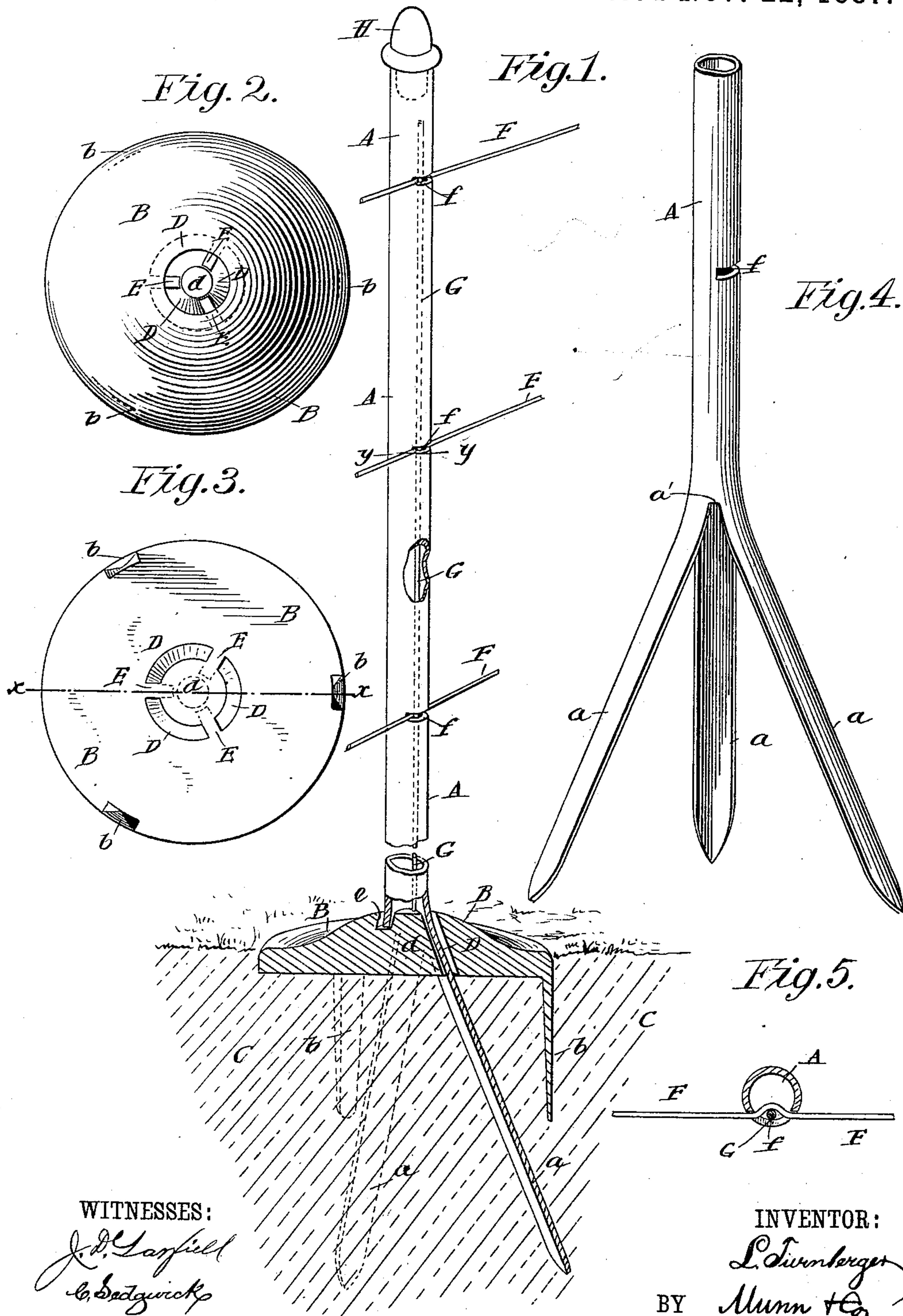


(No Model.)

L. TURNBERGER.
METALLIC FENCE POST.

No. 373,621.

Patented Nov. 22, 1887.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS TURNBERGER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, JOHN SHRADY, OF SAME PLACE, AND JOHN P. MERN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

METALLIC FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 373,621, dated November 22, 1887.

