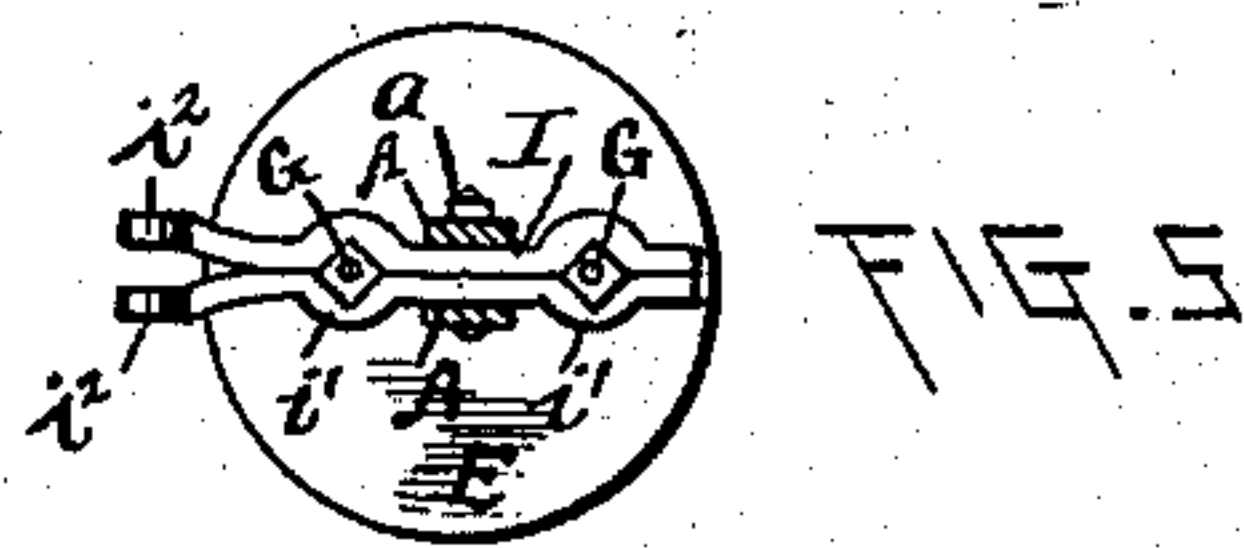
