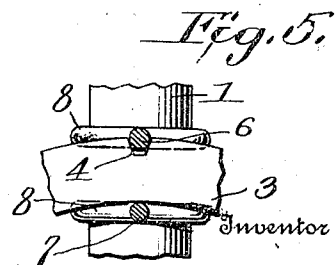
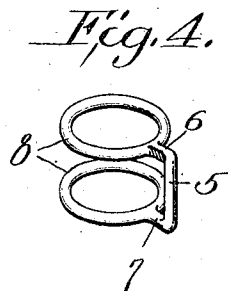
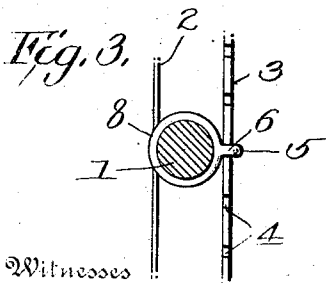
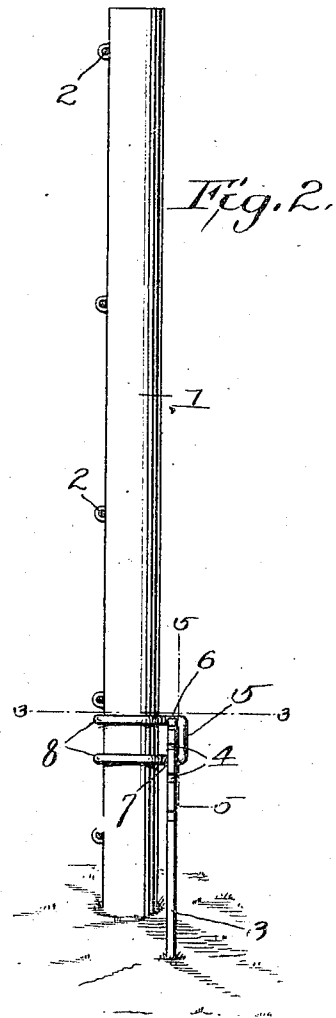
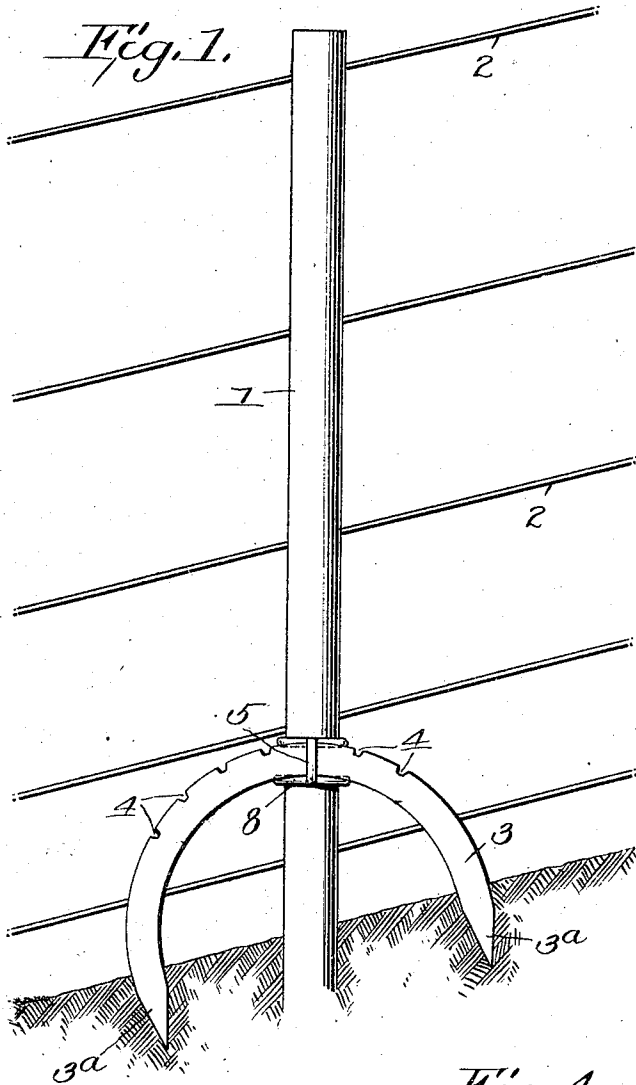


J. HICKS.
FENCE POST.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 5, 1910.

990,873.

