

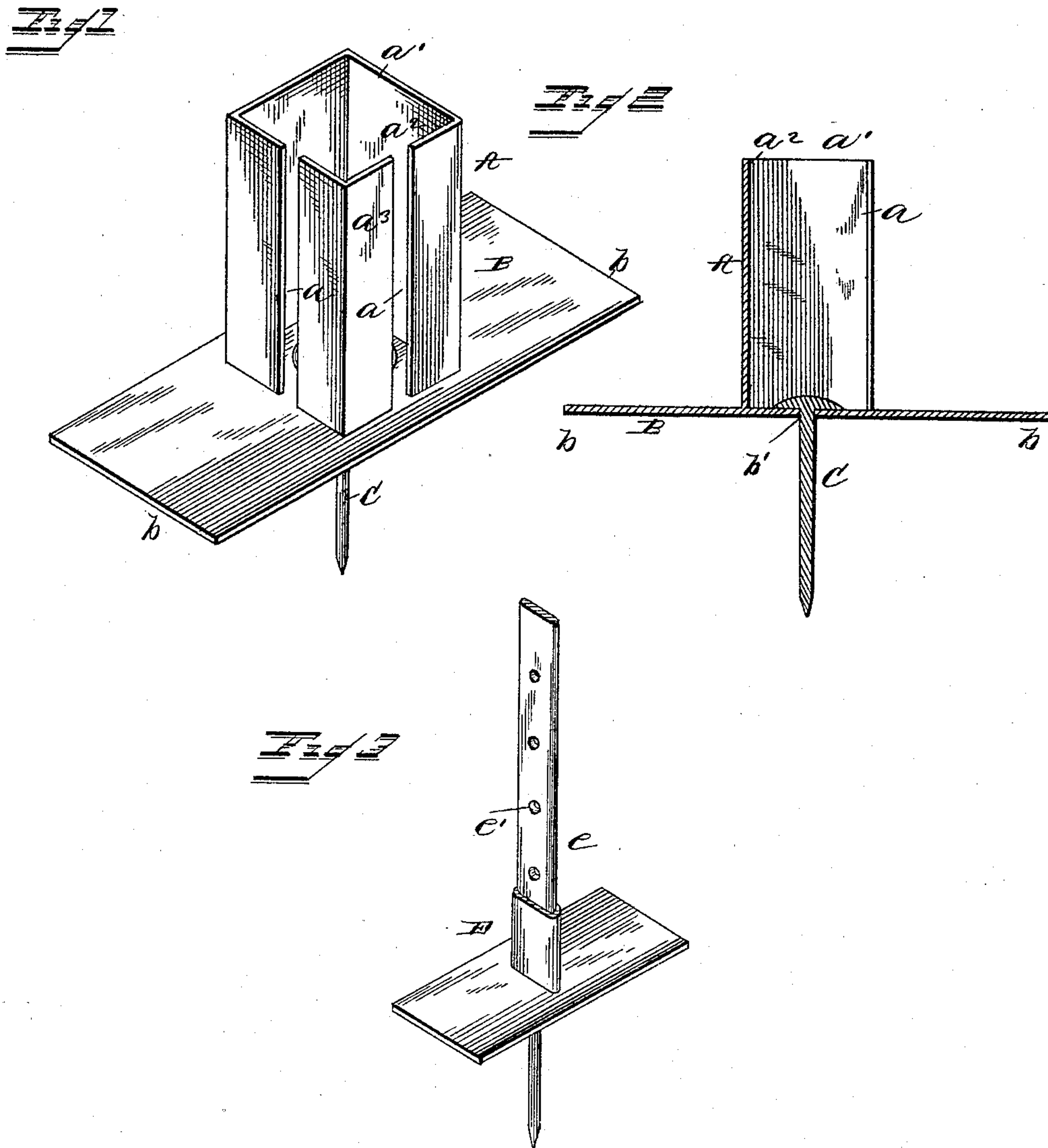
(No Model.)

W. B. THOMAS.

POST HOLDER.

No. 396,624.

Patented Jan. 22, 1889.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## POST-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 396,624, dated January 22, 1889.

Application filed September 28, 1888. Serial No. 286,688. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BURL THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Green Camp, in the county of Marion and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Post-Holders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to  
10 which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to post-holders.

The object of this invention is to improve a post-holder for which Letters Patent of the United States were granted to me September  
15 14, 1886, No. 349,240; by constructing the socket of such shape that a post of any size may be used and the same held securely in place without the use of spikes or other devices.

To these ends the invention consists of a  
20 post-holder the socket of which may be made in any desired shape, and having two or more slots extending the entire distance of its height, thus dividing the socket into two parts, one of which acts as the post-holder  
25 and the other as a clamp to hold the same firmly in position. Furthermore, the invention consists in the various novel details of construction whereby its objects are attained.

In the accompanying drawings, forming  
30 part of this specification, and in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved post-holder, showing the two slots extending from the top to the bottom of  
35 the same. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view, showing the peculiar shape of the plug or bar by means of which the device is held in position on the ground; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of another form of holder adapted  
40 for the use of iron posts, the same being designed to be used where wire fences are to be put up.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the socket, which may be of any size or shape desired. This socket has two slots, *a*, formed  
45 therein, which extend from the bottom or plate B to the top of the socket. It will be observed that the slots are cut in such a way that the bulk of the socket is left on one side, the larger portion, or that indicated by the  
50 letter *a'*, forming two flanges, *a*<sup>2</sup>, against which the post rests, and the other portion, *a*<sup>3</sup>, form-

ing a V-shaped piece, which will act as a spring-clamp when the post is driven into the socket, and hold it securely in place without  
55 the intervention of wedges or other fastening devices.

B designates the plate or base of the device, the flanges *b* being designed as supports for the socket when it is placed in position on  
60 the ground, and, if desired, openings may be formed in the same, through which stakes may be driven to hold the socket more firmly in position. The center of this plate has an opening, *b'*, through which extends a plug or  
65 bar, C, which is driven in the ground to hold the socket in place. The head of this bar is rounded, and on this the post rests. Thus it will be seen that any moisture that may accumulate in the socket will be kept from com-  
70 ing in contact with the bottom of the post, thereby preventing the same from rotting.

E designates another form of socket designed to be used in the construction of wire fences. The socket is made without a slot, so  
75 as to hold the cement for holding the iron post *e*. This post may be of any desired height and thickness, and has a number of openings, *e'*, formed in it, through which the wire may pass and be secured in the ordi-  
80 nary way, as by twisting; but where the other form of socket is used the staples usually employed to hold the wire may be driven through the slots *a* into the posts.

In constructing a line of fence with this  
85 post-holder it will only be necessary first to drive the sockets in place and then drive the posts into the sockets. It will be found unnecessary to drive wedges between the post and the socket, as the V-shaped piece will be  
90 found all that is necessary to clamp the post securely in place. It is also preferred to cast the socket in one piece, as this will be found the cheapest and best way and the one giving  
95 the best results. The bolt or bar by which it is secured to the ground may also be cast at the same time, although this is optional.

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

1. A post-holder the socket of which is rectangular in shape and provided with two slots extending from the bottom to the top and dividing the said socket into two unequal parts,  
100

the larger of which acts as the post-holder and the smaller as a clamp to hold the post securely in position, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a post-holder the  
5 socket of which is rectangular in shape and provided with two slots extending from the bottom to the top and dividing the said socket into two unequal parts, the larger of which  
acts as the post-holder and the smaller as a  
10 clamp, of a bar passing through the base of

the socket and having a rounded head, on which the post rests, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature 15 in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM BURL THOMAS.

Witnesses:

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