

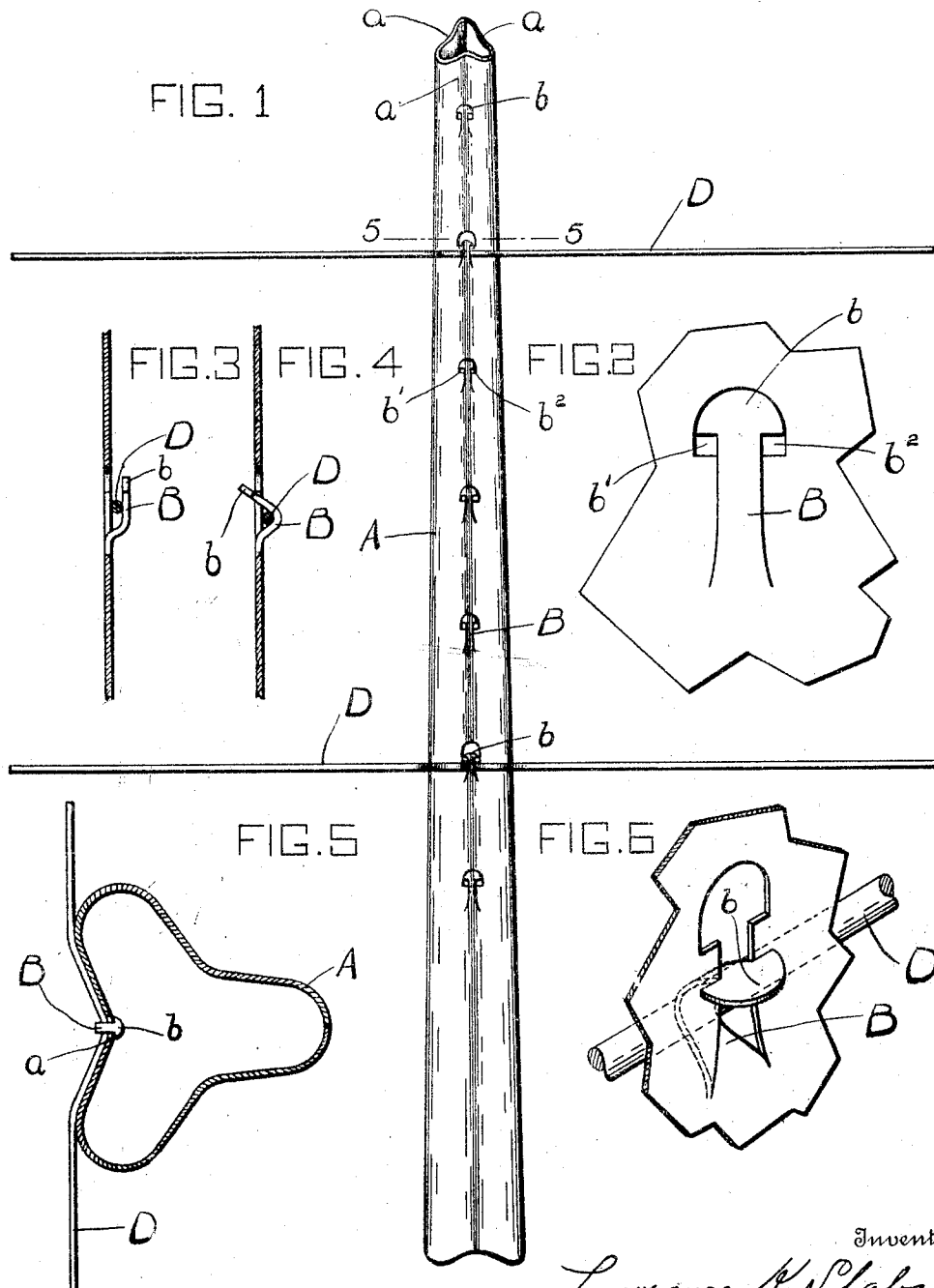
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FENCE POST.

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Witnesses

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FENCE-POST.

1,037,345.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, LAWRENCE K. SLABACK and GEORGE G. MCGLAUGHLIN, citizens of the United States of America, and residents of Silvertown and Cincinnati, respectively, Hamilton county, and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to metal fence posts, which are provided with integral tongues, for engagement with wires of the fence.

