

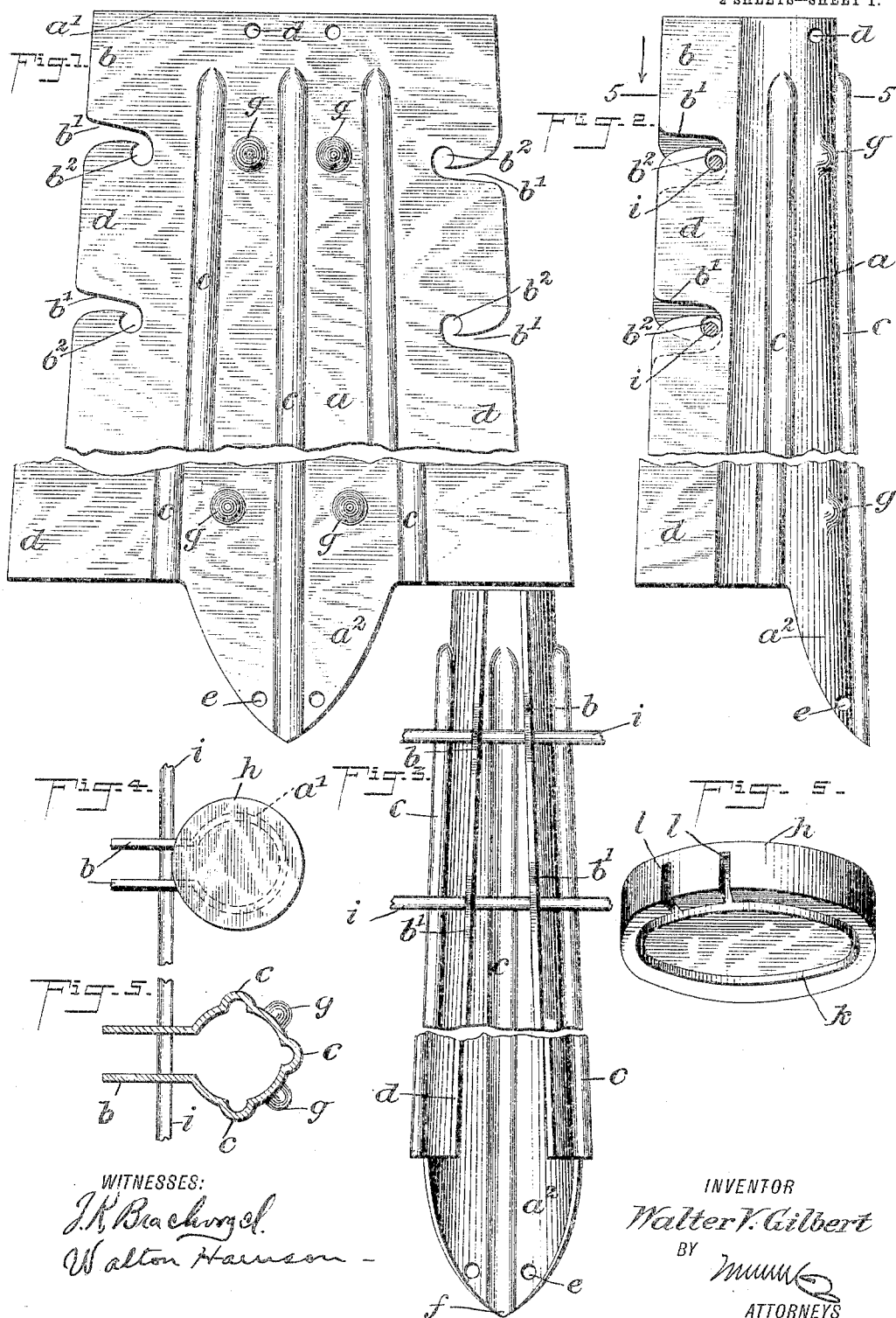
No. 794,093.

PATENTED JULY 4, 1905.

