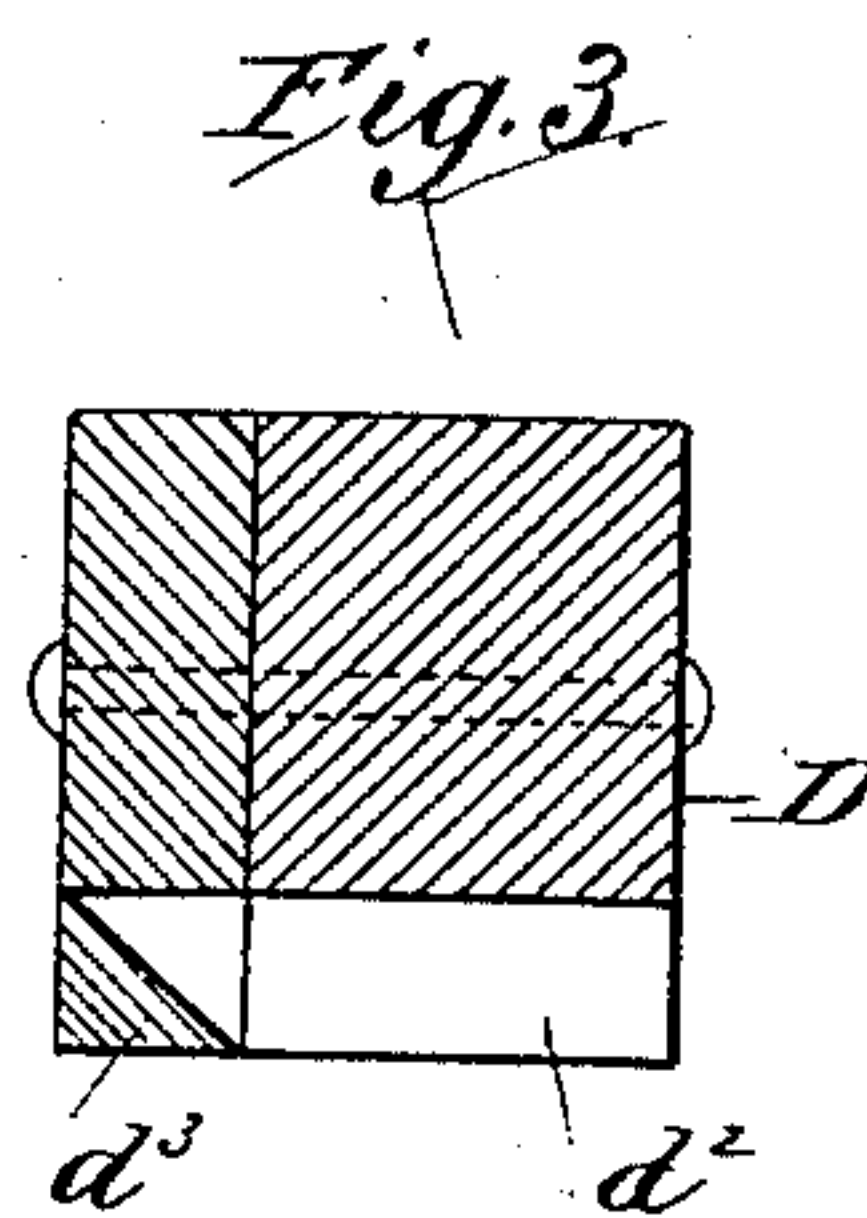
