May 30, 1933. A. W. THOMPSON 1,911,483

END POST AND BRACE MEMBER

Filed March 2, 1931

Fig. 1.

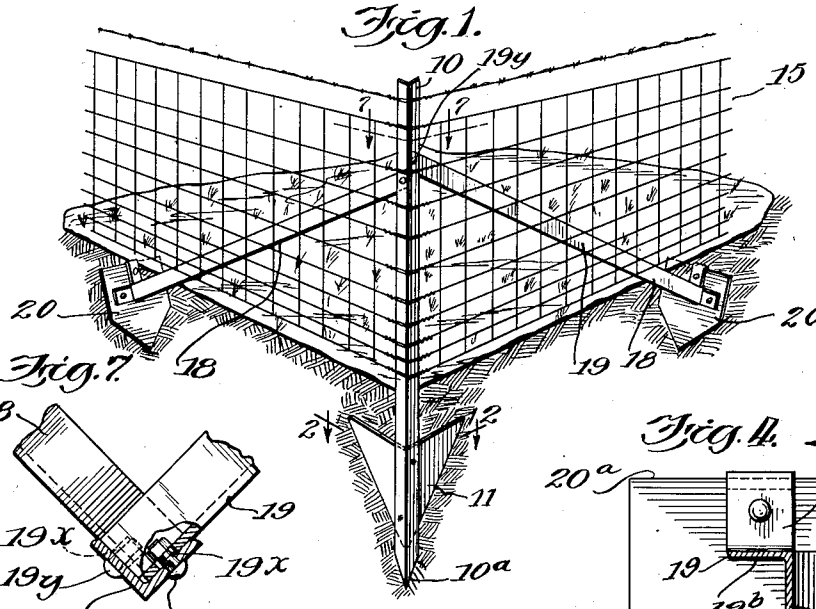


Fig. 7.

Fig. 4.

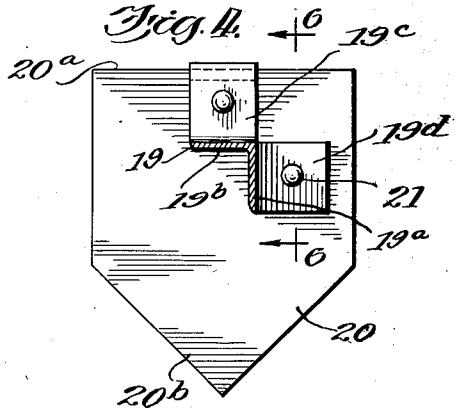


Fig. 2.

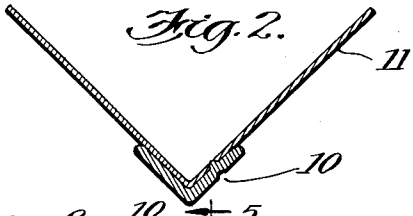


Fig. 3.

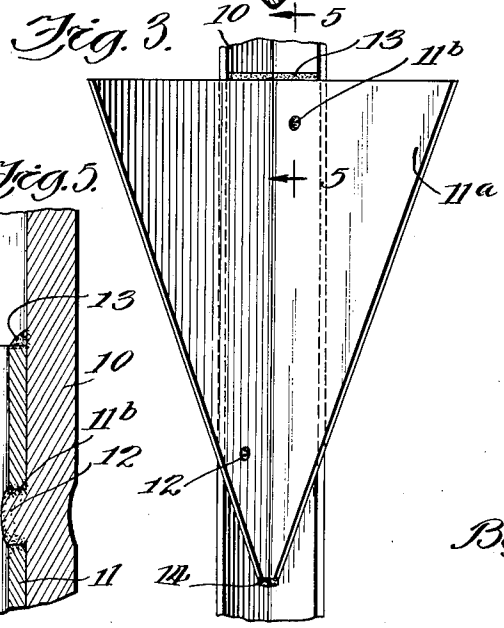
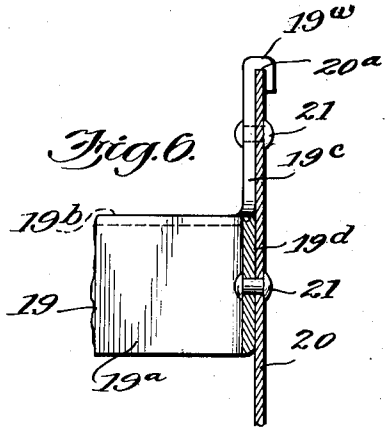


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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END POST AND BRACE MEMBER

Application filed March 2, 1931. Serial No. 519,323.

This invention relates to improvements in end or corner posts and braces therefor.

An object of the invention is to provide an end or corner post with a drive anchor secured thereto.

Another object is to provide an end or corner post with a brace or bracing means which may be readily driven into the ground rigidly to brace the end post.

These and other objects will be more fully illustrated in the accompanying drawing and described in the following specification.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a corner of a fence illustrating an embodiment of my improved corner post and anchor together with the bracing means.

Fig. 2 is a horizontal section along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, drawn to an enlarged scale.

Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the same.

Fig. 4 is a transverse section through one of the brace bars, also drawn to an enlarged scale.

