(No Model.)

L. GRATTON.

FENCE POST.

No. 370,941. Patented Oct. 4, 1887.

Fig. 1.

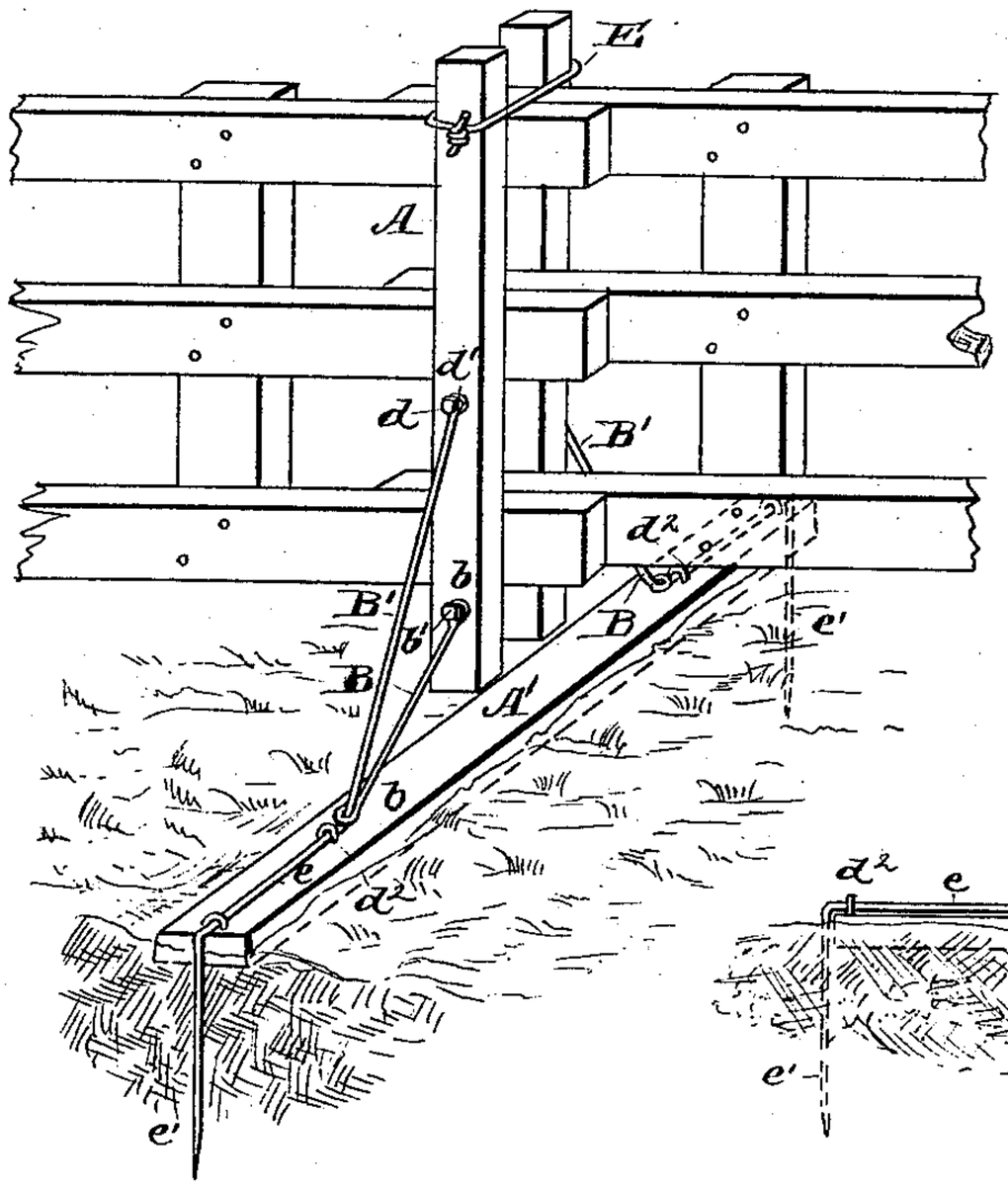


Fig. 2.

