No. 694,084. Patented Feb. 25, 1902.

B. F. ZENT.

FARM FENCE.

(Application filed July 13, 1901.)

(No Model.). 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.

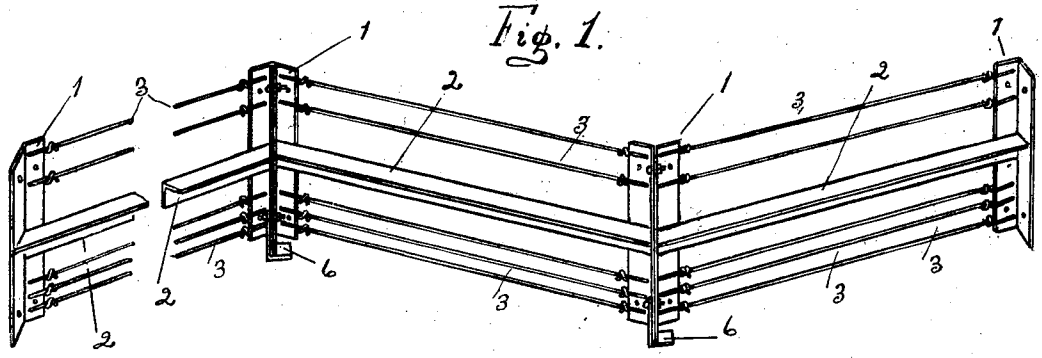


Fig. 2.

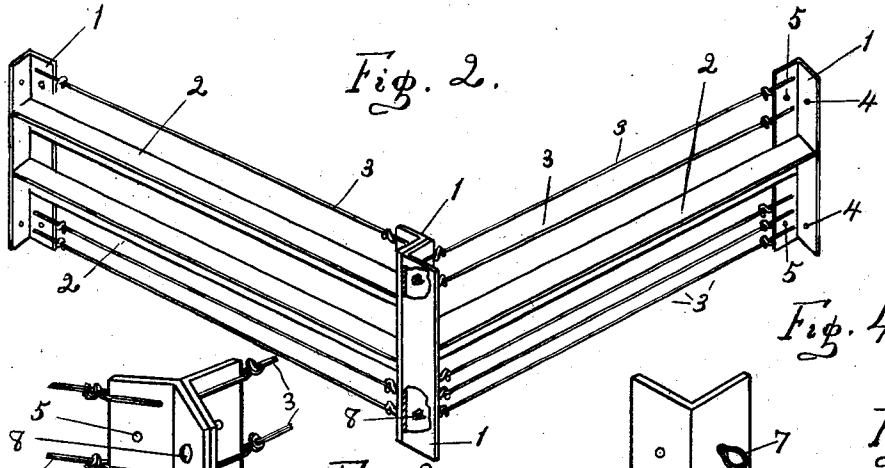


Fig. 3.

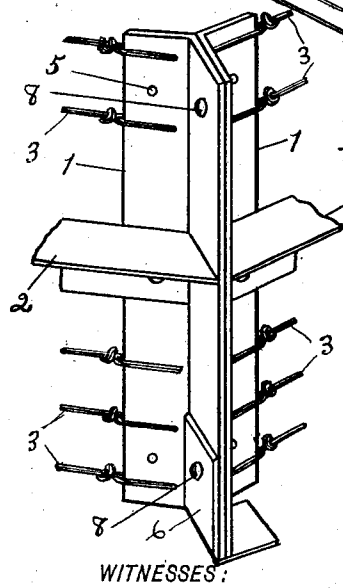


Fig. 4.

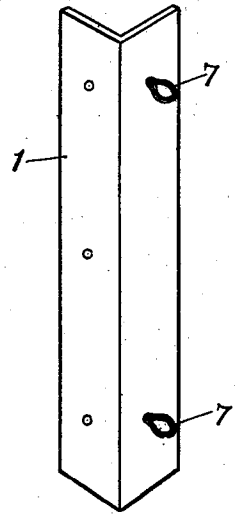
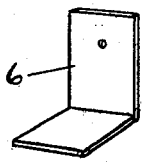


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES:

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Benjamin F. Zent INVENTOR

BY Chapin & Denny

HIS ATTORNEYS.

No. 694,084. Patented Feb. 25, 1902.

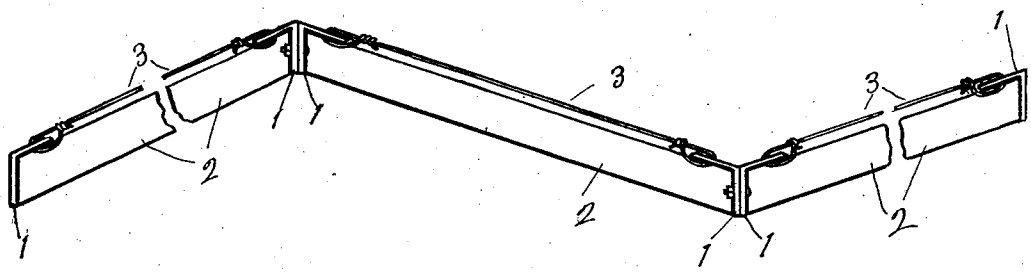
B. F. ZENT.

FARM FENCE.

