

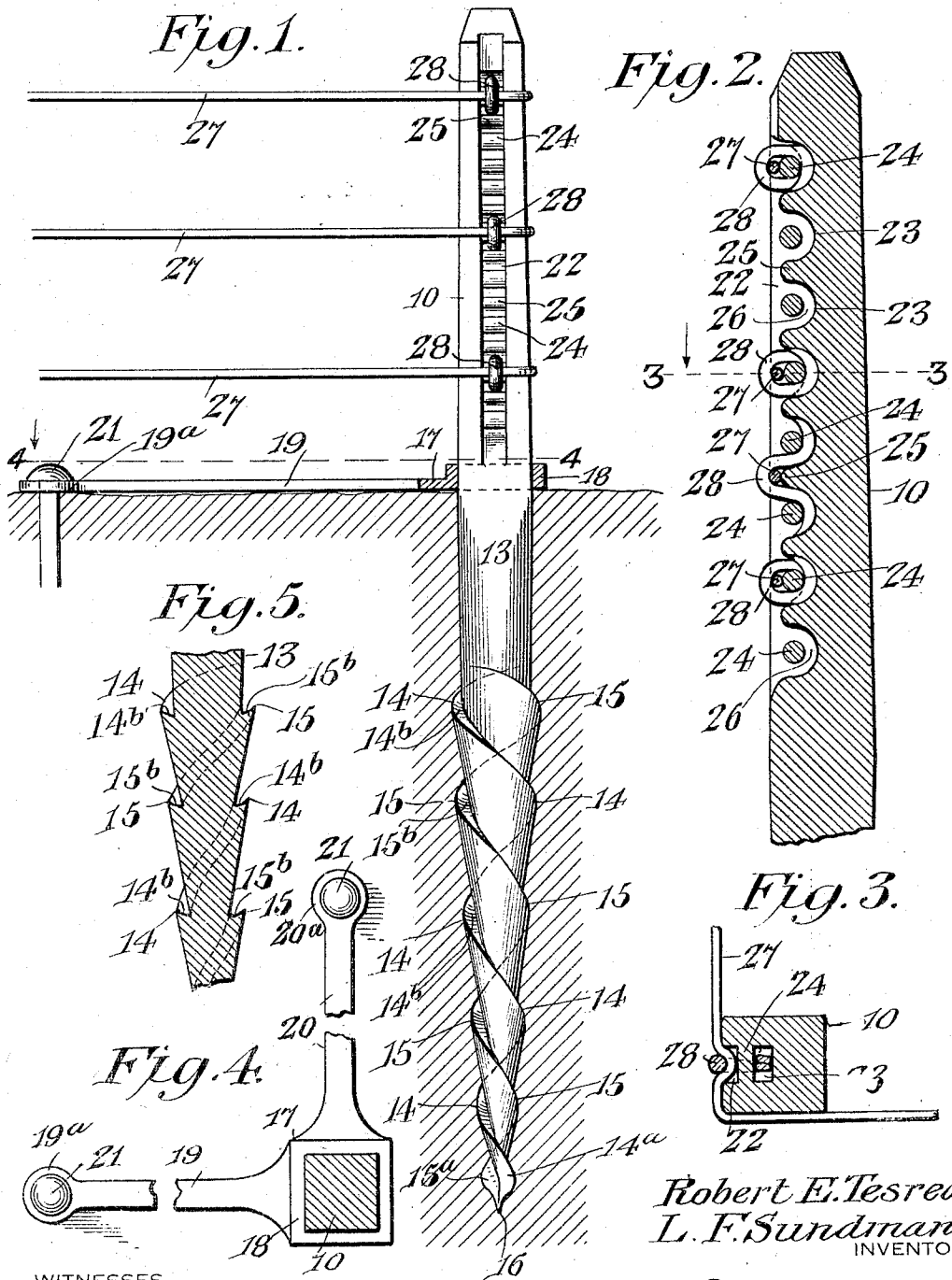
R. E. TESREAU & L. F. SUNDMAN.

METAL FENCE POST.

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1,049,549.

Patented Jan. 7, 1913.



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ROBERT EDWARD TESREAU AND LARS FREDERICK SUNDMAN, OF DOE RUN, MISSOURI.

METAL FENCE-POST.

1,049,549.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ROBERT E. TESREAU and LARS F. SUNDMAN, citizens of the United States, residing at Doe Run, in the county of St. Francois and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Metal Fence-Post, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in fence posts, and has for its object to provide a post furnished with novel and effective means for securing fence wires thereto.

Further our post is provided with means by which it can be easily and firmly placed in the ground without the necessity of digging a post-hole.

We also provide a brace which will not only brace the post but will hold it down and resist any tendency of the post to turn.

Other objects and advantages of our invention will appear in the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a front elevation of our improved fence post, showing the post positioned in the ground and with the fence wires attached thereto. Fig. 2 is an enlarged vertical sectional view through the upper portion or body of the post. Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 Fig. 2 looking in the direction indicated by the arrow. Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view looking down on the line 4—4 Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view through a portion of the screw shank of the post.

Referring to the drawings, which illustrate the preferred embodiment of our improved post, 10 designates the body or that part of the post which extends above the surface of the ground, and to which the fence wires are attached. The said body portion is square in cross section, and is gradually tapered from its upper to its lower end, that is, to the point where it is intended to be sunk into the ground.