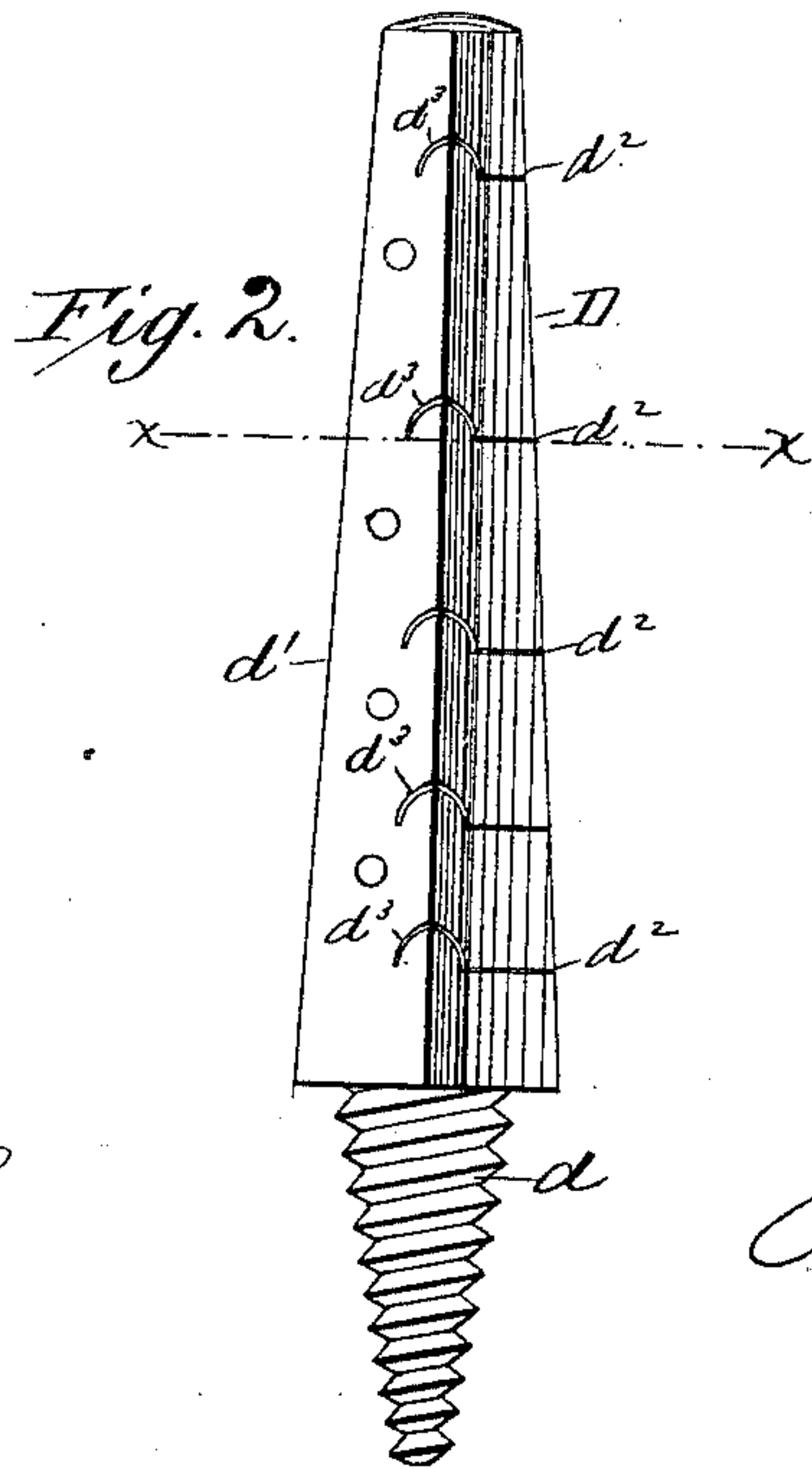