Patented May 2, 1911.



Witnesses

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JACKSON HICKS, OF ANDALUSIA, ALABAMA.

FENCE-POST.

990,873.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 2, 1911.

Application filed December 5, 1910. Serial No. 595,668.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACKSON HICKS, citizen of the United States, residing at Andalusia, in the county of Covington and State of Alabama, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates in general to fences, and more particularly to a novel and improved means for bracing fence posts whereby the same are held rigidly in an upright position and effectively prevented from sagging.

One of the objects of the invention is the provision of a brace for fence posts which is very simple and inexpensive in its construction and can be manufactured at a comparatively small cost, and which can be readily applied to a fence post without the necessity of employing any special tools or expensive implements.

The invention further contemplates a brace which embodies novel features of construction whereby it is held securely in position as long as the post remains in the ground, and will never permit the post to work loose or sag.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain combinations and arrangements of the parts as will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the novel features thereof being pointed out in the appended claims.

For a full understanding of the invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a fence post provided with a brace constructed in accordance with the invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the fastening member, and Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the post which may be formed of wood, metal, or other suitable material,

and to which the fence wires 2 may be secured in any suitable manner. This post may be of any desired cross section, and the fence members supported thereby may be of any conventional form. A curved brace member 3 which is substantially semicircular in shape is applied to one side of the post at the base thereof, the ends of the brace member being pointed at 3° so as to be pushed into the ground or embedded in a concrete base, as desired. One edge of the brace member 3 is provided with a series of notches 4, the said notches being preferably formed with outwardly inclined sides.

The fastening member, which is illustrated more clearly in Fig. 4, is preferably in the form of a yoke and comprises the back 5 having an upper arm 6 and a lower arm 7 projecting laterally from opposite ends thereof, the said arms terminating in the loops 8 designed to receive the post. The yoke member is preferably constructed of suitable material so that the two arms thereof can be sprung slightly apart, if necessary, when applying the yoke to the brace. The distance between the upper arm 6 and the lower arm 7 is slightly less than the width of the brace member so that the yoke will not fit around the brace member in the proper manner except when the upper arm 6 is received within one of the notches 4. Attention may also be directed to the fact that the upper arm 6 of the yoke has a wedge shaped cross section, as indicated more clearly in Fig. 5, so as to fit tightly between the flared sides of one of the notches 4 and prevent any looseness between the members. After the yoke member has been applied to the brace, the post 1 is inserted through the loops 8, or the loops 8 drawn over the post, if the post has previously been mounted in position. The yoke member is then held securely in engagement with the brace at the desired position thereon, and it is impossible for the interlocking connection between the members to be broken until after the post has been withdrawn from the ground or the loops 8 slipped upwardly over the top thereof.

With this construction a positive interlocking connection is produced between the brace and the post without the necessity of providing any screw threaded brace or other

members which would work loose or be rendered inoperative by rust and corrosion when exposed to the weather.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. The combination of a post, a curved brace member at the base of the post, the said brace member being notched, and a U shaped yoke member detachably applied to the brace and engaging a selected one of the notches therein, the arms of the U shaped member extending upon opposite sides of the brace and terminating in loops adapted to loosely receive the post, the said post serving to lock the yoke member against movement when inserted in position.

2. The combination of a post, a curved brace member arranged at the base of the post, the said brace being formed with notches having inclined sides, and a yoke adapted to fit around the brace and to engage one of the notches, the portion of the

yoke engaging the notch having a wedge shaped formation and the arms of the yoke being constructed to engage the post.

3. The combination of a post, a curved brace member at the base of the post, one edge of the brace member being formed with a notch having an inclined side, and a yoke formed with a back and lateral arms, the said yoke being adapted to fit around the brace and the back having a length slightly less than the width of the brace so that one of the arms of the yoke must be received within the notch of the brace, the said arm of the yoke having a wedge shaped formation and the two arms of the brace being looped to receive the post.

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

JACKSON HICKS.

Witnesses:

J. B. JONES,

I. C. DOUGLASS.

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