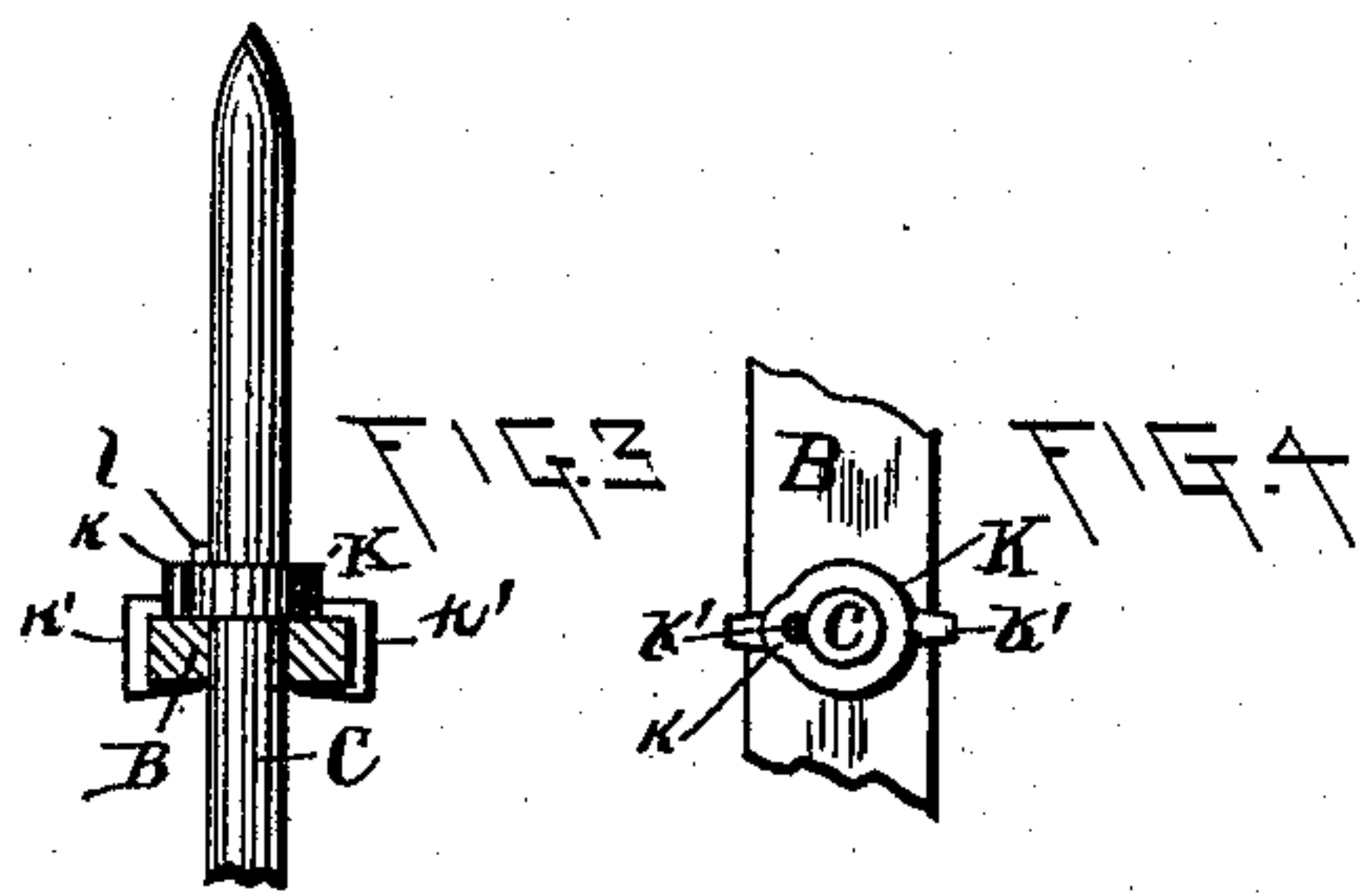
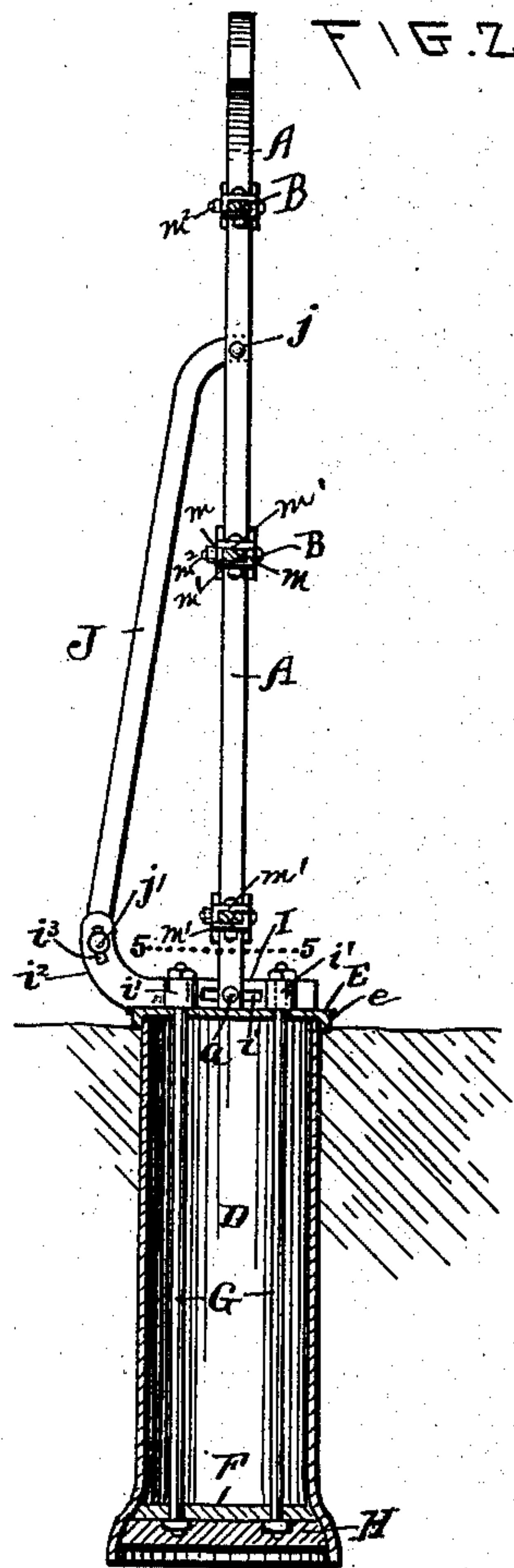
