

W. T. HICKS.
POST.

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1,045,026.

Patented Nov. 19, 1912.

Fig. 1.

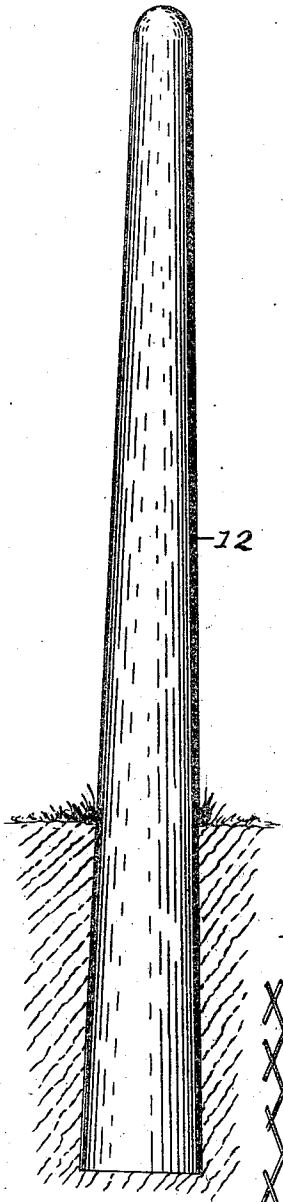


Fig. 2.

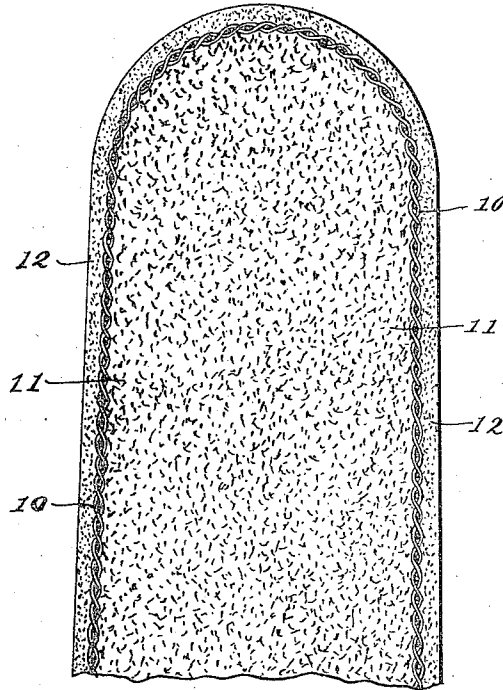


Fig. 3.

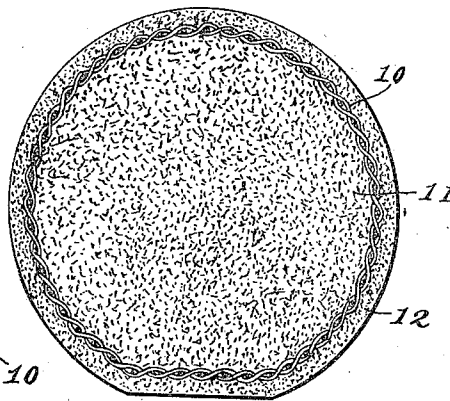
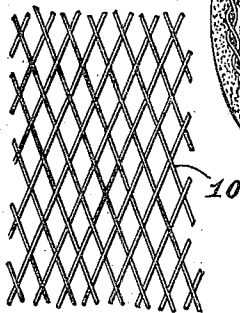


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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POST.

1,045,026.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. HICKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bloomington, in the county of Monroe and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Posts, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my said invention is to provide a cheap yet strong and durable post for use in building fences, carrying telegraph wires, and all other uses for which posts of such character are ordinarily provided and it consists in a peculiar construction of post whereby these objects are accomplished, all as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings which are made a part hereof and on which similar reference characters indicate similar parts, Figure 1 is a side view of a post embodying my said invention, Fig. 2, vertical section through the same, Fig. 3, a transverse section, and Fig. 4, a detail view showing a fragment of the wire fence-form in elevation.

