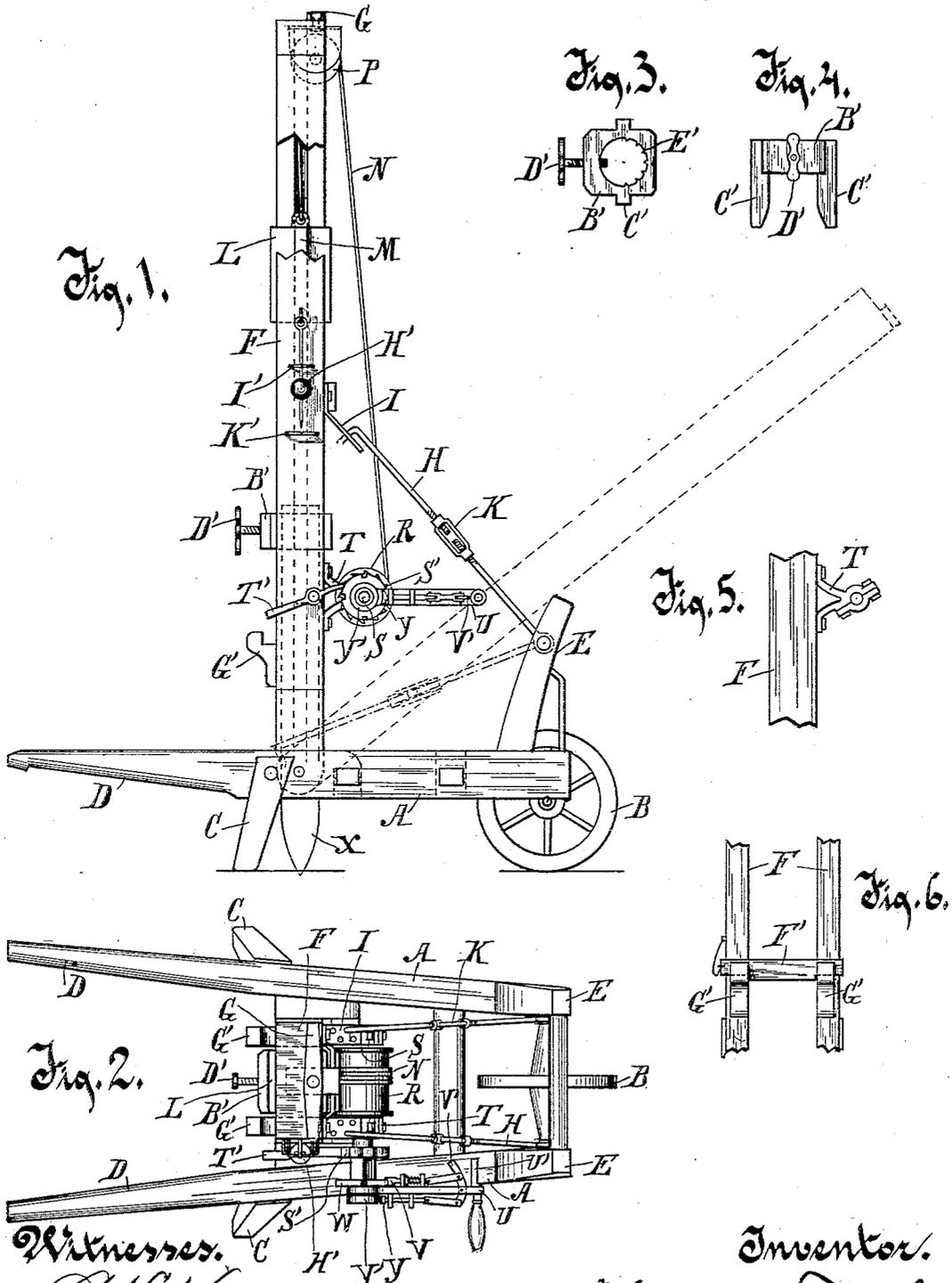


(No Model.)

H. VOBACH.  
FENCE POST DRIVER.

No. 504,762.

Patented Sept. 12, 1893.



Witnesses.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMAN VOBACH, OF PEWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

## FENCE-POST DRIVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 504,762, dated September 12, 1893.

Application filed May 8, 1893. Serial No. 473,367. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HERMAN VOBACH, of Pewaukee, in the county of Waukesha and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Machines for Driving Fence-Posts, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are a part of this specification.

