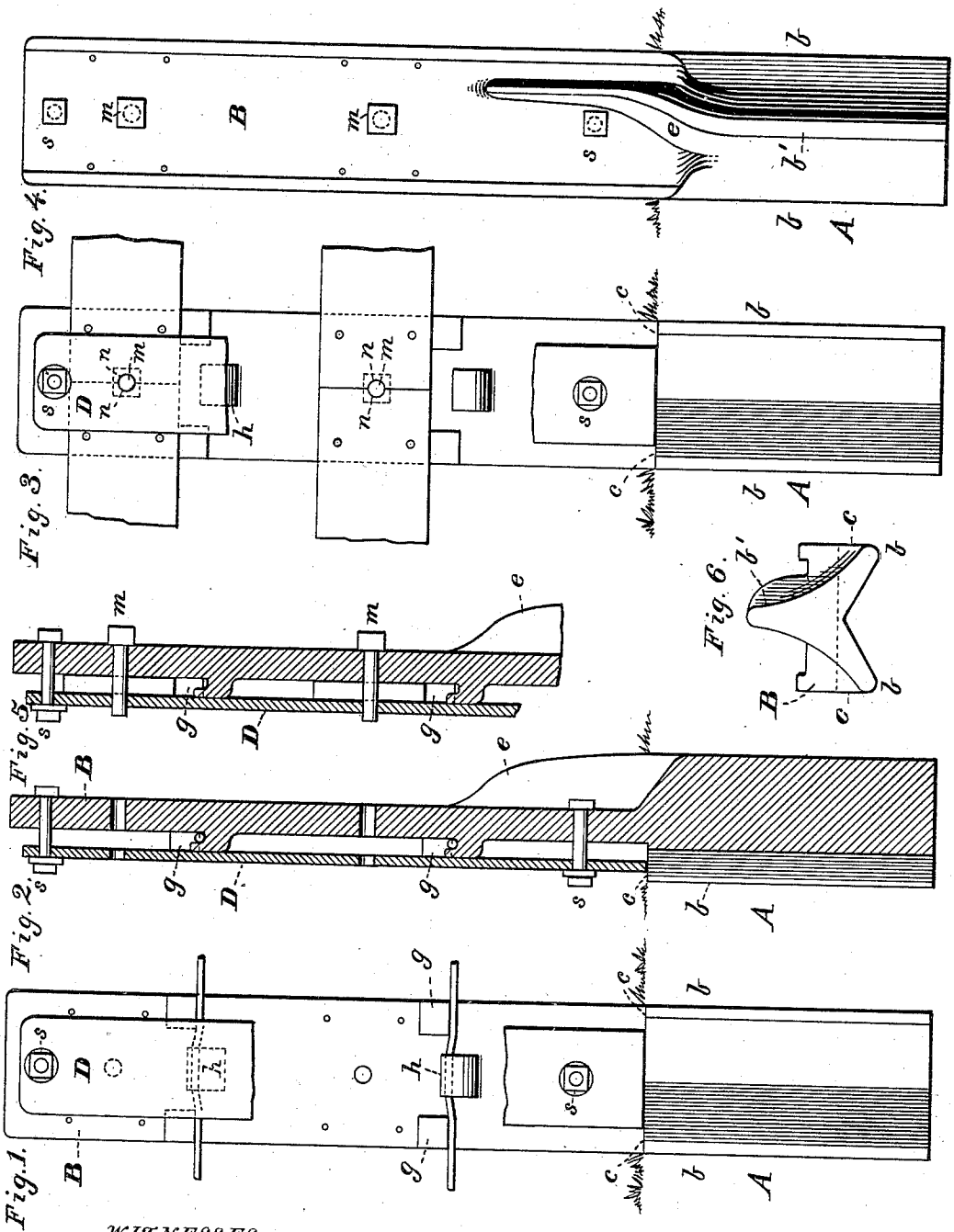
(No Model.)

J. W. & J. A. OSBORN.

FENCE POST.

No. 417,077. Patented Dec. 10, 1889.



WITNESSES

Villette Anderson,

Philip Allasi

INVENTORS

Jno. W. Osborn

Jno. A. Osborn

by E. W. Anderson, Attorney

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JOHN W. OSBORN AND JOHN A. OSBORN, OF SPORE, OHIO.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 417,077, dated December 10, 1889.

Application filed August 17, 1889. Serial No. 321,107. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN W. OSBORN and JOHN A. OSBORN, citizens of the United States, residents of Spore, in the county of Crawford and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Posts; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of this invention with wires, and is a front view, a portion of the inner plate being broken away. Fig. 2 is a vertical section. Fig. 3 is a front view arranged with boards. Fig. 4 is a back view of the post. Fig. 5 is a detail and shows a vertical section with boards. Fig. 6 is a bottom view of the post.

This invention relates to fence-posts; and it consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter set forth, and pointed out in the claim.

The object of the invention is to provide a fence-post, usually constructed of metal, which shall serve the double purpose of suspending and retaining the running wires of a fence of that description, and retaining and suspending the boards of a fence when such a construction is desired.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the base or that portion of the post designed to be introduced into the ground, and it consists of triple vertical wings *b b b'*, radiating from a common center, and having the form of a three-pointed star in cross-section.

B indicates the upper or fence bearing part of the post, which is rectangular in shape and constructed integral with the base A.

The upper portion B of the post rises vertically from the junction of the wings of the base, the wings *b b* terminating abruptly to form shoulders or rests *c* for the fence-boards *d*. The wing *b'* of the base is extended upward in a curved manner to form a rib or abutment *e*, integral with the outer surface of the part B of the post in order to strengthen the latter.

The inner face C of the post is provided at regular intervals with diametrically-opposite lugs or rests *g* for the fence-boards when secured to the post. A cleat *h* is located just below and under way between each series of lugs *g* to retain the fence-wires which cross the post transversely between the said cleats and the under surface of the lugs, the said wires being sprung between the cleats and the lugs in a binding manner, as shown. It is obvious that the number of rests and cleats for the boards and wires may be increased according to the height of the fence.

When a board fence is to be constructed, a stop-bolt *m* is introduced centrally through the face of the post and through notches *n* in the meeting ends of the boards. This stop *m* is designed to prevent vertical displacement of the ends of boards (when not otherwise secured to the post than by the securing-plate D, referred to farther on) by the engagement of the notches *n* with the said stop. After the wires or boards have been suspended on the post in the manner above described a strip or plate D is secured to the inner face of the post over the fence boards and wires by bolt-and-nut fastenings *s*, thereby inclosing the ends of the fence-boards and the wires, as the case may be.

The face of the fence-post is pierced at regular intervals near its outer edges for the reception of rails or bolts, if additional fastening should be desired for the fence-boards.

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A fence-post comprising a triple-wing base, one of said wings extending obliquely upward on the outer face of the post, the said post having on its upper inner face a series of rests in pairs for fence-boards and provided with cleats disposed at regular intervals beneath said rests for suspending fence-wires, in combination with a holding strip or plate secured to the inner face of the fence-post over the wires and boards, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. OSBORN.
JOHN A. OSBORN.

Witnesses:
JOHN E. GOODRICH,
S. S. KLOTZ.