(Application filed July 13, 1901.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. ZENT, OF LAUD, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO MARION W. SWINEHEART.

FARM-FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 694,084, dated February 25, 1902.

Application filed July 13, 1901. Serial No. 68,144. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. ZENT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Laud, in the county of Whitley, in the State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Farm-Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in farm-fences.

The object of my present invention is to provide a cheap, substantial, and convenient portable fence specially adapted for farm use as either interior or exterior fences, made wholly of wire and non-corrosive sheet metal, so constructed and arranged that any panel-section can readily be converted into a farm-gate, either temporarily or permanently, and can conveniently be employed for the construction of a temporary stock pen or yard, each panel being so constructed that the necessity for setting the posts into the ground is obviated.

My improvement consists of a series of fence-panels, preferably about one rod in length and arranged when in use in the form of a fence-worm and detachably connected by proper holding-bolts, each panel of proper height, consisting of two upright non-corrosive angle-iron posts of galvanized iron rigidly connected midway of their ends by means of a galvanized angle sheet-iron bar riveted or bolted to said posts, the said panels being provided both above and below said bar with a suitable number of wire strands, whose ends are rigidly secured to said posts, which instead of being placed in the ground in the usual manner are placed on a supporting metallic shoe rigidly bolted to said posts.

The novel feature of my invention resides in the construction of the panel-sections, whereby they are conveniently portable and any panel can readily be converted into a farm-gate.

Similar reference-numerals indicate like parts throughout the several views of the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved fence, showing a plurality of panels in position for use, one of which is broken away in part. Fig. 2 is a view showing the manner of securing two adjacent panels when arranged at right angles and also showing a modified form of panel in which two connecting-bars are employed. Fig. 3 is a detail of two adjacent posts, showing the shoe on which the posts rest and also showing the manner of securing the adjacent ends of the connecting-bars and wires to the posts. Fig. 4 is a detail of the angle-iron post, showing the use of eyebolts therein and to which one end of a panel is pivotally secured when the same is used as a gate. Fig. 5 is a detail of the shoe on which the bottoms of the posts rest in use. Fig. 6 is a plan view of Fig. 1.

Referring now to the drawings, the upright posts 1, of proper dimensions, are formed of one piece of sheet metal, preferably galvanized iron, bent into the form of an angle-iron, whose sides may be arranged relative to each other at any desired angle, preferably at such an angle that the adjacent sides of the adjacent posts will contact throughout when the panels are arranged in a proper worm, as shown. The posts 1 of each panel are rigidly connected in their upright position by an angle-bar 2, also of sheet metal, preferably galvanized, whose ends are bolted or riveted to the said posts. These bars 2 are arranged approximately midway of the ends of the posts, as shown. Each panel is provided both above and below the said bar 2 with a series of horizontal wires 3, in parallel arrangement, whose ends are firmly secured to the panel-posts by passing them through suitable openings in said posts or otherwise. The wires which are below the bar 2 are preferably arranged closer together for small stock in the usual manner, and the uppermost and lowermost wires may be barbed, if desired, to make the fence more secure against stock.

If desired, two angle-iron bars 2 in parallel relation may be employed to connect the

posts 1 of each panel, as shown in Fig. 2, in which case of course fewer wires 3 are required. I prefer, however, to employ but one bar 2, as it is more economical and it affords sufficient firmness and rigidity to the panel.

Each post is provided at each end with two holes 4 and 5, one in each side of the post, the holes 4 being for the bolts by which the adjacent panels are secured together and the holes 5 being for the bolts by which the adjacent panel of a fence at right angles thereto is secured, as shown in Fig. 2.

Each panel may be provided with a series of vertical stays of any common or proper form, if desired, for the said wires 3.

The posts 1 are provided with a shoe 6, Fig. 5, of right-angular form and of non-corrosive sheet metal, having its upper end perforated to admit and contain the same bolt that secures the lower ends of the adjacent posts together and which is mounted in the lower holes 4.

Any panel of my improved fence can readily be converted into a convenient farm-gate by the use of eyebolts 7 instead of the holding-bolts 8 in that one of the adjacent posts 1 from which the gate-panel is swung. The other end of the gate-panel is provided with any suitable latch, (not shown,) and the said detached panel makes a complete farm-gate. My improvement is thus cheap, simple, and efficient and is equally well adapted for exterior or interior farm-fences.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. In a worm fence, a fence-panel consisting of a pair of angle-iron posts whose sides or flanges are in oblique relation to each other, for the purpose specified, the said posts being rigidly connected by an angle-iron bar, and wire strands secured to said posts above and below the said bar.

2. In a worm fence, a fence-panel consisting of two angle-iron posts whose sides or flanges are in oblique relation to each other, as described, the said posts being rigidly connected by a metal bar, as shown, wire strands connecting said posts above and below the said bar, and post-supporting shoes secured to the bottom of said posts as described.

3. In a fence-panel for worm fences, an angle-iron post whose edges or flanges are in oblique relation to each other as described, and provided with a sheet-metal shoe adapted to receive and support the lower end of the post.

Signed by me at Fort Wayne, Allen county, State of Indiana, this 10th day of July, 1901.

BENJAMIN F. ZENT.

Witnesses:

ADELAIDE KEARNS,

ALICE KEARNS.