

(No Model.)

Z. T. SWEENEY & J. I. IRWIN.

FENCE POST.

No. 296,796.

Patented Apr. 15, 1884.

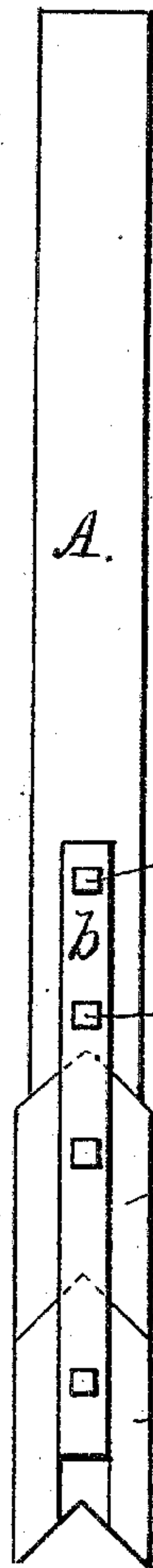


Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

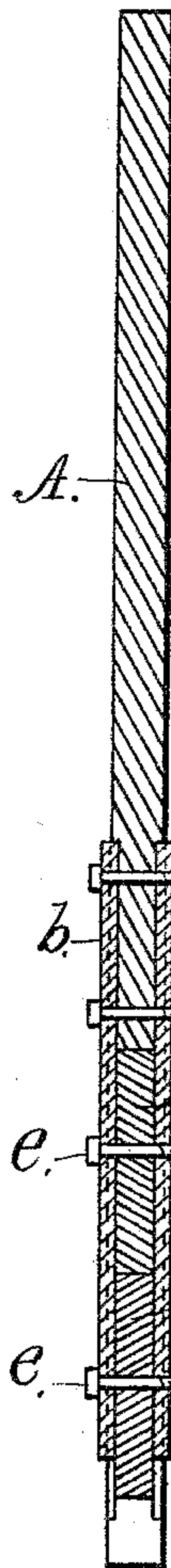


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ZACHARY T. SWEENEY AND JOSEPH I. IRWIN, OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 296,796, dated April 15, 1884.

Application filed December 13, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ZACHARY T. SWEENEY and JOSEPH I. IRWIN, citizens of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Bartholomew and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improved Fence-Post, of which the following is a specification.

The object of our improvement is to provide a wooden fence-post with an indestructible base, which shall combine strength, lightness, and a large bearing-surface, of cheap material.

The accompanying drawings illustrate our invention.

Figure 1 is an elevation. Fig. 2 is a section at right angles to Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the tiles forming a part of the base.

A is a wooden post of a length corresponding to the desired height of the fence above the ground.

b b are flat iron bars, secured to the lower end of post A by bolts *c c*.

Bars *b b* are designed to support the post in the earth, but do not of themselves present a sufficient surface to sustain the post properly against side pressure. To provide a sufficient surface for this purpose, which will be cheap, light, and practically indestructible, we use bricks or tiles *d d* of clay suitably burned, of the form shown in Fig. 3. Said tiles are grooved on each side to receive the bars *b b*, and are of a suitable width to project two or three inches on each side of said bars.

For the purpose of shedding water and preventing the lower end of the wooden post from

rotting, one end of the tile is beveled and placed uppermost, as shown, and the other end is correspondingly notched, so that a series of the tiles may fit together.

In forming the base of the post, a series of the tiles *d d* are placed between the bars *b b*. The number of tiles used depends on the nature of the soil where the fence is to be erected, more being used in a light soil than in a heavy one. Each tile is secured in place by a bolt, *e*, passed through the bars *b b* and through a perforation, *f*, in the tile. A post is thus formed having a base which will stand firmly in any soil, which will not rot, which combines great strength with light weight, and which can be cheaply made.

We are aware of the state of the art, as shown in Patent No. 67,446, August 6, 1867, and we do not claim anything therein shown.

We claim as our invention—

1. A fence-post consisting of a wooden post having a pair of iron bars secured thereto on opposite sides and projecting therefrom, and a series of solid tiles adapted to fit together, and secured between said bars, all combined substantially as specified.

2. Wooden post A, bars *b b*, secured thereto, and tiles *d d*, grooved and formed as shown and described, and secured between said bars, all combined substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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