10 The object of my invention is to provide a machine adapted to driving fence posts. The machine for this purpose is so constructed and mounted as to be capable of being readily moved from place to place, of being quickly  
15 adjusted in position for work and easily operated.

The machine is simple in form, and strong and enduring in construction.

20 The invention consists in the machine and in its several parts as herein described and claimed, or their equivalents.

In the drawings, Figure 1, is a side elevation of the complete machine; other possible positions of some of the parts being indicated  
25 by dotted lines. Fig. 2, is a top plan view of the complete machine. Figs. 3, 4, 5 and 6 are details.

30 The operative parts of the machine, are, for the purpose of conveniently moving the machine from place to place, mounted on a barrow, comprising a frame A provided with a wheel B, legs C, handle D and posts E. This barrow considered separately does not require more detailed description, as barrows of similar  
35 general construction, are in common use. Two posts F F at a little distance apart and opposite to each other, are pivoted at their lower extremities respectively to the frame A, near  
40 the legs C, and at a distance to the rear of the wheel B. These posts are provided with a connecting cross beam G at their upper extremities. The posts thus pivoted on the barrow are supported adjustably in upright position by stay rods H H, which rods are hinged  
45 at one end to the posts E and at the other end are provided with hooks adapted to take into apertures therefor in the lugs I I fixed on the posts F F. The series of apertures in these lugs I, some being near to and others farther  
50 from the posts F F, are adapted to permit of the adjustment of the posts F F at slightly varying angles to the frame of the barrow.

These means for adjustment of the posts F F at varying angles to the frame of the barrow, adapt the machine more satisfactorily, for  
55 use on side hills, or where the land is undulating. Also the stay rods H H are preferably constructed in two parts joined together medially, and adjustably, by coupling nuts or turnbuckles K K. A weight L, located between the posts F F, is provided with laterally projecting guides M, which enter grooves therefor in the inner faces of the posts F F, and move freely vertically between the posts. A cable N secured at one extremity to the  
60 weight L runs over a pulley P and winds on a drum R. The pulley P is swiveled to and thereby suspended from the cross beam G, between the posts F F. The axle S of the drum is journaled in brackets T fixed on the  
65 posts F F. These brackets T are constructed with axle boxes, the caps of which are on the under side and are removable from the brackets. The weight L is raised and supported  
70 releasably by the cable N.

75 The drum axle S is provided with a crank handle U, loose on the axle. The crank-handle is locked to the axle releasably by a spring actuated bolt V, mounted movably on the handle, the inner extremity of which enters  
80 the interdental spaces in the cog wheel W rigid on the axle S. A short hand-lever V' pivoted in the crank-handle U transversely thereof, is connected to the outer extremity of the bolt V and is adapted for actuating the  
85 bolt. A laterally projecting stud U' rigid on the handle U serves as a support for the hand when also grasping the hand lever V' to lift the bolt V out of its seat, in the recessed wheel W. A brake Y is provided with a stem  
90 mounted movably on the crank-handle U, which stem is connected to the hand lever V' on the opposite side of the fulcrum, from that to which the bolt V is connected. A cylindrical plate, or disk Y' rigid on the axle S  
95 serves as a friction bearing for the brake Y. The crank-handle U is loose on the axle between the wheel W and the disk Y'. A ratchet wheel S' is rigid on the axle S and a pawl T' pivoted on a post F engages the  
100 ratchet wheel, and prevents the unwinding of the cable N and the running down of the weight. The pawl T' is, however, so constructed and mounted as by gravity auto-