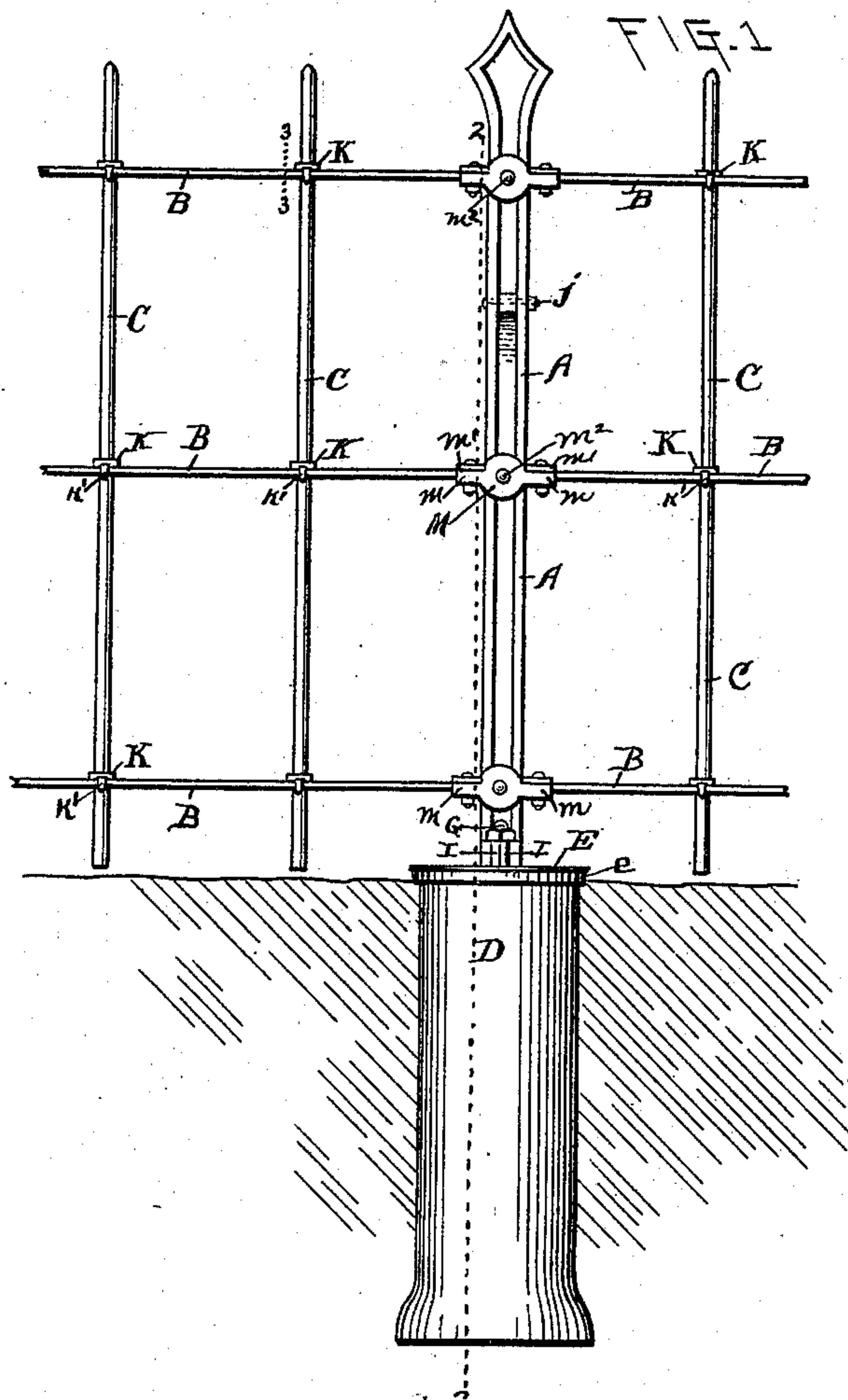