Said post is composed of a wire basket, or post-form, formed of woven wire, or similar reticulated metal, of substantially the form which it is desired the finished post shall have. It is closed or united at its top by the metal fabric which continues to the apex, said top being oval in form, uniting all the sides and forming a unitary metal structure. The strands or wires composing the woven wire form or basket preferably cross each other at angles of from 30 to 45 degrees, as shown in Fig. 4, so that each individual strand or part extends spirally and thus is better enabled to withstand the twisting strain on the post. In other words, each wire or strand at a point substantially midway its length lies across the top of the structure, its two ends passing down opposite sides of said structure in spiral directions to the foot or bottom thereof and interwoven with every other strand. The metal basket thus constitutes, in itself, a metal post of considerable strength and is connected from all sides with every other part and in all directions so that, in use, the strain, both frontal and lateral is imparted to and borne by every part of the post, and its tensile as well as compressible strength united to the best possible advantage. The center of said basket is filled with a core

11 of cheap coarse concrete composed of substantially one part cement, three parts sand and six parts coarse gravel, cinders, or like material. Said core thus supports the reticulated metal basket or post in its original form, preventing the same from collapsing under strain or pressure, so that because of its strands being extended over its top and spirally along opposite sides, its entire strength, or the combined strength of all its parts, is utilized from all sides and in all directions to the best advantage. Said core being poured into said basket in the form of a wet mixture while said form is confined in a bulk-head, the wire becomes substantially embedded in the concrete, the corners and ends of portions of the coarse material extending into the meshes while the floating material will run through between and around the wires, making said basket substantially an integral part of the core, which will thus be formed with an admirable surface for the adherence of the veneer of the finer and richer mixture. The exterior of said post is veneered or covered with a thin layer of rich concrete which is of sufficient thickness to completely cover the core composed of the wire basket, or post-form, and coarse mixture therein and protect the same from the action of the elements and also impart a smooth and finished appearance to the exterior of said post, providing a surface that is impervious to the weather and can be glazed or given any style of finish desired.

The apparatus and process by which these posts are made form the subject matter of a separate application, filed concurrently herewith, in which said method of construction is clearly and fully set forth. It may be here stated, however, that the center core is poured into the interior of said wire basket after the materials comprising it have been thoroughly mixed and when in a green and wet state and the rich concrete forming the outer veneering is poured between said wire basket and the side of the mold in which the post is formed in a wet and green state, an imperforate bulk-head separating the two classes of material during the pouring, which bulk-head is then removed, permitting both the outer and inner material to unite around the wires or strands composing the basket forming a complete homogenous structure perfectly united at all points. A

post is thus provided which is composed chiefly of an inexpensive wire fabric, or other similar reticulated metal, and a low grade concrete core which serves to hold said basket, or post, expanded and in proper form for the purpose, while the fine concrete on the outside enables a finished surface to be imparted to the post, either smooth, glazed, or finished in any manner desired, all as is well understood. The veneering being smooth and imperforate furnishes a perfect protection to the interior structure from the disintegrating action of moisture which is prevented from reaching the coarse or more porous interior substance.

Having thus fully described my said invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A post comprising a reticulated metal form, or basket, of substantially the desired shape for the finished post composed of metal strands which extend continuously along opposite sides and over the top of said form, a core composed of a coarse concrete mixture filling said form and extending through the interstices thereof, and veneering covering the whole and composed of a fine concrete mixture of waterproofing density, the two classes of concrete being united around the portions of the core extending through the interstices in the reticulated

metal on all sides and at the top, substantially as set forth.

2. A post comprising a woven wire basket of substantially the desired form for the post the wires composing said basket extending over its top and in a spiral direction along opposite sides thereof, a coarse concrete core filling and embedding said basket, a fine concrete veneering outside said core, said veneering being adapted to run into the interstices in the surface of said core and adhere thereto to form a homogenous structure, substantially as set forth.

3. A post comprising a reticulated metal post-form the strands of which run in spiral directions around said form and over its top from one side to the other, a coarse concrete core within said form, a veneering of fine concrete on the outside of said form, said coarse and fine concrete being intermingled and united within the interstices of said reticulated basket and around the strands thereof, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof, I, have hereunto set my hand and seal at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 29th day of November, A. D. nineteen hundred and eleven.

WILLIAM T. HICKS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

E. W. BRADFORD,
L. M. PATTERSON.