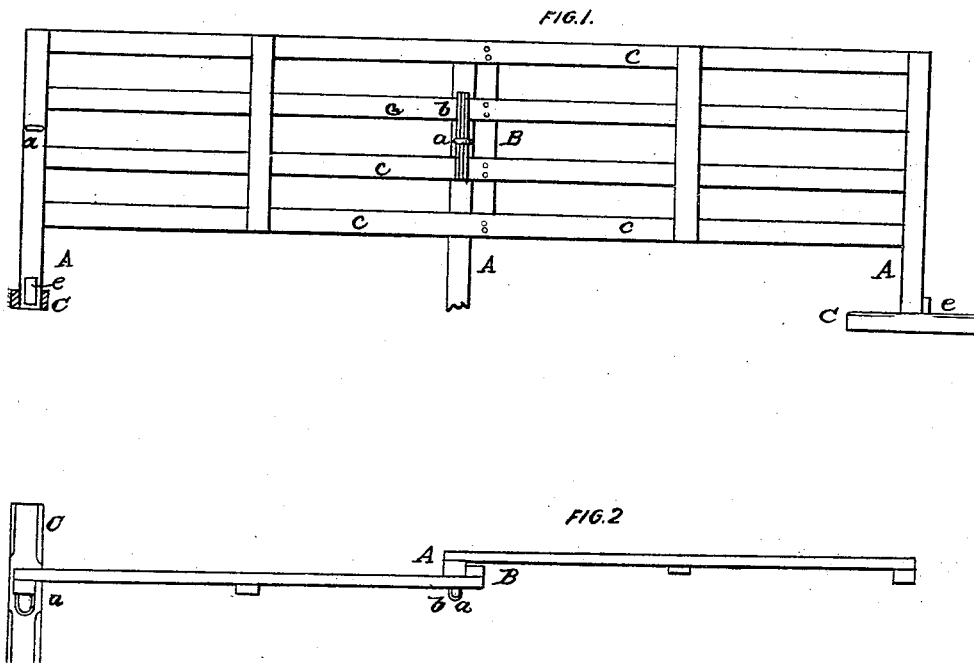


S. BRYAN.
Portable Fence.

No. 50,446.

Patented Oct. 17, 1865.



WITNESSES
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SAMUEL BRYAN, OF JEFFERSON, WISCONSIN.

IMPROVEMENT IN PORTABLE FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,446, dated October 17, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL BRYAN, of Jefferson, in the county of Green and State of Wisconsin, 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 thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved fence, and Fig. 2 is a top-plan view of the same.

The nature of my invention consists in uniting the panels of a movable fence by means of staples and keys, and in a novel manner of supporting the same.

To enable others skilled in the art to construct and use my improved fence, I will proceed to describe it.

I construct the panels of boards *c*, nailed at one end to a post, *A*, of sufficient length to be set in the earth, and at the opposite end to a piece of board, *B*, the length of the board *B* being only equal to the width of the panel, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. A similar piece of board, *C*, is nailed across the center of the panel to give it strength and hold the boards *c* firmly in place. A strong staple, *a*, projects from the face of the post *A* in such a position as to protrude through between the two central boards, *c*, where the adjoining ends of two panels are lapped, as shown in Fig. 1. This staple is made of such a length that it will project through far enough to permit the insertion of a wedge-shaped key, *b*, on the side opposite to the post *A*, as shown in the drawings.

The key should be of such size and length as to fill the staple and have its ends rest against the face of the two central boards at least, by which means the two panels are firmly locked together.

If it be desired to make the fence very strong,

two staples may be used, one being placed near the top and the other near the bottom, in which case the key *b* should be sufficiently long to reach through both staples and rest against the face of all the boards *c* of the panel.

I support the fence by inserting the lower ends of the posts into holes in the blocks *C*, and fasten them thereby means of the wedges *e*.

In cases where it is desired to move the fence frequently, or where the ground is stony, and it is difficult to bore holes for the posts, the blocks *C* are to be used; but in cases where it is desirable to retain the fence in position for a considerable time, as in the case of a growing crop, the blocks are dispensed with and the posts inserted in holes bored with a post-auger in the ground, the wedges being driven into the hole by the side of the post, the same as though the blocks were used. As there is but a single post to a panel this can be done with very little labor and expense, especially on the prairie soil of the West.

To remove the fence it is only necessary to remove the wedges, when it can be taken down and transferred wherever needed.

By these means I am enabled to produce a very simple, cheap, and efficient fence that can be put up and taken down without the use of nails or tools of any kind.

The construction of my improved fence is such that it can be prepared at the shop or by the farmer at home and conveyed wherever desired, ready to be set up.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

The panels constructed and united in the manner shown and described.

SAMUEL BRYAN.

Witnesses:

J. W. SHARRARD,
HOWARD HUNT.