

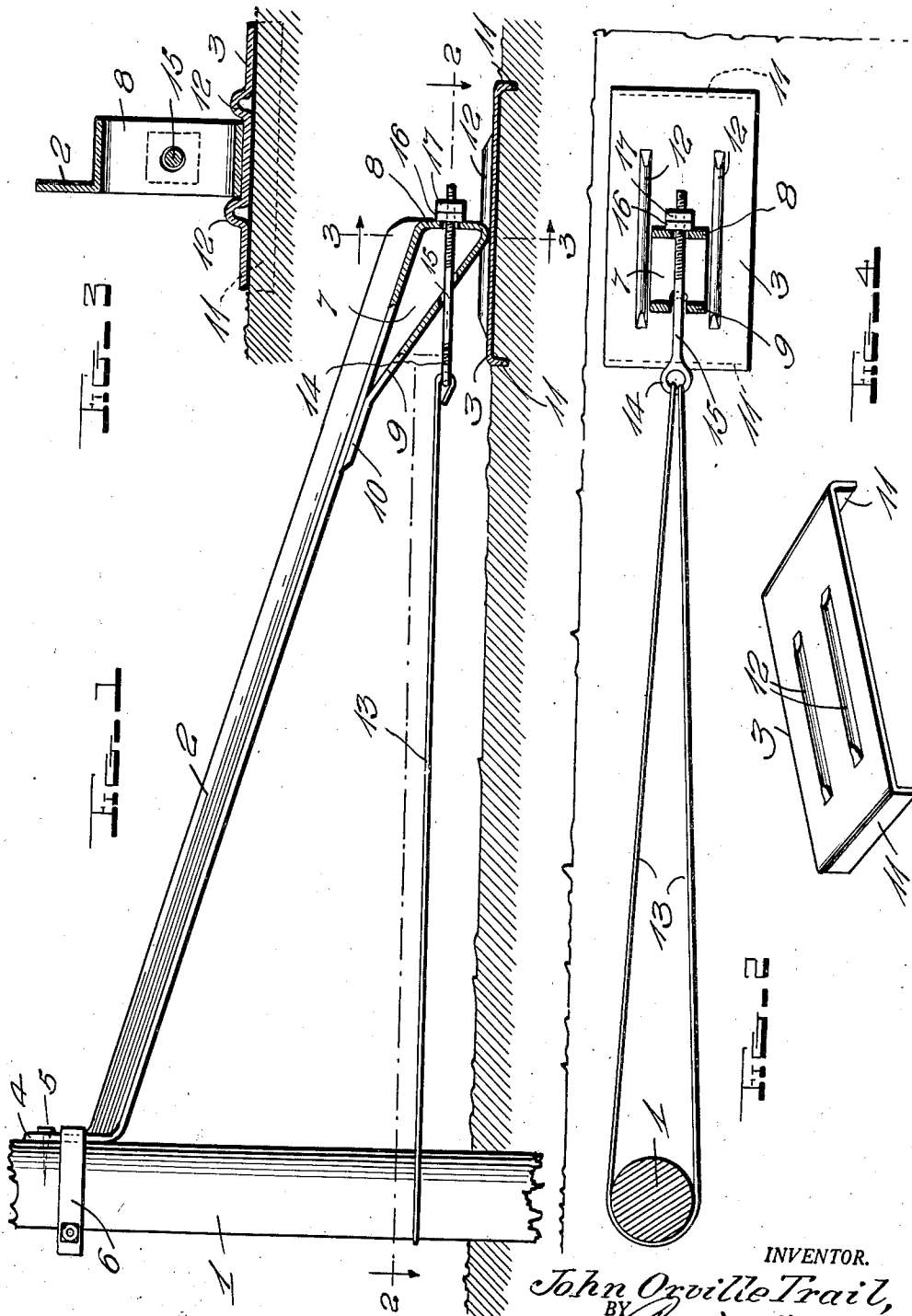
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FENCE POST BRACE

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FENCE POST BRACE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 189—31.1)

This invention relates to improvements in fence post braces.

The main object of the invention is to provide a brace for the corner or end post of a fence which will firmly support the post in an upright position and prevent displacement of the post under the stresses and strains falling upon the fence structure.

A further object of the invention is to provide a fence post brace which is of simple character, strong and durable in construction, capable of being inexpensively manufactured and applied, and which may be easily applied for use or removed when occasion requires.

