

G. SWENSON.
Fence-Post.

No. 215,490.

Patented May 20, 1879.

Fig. 1.

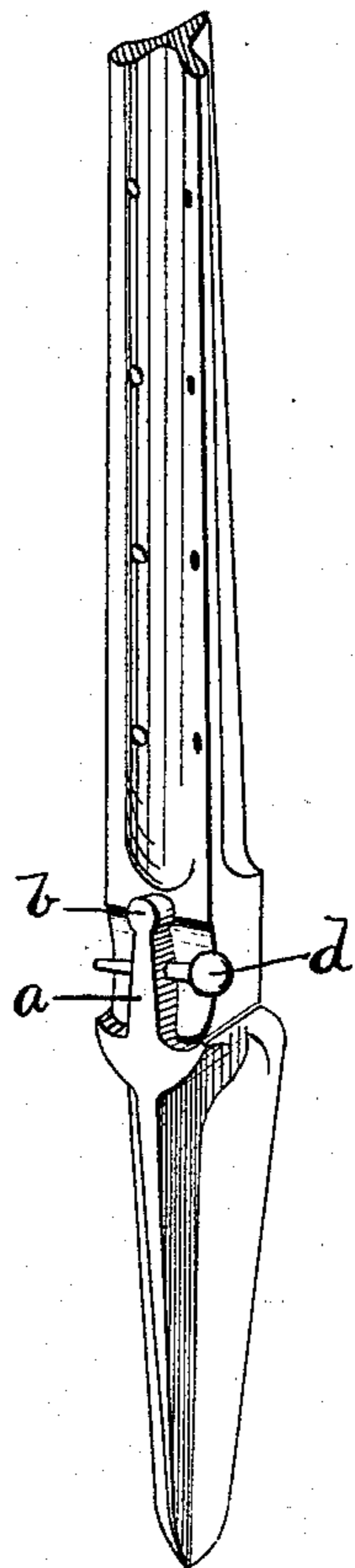
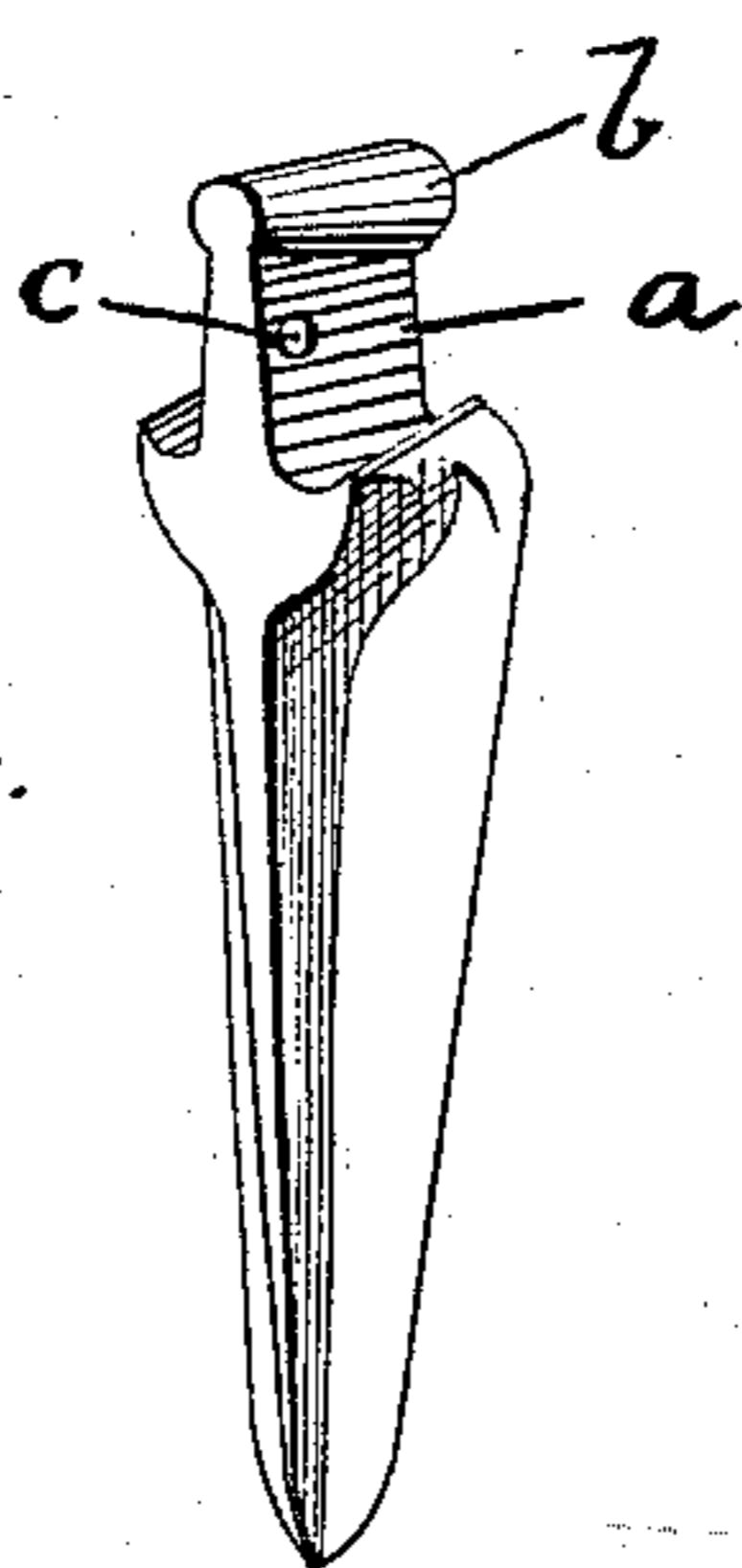