Fig. 5 is a vertical section along the line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 6 is a vertical section along the line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 7 is a horizontal section along the line 7—7 of Fig. 1.

Like numerals refer to like elements in the drawing in which 10 indicates generally a corner post of angular cross section and of the "drive" type, preferably having a pointed lower end 10—*a*. Secured in the angle of the corner post adjacent the lower end is an angular anchor 11 having the sides thereof of triangular contour, although this shape may be varied as desired. I find it desirable, however, to have the outer sides of the anchor 11 converging from top to bottom to render more easy the penetration of the anchor with the post into the ground. The sides 11—*a* of the anchor are provided with suitable apertures 11—*b* and in assembling the anchors with the corner posts 10 I utilize these apertures 11—*b* for welding, as by electricity, as illustrated in Fig. 5, for example, where is shown the welded metal 12 projecting into and through the hole 11—*b*. Also at the top of the anchor 11 is welded a shoulder 13, as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 5, for added security and resistance to separation of the anchor and post. A shoulder 14 is welded at the lower end of the anchor 11 (see Fig. 3).

Heretofore it has been impossible or impractical to utilize an anchor with a drive type of corner or end post, but with my construction the anchor may be readily and conveniently assembled with the post and will be securely held during the driving thereof, as by a sledge or driving member, and resistance to the displacement with the post will be afforded by the relatively large anchor after the same has been driven into the ground, as illustrated in Fig. 1. By utilizing the apertures and the welds, described and illustrated, the corner post is not weakened where the anchor is attached and ample security of attachment is obtained.

Further to secure or brace the corner or end post, particularly against the tension of the fencing 15, I find it desirable in many instances to utilize bracing means, one embodiment of which I have illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

The means illustrated comprises a pair of braces generally indicated by numeral 18 consisting of an angle bar 19 having one face 19—*a* at the side and one face 19—*b* at the top, as illustrated in Figs. 4 and 6, for example. At the lower end the angle bar 19 has the faces split or separated into the portions 19—*c* and 19—*d* to lie flat against the face of an end piece 20 to which they are secured by rivets 21, or the like, as illustrated in Figs. 1, 4 and 5. The upper end flange 19—*c* is extended beyond the top of the end piece 20 and overturned, as illustrated at 19—*w* (see Fig. 6) to lie upon the top 20—*a* of the end piece.

This end piece is preferably pointed at its lower portion at 20—*b* for relatively easy driving.

At the upper end the brace bars 19 extend into the confines at the inside of the corner post 10 and are secured thereto as by bolts 19—*y*, or the like, preferably being chamfered or beveled to rest against the side of the corner post to which they are not directly attached so as to receive the thrust therefrom. To ensure this result the bolt-holes 19—*x* in the braces are elongated (see Fig. 7).

The construction of the brace members and end pieces 20 is such that the latter may be readily driven into the ground at the desired location with a sledge hammer or other suitable means, the impacts thereof being received by the portion 19—*w* of the end flange 19—*c*, which thus protects the end piece 20 against the battering of the driving means. In ordinary ground the lower portion of the brace bar 19 will penetrate the ground with the end piece 20 without difficulty, but if necessary the ground adjacent the end piece may be slightly trenched.

This brace construction is easy and economical to manufacture and is quickly and readily positioned by the user, the attachment of the brace to the corner post 10 being made before driving of the end piece or plate 20.

It will be apparent that with the construction disclosed a corner post is provided which possesses all of the advantages of the drive type of post and is securely anchored in the ground without the necessity of digging holes for concrete receiving means or placement anchors. In addition I have provided a novel bracing means which may be utilized with a drive or other type of end post which may be positioned with little or no difficulty and which also obviates the necessity of disturbing or digging up the ground for its placement.

While I have illustrated my invention applied to a corner post, it should be understood that an end post of similar construction is within the purview of my invention, it being merely necessary to use a single brace member with an end post in lieu of the two illustrated with the corner post. I, therefore, use the terms interchangeably.

It will be apparent that my invention is susceptible of modification and variation from the form illustrated and described, and I do not wish to be restricted thereto, but refer to the appended claims as defining my invention when properly interpreted with respect to the prior art.

What I claim is:

1. Bracing means for end posts comprising a bar, one end of said bar being split to form diverging flanges, a drive plate, said flanges being secured to said drive plate, one of said flanges being buckled over an edge of said plate and providing a protective plate driving surface.

2. Bracing means for end posts including a bar of angular section, one end of said bar being split to form diverging flanges, a drive plate, said flanges being secured to said drive plate, one of said flanges being extended to overlie the top of said plate.

3. The combination with fence posts and the like of bracing means comprising a bar of angular section, one end of said bar being split to form diverging flanges, a drive plate, said flanges contacting with the face of said plate and being secured thereto, a portion of one of said flanges being bent over the driving edge of said plate.

4. An end post and bracing means therefor comprising a bar and a drive plate, said bar extending outwardly from said post and having angularly disposed sides, said sides being bent to form outwardly diverging flanges, said flanges being secured to the face of said plate, and at least one of said flanges being buckled over an edge of said plate.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name this 26 day of February, 1931.

ARTHUR W. THOMPSON.