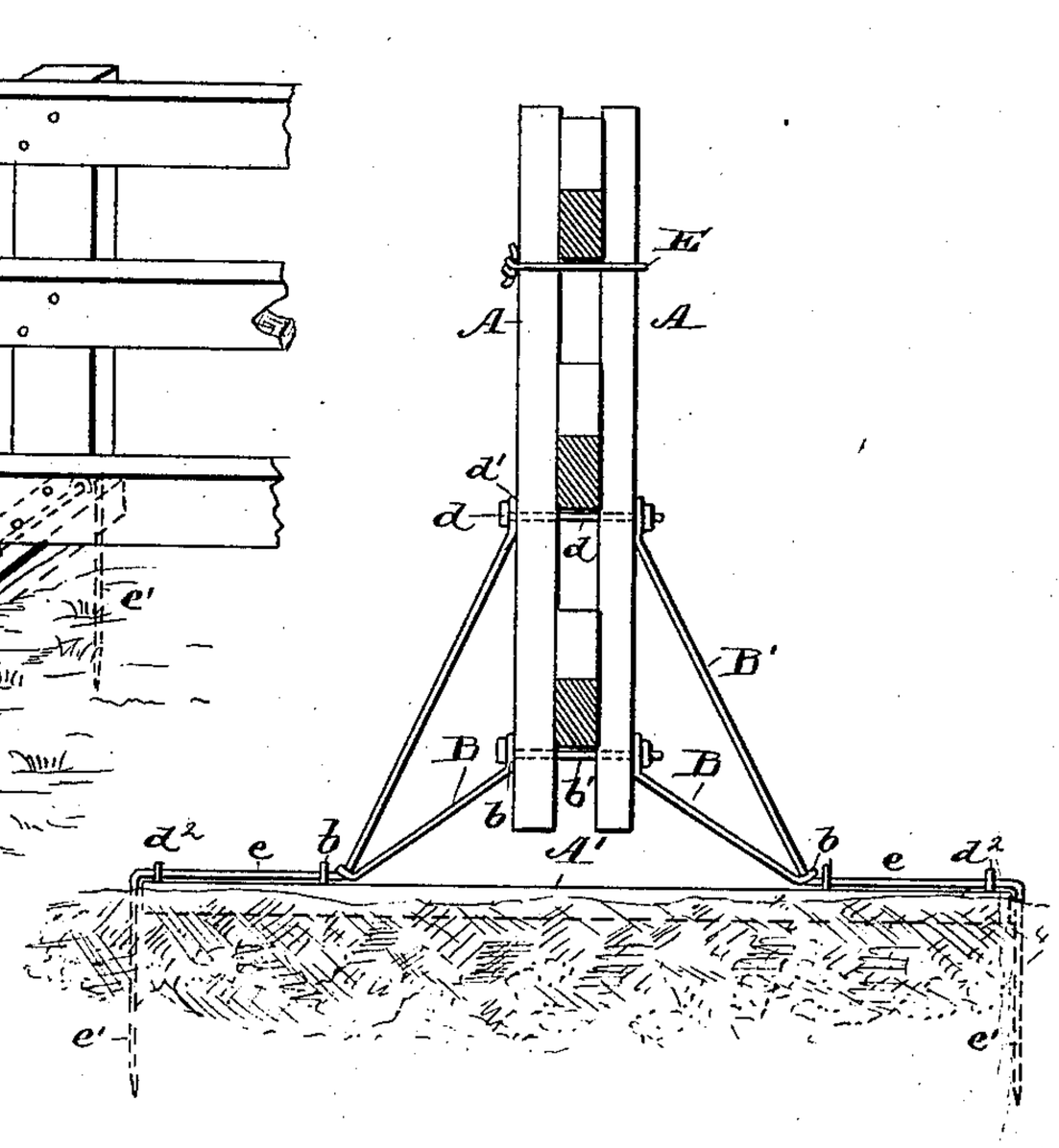
