J. HEYERLY.

FENCE POST BRACE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 4, 1910.

999,786.

Patented Aug. 8, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 3

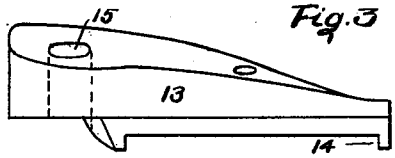


Fig. 4.

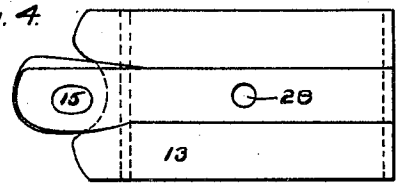


Fig. 1.

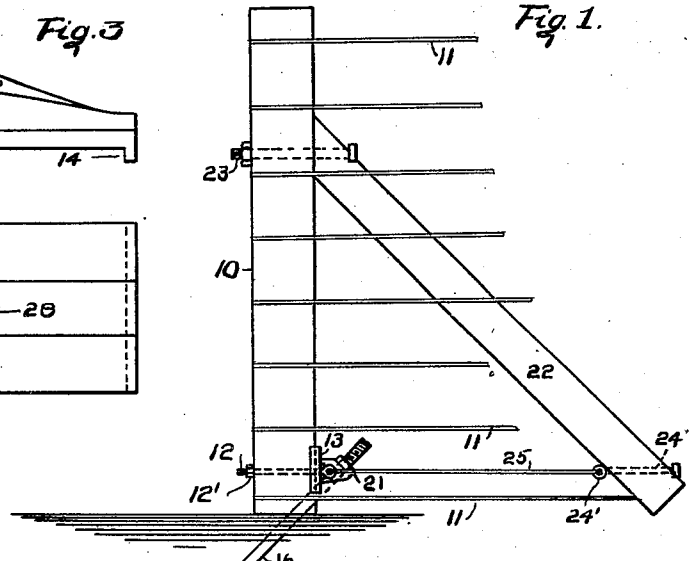
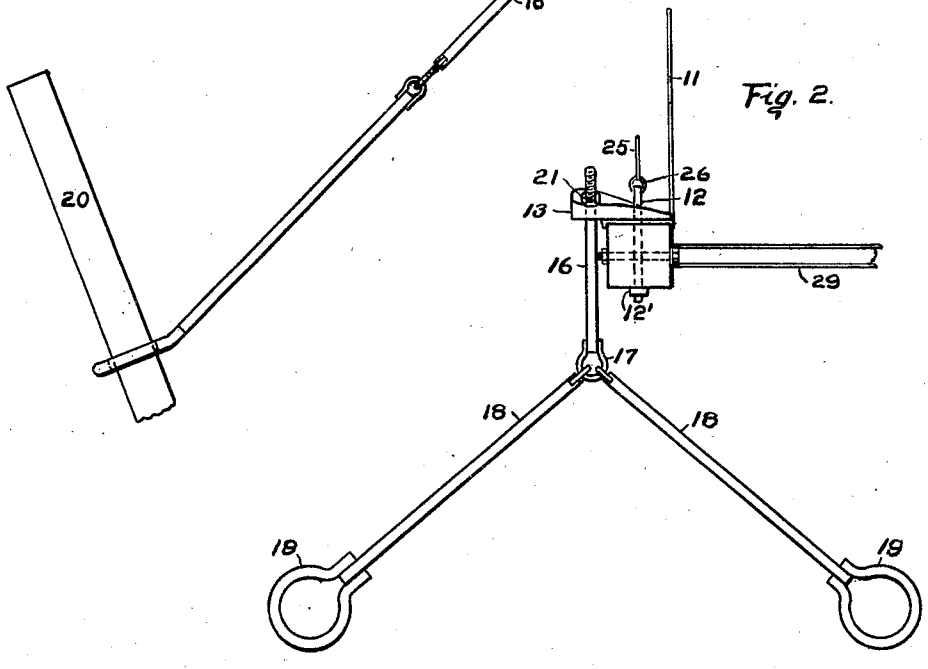


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

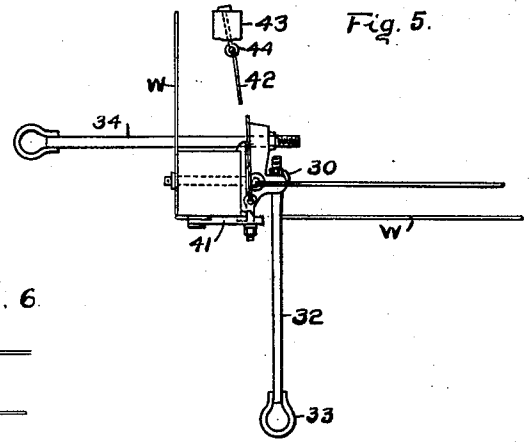


Fig. 6.

