

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS B. WHITE, OF ELKHART, INDIANA.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 260,436, dated July 4, 1882.

Application filed March 17, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS B. WHITE, of Elkhart, in the county of Elkhart and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view; and Fig. 3 is a detail view, illustrating the method of connecting the wires to the posts.

Corresponding parts in the several figures are denoted by like letters of reference.

This invention relates to fences; and it consists in certain improvements in the construction of the same, which will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed, A A represent the posts of my improved fence. These are made of iron, and they are set in cylindrical bases B, of iron, stone, cement, or other suitable material. Said bases, which are to be embedded in the ground, are provided with sockets C to receive the posts and with radiating vertical flanges D to hold them securely in the ground. Said flanges are to be of equal width from top to bottom of the bases, which are thus, when embedded in the ground, held very securely. The posts are secured in the sockets by transverse keys or pins E.

The posts A, which may be either round or square, are provided with transverse perforations F, in which U-shaped bails G are adjusted. The rails H are to be of just sufficient length to fit between the posts, and their ends are cut off either square or concave to fit the contour of the posts. The rails are provided near their ends with vertical perforations I, by which they are adjusted upon the projecting hooked ends of the bails G, by which they are thus secured to the posts.

Wires J are secured to the posts by means of flat-headed wrought-iron nails K, driven through transverse perforations L in the said posts at proper intervals, and having their projecting ends twisted around the wires, which are thus held securely in position.

The wires J, when two or more are used, are to be connected between the posts by means of vertical stays M, secured to the fence-wires

by means of wire-fasteners N, passed in front of said stays over the wires, and having their ends twisted or otherwise connected in front of the stays, as shown.

The lowermost rail of the fence is provided with vertical openings O, in which U-shaped wires or bent metallic rods P are adjusted, intersecting each other, as shown, their ends passing into the ground. These wires serve not only as ornaments, but also to prevent the passage of small animals. They may, when desired, be passed through all the rails of the fence when the latter is constructed entirely of rails, and the latter may be of either wood or iron, as desired.

Where a gate is to be placed in the fence the hinge-post should be round, as at A', to receive the hinge-strap Q, which has a collar, R, by which it turns upon the post. A washer, S, is adjustable by means of set-screws T upon the post under the hinge-strap, so that the gate may be raised or lowered. Thus it may in winter be raised so as to swing clear of the snow and ice; or it may in summer be so adjusted as to swing close to the ground.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings hereto annexed, the operation and advantages of my invention will be readily understood. An all-rail fence constructed as described is portable, and may be readily set up or taken down. An all-wire or a combined rail and wire fence constructed as shown is stationary, and is very strong and durable.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. The combination, with the iron fence-posts A, of the cylindrical bases B, having sockets C and radiating flanges D, of equal width from top to bottom, and the transverse pins or keys E, as set forth.

2. The herein-described improved fence, consisting of the posts A, bases B, rails and wires H J, secured to said posts by the fastenings G K, stays M, and bent wires or rods P, all arranged as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS B. WHITE.

Witnesses:

C. W. FISH;

E. C. BICKEL.