes with their braces and the rails extending from one pair to the other.

A and A′ designate the upright stakes of each pair.

B and B′ designate the inclined braces, which are beveled at their upper ends on their inner sides to fit against said stakes, and provided with notches *b b′* on their outer sides opposite said beveled parts.

C designates the removable spacing-block.

D designates the wire fastening-loop. E designates the rails, and F designates the bar or rod used for twisting this loop.

The method of constructing the fence is as follows: The stakes A A′ composing each pair are first sunk in post-holes side by side to a depth of about one foot, said stakes being about three inches apart. The braces B B′ are then sunk, preferably to the depth of about four inches, taking the inclined position shown in the drawings, with their upper ends in contact with the upper ends of said stakes. The rails are then laid horizontally in place. The spacing-block C is then placed between the stakes A A′ above the rails to prevent said stakes from being drawn too closely together at the top, the width of this block being predetermined by the distance which the fence-builder desires to maintain between his stakes, so as to keep said stakes upright and parallel, yet allow them to hold the rails securely. The wire loop D is then slipped over said stakes and braces, so as to rest in notches *b b′*, as shown in Fig. 2. The bar or rod F, preferably of metal, is then slipped obliquely into said loop, as shown in Fig. 3, and turned in a vertical or nearly vertical plane, approximately at right angles to the major axis of said wire loop, so as to twist the latter and tighten it, drawing the braces B B′ and stakes A A′ toward each other and against the block C. The block C and twisting-bar F are then withdrawn, leaving the stakes, braces, and rails in their final position, as shown in Fig. 4. The block and bar are then used with the next pair of stakes and their braces, and so on until the series of stakes is complete, or a sufficient number for convenience have been prepared. Each pair of stakes has its wire fastening-loop; but one spacing-block will answer for all, though where several fence-builders are at work a greater number of blocks or bars may be advantageously used in pushing forward the work. After the stakes, braces, &c., have thus been secured in position the rails are pushed in endwise between them, each rail overlapping its neighbor of the next panel or section.

I am of course aware that the various devices used are all old, considered individually, and that braces and fastenings are commonly used in fences; also, that there is not, broadly, any novelty in arranging fence-posts in pairs (as in some portable fences) with inclined braces and yokes to hold them together; also, that in portable fences the combination of posts arranged in pairs, braces for

said posts, rails between said posts, and wire fastenings around said posts is not new.

I do not claim any of the foregoing devices or combinations of devices; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The method or process of building permanent fences, consisting in the following steps: first, sinking vertical stakes in the ground, side by side in pairs, with an interval between them, each pair of stakes being provided with a pair of inclining braces; second, introducing a spacing-block between a pair of these stakes to limit their approach to each other and keep them parallel; third, placing a wire loop upon and around the upper ends of said pair of posts and their braces; fourth, twisting said loop to draw said stakes against said blocks; fifth, removing the spacing-block and using it as above with successive pairs of stakes until a sufficient number of them are complete, and, finally, inserting the rails between the pairs of stakes, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

DAVID RITTENHOUSE BARTON.

Witnesses:

B. PALMER KEATING,

THOS. J. KEATING.