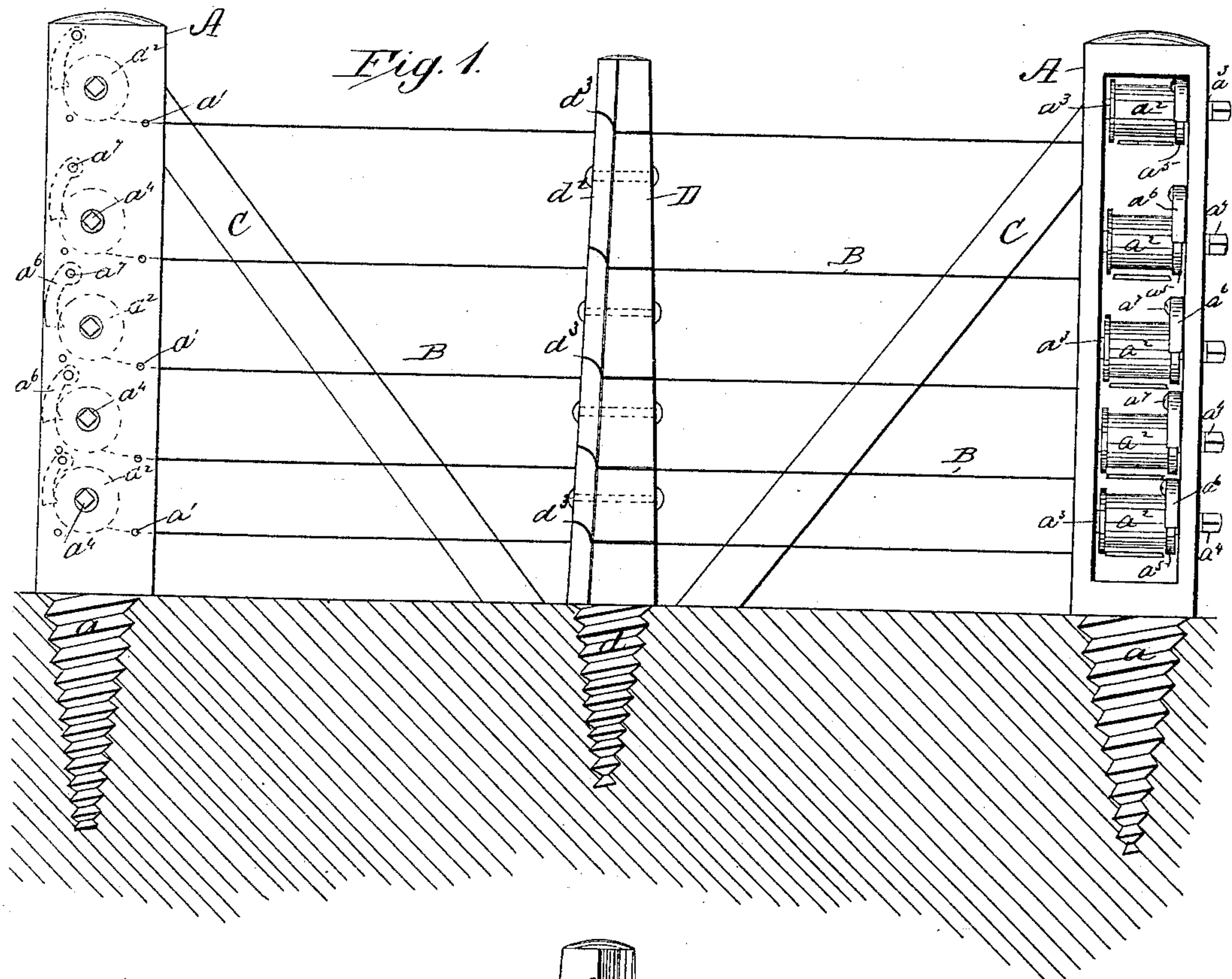