matically to release itself from contact with  
 the ratchet wheel S', when not held thereto  
 by actual frictional engagement against a  
 tooth of the wheel. By this construction the  
 5 drum R can be rotated by means of the han-  
 dle U, winding up the cable N and raising the  
 weight L to such height as desired, at which  
 point, or at any point, it can be supported by  
 tilting the gravity pawl T into engagement  
 10 with ratchet wheel S', and when the weight  
 is to be let fall, the operator holding the  
 crank-handle U releases the pawl T', and also  
 lifts the bolt V out of the wheel W allowing  
 the drum R to rotate and the weight to fall.  
 15 At the same time that the bolt V is lifted out  
 of the wheel W by tilting the hand lever V',  
 the movement of the hand-lever V' is con-  
 tinued sufficiently to throw the brake Y  
 against the disk Y' with sufficient pressure  
 20 to prevent the rotation of the drum after it is  
 relieved of the strain of the weight, which  
 has come to rest on the post it is driving.  
 This obviates the otherwise undesirable un-  
 winding of the cable on the drum, after the  
 25 weight falling has reached its destination. A  
 traveler B', in the form of a ring or collar,  
 having laterally projecting elongated parts  
 C' C' which enter the grooves in the inner  
 surfaces of the posts F F, moves freely verti-  
 30 cally between the posts. This collar is adapt-  
 ed to be slipped on to the upper end of a  
 fence post X, and to be secured thereto by a  
 holding screw D' which turns through the  
 collar against the fence post, forcing it against  
 35 the spikes or teeth E', on the opposite side of  
 the collar, thus securing the collar firmly to  
 the fence post. By this means the fence post  
 is supported against tilting or twisting, while  
 it can move endwise when driven under the  
 40 blows of the weight.  
 A detachable cross bar F' is provided,  
 which being placed on the recessed brackets  
 G' G' fixed on the posts F F, is adapted to  
 support the weight and prevent its further  
 45 descent. This cross bar is used for support-  
 ing the weight at this point, chiefly when  
 the machine is being moved from place to  
 place. When so to be moved from one lo-  
 cality to another, the posts F F are let down  
 50 toward the front of the barrow, into the po-  
 sition shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1. This  
 brings the weight L a little at the rear of and  
 above the wheel of the barrow, thus balanc-  
 ing and supporting the mechanism in the  
 most desirable position, for easy transporta-  
 55 tion. It is not, however, necessary to let  
 down the posts F F, when moving the ma-  
 chine a short distance, as from post to post  
 of a fence, but in such case it is sufficient

and convenient, to let the weight run down 60  
 almost or quite to the ends of the posts F F,  
 thus bringing the burden of the weight L  
 close to the ground, and thereby steadying  
 the superstructure, sufficiently for moving  
 the machine a short distance. A plumb H' 65  
 suspended on a post F, provided with a re-  
 taining guard I' and a sight guide K', en-  
 ables the operator to adjust the post verti-  
 cally. Such vertical adjustment can gener-  
 ally be accomplished, even on a hill side, by 70  
 placing the barrow with its wheel either di-  
 rectly up or down the hill with reference to  
 the leg C, and thereafter adjusting the posts  
 F vertically by means of the stay rods H.

What I claim as my invention, and desire 75  
 to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a barrow, of up-  
 right posts pivoted to and supported on the  
 barrow, on which posts a falling weight is  
 mounted, stay-rods hinged to the barrow and 80  
 having hooks on their free ends, and lugs  
 fixed to the posts and provided with a plu-  
 rality of apertures for taking the hooks of  
 the stay-rods, substantially as described.

2. In a machine of the character described, 85  
 the combination with upright posts, a verti-  
 cally movable weight, a drum, and a cable  
 attached to the weight running on a pulley  
 and winding on the drum, of a crank-handle  
 loose on the axle of the drum, a recessed 90  
 wheel rigid on the axle of the drum, a spring-  
 actuated bolt mounted and movable on the  
 crank-handle adapted to lock the handle to  
 the axle, releasably a brake disk on the drum  
 axle, and a brake mounted on the crank han- 95  
 dle movable toward and from the disk and  
 means for forcing the brake against the disk,  
 substantially as described.

3. In a machine of the character described,  
 the combination with weight-carrying posts 100  
 and a cable-winding drum mounted thereon,  
 of a cog wheel and a brake disk fixed on the  
 axle of the drum, a crank-handle loose on  
 said axle, a latch adapted to engage said cog  
 wheel releasably and a brake adapted to bear 105  
 against said disk releasably, mounted on op-  
 posite sides of the crank-handle reciprocally  
 thereof, and a lever-handle pivoted in and  
 transversely of the crank-handle, to which  
 lever-handle the latch and the brake respect- 110  
 ively are connected, substantially as de-  
 scribed.

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

HERMAN VOBACH.

Witnesses:

W. H. THOMAS,  
 GERTRUDE THOMAS.