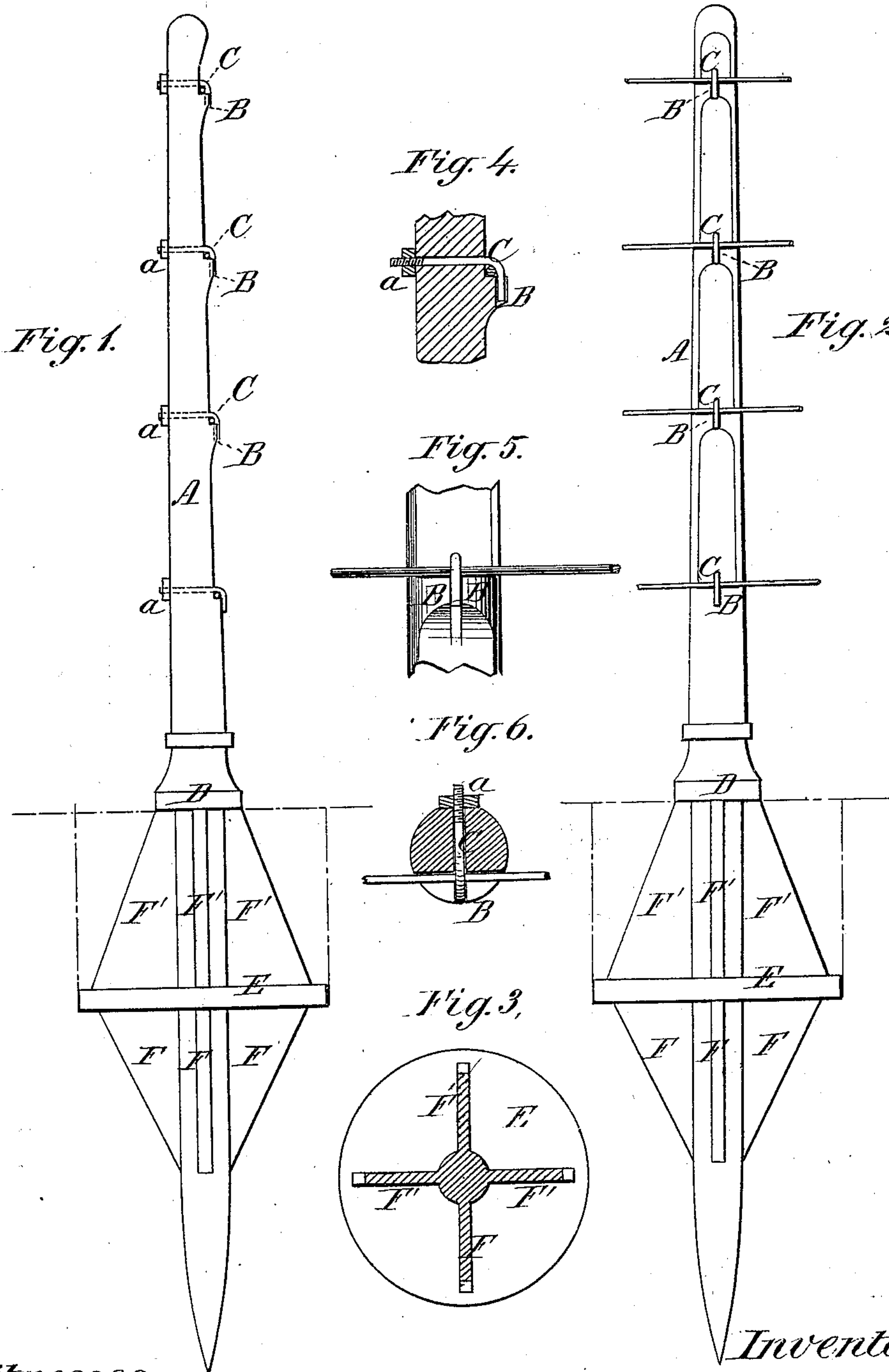


E. SIMS.
FENCE-POST.

No. 177,021.

Patented May 2, 1876.