The invention consists of the features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the fence post brace embodying my invention, showing the same applied to a fence post, parts of the brace appearing in section.

Fig. 2 is a horizontal section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a cross-section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the seat support. Referring now more particularly to the drawing, 1 designates a fence post, which may be the corner or end post of a wire fence or like fence structure, and which may be made of any suitable form and material.

The post is adapted to be stably supported in position by a bracing structure comprising a bracing member 2 secured at one end to the post and extending at an outwardly and downwardly inclined or diagonal angle thereto and resting at its opposite end upon a suitable seat support 3. This bracing member is preferably made of metal, of any suitable cross-section suitable for the purpose. In the present instance it is shown as comprising a length of sheet metal of L-shaped cross-section, but it may be of any other desired cross-section. At one end this member 2 is shown as provided with a bent attaching portion 4 secured to the post 1 by fastening means 5 and also, if desired, by a clip or other fastening member 6.

At its opposite or outer end the bracing member 2 is bent upon itself or formed to provide a substantially triangular abutment portion 7 embodying an end wall or portion 8 integral with the brace body and a rebent bottom wall or portion 9 which extends under the brace body in the direction of the post and is integral at one end with the wall 8 and bears at its opposite end 10 against

the underside of the brace body, to which it may be suitably secured, if desired.

At the angle of intersection of the walls or portions 8 and 9 of the abutment end 7 the outer end of the post rests upon the support 3. This may be of any suitable character to sustain the abutment end of the post and prevent it from sinking into the ground. It is herein shown in the form of an oblong rectangular sheet metal or cast plate adapted to rest upon the ground and having end flanges 11 entering the ground to hold it from shifting. This plate may be provided with upstanding spaced guiding and stop ribs or projections 12 between which the angular base of the abutment portion 7 of the post brace fits. These ribs or projections serve as guides to allow the bracing structure to have movement toward and from the post to compensate for expansion and contraction, and serve to prevent displacement of the abutment end of the bracing member in either direction laterally.

A tension or tie member or device is provided for connecting the outer end of the bracing member 2 with the post, whereby the parts may be rigidly united and the post and abutment end of the bracing member drawn into proper relation to sustain the post in an upright position. This tension or tie member or device may be of any suitable type. It is shown in the present instance as comprising a tension wire 13 of loop form, the looped end of which is passed around the post and the ends of the wire connected with the eye 14 of a tension bolt 15 engaged with the abutment end of the bracing member 2. As shown, the bolt 15 is passed through aligned openings in the walls or portions 8 and 9 of the triangular abutment portion 7 and provided with adjusting and lock nuts 16 and 17 to hold it in adjusted position.

By means of this bolt and its nuts the tension element 13 is adjustably fastened to the abutment end of the bracing member 2 so that the tension element may be tensioned to the desired degree and firmly held in tensioned condition. This tensioning device not only holds the bracing element and post firmly united but provides a means whereby the post may be drawn in the direction of the base plate to maintain it in an upright position.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawing, the construction and mode of use of my improved fence post brace will be readily understood and it will be seen that it provides a brace for the corner or end post of wire or other fences by means of which the post

and fence as a whole may be braced and supported against displacement under the stresses and strains ordinarily falling thereon. Also it will be seen that the invention provides a bracing structure which is of simple and inexpensive character, strong and durable, and adapted to be easily applied to the post and as readily removed when occasion requires, as when it is desired to substitute a new post for an old one or change the position of the post.

It will, of course, be understood that permissible changes within the scope of the appended claims may be made, such, for example, as making the body of the bracing member 2 of tubular or other cross-sectional form, and of substituting a rod or single strand of wire for the tie element 13. Also it will be understood that other changes in the form, details of construction and arrangement of the parts may be made, within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

What I claim is:—

1. A fence brace including a bracing member adapted to be secured at one end to a fence post and having its opposite end formed to provide a reinforcing abutment portion having opposed and relatively spaced walls, a tension element adapted to be secured at one end to the post, and an adjustable fastening element extending through said spaced walls of the abutment portion of the bracing element and connected to the opposite end of the tension element.

2. A fence post brace comprising a channelled bracing element adapted to be secured at one end to a fence post and bent at its opposite end to provide an abutment portion to rest upon a support, said abutment portion having opposed and relatively spaced walls, a tension element adapted to be connected at one end to the post, and a bolt connected at one end to said tension element and passing through said spaced walls of the abutment end of the bracing member and having means engaging one of said walls for adjustably connecting the bolt to said abutment portion.

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