(No Model.)

E. GILBERT.

FENCE.

No. 402,817. Patented May 7, 1889.

Fig. 1

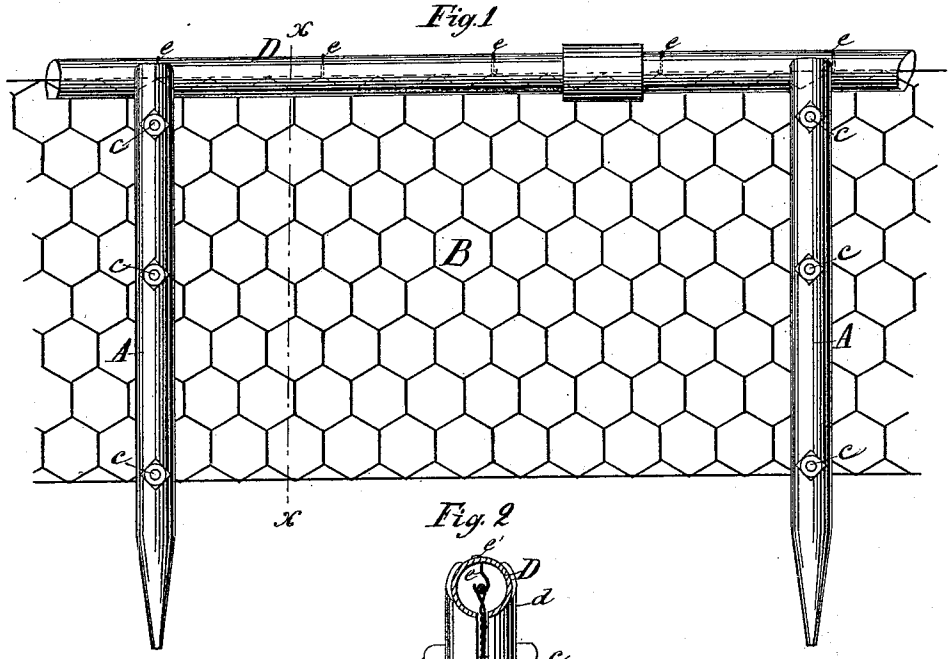


Fig. 2

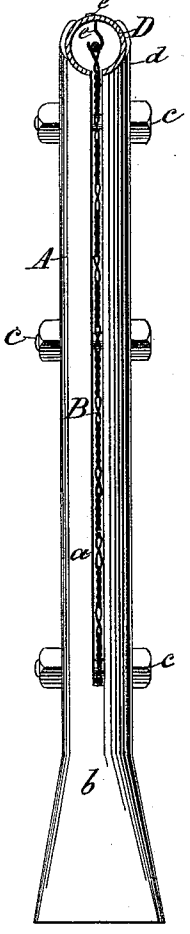


Fig. 3

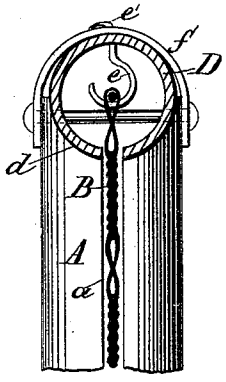
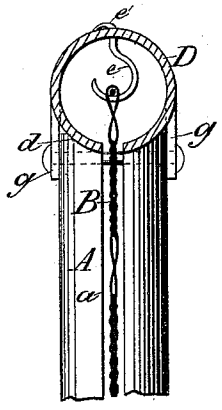


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN GILBERT, OF GEORGETOWN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE GILBERT & BENNETT MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 402,817, dated May 7, 1889.

Application filed February 25, 1889. Serial No. 301,044. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN GILBERT, of Georgetown, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Fences, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement relates to fences in which wire web is employed in conjunction with fence-posts.

I will describe in detail a fence embodying my improvement, and then point out the novel features in a claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a fence embodying my improvement. Fig. 2 is a vertical section thereof taken on the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a view showing a modification of certain parts in detail. Fig. 4 is a view showing still another modification of similar parts. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 are on a somewhat larger scale than Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A designates fence-posts. These fence-posts are made of metallic tubes in which are formed slots *a*, extending for a distance in the direction of the lengths of the posts and having open upper ends at the tops of the posts. The portions of the posts below said slots are unbroken and tubular, and in the example of my improvement shown the lower extremities are flattened out, as at *b*, to form driving-points.

B designates a wire-fence web, which may be of the usual or any desired kind. The posts having been erected, the web is passed downwardly within the slots, and may be secured to the posts by means of bolts or rivets *c*, extending through the posts. The upper ends of the posts are hollowed out, as at *d*. Within these hollowed-out portions is laid a top rail, D. This top rail is longitudinally slotted upon one side. The slot therein is upon the under side when the rail is arranged upon the posts. When thus arranged, the fence-web extends into the slot in the top rail. The web may be secured to the rail and in said slot by means of hooks *e*, which engage the portion of the web within the top rail. These hooks are provided with shanks *e'*, which extend upwardly through suitable holes in the upper side of the top rail, and which may be upset to secure the hooks in position. A convenient way to arrange the hooks in the top rail is to turn them so that the hook portions will extend parallel with the slot, pass them upwardly through the slot and their shanks through the holes in the top side of the rail. The hooks may then be turned round, so that the hook portions will extend at right angles to the slots. The shanks are then upset upon the outside of the rail, in order to secure the hooks in position. It is quite easy to engage the hooks with the web after they have been passed into the top rail.

In Figs. 1 and 2 I have shown a means for securing the top rail to the fence-posts, consisting in bending over the portions of the posts forming the side walls of the hollowed-out portions *d*, so that the top rail will be gripped and its removal from the top of the posts is thereby prevented.

In Fig. 3 I have shown a band or strap, *f*, which may be passed over the top rail and secured to the posts, in this instance by means of rivets. In Fig. 4 I have shown a bolt passing through the portions of the top rail forming the side walls of the hollowed-out portion *d*, and also through the top rail.

A fence constructed according to my improvement is very simple, strong, and durable, besides being very cheaply constructed.

I have filed an application for United States Letters Patent for an improvement in fences, Serial No. 301,045, dated February 25, 1889, in which I show a fence comprising tubular posts slotted longitudinally, a wire-fence web arranged in said slots, and a top rail secured to said posts and slotted longitudinally to receive the web, together with other features. I do not herein lay claim, broadly, to anything claimed therein.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A fence comprising tubular posts slotted longitudinally and having hollowed-out portions at their upper ends, a wire-fence web arranged in said slots, and a top rail slotted longitudinally to receive the wire web and arranged in said hollowed-out portions of the posts and secured to the posts, substantially as specified.

EDWIN GILBERT.

Witnesses:
FREDK. HAYNES,
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