No. 708,087. Patented Sept. 2, 1902.

W. M. SMITH.

BRACED FENCED POST.

(Application filed Dec. 23, 1901.)

(No Model.)

FIG. I.

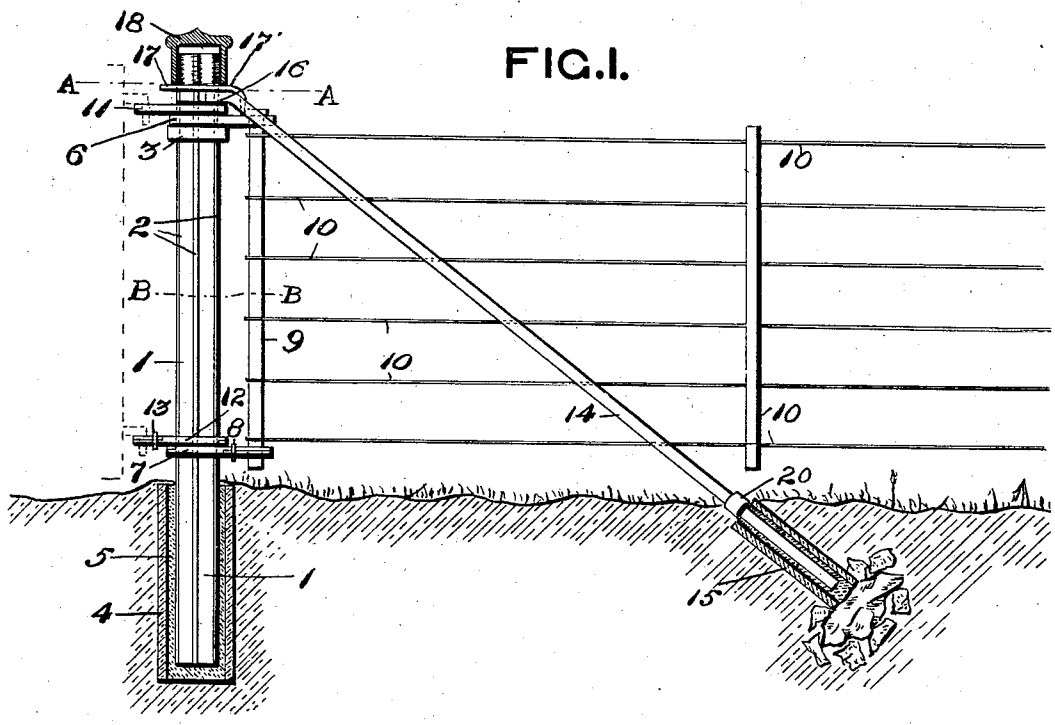


FIG. II.

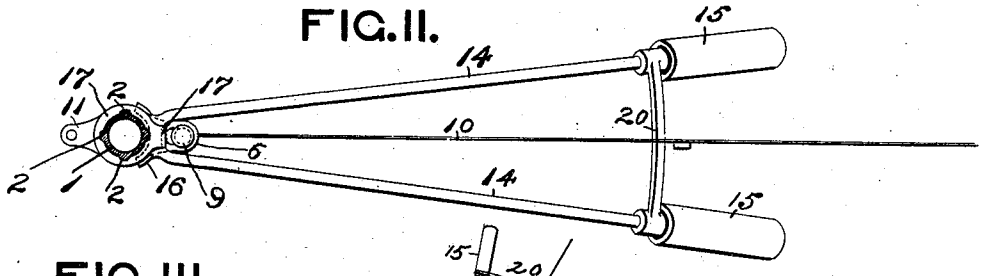


FIG. III.

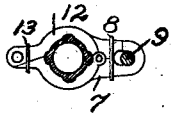


FIG. IV.

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM M. SMITH, OF NEW CUMBERLAND, WEST VIRGINIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO GEORGE A. McCANDLESS, OF OAKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA.

BRACED FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 708,087, dated September 2, 1902.

Application filed December 23, 1901. Serial No. 86,952. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM M. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Cumberland, in the county of Hancock and State of West Virginia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Braced Fence-Posts, of which improvement the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in braced fence-posts.

The invention relates particularly to such posts as are employed at the corners, ends, and gateways of wire fences.