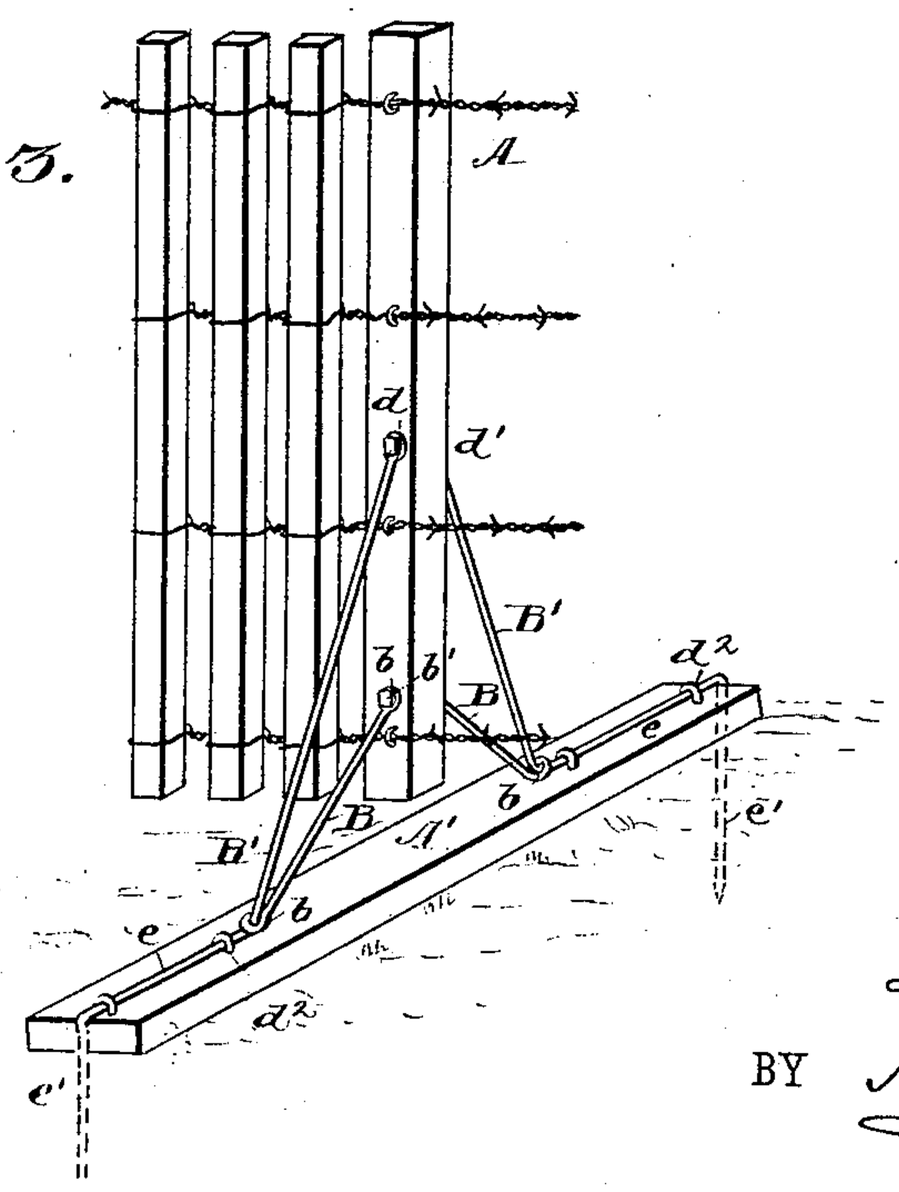


