(No Model.)

C. C. WHEELER.

FENCE.

No. 493,458. Patented Mar. 14, 1893.

Fig. 1

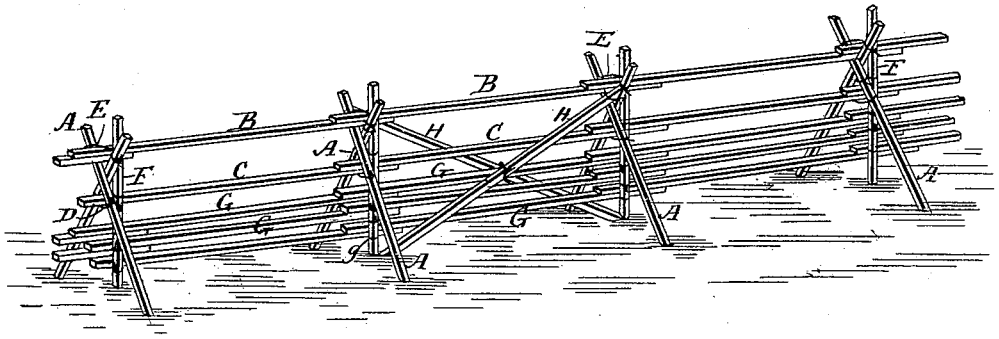


Fig. 2.

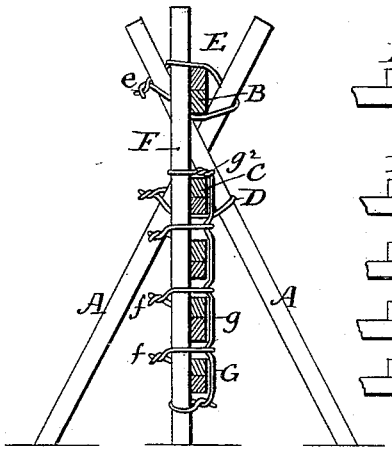
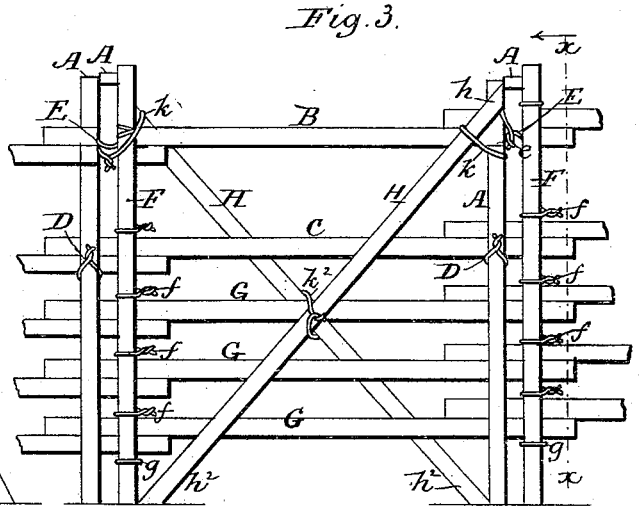


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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L. C. Hills.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLAUDE C. WHEELER, OF FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 493,458, dated March 14, 1893.

Application filed November 22, 1892. Serial No. 452,832. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLAUDE C. WHEELER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fairmont, in the county of Marion, State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to fences formed of rails, poles, or boards, with wire lashings; and the objects of my improvements are to provide a fence of this class inexpensively but in a strong manner by means of stakes, standards, rails and diagonal brace-beams abutting against said stakes to prevent any inclination of the latter on hilly land, and peculiar lashings combined and arranged together as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims. I attain these objects by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 represents in perspective a portion of a fence constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same, on a larger scale, on line *x x* of Fig. 3 looking in the direction of the arrow thereon. Fig. 3 is a side view of a portion of the fence.

In said drawings A represents the cross-stakes, B a line of top rails in the upper crotch of said rails, and C a line of rails in the under crotch of the stakes.

In building a fence, the rails C, generally called bench-rails are first placed on the line of the proposed fence upon temporary trestles or jacks, the cross-stakes are made to lean against them, and the top rails B are placed in the upper crotch. The rails C are then supported from each pair of stakes by a wire D, embracing the stakes, the two parts of said wire being preferably made to cross each other under said rails C, so that under the pressure caused by the weight of the rails C it will embed itself in the four corners or angles of the stakes. The upper ends of the crossed stakes A are lashed together with the top rails B, by means of the wire E that is passed from one side of the stakes A over the rails B, and thence around one of the stakes, and under said rails to the starting point where the two ends of the wire are twisted together at *e*. To tighten said top wire and draw the tops of the stakes firmly against the top rails and render the structure firm at the crotch, the upper end of the lever standard F is inserted in the top of the wire and its opposite end is brought down, so that it forces the sides of the loop in opposite directions, and said lever F is brought in a vertical position and its lower end rests on the ground, its location being close to the central line to be occupied by the fence. The same operation is repeated at each pair of cross stakes.

To complete the fence, a series of rails G are spliced together and to the binder standard F below the bottom crotch rails C so that their spliced portions are vertically one above the other opposite said standard. To produce a secure lashing and support for the rails G with a comparatively small length of wire one end of a wire *g* is secured to the standard F, a short distance above the surface of the ground, and its opposite end is passed over the rails C and secured to the standard F at a point above said rails to relieve them of weight even if their supporting wire D should happen to be broken. Said upper end of the wire *g* is not secured to the wire D as it would place too much weight on said wire and may cause it to break, nor to the top rail B, as it would unnecessarily require at least five feet of wire more for each end of the panel than what is used by the present construction. The upper end of the wire *g*, after being passed around and secured to the standard F is twisted around the body of said wire at g^2. After the rails G have been placed within the long loop of the wire *g*, said rails are held in pairs and the wire *g* is further tightened by short wire straps *f* passing between the pairs of rails and around the wire *g* and the binder-standard. To prevent the cross stakes A from becoming inclined laterally along the line of the fence, by the endwise working or sliding of the top rails B, when said line of fence is on inclined or mountainous ground, the fence is strengthened and its stability insured by means of binder-rails H placed diagonally on some of the panels, on both sides of the horizontal rails of said panels. The upper ends *h* of said binder rails are made to abut against the upper portion of the cross stakes A and

their lower ends h^2 are made to rest upon, or a few inches into, the ground. The upper ends h are secured to the cross stakes and to the top rails B, by meams of wire lashings k encircling them and having their ends twisted together. The binder rails are also secured to at least one of the rails G of the fence by means of wire lashings k^2 encircling them. Every sixth or tenth of the panels of the fence is thus provided with binder rails H according to the inclination of the ground upon which the line of fence is established.

Having now fully described my invention, I claim—

As an improvement in fences the combination of the cross stakes A, the under crotch rails C, the upper crotch rails B, the lashings E surrounding the ends of the cross rails B and of the stakes A, the vertical binder-standards F, the rails G, the rail supporting wire g having its lower end fastened to the standard F and its upper end encircling the standard above the crotch rails C, and the binder rails H having their lower ends resting on the ground and their upper ends abutting against the cross-stakes A and secured thereto and to the rails of the fence on both sides thereof, substantially as shown and described.

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

CLAUDE C. WHEELER.

Witnesses:
W. A. JAMISON,
WALTER WATSON.