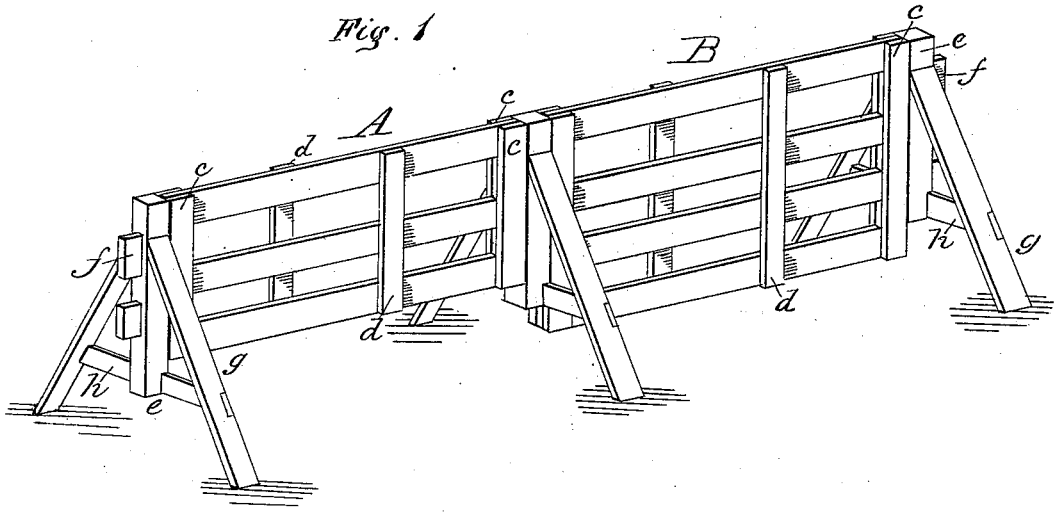
J. W. Le GORE.

Fence.

No. 215,825. Patented May 27, 1879.

Fig. 1



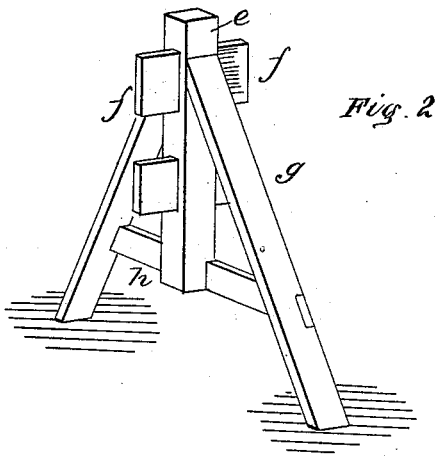


Fig. 2

Attest.
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by Ellis Spear
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. LE GORE, OF WOODSBOROUGH, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **215,825**, dated May 27, 1879; application filed January 25, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. LE GORE, of Woodsborough, Frederick county, Maryland, have invented an Improvement in Fences, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to construct a portable wood fence which can be put together without any extra fastening device than is afforded by its own peculiar construction, and that when put up shall be braced throughout its whole extent, making it equally strong at all points, it being at the same time impossible to disconnect any two of the panels without commencing at one extremity of the fence and taking out the end panel, my fence being also exceedingly simple and compact in its construction, cheap to manufacture, easily and conveniently put together, and durable in use.

My invention consists in a peculiarly-constructed post, by the use of which a better fastening and greater security are given to the fence, and I now proceed to describe the same more fully.

In the drawings accompanying, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a fence, showing two panels, and Fig. 2 a separate view of one of the posts.

A B represent adjacent panels of a fence, one being shown as a three-bar and one as a four-barred panel. The panels are formed at the end of vertical strips *c c*, which are secured to the ends of the bars, as shown in the drawings, by means of bolts or nails which pass through the vertical strips and the ends of the bar aforesaid. This gives the panel sufficient strength by an easy and cheap construction, and at the same time leaves space for the insertion of the tenons on the posts. Other vertical strips *d d* are fastened to the horizontal bars in the location shown in the drawings to give the greatest amount of stiffness with least expenditure of material. They are fastened to the horizontal bars on opposite sides thereof and at different points.

The peculiar construction of the posts is clearly shown in Fig. 2. Each post is made of a solid vertical short post, *e*, in which are fixed the tenons *f f*. This short vertical post is supported at a distance above the ground by the inclined braces *g g* and the cross-bar *h*. The inclined braces may be nailed securely at the upper end to the vertical post, and the cross-bar may be let into the inclined braces and bottom of the vertical post and secured thereto by nails. This construction supports the vertical post at a distance above the ground, so that it does not come in contact therewith, and at the same time effects a saving of the material. The vertical post need not be of greater length than is required for two tenons, that number being sufficient in my construction to hold the panels securely in place.

The posts may be made of one piece and mortised for the insertion of the tenons, or may be built up of several pieces of scantling, the tenons being fixed in place in the process of constructing the post. These posts may also be made without the fixed tenons, the mortises being left open to receive the tenons on the panel; but this construction will be less convenient for a portable fence.

The relative arrangement of the panels and posts is clearly shown in the drawings. Either narrow panels, such as shown at A, or wide, as at B, may be used with the same construction of posts. It will also appear from the description given, as well as from the drawings, that the entire panel, the cross-bars, and the vertical posts are all raised above the ground, and that the only parts of the fence which rest upon the earth are the ends of the inclined braces, so that there is the least possible amount of wood liable to decay by contact with the earth.

It is obvious that the fence must be placed in the field by beginning at one end and setting the posts and putting the panels in place in order, one after the other. When so placed the fence can be taken apart only by proceeding in the same order—that is to say, by beginning at the end. No intermediate panel can be moved without cutting, and no one panel can be lifted without also lifting the weight of the two contiguous panels. At the same time, the stability gained by the spread of each pair of inclined braces is contributed in a greater or less degree to all the neighboring panels.

One of the most important of the numerous advantages possessed by this fence is that, if

desired, the whole fence may be easily removed from its position, and the sections packed away and covered with boards until it is desired to use it again around the same or some other field; also in the fact that my fence can be put up much more rapidly than any kind of portable fence hitherto in use, because there are no extra fastening devices for each panel, which usually require so much time in adjusting, and are so easily displaced.

What I claim is—

A fence-post consisting of a short post, *e*, inclined braces *g*, and cross-brace *h*, and provided with fixed tenons passing through said post and projecting on opposite sides thereof, substantially as described and shown.

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

JAMES W. LE GORE.

Witnesses:

L. W. SEELY,

J. W. HAMILTON JOHNSON.