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAF SWENSON, OF BATAVIA, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCE-POSTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **215,490**, dated May 20, 1879; application filed February 19, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAF SWENSON, of Batavia, in the county of Kane and State of Illinois, have invented certain Improvements in Fence-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a metallic fence-post, particularly adapted to be used in the construction of wire-fence, the object sought being a structure which can be easily driven into the ground, to enable the rapid building of the fence, and which will sustain the wires properly, will be strong and durable, and at the same time easily manufactured and operated.

The nature of the invention will be understood from the following description and the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device as a whole; and Fig. 2 is a similar view of the lower part, detached.

This post is made entirely of metal, and is of a form to be conveniently cast. The upper portion, which receives the wires, I prefer to make of the form shown in the drawings—namely, triangular in cross-section with projecting ribs, through two of which are drilled the holes for the passage of the fence-wire—as this forms a light, strong, convenient, and easily-manufactured structure. However, this particular form may be varied in the judgment of the manufacturer, and is by no means an essential part of my invention.

In like manner, I prefer to make the lower portion, which is driven into the ground, also of a triangular web, for sake of lightness, strength, &c. This lower portion is pointed or conical, to readily drive into the ground. The upper and lower portions are separable, so that the piece forming the lower portion may be readily driven into the ground, and then afterward the piece forming the other portion is applied to the lower part by means of

a dovetail joint, now to be described. From the top of the ground piece rises a web or projection, *a*, having at its upper end an enlarged head, *b*, made preferably slightly conical, or larger at one end than the other, as indicated in the drawings. A cavity of a form to receive this dovetail web and its head is cut in the lower end of the upper part of the fence-post. In the web *a*, at one side, is a hole, *c*, to receive a pin, *d*, which is inserted, as shown at Fig. 1, after the two parts are connected together, serving as a lock to prevent the separation of the parts in one direction, while the conical shape of the head *b* prevents their separation in the other direction.

It may be remarked, also, that the lower end of the upper part of the post and the upper end of the lower part are made inclined slightly, to aid in the locking action, in conjunction with the tapering head.

The result of this structure is that the two parts may be readily joined together like a dovetail, and locked by the pin *d*.

In driving the lower piece into the ground the blows of the mallet will be received upon the enlargement or head *b*.

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

1. The metallic fence-post consisting of two parts, one part adapted to be driven into the ground and the other part adapted to receive and sustain the fence, the two parts being united by a dovetail joint, substantially as specified.

2. The metallic fence-post made in two parts, united by a dovetail joint, the tongue or tenon of which is formed upon the lower part or piece, and is formed with an enlarged head to receive the blows of the mallet in driving, substantially as specified.

GUSTAF SWENSON.

Witnesses:

E. F. STAFFORD,
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