(No Model.)

W. WINDUS.

FENCE.

No. 514,250. Patented Feb. 6, 1894.

Fig. 1.

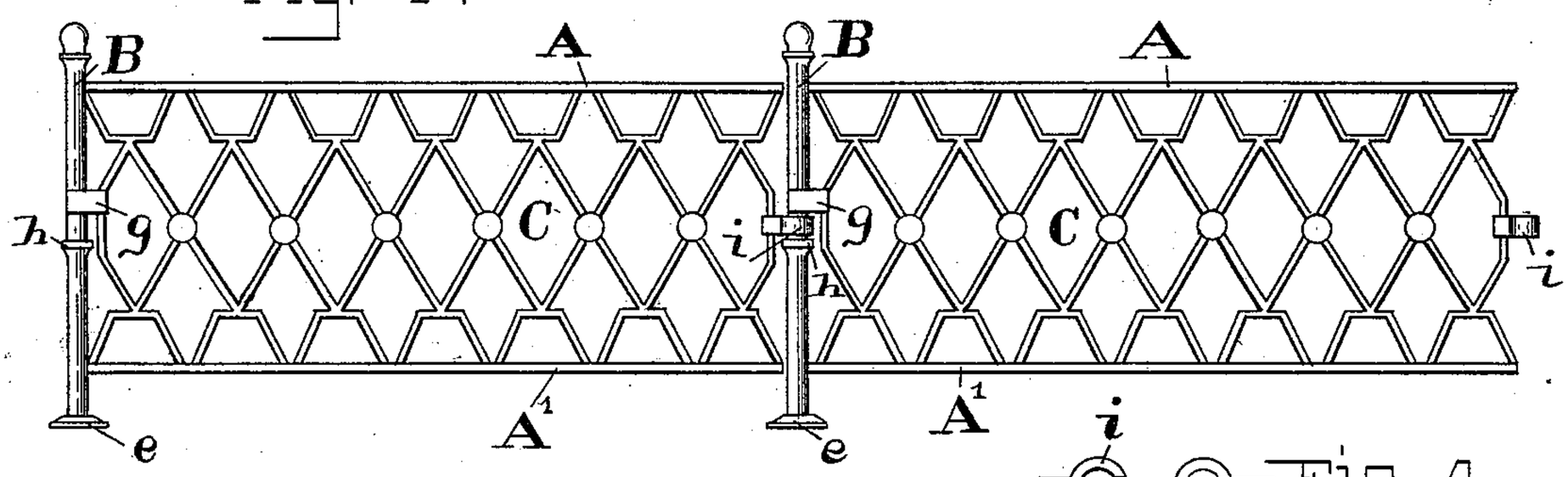

Fig. 4.

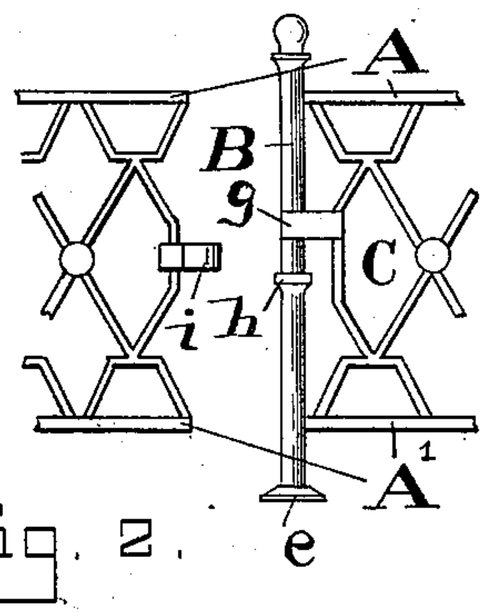

Fig. 2.

