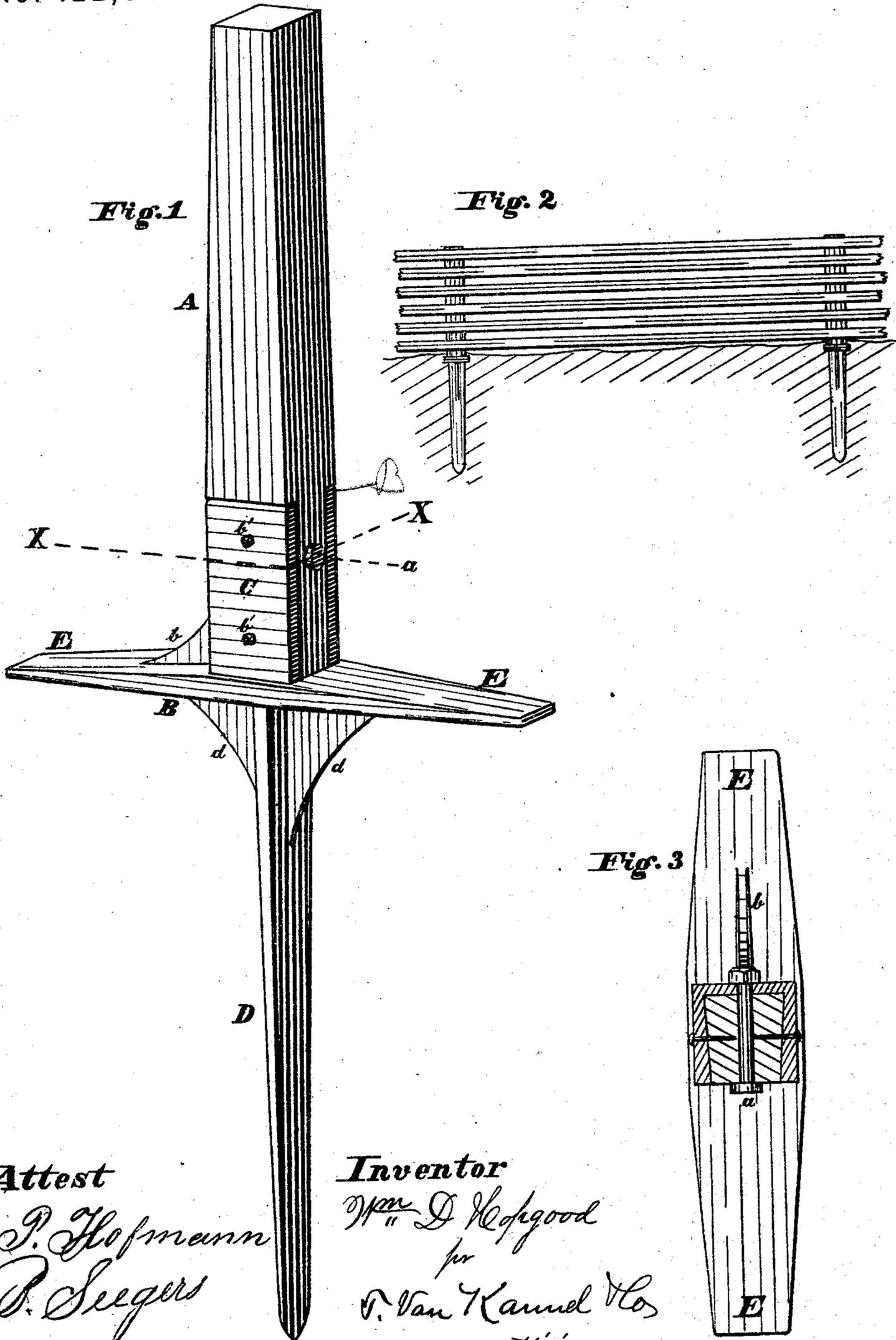


(52.)

W. D. HOPGOOD. Improvement in Fence Posts.

Patented Jan. 23, 1872.

No: 122,947



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM D. HOPGOOD, OF HENDERSON, KENTUCKY.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCE-POSTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 122,947, dated January 23, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM D. HOPGOOD, of Henderson, in Henderson county and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and Improved Fence-Post; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing making a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective; Fig. 2, a section of the fence, showing the post in proper position; Fig. 3, a sectional view taken in the line X of Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

The nature of my invention relates to a fence-post, the top of which is made of wood and the lower part of cast-iron, the two parts being held together by a dovetail joint. It consists in fitting the post proper into a socket and providing the said socket with three arms, two at a right angle with the post, forming a base for the structure, and one pointing downward, forming the main support for the post. Between the arms are cast brackets which strengthen the casting and at the same time leave it comparatively light.

In construction my invention is as follows: A is the wooden post, which stands entirely above the ground. This is made in the usual form of posts, except where it joins the socket B, where it is dovetailed to fit the iron socket B, as seen in Fig. 3. The socket B has cast to it a blade, D, and two wings or arms, E E, the casting C being strengthened by the brackets *b* and *d d*. To fasten the wooden post to the iron a bolt, *a*, is passed through and held by a nut; or nails may be driven through the ap-

ertures *b' b'* into the post A. A small space should be left between the lower end of the post and the bottom of the socket to allow the moisture to escape freely and allow the air to circulate, which will add to the durability of the wood. The post is prevented from leaving the socket vertically by the dovetail-joint which unites the wooden post to the socket B, as seen in Fig. 3.

The advantages and operation of this invention are obvious—comparative cheapness, combined with great strength and durability, are among its principal features of merit. An additional advantage in my improvement consists in the ready means afforded in sinking this post into the ground, being simply driven by a maul, thus saving much time in digging or boring post-holes, while the fence may be correspondingly - easily raised and removed, making a fence in which this post is used portable, yet very permanent when again put down.

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

Claim.

A fence-post composed of the post A and casting C, constructed with a dovetailed socket, as described, blade D, and wings E E, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

WILLIAM D. HOPGOOD.

Witnesses:

F. E. WALKER,
C. BAILEY.