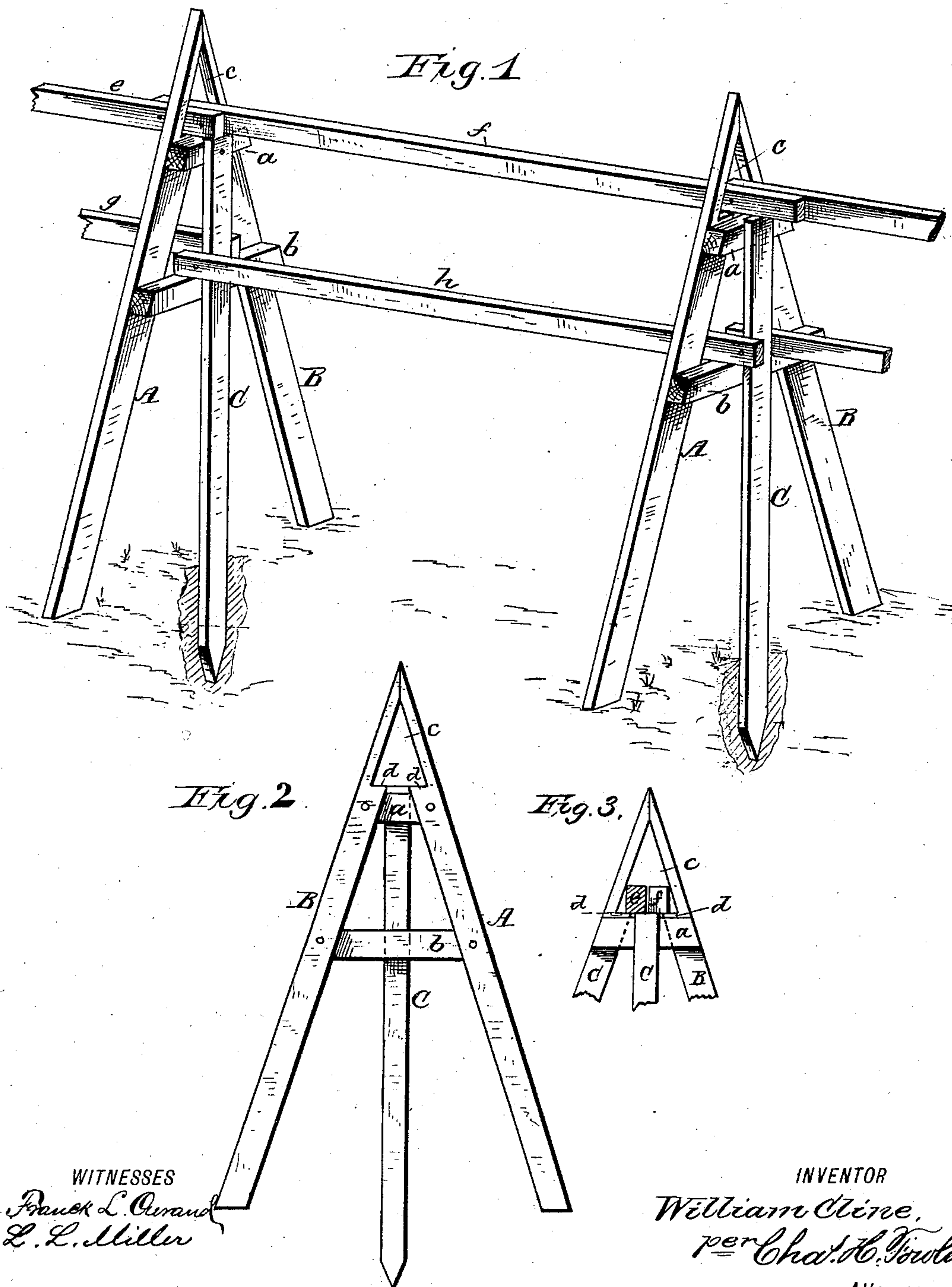


(No Model.)

W. CLINE.
FENCE POST.

No. 256,884.

Patented Apr. 25, 1882.



WITNESSES
Frank L. Curand
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM CLINE, OF PLAINFIELD, INDIANA.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 256,884, dated April 25, 1882.

Application filed February 4, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM CLINE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Plainfield, in the county of Hendricks and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Posts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of a fence constructed with my improved fence-posts, and Figs. 2 and 3 are detail views of one of the posts constructed in accordance with my invention.

The present invention has relation to certain new and useful improvements in fence-posts; and it consists in the peculiar manner of constructing the same, as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, A B represent the side pieces of the post, secured to the cross-braces *a b* at an acute angle to each other and meeting at their upper ends. A center upright, C, is connected to the outer sides of the cross-braces *a b* and extends below the side pieces, A B, so that when driven in the ground it will hold and support the side pieces upon the surface thereof in a firm and rigid manner. The cross-braces *a b*, being of considerable thickness or width, and the center upright, C, connected to the braces upon the opposite side of that to which the side pieces, A B, are secured, form a firm and substantial post when the lower end of the upright C is let into the ground the required distance. That portion of the side pieces, A B, above the cross-piece *a* is cut away, as shown at *c*, to form a space for the ends of the top rails. The shoulders *d*, formed by cutting away the side pieces, A B, project above the cross-brace *a* a short distance, as does also the end of the upright C, so that the ends of the rails *e f* will rest upon the shoulders and projecting end of the upright instead of the cross-brace. The upper ends of the side pieces, A B, are securely nailed together, and by cut-

ting away the inner sides thereof, as hereinbefore described, it forms a yoke for the ends of the rails, to hold them in position and prevent their being blown off by the wind or knocked off by the stock, this precaution in rail fencing being considered of very great importance, as it is the upper rails that are in danger of being thrown off the fence-post. The lower rails, *g h*, rest upon the cross-brace *b* upon each side of the upright C, and at the lower ends of the side pieces, A B, as many of these cross-braces as are found desirable may be connected thereto for additional rails should circumstances require it.

The cutting away of the side pieces, A B, at their upper ends, as shown at *c*, to form an opening for the ends of the rails, is one of the essential features of my invention, as are also the shoulders *d* and the end of the upright C, which project above the cross-brace *a* to support the ends of the rails from contact with the cross-brace, and thereby take the weight and pressure of the rails off the brace, which would tend to loosen its fastenings with the side pieces. The cutting away of the side pieces, A B, at their upper ends so narrows them that, if found necessary, nails can be driven through from the outer edge into the rail to serve as additional security for holding the rails in position.

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

A fence-post consisting of the side pieces, A B, cut away at their upper ends, as shown at *c*, and joined together, the cross-braces *a b* and upright C, connected together as described, said upright extending below the ends of the side pieces, and the shoulders *d* and end of the upright projecting above the cross-brace *a*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM CLINE.

Witnesses:

HENRY LAWRENCE,
WM. OWENS.