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS GRATTON, OF AMITY, NEW YORK.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 370,941, dated October 4, 1887.

Application filed July 19, 1887. Serial No. 244,737. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS GRATTON, of Amity, in the county of Allegany and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Fence-Post, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improved fence-post, and has for its object to provide a post adapted for use with any fence requiring such, which will be cheaply constructed and durable, and wherein no post-holes need be dug, and wherein, also, the posts may be quickly and readily removed.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a double post applied to a rail or board fence. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the post and a section through the rails, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a single post as applied to picket or wire fences.

In carrying out the invention one or two upright beams, A, of any desired length and thickness, are provided, and also a horizontal beam, A′, adapted for insertion in or to be placed upon the ground at right angles to and across the proposed line of fencing. The two uprights A are held a given distance apart and suspended above the horizontal beam A′ by braces B B′. In the event of a double post the braces are attached to the outer face of each upright, and when a single upright is used the braces are attached to opposing sides, as shown in Fig. 3.

The braces consist of a short brace, B, having an eye, *b*, at each end, attached near the bottom of the post by a bolt, *b′*, passing through the upper eye of the brace-rod, and also through the uprights, the bottom rails being adapted to rest upon said bolt *b′*, and be securely held between the uprights by a nut entered upon one projecting end of the bolt, whereby the uprights are made to approach each other. The second brace, B′, is longer than the brace B, and is adapted to pass up through the lower eye, *b*, of the short brace to an attachment with the uprights upon each outer side, about centrally the same, the said attachment being effected by the passage of a bolt, *d*, through an eye, *d′*, in the brace, and also through the uprights, as shown in Fig. 2, and as formerly described with reference to the attachment of the short brace. The center rails of the fence are adapted to rest upon the bolt *d*, and are clamped between the uprights A by a nut entered upon the projecting end of the bolt *d*.

Both of the braces B and B′ extend downward and outward from the post at an inclination to an engagement with the horizontal beam A′, the long brace B′ at its intersection with the short brace being carried parallel and longitudinally with the beam A′, and attached thereto by staples d^2, whereby a horizontal arm, *e*, is provided, adapted to secure the braces in proper position, as shown. As an auxiliary means of securing the braces fixedly, the arm *e* of the long brace B′ at the end of the horizontal beam A′ is bent at right angles downward, forming the leg *e′*, which leg is driven in the ground.

The posts are supported a distance from the ground, whereby the same are preserved from decay, as wood is the material usually employed in their construction. The posts may be readily removed, do not interfere materially with the action of a mower close to the fence, and the said posts, made either single or double, may be adopted with any character of fence, a board or rail fence being shown applied in Figs. 1 and 2, and a picket-and-wire fence in Fig. 3.

Instead of the horizontal wooden beam A′, stone may be placed along the line of the arm *e* of brace B′, in which event the staples are not needed, the legs *e′* being sufficient.

When the posts are double, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the top rails are supported and the two uprights are brought together by a wire loop or link, E, or through the medium of a suitable bolt.

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

1. The combination, with a fence-post and a fixed bed beneath the post, of short and long braces attached to said post at their upper ends and interlocking upon the bed, the longer braces being provided with integral horizontal

arms resting on said bed, terminating in vertical legs adapted to be driven in the ground at the end of the bed, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination, with an elevated fence-post, A, of a ground-rest, A′, short braces B, attached to said post, lengthy braces B′, also attached to the post A, intersecting and supporting the braces B, the said braces B′ being provided with an integral horizontal arm, *e*, attached to the ground-rest, and legs *e*′, adapted to be driven into the ground, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

3. The combination, with an elevated fence-post consisting of the uprights A, of a ground-rest, A′, at right angles to said post, short inclined braces B, attached to said uprights, longer inclined braces, B′, also attached to the uprights above the braces B, interlocking and supporting the said short braces, and provided with an integral horizontal arm, *e*, attached to said ground-rest, and a leg, *e*′, adapted to be driven in the ground at the end of said rest, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

LOUIS GRATTON.

Witnesses:
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