W. V. GILBERT.
STANDARD FOR SUPPORTING WIRES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 25, 1905.

2 SHEETS--SHEET 1.



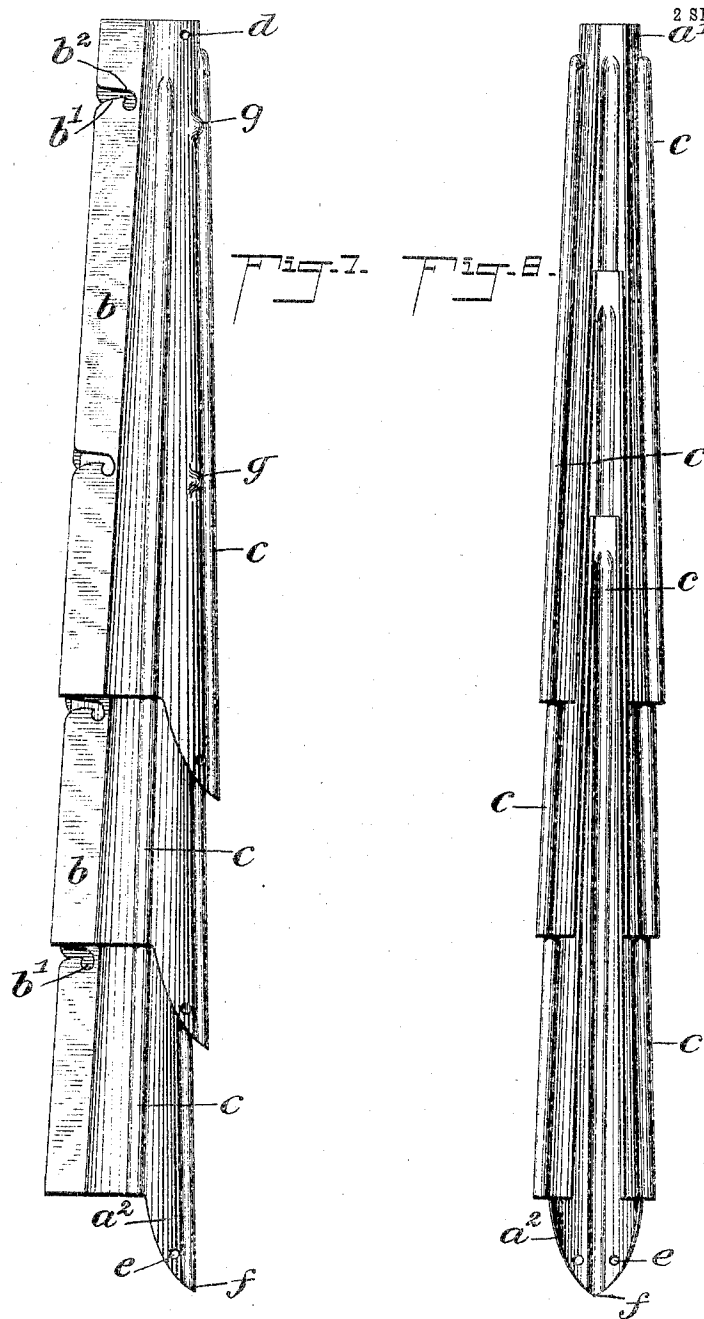
No. 794,093.

PATENTED JULY 4, 1905.

W. V. GILBERT.
STANDARD FOR SUPPORTING WIRES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 25, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES:

John H. Burchard
Walton Harrison

INVENTOR

Walter V. Gilbert

BY

Mumford

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER VILLA GILBERT, OF PORT ELIZABETH, CAPE COLONY.

STANDARD FOR SUPPORTING WIRES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 794,093, dated July 4, 1905.

Application filed January 25, 1905. Serial No. 242,608.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER VILLA GILBERT, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and a resident of Port Elizabeth, in Cape Colony, have invented a new and Improved Standard for Supporting Wires and the Like, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to standards for supporting wires and the like, and admits of general use, but is peculiarly valuable for purposes of fencing.

My invention relates more particularly to a certain form of standard made, preferably, of sheet metal and formed from a blank of such metal bent into suitable conformity to be driven into the earth and to support the wires or cables, the standard being particularly adapted to be nested in order to save transportation expenses and possessing constructional advantages hereinafter set forth.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a blank pressed or stamped from sheet metal and ready to be bent into shape so as to form one of the standards. Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing the blank as bent so that the side walls are curved in toward each other in order to form the outer walls of the standard. Fig. 3 is a front elevation viewed as from the left of Fig. 1, showing the appearance of the blank when thus bent. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary plan view showing the standard with its top portion completed. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section upon the line 5 5 of Fig. 2 looking in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 6 is an enlarged perspective view of the cap of the standard. Fig. 7 is a side elevation showing a number of the standards nested together, and Fig. 8 is a front elevation showing a nest of the standards ready for shipping.

