

(No Model.)

T. J. THOMPSON.
PANEL FENCE.

No. 592,456.

Patented Oct. 26, 1897.

FIG. 1.

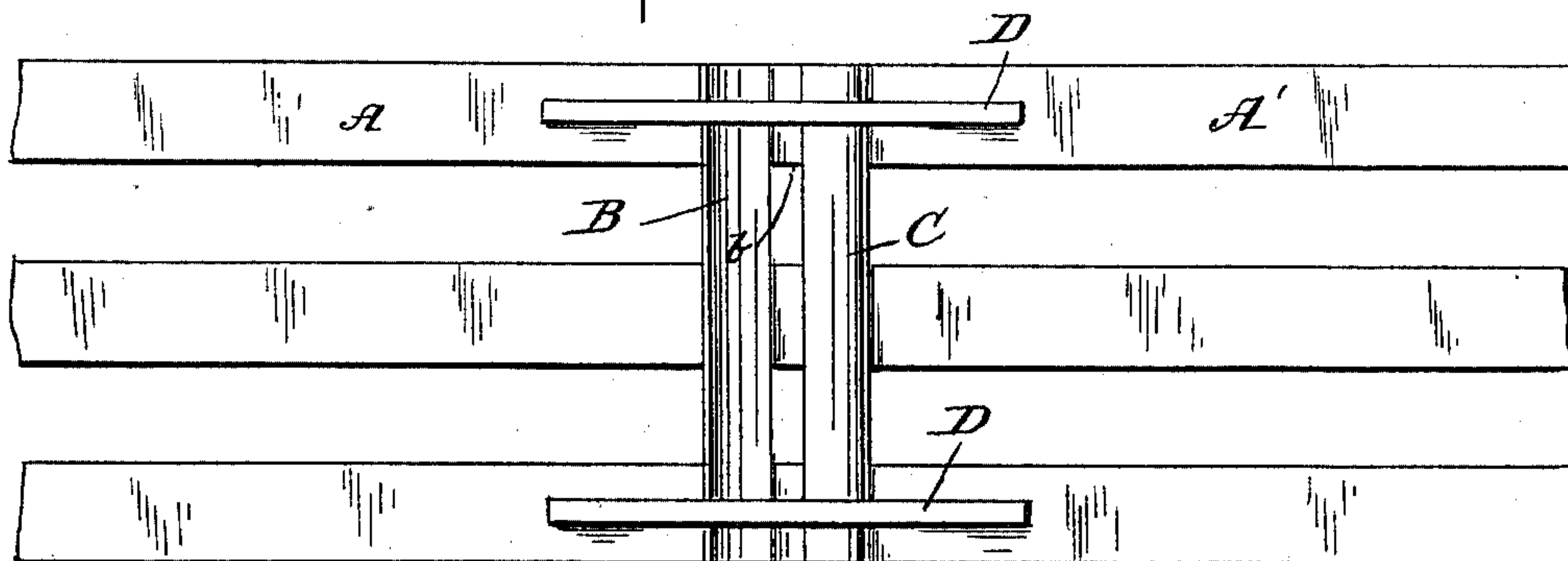
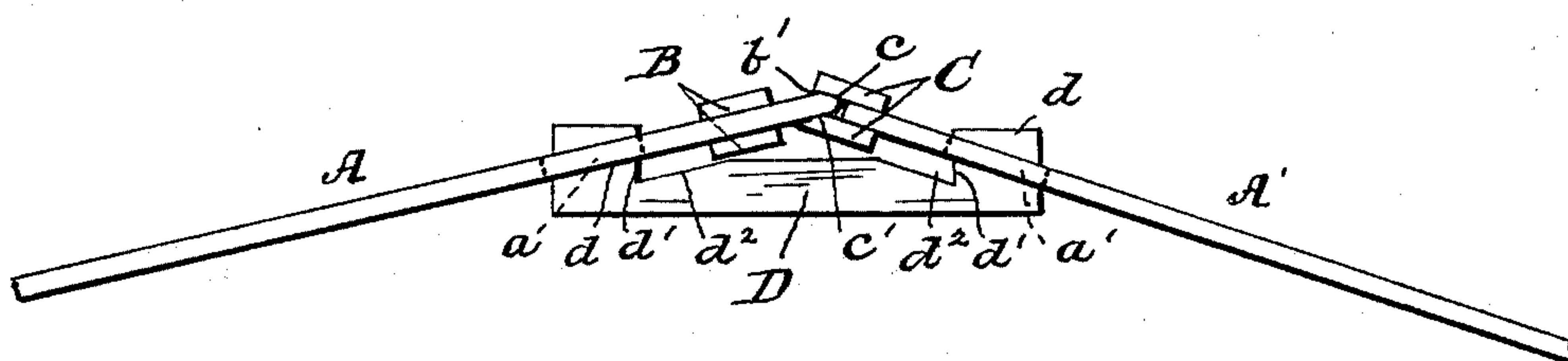


FIG. 2.



WITNESSES

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PANEL FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 592,456, dated October 26, 1897.

Application filed November 21, 1896. Serial No. 613,004. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Higgeston, in the county of Montgomery and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Panel Fences; 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 certain new and useful improvements in panel fences, and more particularly in the lock therefor, having for its objects, among others, to provide a simple and cheap construction whereby the fence may be readily set up in any desired place and readily taken down for removal or other purposes and which, when once in position, will have its panels readily locked.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of two panels locked by my improvement. Fig. 2 is a top plan thereof.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts throughout both the views.

Referring now to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates one of the panels and A' the other. The top and bottom rails of each panel are formed with longitudinal slots a a' , respectively, and the adjacent ends of the panels are provided with interlocking or engaging devices, the ends of the horizontal portions of one panel being extended beyond the uprights B thereof, as seen at b , and the ends tapered, as seen at b' , while the longitudinal rails of the other panel terminate within the uprights C, forming a groove c to receive the projecting ends of the longitudinal rails of the other panel, and one of the uprights is tapered, as seen at c' , to correspond with the taper of the projecting ends of the other panel.

D are the locks or keys, each formed with

a bob d at each end, having a square shoulder d' and a tapered portion d^2 , the said bobs being of a size to permit of their ready insertion through the slots of the top and bottom rails of the panels.

In practice the panels are set up and arranged at an angle, the projecting ends of the one engaging in the groove of the other. The keys or locks are then applied by inserting their bobs through the slots of the panels, and after they have been passed through sufficiently for the shoulders thereof to project beyond the adjacent end walls of the slots the panels are moved slightly from each other, and the shoulders of the keys engaging the end walls of the slots and bearing against the opposite sides of the top and bottom rails of the panels firmly locks the panels in position. To disengage the same, the panels are brought toward each other until one of the bobs of the keys can be removed from the slots. The panels may be disposed at different angles by making the keys longer or shorter.

What I claim as new is—

1. In a panel fence, two panels, one having a groove between its uprights and the other having its longitudinal rails extended beyond its uprights and adapted to enter said groove, and to be locked thereto with the panels extending at an angle to each other the said extended ends being tapered to fit a corresponding taper on one of the uprights at said groove, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. The combination with the fence-panels arranged at an angle to each other and having longitudinal slots, of the locking-keys, having a bob at each end with a square shoulder adapted to enter said slots, and oppositely-disposed inclined portions upon opposite sides of the space between said shoulders, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS J. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

J. H. LONG,

C. L. HAMILTON.