The shank portion of the post is rounded, as at 13, immediately below the lower end of the body portion 10, and is of a size in cross section corresponding to about that of the lower part of the square portion or body 10. As shown, the lower portion of the shank is provided with a double spiral screw. The threads 14 and 15 start at substantially diametrically-opposite points on the diameter of the round portion 13 of the shank, and, for their first complete turn about the shank extend out beyond the sides

of the post thereby affording a grip for the threads when the post is set in the ground. Both threads have a common pitch with their spirals running in the same direction, but owing to the fact that the threads start at opposite points, the threads run between each other to the end of the shank, where, they terminate in oppositely-disposed grooved wings 14^a and 15^a, respectively, which are drawn to a point 16 to facilitate starting the post into the ground. The oppositely-disposed grooved wings provide a duplex cutting edge for the point 16 of the post. Each thread or spiral is cut downwardly or inwardly toward the shank so that the outer edge of the thread is relatively higher than the point of juncture of the thread with the shank and thus there are formed spiral grooves 14^b and 15^b, respectively, between the outer edge of the thread and the shank. This feature serves two purposes, it provides a sharp cutting edge for the threads and affords a holding groove in which the surrounding earth will pack.

The post, which is preferably made of metal, is cast in one piece and can be easily screwed into the ground with a suitable tool, as it is made square in cross section.

The advantages of the double thread are many, for in screwing the post into anything as unstable as the ground it is necessary in order to obtain the best results to employ a long pitch, but by using a double thread, the disadvantages of a long pitch are overcome to a great extent.

In order to firmly brace the post in position whenever a brace is needed, we employ a right angular brace 17, which comprises a square open post receiving body 18, which is slipped over the top of the post and pushed down until it rests on the ground where it will fit securely about the lower part of the post body 10 owing to its taper. At adjoining sides of the body 18 are arms 19 and 20 which extend outwardly at right angles to each other. The arms each terminate in rounded portions 19^a and 20^a, each provided with a perforation, through which are driven metal stakes 21 provided with suitable heads.

Longitudinally of the front face of the body portion 10 is arranged a slot 22 which extends nearly the entire length of the body. The slot is provided throughout its length with a series of short grooves or

corrugations 23 which are substantially semi-circular in cross section. The grooves are arranged vertically along the post (Fig. 2) and are spaced apart to agree with the desired space between the wires of the fence. Extending about midway across each groove 23 and secured to the opposite walls of the slot 22 is a short round rod or cross bar 24. The outer side of each rod 24, extends out substantially flush in a vertical line with the outer ends of the ribs 25, which constitute dividing walls formed between the grooves 23, and said rods are of such size with respect to the grooves in which they are positioned as to afford a clear channel or passage 26 between each rod and its groove for a purpose herein-after explained.

The wires 27 are secured to the body 10 of the post by means of suitable staples 28. The selected wire 27 is drawn across the front face of the post in front of the rod 24 at the desired distance from the ground, and then a staple 28 is straddled over the wire, with the free or pointed ends of the staple extending into the entrances to the same groove located at opposite sides of the rod. The staple is then driven into place, with the result that the ends or prongs of the staple will strike the curved rear wall of the groove and be deflected in opposite directions around the rod and in frictional contact with the rod and the sides of the groove, until the body of the staple strikes the wire forcing the latter into the slot and against the rod where it is securely clamped in position as illustrated in Fig. 3. The bending or kinking of the wire into the slot in front of the rod 24 will prove effective in preventing any longitudinal movement of the wire, and in addition it serves to tighten the wire.

While we have shown and described our post as having wires attached thereto, it is readily apparent that boards could be secured with equal facility, either with staples or by ordinary nails, as the latter would curve around the rods 24 in the same manner as the staples. Also, while we have only shown the fastening means on one side of the post similar fastening means could be provided on two or more sides with equal facility, as desired.

The entire post, including the fastening

means, is to be cast or otherwise formed of a single piece of metal.

Instead of the prongs of the staple 28 straddling the rod 24, they may straddle the rib or web 25 so that one prong will enter one groove and the other prong the groove below the same. This arrangement is shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

What we claim is:

1. A fence post provided along its face with a vertically disposed slot, and a plurality of substantially semi-circular grooves arranged vertically and communicating with said slot, said grooves being spaced apart by ribs which form the dividing walls between the grooves, the outer edges of said ribs being arranged in rear of the outer face of the post, a transverse horizontally-disposed rod positioned about midway in each of said grooves to form a relatively narrow passage around said rod, a fence element adapted to be placed across said slot either in front of one of said rods or in front of one of said ribs, and a staple adapted to engage said wire and enter the space on each side of said rod when the said element is placed in one position, or enter the grooves on each side of the rib when the said element is placed in the other position.

2. A fence post provided with a series of contiguously spaced grooves arranged vertically along one of its faces, said grooves being substantially semi-circular in cross section and spaced apart forming a curved narrow rib or dividing wall between each pair of grooves, and a fixed transverse rod arranged horizontally in each groove and spaced from the top, bottom and rear walls thereof, whereby the outer face of either the ribs or the rods will provide a bearing or seat for a fence element so that a driven staple may engage the fence element and enter the spaces between the rods and the grooves.

In testimony, that we claim the foregoing as our own, we have hereto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT EDWARD TESREAU.
LARS FREDERICK SUNDMAN.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM TESREAU,
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