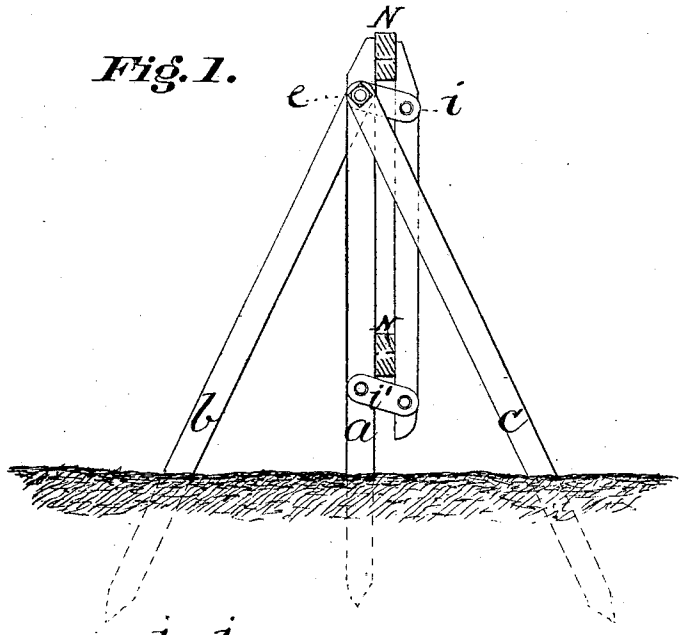
H. S. ROSS.

Fence-Posts.

No. 145,528. Patented Dec. 16, 1873.

Fig. 1.



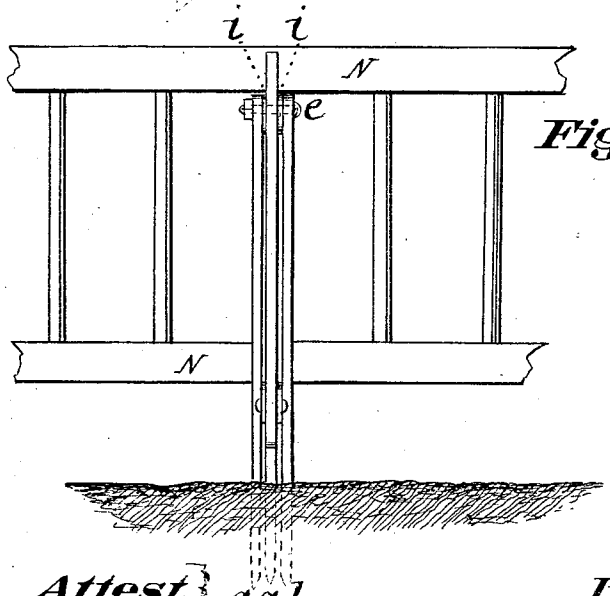


Fig. 2.

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Alex. F. Towne
R. B. Davidson.

Henry S. Ross,
Inventor.
By his Atty.
H. P. K. Peck

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERVY S. ROSS, OF MILLVILLE, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCE-POSTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **145,528**, dated December 16, 1873; application filed October 10, 1873.

all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERVY S. ROSS, of Millville, in the county of Butler and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fence-Posts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my improved fence-post in position to support the panels of a fence. Fig. 2 represents an edge view of the same with a portion of fence supported thereon.

My post is composed of three flat bars of iron connected together, as herein described.

In the drawings, *a* denotes the central bar, which occupies a vertical position, and *b c* are similar bars, which serve as braces. Holes are punched through the three bars *a b c*, through which a bolt is inserted, and secured by a nut to fasten the bars together near their upper ends after they have been driven into the ground a proper distance.

A fence-post constructed of small bars of iron in this manner I have found to be sufficiently strong and rigid to support either a common board fence or a fence of rails.

Various devices might be employed to hold the panels of fence to the posts, or the central bar *a* might be perforated to receive wires of suitable size to serve as a fence; but I have devised a clamping device or key by which panels of fence made of either two, three, or more boards will be firmly secured and held in position, as represented in the drawings. The clamping device consists of the key *d* secured near its upper end by a rivet between two straps of iron, *i i*, which act as a hinge upon the bolt *e*, and a similar hinged connection is made near the lower end of key *d*, by which it is attached to the vertical bar *a*. Between key *d* and bar *a* the ends of the fence-panels are inserted, as seen at N N in Fig. 1, and the weight of the panels will act upon the hinged connections of the key *d*, and cause the latter to bind the fence firmly to the post.

It will be seen that fences of different construction may be readily secured to my improved iron post.

Instead of securing the key *d* by a rivet to the lower hinge *i'*, the lower end of the key may be allowed to work freely between the outer rivet and the bar *a*, and the same result will be obtained.

By extending the iron straps *i i* out laterally, short stakes or rods might be attached thereto to secure a "rider" upon the fence.

It is apparent that a key of wood may be used and driven into loops formed to serve as hinges, in the manner represented in the drawings.

I propose to use the well-known non-corrosive paint as a coating for my iron fence-posts.

Having fully described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination of the bars *a b c* with the removable bolt *e* as a fencing-post, constructed and used substantially as described.

2. The fencing-post formed of the three bars *a b c* and bolt *e*, in combination with the adjusting-key *d*, or its equivalent, constructed and arranged substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

In testimony hereof I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of September, A. D. 1873.

HERVY S. ROSS.

Witnesses:

R. B. DAVIDSON,

H. P. K. PECK.