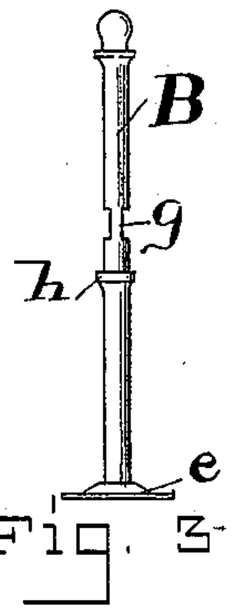

Fig. 3.

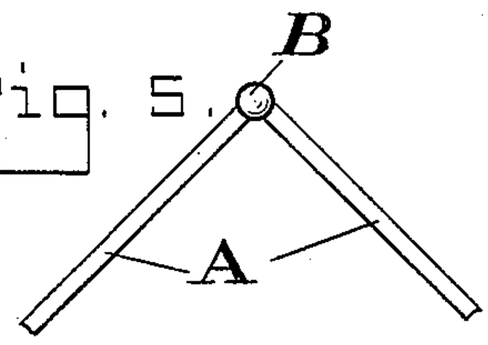

Fig. 5.

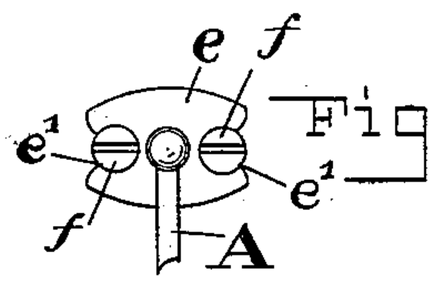

Fig. 6.

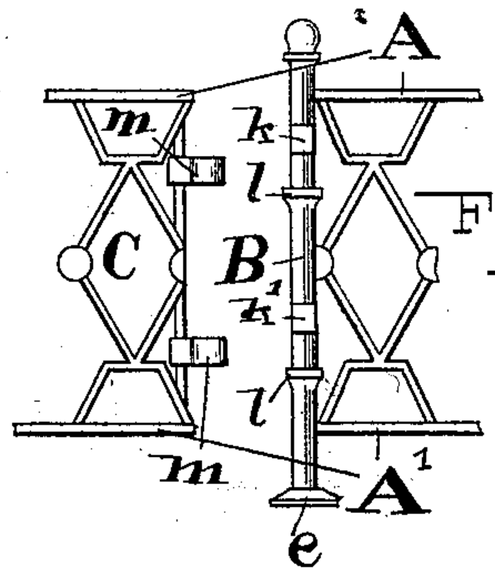

Fig. 7.

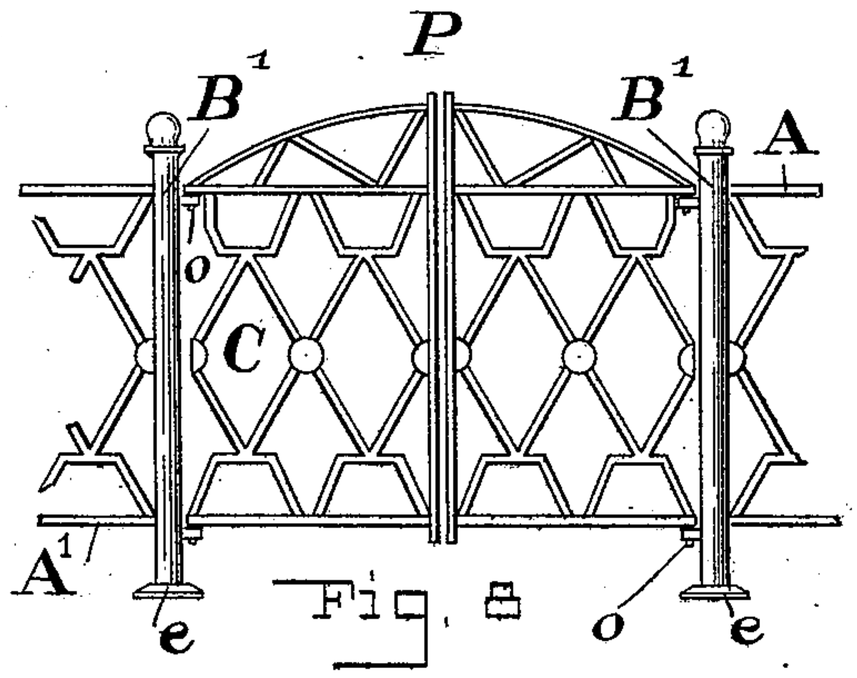

Fig. 8.