(No Model.)

J. SCHAFER.
WIRE FENCE POST.

No. 327,827.

Patented Oct. 6, 1885.



WITNESSES:

W. W. Hollingsworth
John C. Simon

INVENTOR:

John Schaffer
BY *Mum & Co*
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN SCHAFER, OF MARINE, ILLINOIS.

WIRE-FENCE POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 327,827, dated October 6, 1885.

Application filed April 8, 1885. Serial No. 161,577. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN SCHAFER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Marine, in the county of Madison and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Fence Posts, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the fence. Fig. 2 is a diagonal elevation of one of the intermediate posts for supporting the wires, and Fig. 3 is a cross-section on line *xx*, Fig. 2.

This invention is an improvement in wire-fence posts; and it consists in certain novel constructions and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter first fully described, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A represents the corner posts. These are exactly alike, but are arranged in different positions at the corners of the fence for convenience in working the tightening apparatus. Each corner post consists of a hollow square box of suitable height and open on one side. A screwed portion, *a*, at the lower end of the post is provided for insertion into the ground. *a'* are holes in the sides of the posts for the attachment of the wires B, of which the fence is formed. The other end of each wire B is fastened to one of the rollers *a*², secured upon spindles *a*³, journaled in the next corner post and provided with ends *a*⁴, made square or of other suitable form, so that they may be revolved by a wrench or crank-handle. A ratchet-wheel, *a*⁵, is cast solid with each of the rollers *a*², or is otherwise firmly secured to it. A pawl, *a*⁶, is provided and pivoted on the pin *a*⁷, projecting from the side of the post A. This pawl engages with the teeth of the said ratchet-wheel, and prevents the roller *a*² from turning backward when the wire is tightened up.

C is a support arranged diagonally between the top of each corner post and the ground, in the direction of the tension of the wire, for relieving the posts from undue strain and keeping them in a vertical position.

D is one of the intermediate posts. Any number of these may be employed and ar-

anged at suitable intervals between the corner posts. Each post D is provided at its lower end with a screw portion, *d*, for insertion into the ground, and with a loose side, *d'*, riveted to the main portion of the post D, so as to form a portion of it when attached.

The object sought by forming the post in two vertical sections, as shown, is to facilitate the formation of the slots therein, which slots, being formed at angles to each other, cannot be conveniently formed when the post is made in a single piece.

The main portion of each post D is provided with slots *d*², extending transversely across it in a horizontal line parallel with the ground. The loose side *d'* of each post is provided with slots *d*³, extending diagonally downward from one corner of it in a curve, and terminating in a straight portion, which is in line with and forms a continuation of the slots *d*², when the loose side *d'* is riveted onto the post, and admits of the wires passing in a straight line through the post, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3 in the drawings.

When the fence is being put up, the intermediate posts, D, are screwed into the ground, so that the corners having the diagonal slots *d*³ come toward the front, as shown in Fig. 2. The wires B are then slipped into the said diagonal slots, and the posts D are turned round one-fourth of a revolution to the position shown in Fig. 1. This causes the wires to pass into the horizontal slots *d*², in which they are securely retained by the construction of the said slots in the post, but can be tightened up or made slack by revolving the rollers in the end posts as occasion requires.

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

1. In a fence, the intermediate post, D, having horizontal slots *d*² therein, and provided with a screwed portion, *d*, and with a separately-formed side, *d'*, secured to it and having diagonal slots *d*³, substantially as described and shown, and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a fence, the combination of the corner posts, A, having screwed portions *a*, holes *a'*, rollers *a*², ratchets *a*⁵, and pawls *a*⁶, the wires B, and the intermediate posts, D, having horizontal slots *d*², diagonal slots *d*³, and the screwed

portions *d*, substantially as described and shown, and for the purpose set forth.

3. A post for wire fences, provided in one of its corners with a downwardly-inclined slot, and having a horizontal slot cut in its adjacent face and communicating with the said inclined slot, the said post being provided with a screw-point, whereby it may be inserted, held, and rotated within the ground, substantially as set forth.

4. A fence-post having a corner notch, in-

clined as described and a horizontal slot communicating with the inner end of the said notch, substantially as set forth, and provided at its lower end with means whereby it may be held and rotated within the ground, for the purpose described.

JOHN SCHAFER.

Witnesses:

LOUIS WENTZ,
LOUIS VOLK.