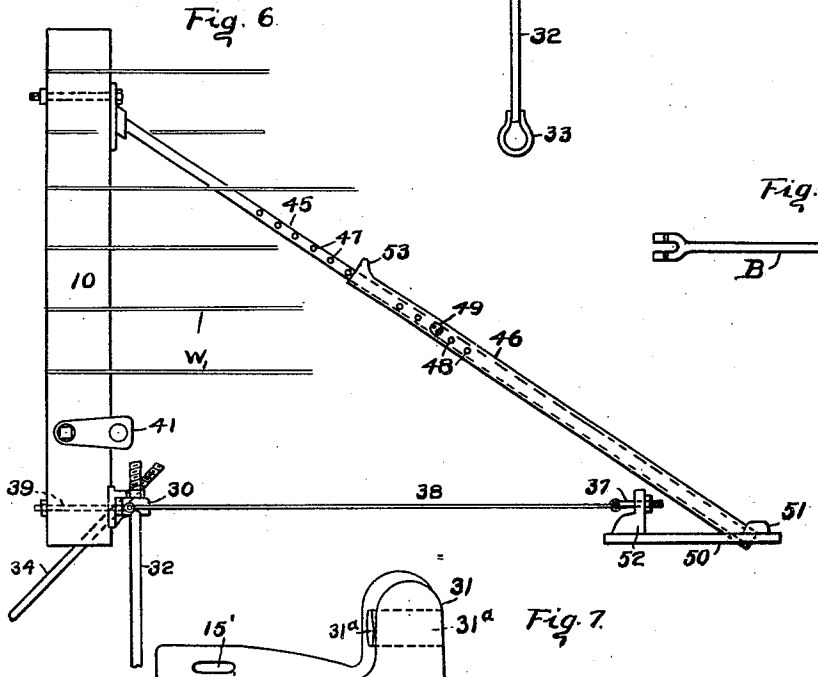


Fig. 9.

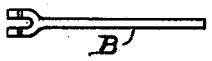


Fig. 7.

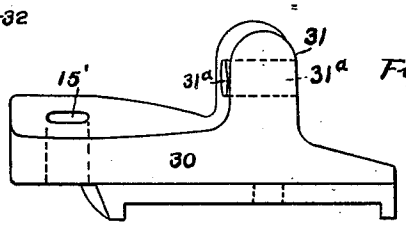
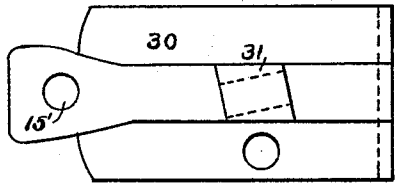


Fig. 8.



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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HEYERLY, OF NEAR BLUFFTON, INDIANA.

FENCE-POST BRACE.

999,786. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 8, 1911.

Application filed May 4, 1910. Serial No. 559,410.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN HEYERLY, a citizen of the United States, residing near Bluffton, in the county of Wells and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fence-Post Braces, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in anchorages and braces for fence posts and its object is to provide a simple, cheap and efficient means for anchoring a post either at a corner or between the corners, the post having its entire length above the ground.

My invention consists in the novel combination, construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and set forth in the claims and illustrated in the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a post provided with my anchoring device; Fig. 2, a plan view of the same with modified form of brace; Figs. 3 and 4, elevational and plan views respectively of the plate; Fig. 5, a plan of a corner post provided with my anchorage; Fig. 6, an elevation of the same with a modified form of brace; Figs. 7 and 8, elevational and plan views respectively of the tie plate shown in Figs. 5 and 6, and Fig. 9, a plan of a tool for adjusting the brace of Fig. 6.