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FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 514,250, dated February 6, 1894.

Application filed November 9, 1893. Serial No. 490,415. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WERNER WINDUS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in toy fences, used in connection with Christmas trees and for other purposes, and its object is to render the panel-connecting means more simple and effective.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of two panels connected together. Fig. 2 shows a side view of the separate ends of two panels which are in position for being connected together. Fig. 3 is an end view of a post showing the thin flat vertical part which enters a clip on an adjacent panel and connects the two panels together. Fig. 4 shows a view of the two parts of the coupling and illustrating the manner in which they connect. Fig. 5 is a top view of two panels connected together and arranged at an angle with respect to each other to form a fence corner. Fig. 6 is a top view of the post shown in Fig. 3 and illustrates the base plate. Fig. 7 shows a modification of my invention, the panels to be connected each having two coupling devices instead of one, and Fig. 8 shows how a gate may be provided in the fence.

Each panel in the fence comprises a horizontal top and bottom rail, A, A′, a vertical post, B, at one end, and any desired ornamental frame-work, C, between the top and bottom rails. The panel is preferably cast in one piece. Each post has formed on its lower end a flat-bottomed base-plate, *e*, to rest upon a level surface and keeps the post upright, said base-plate having notches, *e′*, in its opposite ends for screws, *f*, to engage in securing the fence on a board or other suitable base. The post at one end of the panel is formed with a flat thin vertical part, *g*, and a supporting collar or stop, *h*, and the other end of the panel has a projecting circular clip, *i*, provided with a vertical slit, *i′*, at its front end. In connecting two panels thus constructed, the projecting clip, *i*, of one panel is slipped on the thin vertical part, *g*, on the post, B, of the other panel; the clip then slides down the post until it rests upon the supporting collar or stop, *h*, in which position the clip embraces the post and brings the rails and outer surfaces of the two panels in perfect alignment; the circular clip, *i*, is free to swing upon the post, B, so that the two panels may be set either straight in line or at an angle with respect to one another, and the corner or meeting panels may be connected as conveniently as the panels of a fence running in the same direction.

The posts, B, may be of any form except at that part, *b*, between the thin vertical part, *g*, and the supporting collar or stop, *h*, which must be round so that the circular clip, *i*, may fit snugly around it.

Fig. 7 shows a slight modification of the invention; in this instance the end of panel on which the post, B, is has two thin vertical parts, *k*, *k′*, which are respectively a short distance below and above the top and bottom rails, A, A′; a supporting collar or stop, *l*, is below each of said thin vertical parts; and the other end of the panel has two circular clips, *m*, instead of one as in the other figures.

Where a gate is to be provided (as shown in Fig. 8) the panels on each side of the gate will have confronting posts, B′, which will be provided with ordinary hinge-lugs to receive the hooks, *o*, on the gates, P.

It will be observed that the panel-connecting means herein-described are simple and effective; the arrangement being such that the meeting panels running in opposite directions may be as readily connected as panels running the same way.

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

In a toy fence, the combination of panels each having at one end a post provided with a rounded part, *b*, a stop-collar at the lower end of the rounded part, and a flat vertical part, *g*, adjoining the top end of said rounded

part and thinner than the latter; and the opposite end of said panel provided with a circular clip having a vertical slit in its front end, the said clip on the end of one panel adapted to first slip over the flat vertical part of another panel and then embrace the said rounded part and rest on the stop-collar.

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

WERNER WINDUS.

Witnesses:
CHARLES B. MANN, Jr.,
C. CALVERT HINES.