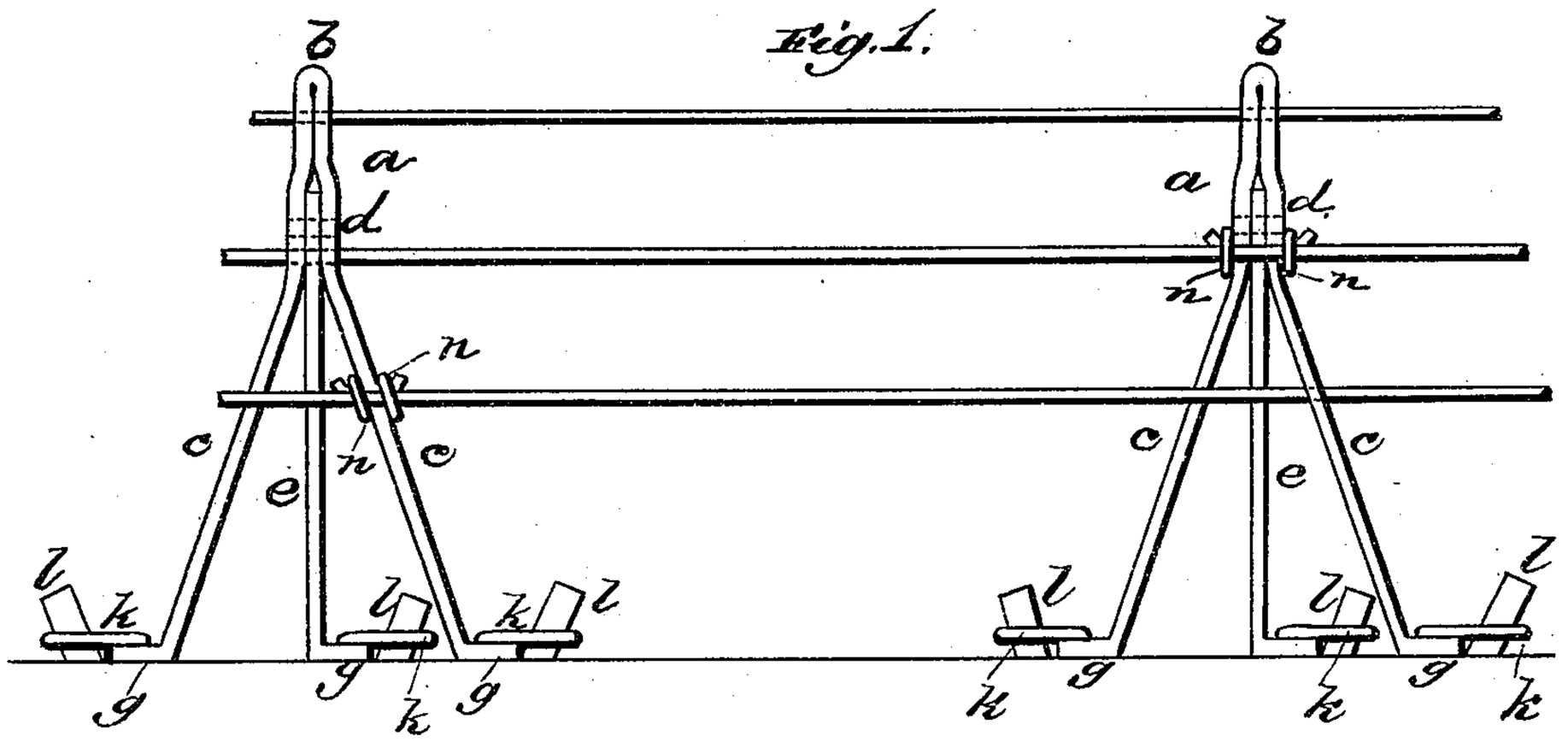
(No Model.)

J. W. BARTON.

FENCE POST.

No. 270,370. Patented Jan. 9, 1883.

Fig. 1.



