(No Model.)

R. S. WOOLFOLK.

FENCE OR ARBOR POST.

No. 552,568. Patented Jan. 7, 1896.

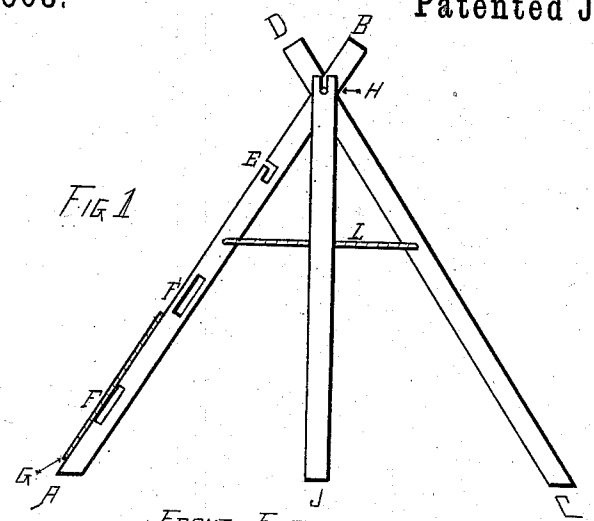


FIG 1

FRONT ELEVATION

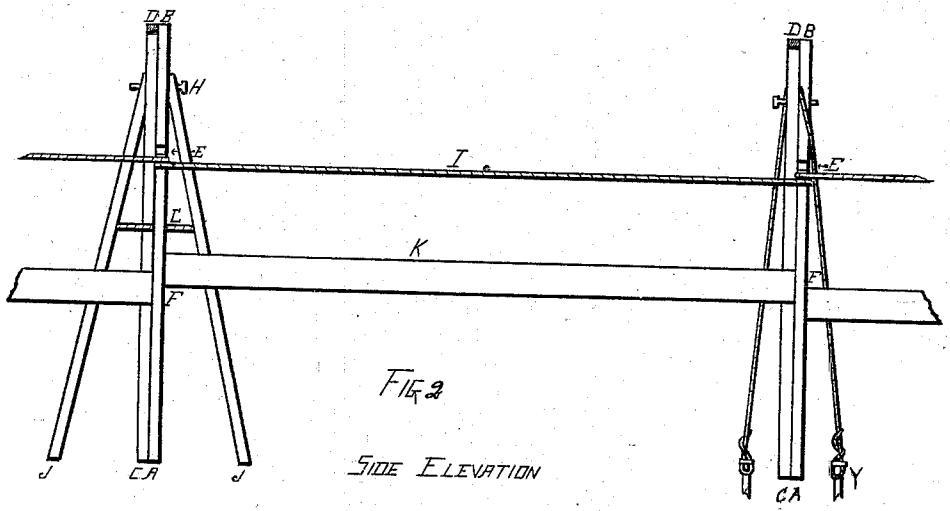


FIG 2

SIDE ELEVATION

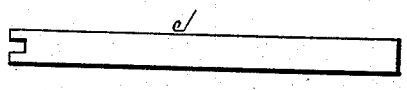
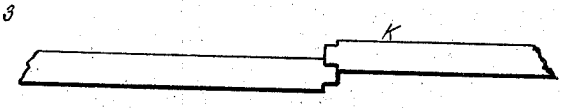


FIG 3



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD S. WOOLFOLK, OF POWERSVILLE, GEORGIA.

FENCE OR ARBOR POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 552,568, dated January 7, 1896.

Application filed January 16, 1895. Serial No. 535,084. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD S. WOOLFOLK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Powersville, in the county of Houston and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence or Arbor Posts; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in fence and arbor posts; and the objects of my improvements are, first, to provide a movable and adjustable post; second, to obviate the necessity of digging post-holes, and, third, to dispense with the use of nails in attaching the rails, whether of wood or wire. I attain these objects by the devices illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the entire post, and Fig. 2 a side elevation.

Similar letters refer to like parts throughout both the views.

A B, C D, J and J show the post in position, the four feet thereof being held together at the apex by bolt H. L and L′ are wires inserted, as shown, to prevent the spreading of their respective feet. The leg A B, to which the rail, whether of wood or wire, is attached, has the mortise F, or preferably F′, at such intervals upon the leg as may be desired; or if wire is used, as in Fig. 2, exclusively, a slot is arranged, as at E. The shoulders at the ends of the rail K are so adjusted as that the ends of two such rails will exactly fit the mortise F or F′ and be braced against each other, as in Fig. 3. If the mortise F be used, a wire or other attachment G, Fig. 1, will be necessary in order to hold the rail K in position, and the fastening of this attachment is the only necessity for the use of nails where wooden legs are used. The wire rail, as I, Fig. 2, is inserted in the slot E and wrapped once around the projecting lip of said slot. The removal of one end of wires L and L′ and bolt H completely separates the parts of the post and leaves it ready for transportation.

I prefer to carry out my invention by using a quadrupedal post composed of wooden legs of dimensions one by four inches; but they may be of any desired dimensions, according to strength of fence required. I also use mortise F′ and slot E, according to the closeness of fence desired. I dispense with the legs J except at corners and at such intervals as the required strength may dictate, and between the points where the quadrupedal post is used wherever it is deemed necessary stakes of any suitable dimensions Y, Fig. 2, are driven firmly into the ground and attached by wire around the intersection of legs A B, C D, thus securing, substantially, immovability of the fence structure. The legs of my post may, however, be made of iron of any suitable strength and weight, in which case the attachment G is held in place by suitable bolts, and the projecting lip of slot E is transformed into a similarly adjustable ear or cog around which the wire is wrapped, or a hole can be made through the post for that purpose. I sometimes place an additional wooden rail in the angle formed by the ends of the legs D B, especially if wire is used, and the saturation of the basal ends of all the legs in coal-tar or other anticorrosive substance adds to their durability.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A fence post, consisting of two legs A B and C D, brace bars J, provided with slots at their upper ends, a through bolt pivotally connecting the legs of the post and having its ends extending into the slots in the brace bars, one of said legs having formed therein a right angle slot, which opens through one face of the leg and provides a seat for a line wire and a lug or lip to which such wire can be attached, and means connecting the pivoted legs for limiting the outward movement thereof, substantially as set forth.

2. In a fence, the combination with a fence post having formed therein an angular slot

E, which opens through one face or edge of the post, and a mortise or passage F, below the slot E, of rails having their adjacent ends fitted in the passage F, and a line wire extending through the slot E and bent or twisted around a lip or lug formed by such slot, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

RICHARD S. WOOLFOLK.

Witnesses:
W. J. LA VARRE,
S. A. REID.