In carrying out my invention I stamp or press from a sheet of metal a blank of substantially the form shown in Fig. 1 and consisting of a body portion a , terminating in an edge a' , which afterward forms the neck of

the standard, the body portion being further provided with a pointed portion a'' , adapted to enter the ground in the same manner as a spade. The body portion a has side portions b and also at suitable intervals slots b' , arranged oppositely, as shown, and terminating in bulbs b'' , the bulbs of one pair of slots being arranged at the same level, while other portions of the slots are disposed at different levels or provided with opposite inclinations. The standard is also provided with longitudinal corrugations c , disposed not quite parallel with each other in order to compensate for the increased width of the blank at its bottom edge, so that the general direction of the corrugations is symmetrical with regard to the shape of the blank. The middle corrugation extends completely to the bottom of the spade-like portion a'' , terminating at f , as indicated in Fig. 3, so as to strengthen the spade-like portion and also to give the lower extremity of the standard a shape suitable for enabling the standard to be readily nested. The blank is further provided with holes d , located in the neck portion a' , and also with holes e , located in the spade-like portion a'' , as will be understood from Figs. 1 and 3. These holes are for the purpose of enabling the standards when nested, as shown in Figs. 7 and 8, to be withdrawn one at a time by means of hand-hooks, which may be caused to engage the holes d and e . In placing one of the standards within the others, so as to form the nest, the holes d are engaged by the hand-hooks, so that the inner standard may be drawn as closely as possible up into the outer standard or standards, whereas in extricating the standards from the nest the holes e are similarly used.

Integral with the body portion a are bosses g , each having the form of a convexity, as indicated more particularly in Figs. 1 and 5. These bosses serve as spacing members, in that they hold the standards apart when the latter are nested. The purpose of thus holding the standards apart is to prevent them from sticking together, so as to require an undue amount of force in extricating them and also in preventing damage to the standards

by undue efforts otherwise necessary to pull them apart. A cap *h*, made, preferably, of a solid integral portion of metal, is provided with an annular groove *k*, concentric therewith, as will be understood from Fig. 6. Merging into this groove are two slots *l l*. The annular groove *k* receives the neck portion *a'* of the standard, the edges of the side portions *b* entering the slots *l l*. This construction prevents the standard from opening when blows are administered upon the cap *h*, so that the standard may without material alteration of its shape be driven downward, so that the portion *a'* is completely embedded within the ground. The fence wires or strands are held in the bulbs *b'* of the side members *b* of the standard. (See Figs. 2 to 5 of the drawings.)

It will be understood, of course, that owing to the cheapness with which fences must be constructed the item of transportation is a considerable factor of the total outlay necessary to build a fence. As the transportation charges are to some extent governed by the form in which the articles are presented to the transportation companies, it follows that standards which may readily be nested can be shipped at less expense than other standards which cannot be nested. This is particularly the case where the fences are to be shipped long distances. The idea of proper nesting for the standards necessarily carries with it the idea of rendering the standards readily detachable after the shipping is over and carries with it the further idea of enabling

the standards to be readily assembled so as to assume the form of a case.

It will be noted that the wires cannot be torn from the standard except by mutilating the sheet metal at two distinct points, also that the wires may be merely hooked into position without threading them longitudinally.

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

1. A standard for supporting wires and the like, comprising a body portion made of sheet metal and provided with corrugations and also with bosses intermediate of said corrugations for the purpose of enabling the standard to be readily nested with others of its kind.

2. In a standard for supporting wires and the like, a body portion of sheet metal provided with bosses and with holes, said bosses and said holes being for the purpose of enabling said body portion to be readily nested with others of its kind.

3. As an article of manufacture, a cap for a fence standard or post, said cap consisting of a comparatively thick plate of metal provided with an annular groove sunken directly into the substance of the metal, and also provided with slots meshing into said groove.

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

WALTER VILLA GILBERT.

Witnesses:

THOMAS A. O'BRIEN,
A. E. GRIFFITHS.