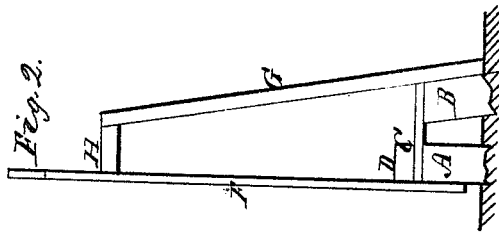
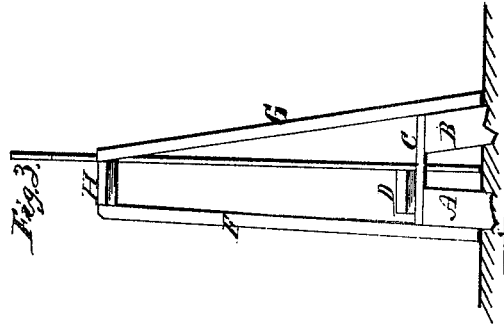
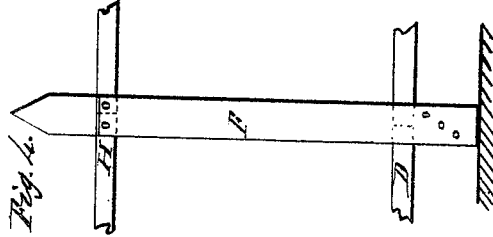
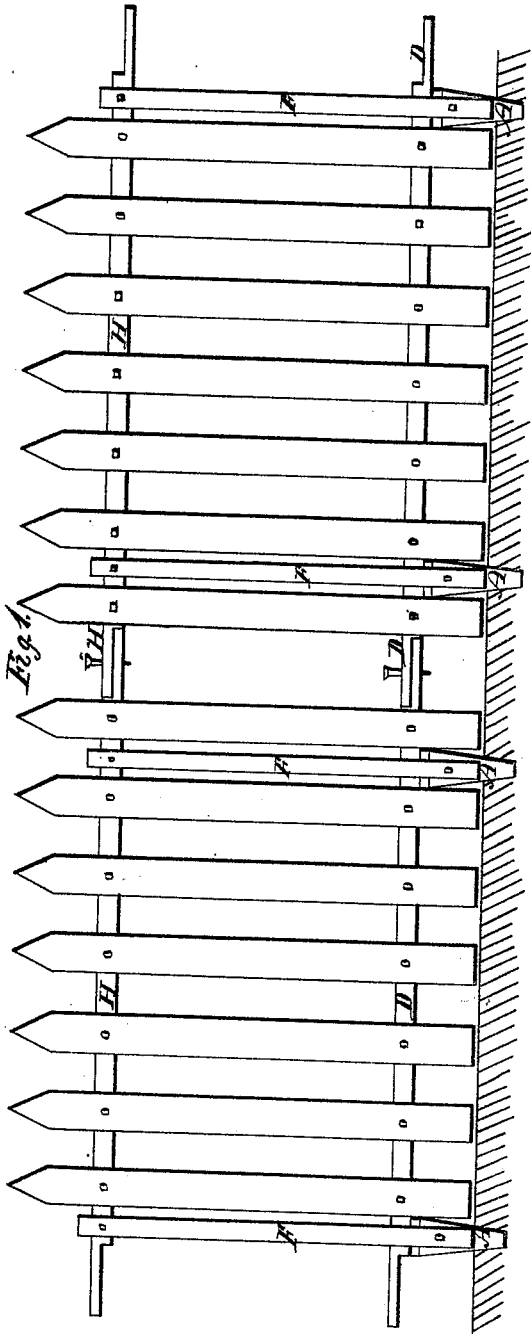


D. GORDON
Fence.

No. 197,119.

Patented Nov. 13, 1877.



WITNESSES

Carl M. Gallaher
 Jas. D. Patten

INVENTOR,

David Gordon
 By J. L. Brown,
 his, ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

DAVID GORDON, OF CLINTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 197,119, dated November 13, 1877; application filed January 2, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID GORDON, of Clinton, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Fence; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a side view of a portion of a fence constructed according to my invention; Fig. 2, a cross-section of the same; Fig. 3, a cross-section, showing a modified arrangement of the invention; Fig. 4, a view of a part detached, showing one mode of coupling the panels or lengths of the fence.

Like letters designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

My invention consists in the combination of short posts, rails, and braces, substantially as hereinafter specified.

Instead of the usual full-length posts to sustain the fence, at the end of each panel or length of fence I drive into the ground two short posts, A B, ranged transversely and at a little distance apart, about as represented, leaving them, when driven into the ground, with their upper ends projecting above the surface of the ground, say three or four inches, or more if desired. Upon the tops of these short posts I preferably nail a short piece of board, C, though this is not essential. One short post, B, is driven a little inclined from a vertical position, as shown; but the other short post, A, is generally driven vertically, though it also may be inclined toward the other. Over one short post, as A, there is nailed, or otherwise secured, the lower rail D of the fence. Also, two braces, F G, (generally two strips of board,) are nailed at their lower ends, as shown—one to the outside of one short post, and the other to the outside of the opposite short post—and they reach thence upward to the upper rail H, to the opposite sides or edges of which, also, they are respectively nailed.

For a handsome picket fence, and upon level

ground, the pickets themselves may furnish the upright braces F F on one side of the fence, though separate braces may be used, as shown in Fig. 1.

If the ground is inclined, the lower rail may be shifted laterally upon the cross-board C, so as to bring it vertically under the upper rail, if for picket fence; or the short posts may be driven with the proper inclination to suit the inclination of the ground and make the fence upright, though the fence itself may be inclined for some purposes. If the fence is old rail fence, the additional rails may be nailed to one row of braces.

This invention is applicable to picket, rail, and wire, and all the ordinary kinds of fences. It is equally applicable for new fences and for repairing old fences, the posts of which have rotted away, as the short posts and braces can be applied thereto while the fence is still standing or in place.

By this invention I dispense with the great cost and labor of setting posts. The fence is very durable, with little cost of repair, since only the short posts are liable to decay, and they are easily and cheaply replaced. The fence is strong and not likely to be blown over by strong winds, nor to be washed away in low lands by floods and freshets, since the short posts anchor the fence to the ground. In short, it is a very cheap, durable, and in every way desirable, fence is produced, of very general application.

What I claim as my invention, and desire secured by Letters Patent, is—

In a fence, the combination of short posts A B, rails D H, and braces F G, constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose herein specified.

DAVID GORDON.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM BARTON,
MILLER GORDON.