Application filed September 27, 1887. Serial No. 250,822. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS TURNBERGER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Metallic Fence-
5 Post, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to fence-posts, and has for its object to provide a simple, light, and durable post of this character, which may be
10 easily and cheaply made and set up, and will afford a strong support for the wire or other longitudinal stringers or rails of a fence.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of
15 parts of the fence-post, all as hereinafter described and claimed.

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

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the fence-post with the post proper and its base or ground plate partly broken away and in section on the line *x x*, Fig. 3, and illustrates how
25 the post is set in the ground. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the ground-plate of the post. Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the ground-plate. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the lower part of the fence-post proper as it appears when driven into the ground; and Fig.
30 5 is a transverse section through the post and on the line *y y* in Fig. 1.

The fence-post consists, mainly, of two parts—the post proper, A, and its base or
35 ground plate B. The post A is a metal tube or pipe which at its lower end is provided with slots extending from its extremity upward about two feet. I prefer to make three of these slots, thereby dividing the foot of the
40 post into three parts or tongues, *a a a*, which when spread outward at the bottom form prongs which enter the ground C and prevent lifting of the post therefrom. The ground-plate B is preferably made round in general
45 form, with its upper face raised toward the center, where it is the thickest, and this plate is provided at its bottom and margin with a series of prongs, *b*, preferably three in number, as shown, and which enter the ground to

bind or anchor the ground-plate thereto, with
50 its upper face about level with the ground-surface, and as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. At its center the ground-plate B is provided with a series of segmental slots, D, of like number with the prongs *a* of the post A
55 and a little wider than the thickness of the prongs, and made flaring downward and outward from the top of the plate, thereby providing at the center of the plate a core, *d*, of general conical form, which is held to the outer
60 part or main body of the plate by the short radial ribs or webs E between the ends of the slots D. These ribs E are about as thick or a little thinner than the width of the slots first cut into the foot of the post A, and at their
65 upper parts the ribs are preferably cut away a little—say for a quarter of an inch downward from the top of the ground-plate—to provide recesses *e*, into which enter the parts *a'* of the post A just over the base of the slots
70 forming the prongs *a*, to conceal any little irregularity in the slotting or bending of the post at the bases of the prong-forming slots when the post is set in position, and also to strengthen the post at the bases of said slots.
75

In setting the post the ground-plate B will first be placed in position and its prongs *b* will be driven into the ground C, and the body of the plate may also be embedded more or less in the earth, if desired. The post A will now be placed
80 onto the plate B, with its tongues *a* now in line with the main body of the post and their points entered into the tops of the downwardly-flaring slots D; and when the post is driven
85 downward the tongues will be forced outward by the conical core *d*, and when the post is driven fully downward until its body portion rests on the ribs E, or into the notches *e* of the ribs at the bases of the slots, the tongues will be flared outward or spread for about a foot
90 at their points, thus giving a very good hold of the post in the ground. The wire-stringers F of the fence are entered into transverse notches *f* made in the post A, and a wire, G, is then passed down the inside of the post and
95 outside of all the wires, or slight bends made therein, to hold the wires securely to the post, and an ornamental cap, H, preferably made

in the form of an acorn, will then be screwed or driven tightly into or onto the top of the post, as clearly shown in the drawings.

The wire-stringers F may be held to the posts A in any approved way, or wooden rails or pickets may be fixed to or supported from the posts if an ordinary rail or picket fence should be preferred, as will readily be understood.

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

1. A fence-post comprising a post proper slit at the bottom to form tongues or prongs, and a ground-plate having downwardly-diverging slots forming an upwardly-tapering core, substantially as shown and described, whereby when the tongues or prongs of the post are driven through the slots of the ground-plate the prongs will be diverged in the ground to lock the post in place, as herein set forth.

2. A fence-post comprising a post proper

slit at the bottom to form prongs or tongues, and a ground-plate having downwardly-diverging slots forming an upwardly-tapering core which spreads or diverges the prongs when driven through the slots, and said ground-plate provided with downwardly-projecting prongs, substantially as described, for the purposes set forth. 25

3. The combination, in a fence-post, of a tubular metal post, A, slit at the bottom to form prongs *a*, and a ground-plate, B, having downwardly-diverging slots D, forming an upwardly-tapering core, *d*, connected by ribs E with the main body of the plate, and said ribs cut away at the top to provide recesses *e*, substantially as described, for the purposes set forth. 30 35

LOUIS TURNBERGER.

Witnesses:

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