Referring to the drawings I make use of any post 10, which may be of any suitable material and have any desirable form. This post is not inserted into the ground, but its lower end rests thereon, or close thereto. Near the lower extremity and on the side of the post facing the direction of pull of the wires 11 I secure by bolt 12 tie plate or member 13. This tie plate or member is provided on one of its surfaces with a recess 14 which corresponds to the form and size of the post and into which the post fits. Plate 13 extends inwardly beyond the inside edge of the post and the extended portion is provided with an opening 15 which is arranged at approximately an angle of 45° to the perpendicular. Through this opening passes a rod 16, which extends downwardly into the ground in a direction opposite to the direction of the fence wires. The lower end of rod 16 is provided with a ring 17 to which are coupled two rods 18 which project downwardly at the same angle into the ground, the two rods diverging away from the ring. The free end of each rod 18 carries a ring 19, through which a post or bar 20 is passed to prevent the withdrawal of rods 16 and 18 from the ground. To set these rods in place it is only necessary to drill a hole in the ground at the proper point and angle and to a sufficient depth to receive rod 16, then drill two more holes from the lower end of the first named hole to receive the two rods 18. Two holes are then drilled, at any desired angle, from the surface down to rings 19, and posts 20 are passed through those rings and driven into the ground beneath them. By tightening up nut 21 on the upper end of rod 16 against plate 13, the rods 16 and 18 will be drawn taut. A suitable brace 22, which may be of wood or metal or constructed as shown in Fig. 6 presently to be described, is secured as by bolt 23 to the upper portion of the post and slants downwardly in the direction of the fence, the lower end thereof resting on the ground or stone or post, and through the lower end is passed a bolt 24 having an eye 24′ on its forward end. To this eye is connected a wire or rod 25, the other end of the wire or rod 25 being connected to an eye 26 formed on bolt 12, which bolt is passed through an opening 28 in plate 13 and through post 10. A nut 12′ on the outer end of bolt 12 serves to tighten wire 25, thereby pulling the post 10 toward the lower end of the brace against the anchorage rods 16 and 18. The post is thereby rigidly held in its upright position and the fence wires may be drawn as tight as the user may desire without pulling over the post.

In case the post is to be placed at the end of a span of fence, as at a gate, an additional brace 29 (Fig. 2) is secured to the upper portion of the post and slants downwardly to the ground at a suitable angle to the direction of the fence, the lower end thereof being suitably anchored in the ground.

In case a post is to be used in a corner, I use instead of plate 13 a plate 30 having, in addition to the opening 15′ corresponding to opening 15 in plate 13, a lateral projection 31 having therein a transverse opening 31^a through which is passed a rod 32, the rod passing down into the ground similarly to rod 16 and carrying a ring 33 to which are coupled two rods similar to rods 18. A rod 34, similar to rod 16, passes through opening 15′ and extends into the ground, and it is coupled to a pair of rods

18, as above described. Both rods 32 and 34 and their connections are anchored to the ground by bars or posts similar to the bar or post 22. A brace similar to brace 22 of Fig. 1 is secured to the upper portion of the post and its lower end or a bracket 50 on which it rests is provided with an adjustable eye bolt 37, to which wire or rod 38 is connected and which wire or rod is also connected to an eye bolt 39 which passes through an opening 40 in plate 30 and through the post, as above described. To prevent the post from twisting when plate 30 is used I fix another plate 41 on the side of the post to which is secured a wire, or rod 42, which is also adjustably secured to a brace 43 by eye bolt 44. This rod or wire 42 extends in a direction opposite to that of rod 32. When this wire is drawn tight the post is securely held against twisting by the pull of the fence wires W.

A brace consisting of two telescoping members 45 and 46, preferably metal pipes or tubes, each having alined holes 47 and 48 therein, respectively, may be used instead of the brace 22. When two holes 47 and 48 are in register a pin 49 is passed through the same, thereby retaining the two members in a fixed relative position. The lower end of member 48 rests on a projection on plate 50 which rests on the ground, a wire or bar 38 being secured to eye bolt 37, which passes through lug 52, which lug projects upwardly on plate 50. The upper end of member 45 is secured to the post. The upper end of member 46 is provided with a laterally projecting lug 53. To adjust members 45 and 46 in order to straighten the post, it is only necessary to insert a pin in the first opening 47 above the upper end of member 46 and insert a bar or other lever B, Fig. 9, under that pin, and by using lug 53 as a fulcrum elevate member 45 sufficiently to enable the user to withdraw the pin 49 so that member 45 can be further elevated by the use of the lever until a new hole 47 registers with hole 48 when pin 49 may again be inserted in the alined holes and members 45 and 46 held in their adjusted positions. In this manner the brace may be lengthened or shortened at will to straighten the post.

It is evident that any form of post 10 may be used, it being only necessary to form the plates with a surface which will more or less closely engage the surface of the post in order to anchor the post in the desired position. Since the post does not enter the ground its life is thereby greatly lengthened.

What I claim is:

1. The combination with a fence post of an anchor plate secured to one side of the post having a recessed face adapted to receive the post, and having on its opposite face a longitudinally disposed rib which projects beyond the edge of the plate, and an opening in the projecting portion of the rib adapted to receive means for anchoring the post to the ground.

2. The combination with a fence post of an anchor plate secured to one side of the post having a recessed face adapted to receive the post and having on its opposite face a longitudinally disposed rib which projects beyond the edge of the plate, an opening in the projecting portion of the rib adapted to receive means for anchoring the post to the ground and a lug on the plate disposed at approximately a right angle to the rib having an opening therein adapted to receive means for anchoring the post.

In witness whereof I hereunto sign my name April, 1910.

JOHN HEYERLY.

Witnesses:
BESSIE E. MANNIX,
ELWIN M. HULSE.