

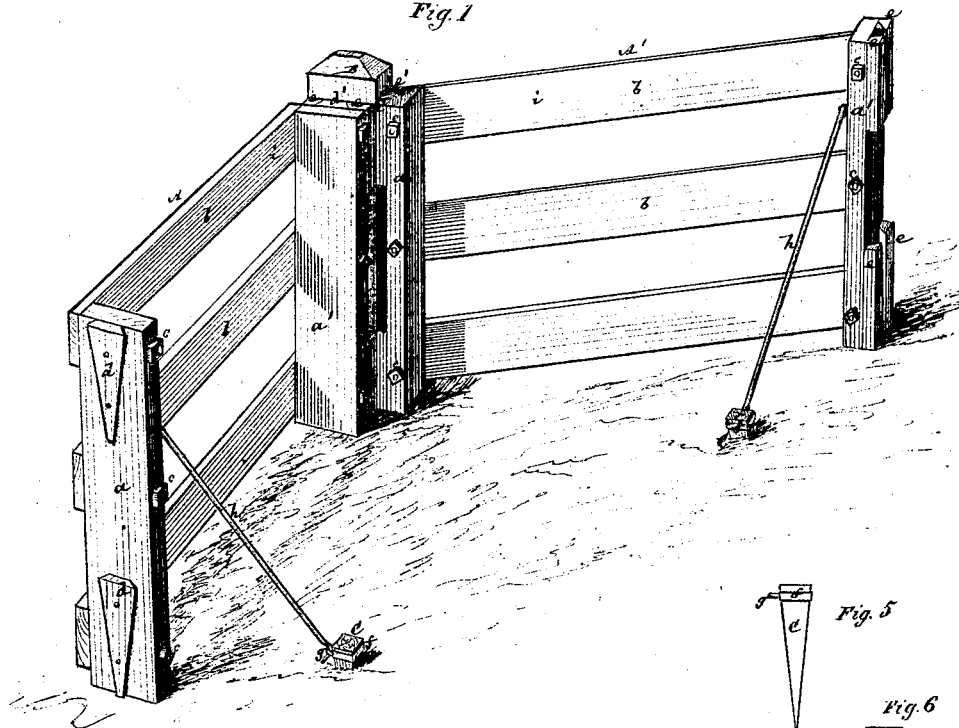
*H. Sinclair,*

*Fence.*

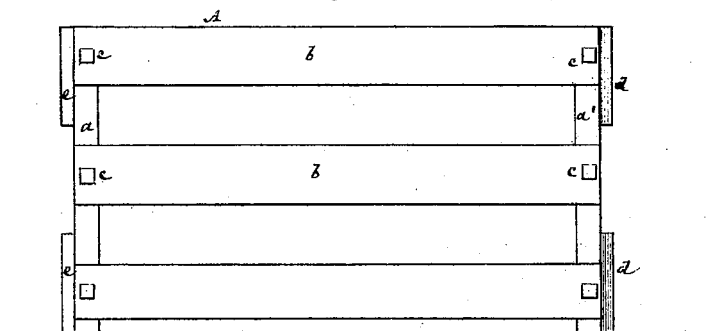
*No. 111,578.*

*Patented Feb. 7. 1871.*

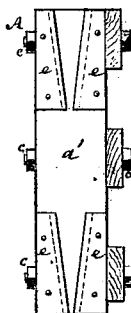
*Fig. 1*



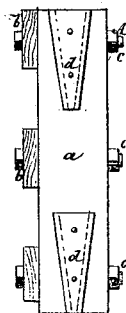
*Fig. 2*



*Fig. 3*



*Fig. 4*



Witnesses  
*Wm. H. Hays*  
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# United States Patent Office.

HECTOR SINCLAIR, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 111,578, dated February 7, 1871.

## IMPROVEMENT IN PORTABLE FENCES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HECTOR SINCLAIR, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Portable Fences, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of two panels of my improved fence in position;

Figure 2 is a side elevation of one of the panels; and

Figures 3 and 4, opposite end elevations of said panels.

Figures 5 and 6 are side and top views of a stake used to secure the panels when in position.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention consists in a portable and adjustable wooden fence, made up of panels which are constructed to lock with each other by wedge-shaped cleats and socket-strips, secured preferably in reversed order, onto the outsides of their uprights, and onto two or more of the adjacent sides of the main or corner posts, said panels, which are interchangeable, having their rails or longitudinal bars pivoted at their ends to the uprights, and the fence, when in position, being stayed by means of hooked or looped rods attached at their upper ends to the panels, and at their lower ends to metallic eyes on or connected with stakes which are driven into the ground.

A fence thus constructed is cheap, durable, and strong, readily accommodates itself to any irregularities in the surface of the ground, so that it is not only of a portable but adjustable character, and may be erected with facility and dispatch to lie or run in various directions, including different-shaped inclosures, and when not required may be packed away panel by panel.

Referring to the accompanying drawing—

A A' represent two panels of my improved fence; and

B, a main or corner post.

Each of these panels is composed of end uprights *a a'*, having pivoted to them, or their outsides or insides, as the case may be, the rails or longitudinal bars *b b'* by means of screws or bolts passing, as at *c*, through the rails at or near their opposite ends and into or through the uprights *a a'*, so that the panels readily adjust themselves to plain or hilly surfaces, or other irregularities of the ground, without interfering with the level or vertical position of the uprights and posts, or lock of the panels and posts with each other.

The lock of the panels with each other is effected

by means of wedge-shaped cleats *d d'*, and wedge-shaped socket-strips *e e'*, secured on the outsides of the uprights, and of dovetail form in their transverse section, the wedge-shaped cleats *d d'* preferably being arranged on the one of the panel uprights, and the wedge-shaped socket-strips *e e'* on the other, and each panel being similarly provided to allow of the interchanging of the panels that are fitted into lock with each other by slipping the wedges *d d'* of the one panel into the sockets *e e'* of the next panel.

The main or corner posts *B* are similarly provided with wedge-shaped cleats *d'*, and with wedge-shaped socket-strips *e'* on two of the adjacent sides of each post, to provide for arrangement of the fence in right angled or other directions, the transverse shape of the posts being varied to suit different-shaped inclosures.

In erecting the fence, the end panels are fitted to the posts in like manner as they are fitted to each other, and the posts and panels simply rest upon the ground.

To secure the fence when in position, stakes, *c*, are driven into the ground at suitable points.

These stakes should be made straight toward their butt ends, and a metal ring, *f*, be driven onto them, and which is afterward secured by an eye-headed screw or bolt, *g*, that also serves as a loop for anchoring the panel by means of a looped or hooked stay-rod, *h*, arranged when in place to occupy an inclined position, being attached at its upper end to the panel and at its lower end to the eye-bolt or screw *g*.

When the panels and posts are separated for packing away, the one upon the other or otherwise, these stay-rods may be swung to hook their free ends into staples *i i* in the panels.

A portable and adjustable fence as herein described will be found very useful for inclosing hay-ricks, fruit-trees, sheep-folds, and other objects or places; also as a temporary division fence, and wherever a removable and adjustable fence, either permanent or only needed at certain periods of the year, is required.

What is here claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. The locking, wedge-shaped cleats and socket-strips *d* and *e* or *d'* and *e'* on the uprights of the panels and posts, essentially as shown and described.

2. The combination of the rails *b b'*, pivoted at their ends to the uprights *a a'* of either panel, with the locking wedge-shaped cleats and socket-strips *d* and *e*, arranged on the outsides of said uprights, substantially as specified.

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Witnesses:

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