Witnesses:

Wm. Wagner.
Eugene C. Adams.

Inventor:

Elijah Sims,
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Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIJAH SIMS, OF AURORA, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCE-POSTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 177,021, dated May 2, 1876; application filed March 6, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIJAH SIMS, of Aurora, in the county of Kane and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Iron Fence-Posts, which is applicable to lamp-posts and all other uprights and supports which are held in position by being driven into or otherwise firmly planted in the earth; and it consists in combining, with the base-collar of the post and a disk below such base-collar, radial ribs extending from the base-collar to the disk and driving-ribs from and below the disk, said ribs tapering both up and down from said disk, and in which the base-collar and disk form lateral braces above and below the upper tapering ribs, to which they serve as top and bottom caps, and form a partial inclosure for the upper ribs, to obtain increased bearing and supporting surface, the lower ribs being driven with the post into the ground, while the upper ribs are packed between the base-shoulder and the disk, as will be described and explained with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figures 1 and 2 are side views of an iron post embodying my improvement, showing its position in the post-hole; Fig. 3, a cross-section above the horizontal strengthening-plate, showing the form thereof; and Figs. 4, 5, and 6 are enlarged views, showing the wire-holding device.

A is the shaft or post, which may be made hollow, and of a form suitable for gas-lamps, or of a form and height suitable for a fence or gate post. The post shown is a fence-post provided with shoulders B B, cast or formed thereon to receive the wires of the fence. These shoulders are divided longitudinally, as shown, and the post itself, at a proper interval above the shoulder, is perforated transversely thereto, and a pin or bolt, C, passed through, the end of it being bent downward and fitting in the recess in the shoulder. The straight end of the bolt is screw-threaded, and a nut, a, which secures it, renders it perfectly easy to tighten and secure the tension of the wire, or to detach and remove it in a moment. D is a molding or collar, which is the apparent base of the post when fixed in the ground. The lower end of the post is pointed to facilitate

its being driven into the ground. — Cast with or otherwise formed upon the post A is a disk or flange, E, the plane of which is at right angles to the post. F F are ribs or wings, radiating from the post, and formed with or upon it and the lower face of the disk E, and having an extreme width less than that of said disk or shoulder, which consequently projects on all sides beyond them, and tapering down to the circumference of the post, so as to admit of being readily driven into the ground. F' F' are similar ribs or wings, corresponding to the ribs F F in form, both sets serving to strengthen the post and the disk or shoulder E, and to hold the post from being turned or twisted laterally, while the disk or shoulder E strengthens it in its upright position.

My iron post is thus particularly valuable where a lateral strain—as, for example, that of a gate or of a swinging sign—is exerted upon it.

I use my invention as a fence or gate post in the following manner: A post-hole is dug of suitable width to admit the disk or shoulder, and of a depth equal to the distance from the lower side of the disk to the base D, care being taken to have the bottom of the post-hole level, so as to afford a good horizontal support for the disk. The post is then driven in until the disk rests firmly on the bottom of the hole, and the earth firmly packed around and above it, securing it from being uprooted easily, as might happen if a sign or other object attached thereto were struck by wind.

It will be seen that the ribs F taper downward from the disk E to allow them to be driven into the ground with the post, and that the ribs F' join the base-collar D, and extend therefrom to the disk, so that the upper ribs are embraced between two caps, which form thereby a partially-inclosed space for the ribs, and consequently a better hold in the earth for the post, as the collar serves as a brace to the disk through the joining-ribs.

I do not claim a post provided with a horizontal holding-plate and radial ribs above the same; but the driving-ribs and the base-collar in my post form a new and useful combination with these old parts, having advantages not enhanced in the disk and ribs as heretofore employed.

I claim—

1. The combination, in an iron-pointed fence-post, of the base collar D and the driving radial ribs F with the disk E and the top ribs F', all constructed as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. The post A, formed with recessed shoulders B, and provided with detachable L-formed

screw-bolts C and nuts, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ELIJAH SIMS.

Witnesses:

ROBERT C. ALLEN,
MILTON Z. SIMS.