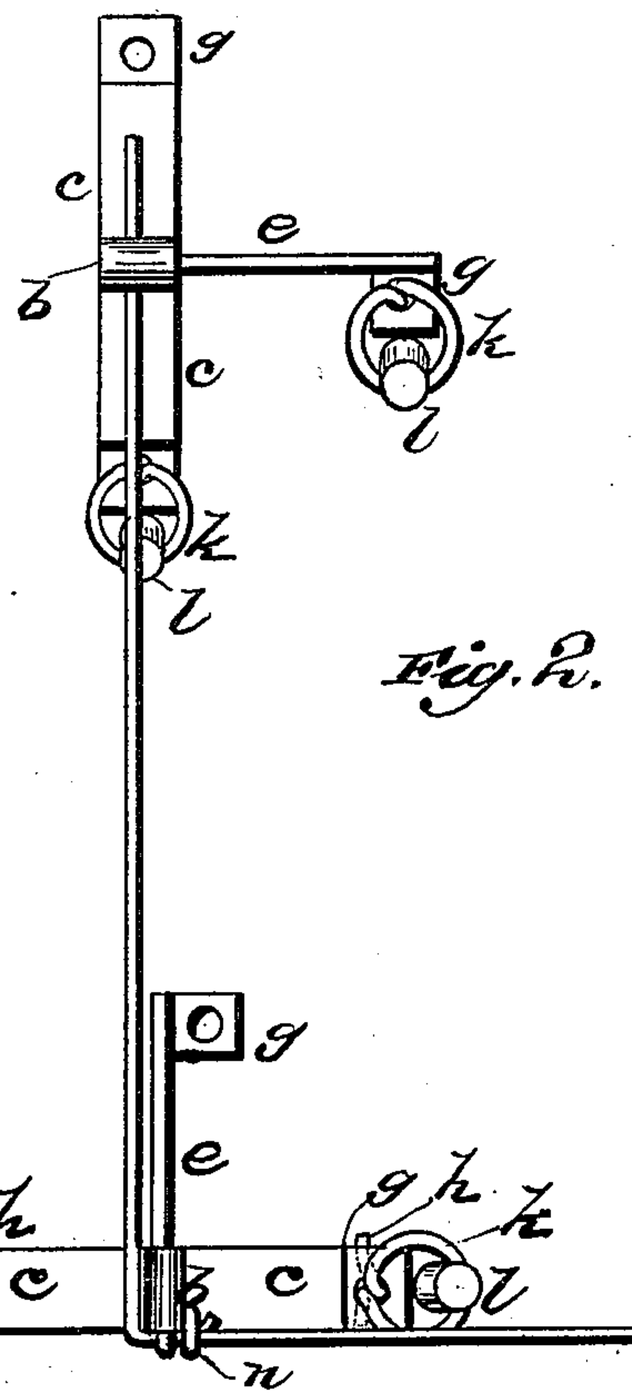


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

WITNESSES

Emory K. Bates,

Philip Allasi.

INVENTOR

J. W. Barton,

by Anderson & Smith

his ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. BARTON, OF EMPORIA, KANSAS.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 270,370, dated January 9, 1883.

Application filed September 23, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. BARTON, a citizen of the United States, a resident of Emporia, in the county of Lyon and State of Kansas, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Fence-Posts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation 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 side elevation. Fig. 2 is a top view. Fig. 3 is a view of the post.

This invention has relation to fence-posts for wire fences; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of the laterally-flattened bar centrally bent to form the top of the post, its branches extending downward a short distance to form a bearing for a pivoted or riveted third branch, and all the branches diverging below said bearing and terminating in perforated flanges or feet, which are secured to stakes by means of rings or fastenings, all as hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter *a* designates a long laterally-flattened bar of iron, which is centrally curved or bent at *b* to form the top of the post. For a short distance below the top the branches *c c* of this bar extend downward vertically and parallel with each other, forming a bearing, *d*, in which is pivoted or riveted a third branch, *e*. Below the bearing *d* the branches *c c* extend outward and downward obliquely, terminating in perforated flanges or feet *g*. The intermediate branch, *e*, also extends downward and obliquely with reference to the plane of the main branches *c*, forming a strong brace therefor.

Through the perforations of the feet *g* the ends *h* of the loops or rings *k* are passed and twisted, as shown, to secure the rings or loops *k* thereto. Through these rings *k* the post is firmly held to the ground.

Perforations *m* are made through the edges of the main or vertical branches *c c* of the post, which serve to support the horizontal fence-wire, said wire being either passed through these perforations or connected thereto by wire fastenings *n*.

A post of this character is easily and cheaply made, and is strong and durable. Although each branch is firmly attached by its stake to the soil, the composite character of the post enables it to yield somewhat under pressure in an elastic manner, readily springing back to its normal position when the pressure is relieved, without being injured or weakened, and without loosening the fastening-stakes, which are driven entirely, or nearly so, into the ground.

A post formed of one piece of band-iron, having an enlarged open head for the reception of the top rail, and the lower end extended transversely to form a wide base, the two sides just so far apart as to receive the middle rails, the whole secured to a base by rivets or bolts and stiffened by counter-braces, has been used prior to my invention, and is not claimed herein.

A brace for fence-panels provided with a pivoted strap and a ring, through which the holding-down pin passes to secure its lower end, has been employed prior to my invention, and is not claimed herein.

Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A fence-post consisting of the laterally-flattened bar *a*, centrally bent or curved at *b* to form the top of the post, its branches extending at first vertically downward to form a bearing, *d*, and then laterally and obliquely outward, and the third branch, *e*, pivoted or riveted in the bearing and extending obliquely to the plane of the main branches *c c*, substantially as specified.

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

J. W. BARTON.

Witnesses:
WM. F. EWING,
ROBERT BEST.