J. W. ILLINGWORTH.

WOOD POST AND METHOD OF PRESERVING SAME.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 26, 1912.

1,113,558. Patented Oct. 13, 1914.

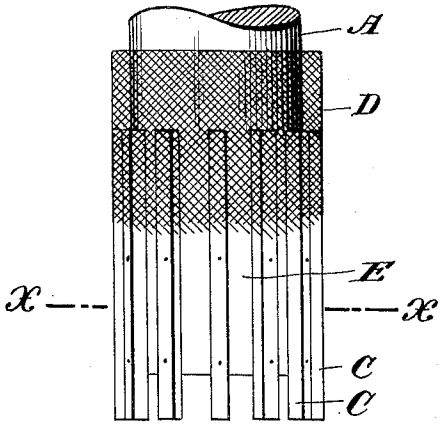


Fig. 1.

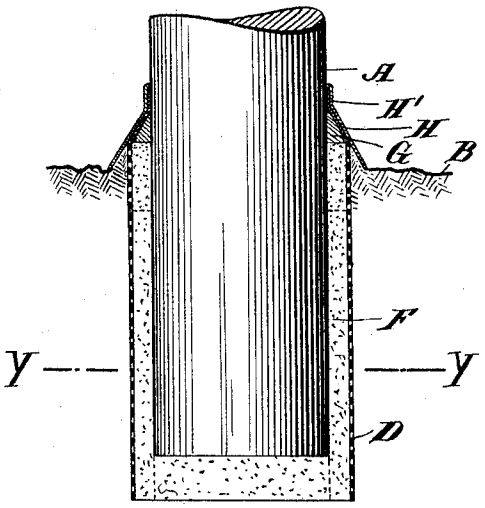


Fig. 2.

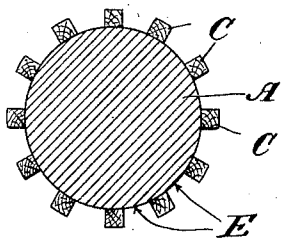


Fig. 3.

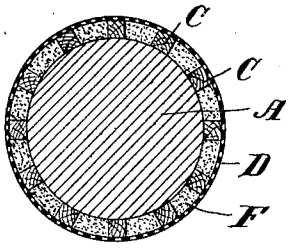


Fig. 4.

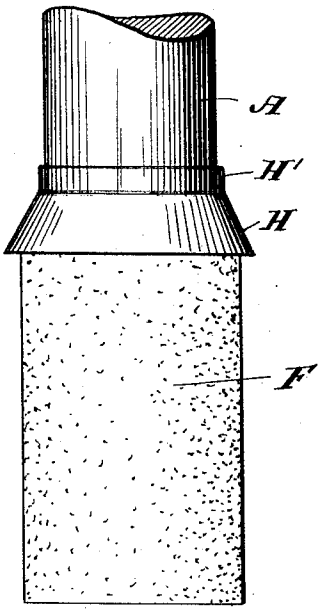


Fig. 5.

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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WOOD POST AND METHOD OF PRESERVING SAME.

1,113,558. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 13, 1914.

Application filed February 26, 1912. Serial No. 679,838.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WARREN ILLINGWORTH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Dorsey, in the county of Howard and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wood Posts and Methods of Preserving Same, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to telegraph poles, fence posts and the like, and the object of my invention is to provide a pole or post, the butt of which will not decay when placed in the ground by reason of contact with moist earth.

Referring to the drawings which form a part of this specification Figure 1 is a view of the butt end of a post, as it appears before the preserving material is applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a view disclosing the post in full lines, and the preserving material in vertical section. Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view on line X—X of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view on line Y—Y of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is an exterior elevational view of the finished post butt ready to be set in the ground.

The butt may be of any shape in cross section and is shown as being shaped round in the present drawings.

A indicates the post, and B the top level of the ground.

C—C, etc., indicate thin strips of wood which are fastened or held in vertical position to the butt of the post by nails or other suitable means, and extend a short distance below the lower end of the post, and are spaced apart from each other as shown in Fig. 1. Encircling the post and strips C is a wire netting D which extends below the lower end of the post A and above the ground line B when the post is set in the ground. The strips C—C serve to hold the netting D at a distance from the post A and forms with the strips a number of vertical channels E—E, etc., which are filled with concrete F or other suitable plastic. I prefer to use concrete having an excess of lime to cause the lime to act on the wood portions to preserve the same. The concrete also covers the bottom end of the post, as shown in Fig. 2, and the top ends of strips C.

Resting on the top of the concrete F is an annular layer of lime G, and this is covered by a cone shaped cover H which is fastened by a collar portion H′ to the post A. The lime G gradually absorbs moisture and slakes and the lime works its way into the wood at this point and preserves it from decay. The netting is practically covered by the concrete and does not readily disintegrate. The cone shaped shield H serves to shed water at a distance from the point where the post enters the ground to prevent water from collecting directly around the post so far as possible. The lime in the concrete being located on each side of the strips C, preserves the strips from decaying and, therefore, by this construction, I am able to provide a post that will last indefinitely.

I believe I am the first to provide a post with a butt covered with a molded material containing an excess of lime to protect and preserve the butt and wish particularly to protect this feature of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new:—

1. An article of manufacture comprising a wooden post, a porous casing of cement material embodying an excess of lime in its physical composition for the lower end thereof and adapted to be embedded in the ground, a shield encircling said post above said casing, and a quantity of unslaked lime between said shield and casing.

2. In combination with a wooden post, of a layer of porous cement material having an excess of lime in its physical composition, said layer being disposed under and about the butt end of said post and in immediate contact therewith, spaced vertical rods disposed about said post to reinforce the cement material and decrease the necessary amount of same, a sleeve of wire netting about the whole for retaining the cement in place, a short layer of pure lime resting upon the upper end of said layer of cement material to absorb moisture flowing down any fissures in said post and neutralize the deleterious influence of same, and a metallic collar for retaining the lime in position against the post, said collar extending outwardly from the post and beyond the base thereof and serving as a shed to deflect water from the base of the post at the surface of the ground.

3. In combination with a wooden post, of a casing of molded porous material containing an excess of lime for the butt end thereof adapted to be embedded in the ground, said casing directly contacting the fiber of the wood, the lime, through the acting on

moisture percolating through the porous material, being adapted to gradually work its way into the pores of the wood and preserve same from decomposition, the porous casing serving as a reservoir for the lime to use the same gradually and slowly upon the wood.

Signed at Dorsey, in the county of Howard and State of Maryland, this 23rd day of February A. D. 1912.

JOHN WARREN ILLINGWORTH.

Witnesses:
BERTHA L. HALL,
T. F. ILLINGWORTH.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."