An object of our invention is a fence post, by means of which the wires may be readily secured and locked to the post.

A further object of our invention is to provide a fence post of the character described, which is strong and neat.

These objects are attained by the means described in the specification, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fence post embodying our invention, shown in engagement with two wires. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view of the tongue which forms a detail of our invention. Figs. 3 and 4 are longitudinal sectional views of a part of the post and of one of the tongues, showing the position thereof after a wire has been inserted in the tongue, and the position after the tongue has been locked to the post. Fig. 5 is a sectional view upon lines 5-5 of Fig. 1, but upon an enlarged scale. Fig. 6 is a perspective view taken from the interior of the post, and illustrating the tongue in its locked position.

Referring to the parts: A fence post embodying our invention consists of a metal tube A, having a series of longitudinal grooves *a*, preferably three in number, which gives to the tube a cross-section which is of a trifoliate form. The tube is made preferably tapering gradually from the bottom toward the top. A series of tongues B are formed in one of the grooves *a*. These tongues have enlarged semi-circular heads *b*. Adjacent to the neck of each head *b* rectangular portions *b'* *b''* are removed from the post, so that when the tongue is bent outward for the reception of the wire D, the head *b* of the tongue will remain in alignment with the hole formed in the metal by the head *b* and the rectangular portions *b'* *b''*.

In use: To secure the wire to the post, it

is placed between the post and its adjacent tongue. The head *b* of the tongue is then forced through the enlarged part of the opening made in the post by the removal of the tongue, and the head of the tongue is then pushed downward, so that its underside engages with the reduced portion of said opening. The wire is thereby drawn into the groove of the post, so that any slack therein is taken up. By giving to the post a cross-section, which is trifoliate in outline, it is rendered less liable to be indented in shipment and in use, and its setting up requires less skill and care, and its ornamental appearance is enhanced.

The particular form of post illustrated, coöperates with the tongues B in preventing the wire D from slipping up and down longitudinally of the post, since, by forming the tongues in the grooves *a* the tension of the fence wire D is rendered effective in holding the fasteners, that is, the tongues B, in the wire locking position. In addition to this the tension of the wire tends to hold the abutting edges of the folded metal sheet, comprising the post, in engagement with each other. This results from the fact that the tongues B are so located in the bottom of the grooves *a* that the wires D extend over the edges of the grooves and consequently, when the wires are stretched taut, the tongues are pulled to the wire locking position and the re-active force on the edges of the grooves tends to cause the metal sheet to bend about the longitudinal line connecting the tongues B or, in other words, forces the abutting edges of the folded sheet into engagement with each other. This eliminates the necessity of permanently securing the edges of the sheet together and absolutely prevents the edges from gapping.

The trifoliate form prevents the post rotating both in setting it into the ground and after the post has been fixed in place.

What we claim is:

1. A fence post consisting of a metal tube having a series of tongues struck therefrom, said tongues having enlarged heads, and the metal of the tube being removed adjacent to the heads, whereby the heads will register with the enlarged portion of the hole in the tube after the tongue has been bent for the reception of the wire.

2. A fence post consisting of a metal tube having a longitudinal groove, a series of

tongues struck from the tube and located in the groove, said tongues having enlarged heads, and the metal of the tube being removed adjacent to the heads, so that the head will register with the hole in the tube after the tongue has been bent for the reception of the wire.

3. A post consisting of a metal tube having a series of three longitudinal grooves formed therein, giving the post a section which is trifoliate in outline, and a series of tongues struck from the tube and located in one of the grooves.

4. A fence post consisting of a tapering metal tube having a series of three longitudinal grooves formed therein, which give to the post a cross-section which is trifoliate in outline, and a series of tongues struck from the post and located in one of the grooves.

5. A fence post consisting of a metallic tube having a longitudinally extending groove, and metal tongues having enlarged

heads struck from the metal of the tube and located in the groove.

6. A fence post consisting of a piece of sheet metal bent to form a tube, having a longitudinally extending groove located opposite to the abutting edges of the sheet, and a series of metallic tongues having enlarged heads struck from the sheet metal and located in the groove.

7. A fence post formed of a folded metal sheet and having a longitudinally extending groove located opposite to the abutting edges of the folded metal sheet, and means for engaging fence wires so located in the groove that the tension of the wires lock them in place on the post and hold the abutting edges of the sheet metal in engagement with each other.

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