In fences constructed of wire the strains upon the posts, due to contraction, sagging, &c., make it necessary that they be properly braced and constructed to withstand such strains and retain their usefulness for an indefinite period; and with these objects in view I have invented a braced post which is admirably adapted to fulfil the above requirements.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated such improvements, in which—

Figure I is a side elevation of the braced post, portions of which are sectionally shown and having attached thereto a portion of a wire fence. Fig. II is a plan view of the same, in which the post is shown in section on the line A A of Fig. I. Fig. III is a plan view of the post in section, on the line B B of Fig. I, having the brace and fence removed. Fig. IV is a plan view of the same post adapted for use in fence-corners.

Further referring to said drawings, particularly Figs. I, II, and III, for a detailed description thereof, the numeral 1 designates a cylindrical metal post having ribs 2 upon its outer periphery extending from end to end and provided near its upper extremity with an annular flange 3. To the lower or ground extremity of said post is secured a terra-cotta base-piece 4 by means of a suitable cement filling 5. Fitted over the upper extremity of said post in engagement with said annular flange is a link 6, having its post-opening of the same general contour as that of the post-surface, and thereby preventing its turning. A similar link is adjustably fitted about the post a short distance above the terra-cotta base-piece, which link I prefer for convenience in applying the same thereto to be of two parts hingedly connected at one end and clamped at or near the opposite by an elongated link 8. A rod or supplemental post 9 is fitted into the outer ends of said links, and to the body of this rod is connected the wire fencing material 10, which material may be of any suitable structure.

If the post is intended to be employed at a gateway to support the gate, the additional links 11 and 12 are fitted thereto, said link 12 being preferably of two parts hingedly connected at one end and clamped at the opposite by an elongated link 13, so that the same may be conveniently applied after the base is attached to the post or when set up.

Engaging the post on the fence side and at an inclination is the two-legged brace-rod 14, the legs of which straddle the fence and, like the post, have cemented to their ends the terra-cotta bases 15, and at the upper end terminates in a fork-like portion to partly surround the post, said fork or post engaging portion being composed of cast metal and rigidly secured in suitable manner to the ends of said legs. Fitted over said post above the brace-fork is a plate 17, which is provided with a downwardly-extended tongue 17′ to engage the brace-fork. The plate and other attachments between the same and annular flange are rigidly held in position by a cap 18, screwed upon the post-top.

To prevent spreading of the brace-legs, as well as prevent possibility of the longitudinal strain thereupon forcing the same through their bases, I connect one leg with the other by a cross-piece 20.

At Fig. IV, I have shown a plan view of the same post and brace structure as applied to a fence-corner with three lines of fence, it being readily apparent that additional braces and supplemental posts may be connected in accordance to requirements. It is also readily apparent that this post and brace structure is admirably adapted for the purpose intended. As its parts are comparatively few and simple, they may be quickly assembled and erected in position by any one possessed of ordinary intelligence. Furthermore, the same will, owing to the non-corrosive base-pieces, remain useful for an indefinite length of time when put to practical use and effectually

withstand the strains due to contraction, &c., in this class of fences.

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

1. In combination with a wire fence, a braced post comprising a tubular metal post-body having an adjustable cap fitted to its upper end and a tubular non-rotting or non-rusting base secured to the buried end, a two-legged V-shaped brace circumferentially engaging said post beneath the cap and extending therefrom at an inclination in the direction of and to straddle the fence with tubular non-rotting or non-rusting base-pieces secured to the buried ends thereof, links carried by said post extending laterally therefrom in a line with the fence, and a rod loosely fitted into said links to engage the fence-wires, as shown and set forth.

2. In combination with a wire fence, a braced fence-post comprising a tubular metal post having an adjustable cap fitted to its upper end and a tubular non-rotting or non-rusting base-piece secured to the buried end, a two-legged V-shaped brace circumferentially engaging said post beneath the cap and extending therefrom at an inclination in the direction of and to straddle the fence with tubular non-rotting or non-rusting base-pieces secured to the buried ends thereof, links carried by said post extending laterally therefrom in a line with the fence, a rod loosely fitted into said links to engage the fence-wires, and laterally-extended gate-suspending members carried by said post, as shown and set forth.

3. In combination with a wire fence, a braced post comprising a tubular metal post-body having an adjustable cap fitted to its upper end and a tubular non-rotting or non-rusting base-piece secured to the buried end, a plurality of two-legged V-shaped braces circumferentially engaging said post beneath the cap and extending therefrom at an inclination in the direction of and to straddle the fences leading thereto and having non-rotting or non-rusting base-pieces secured upon their buried ends, links carried by said post extending laterally therefrom in line with the fences, and rods loosely fitted into said links to engage the fence-wires, as shown and set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM M. SMITH.

Witnesses:
RICHARD S. HARRISON,
JAS. J. MCAFEE.