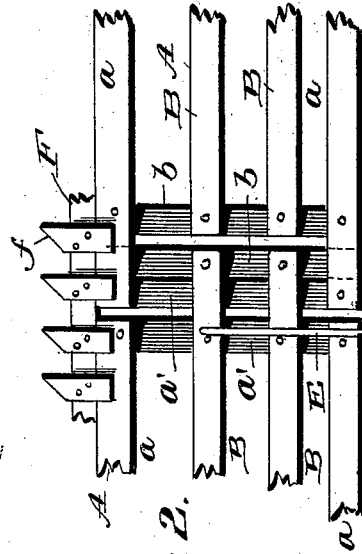


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*Inventor:*  
Governor B. Bruce,  
by Franklin A. Hong  
Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## PANEL FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 533,943, dated February 12, 1895.

Application filed November 3, 1894. Serial No. 527,821. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GOVERNOR BUTLER BRUCE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greer Depot, in the county of Greenville and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in fences, and especially to fences of a portable character, or to fences made up of sections which are adapted to interlock at their ends, and the aim of the present invention is to reinforce a fence of this description, with a removable strip carrying a series of short pickets, the said strip designed to overlap the connected ends of the lengths of fence, and to be securely buttoned thereto, and firmly held in a locking relation by means of buttons.

If desired my improved fence may be set zig-zag, but my preferred form is a straight fence in which braces are provided for strengthening the same against a lateral strain.

To these ends and to such others as the invention may pertain, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and adaptation of the parts as will be hereinafter more fully described and then specifically defined in the appended claims.

I clearly illustrate my invention in the accompanying drawings, which with the letters of reference marked thereon form a part of this specification, and in which drawings, similar letters of reference indicate like parts throughout both views, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of two end sections of a fence locked together parts being broken away. Fig. 2, is a view from the opposite side showing the two sections locked together.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates a length

of fence having the longitudinal strips *a*, having their ends secured to the cross pieces *a'*, and *B, B*, are longitudinal strips having their ends secured to the cross pieces *b b*, and also to one of the pieces *a'*. Each length of fence is similarly constructed, and each is provided with a button *C* secured to a cross piece *a'*, and the braces *D* and *E*. These lengths may be interlocked, as shown, and then the strip *F* carrying a series of short pickets *f*, and provided with buttons *K*, is placed on the top longitudinal strips *a*, so as to overlap the two adjacent ends of fence sections, and the top strips *a* are clamped between the buttons *K* and the lower ends of the short pickets as seen at *f'*. When in this locking relation pins *k* are passed through the said buttons *K* and into the strips *a* thus locking the buttons from turning.

The ends of the strips carrying the pickets may be held together by means of the ends overlapping, or by cleats held to each end by pins.

I am aware that there is no novelty in the form of construction of the lengths of fence, which interlock as described, and hence I make no claim to them broadly.

What I claim to be new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a sectional fence having their ends interlocking, as described, combined with a strip which is adapted to overlap the adjacent ends of said sections, and held thereto by means of buttons and bolts passing through said buttons and the top strip to hold same from a lengthwise movement, substantially as shown and described.

2. In combination with the interlocking sections of a portable fence, a strip *F*, carrying a series of short pickets *f*, which is designed to overlap the adjacent top strips of the said sections, and the buttons carried on the strip *F*, and the pins adapted to pass through the buttons and into the strip *a*, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In combination with a sectional fence as described having their adjacent ends interlocking, buttons *C*, and braces *D*, for holding

the fence from a lateral strain, and the strip F carrying a series of pickets, which is adapted to overlap the meeting ends of the sections A, and to be clamped to the top strips  
5 a, which are held between the buttons K and the lower ends of the pickets f', all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

GOVERNOR BUTLER BRUCE.

Witnesses:

I. A. MAYFIELD,  
A. R. WOOD.