F. R. MARTIN.
Iron-Fence.

No. 204,236. Patented May 28, 1878.

Fig. 1.

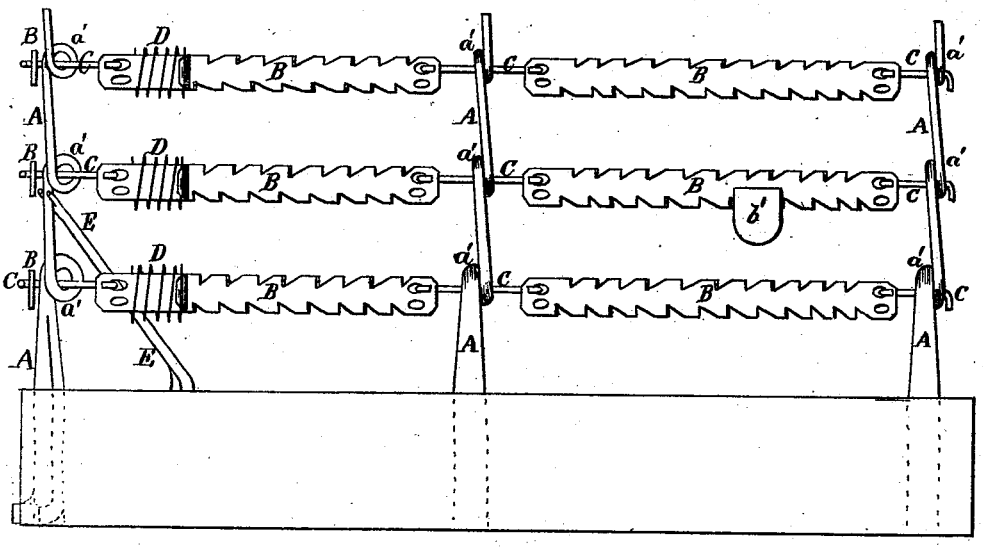
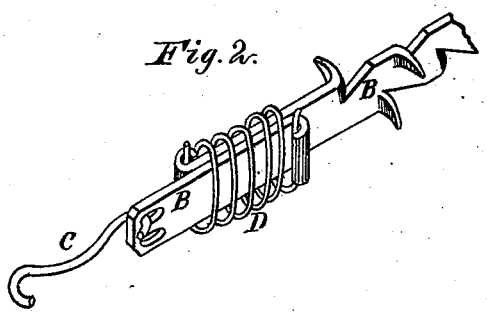


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

Henry N. Miller

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ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREEMAN R. MARTIN, OF BROOKLYN, WISCONSIN.

IMPROVEMENT IN IRON FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,236**, dated May 28, 1878; application filed February 1, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREEMAN R. MARTIN, of Brooklyn, in the county of Green and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Iron Fences, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a side view of a part of my improved fence. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of a part of one of the rails or bars.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention consists in constructing the fence-rails in two parts, which are connected by a spring, and in attaching them to posts having slots or eyes by means of hooks.

The invention also consists in providing the fence-rails with wings or pendants, which aid in turning the rails edgewise to the wind, as hereinafter described.

A are the posts, which are made of iron, and the lower end of which may be bent at right angles to prevent them from rising out of the ground. The upper part of the posts A are bent to form coils or eyes *a'*, which coils *a'* are made at a distance apart equal to the required distance apart of the rails, and of a number equal to the required number of said rails.

B are the rails, which are made of iron, and have inclined slits formed in their edges, the points thus formed being bent outward to serve as guards. In the ends of the rails B, near their side edges, are formed holes to receive hooks formed upon the ends of the rods C, which pass through the eyes *a'* of the posts A.

By this construction, when the wind blows, the rails B will turn their edges toward the wind, the rods C turning easily in the eyes *a'*. This effect may be increased by attaching wings *b'* to the lower edges of the rails B, as shown in Fig. 1.

The hooks C, therefore, serve both as pivots for the rails B and as a means for attaching them to the posts. This attachment is facilitated by constructing the rails in two parts or pieces and attaching a spiral spring, D, thereto, as shown in Fig. 2, so that the rails may be practically lengthened when required. The springs likewise provide for contraction of the rails without straining the posts.

The construction of the fence at the corners is the same as upon straight lines, except that the posts A are set diagonally and the hook-rods C are bent. In this case the corner-posts B are strengthened by braces E, as shown in Fig. 1.

I do not claim, broadly, the combination of a spiral spring with a fence rail or rod made in two parts; but,

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination of the spiral springs with the two-part rails B, the hooks C, and the posts having eyes, as shown and described, for the purpose specified.

2. The combination of pendent wings *b'* with the rails B, attached to posts by means which permit them to turn, as specified.

FREEMAN ROSS MARTIN.

Witnesses:

HARVEY BERRY,

NORMAN W. WILCOX.