(No Model.)

M. D. CUMMINGS.
FENCING.

No. 416,718.

Patented Dec. 10, 1889.



WITNESSES:

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SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 416,718, dated December 10, 1889.

Application filed November 28, 1888. Serial No. 292,090. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MONTROVILL D. CUMMINGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Albany, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Fencing, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the construction of metallic fences either of plain or ornamental style, and more particularly to the settings or foundations for the posts; also, to the braces for retaining the posts in vertical position, and, finally, to the connections between the fence-rails and the posts.

The objects of my invention are, first, to provide a durable and inexpensive form of setting or foundation for the fence-post, which shall be impervious to the action of water, and which shall constitute a firm support for the post; secondly, to provide an adjustable metal brace for the post, by means of which the latter may be retained in vertical position and readily brought back to such position in the event of any variation therefrom; thirdly, to provide a metal socket for connecting the fence-rails to the posts, so as to securely hold the rails and at the same time permit any desired number of rails to be attached to the posts.

To the above purposes my invention consists, first, in the provision of a tubular or cylindrical setting or foundation constructed of ordinary sewer-pipe and having certain connections for attaching the lower end of the fence-post in operative position upon the foundation, as hereinafter described and claimed; secondly, in the peculiar and novel construction and connection of the lateral braces for retaining the posts in vertical position; thirdly, in the peculiar and novel construction and connection of the sockets for attaching the fence-rails to the posts, and, finally, in the peculiar and novel features of general construction and combinations of parts, all as hereinafter described, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In order that my invention may be fully understood, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a metallic fence and one of the post-settings constructed

in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of the post-setting and adjacent parts of the fence on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a similar sectional view on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1, the parts being drawn on an enlarged scale. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the structure shown in Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a horizontal cross-section of the fence-post on the line 5 5 of Fig. 2.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the entire view.

In the said drawings, A designates the fence-post, formed of flat bars of metal united at the top.

B designates the fence-rails, and C designates the fence-pickets, said parts being constructed of metal and being either of the plain style shown or more or less ornamental in character, as desired.

D designates the tubular or cylindrical setting or foundation for the post A, said setting being composed of an ordinary length or section of sewer-pipe set vertically in the ground with its flaring end at the bottom and so that its upper end shall lie about flush with the surface thereof. The upper end of the tubular setting or foundation D is closed by a cap E, the under side of which is formed with a downwardly-extending flange *e*, which overlaps the outer sides of the settings, as shown. In the lower flared end of the setting D is placed a metal disk or plate F, which is connected to the cap E by long bolts G, extending longitudinally through the interior of the pipe. A mass of concrete or cement H is preferably applied to the lower end of the setting outside of plate F, so as to render the lower end of the setting water-tight. It will be seen that I have thus produced a setting or foundation which is inexpensive in construction and which constitutes a firm durable base for the post, and which is entirely unaffected by the action of moisture.

Upon the cap E is placed an attaching-bar I, which is composed of two parts exact duplicates of each other and lying horizontally with their contiguous longitudinal sides in contact. Each part of the attaching-bar is formed with an elongated horizontal slot *i*, a pair of offsets *i'*, and an upturned laterally-extending end *i''*, having an elongated vertical slot *i'''*.

The lower end of the fence-post A embraces the two parts of the connecting-bar I, as shown in Fig. 1, and is secured thereto by a through-bolt *a*, which passes through the slots I, thus permitting the post to be accurately adjusted to its required position.

J designates the lateral brace, the upper end of which is pivoted to the fence-post at *j* and the lower end of which is connected by a through-bolt *j'*, between the upturned ends of the bar I, said bolt passing through the slot *i*³ and permitting the brace to be adjusted so as to bring the posts into perfect vertical alignment. The bar I is secured upon the cap E by the bolts G, the upper ends of which lie between the offsets *i'*, as shown.

K designates the collars which embrace the pickets C, and each of which is formed with an offset *k* to receive a key *l* for holding the collar in position upon the picket. Each of the collars K is formed with a pair of prongs *k'*, which are of malleable iron or other material which will permit the prongs to be bent so as to embrace the rails and hold them connected to the pickets, as shown in Fig. 3.

M designates the sockets for connecting the rails B to the posts A. Each of these sockets is composed of two parts having extensions *m* and lateral flanges *m'* to embrace the rails. As shown in the drawings, these lateral extensions *m'* are angular; but it is evident that they may be circular, if desired, without departing from the spirit of my invention. The parts of the sockets M are held by through-bolts *m*², which extend transversely through the post and firmly retain the sockets thereon.

Thus from the above description it will be seen that the entire structure embraced in my invention is simple and durable and easily manipulated even by persons not skilled in fence construction.

Having now fully described my invention,

what I claim as new therein, and what I desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. An improved base or setting for a fence-post, consisting of a tubular body composed of a section or length of earthen pipe having its integral flaring end at the bottom, a plate F wholly within said flaring end, a cap-plate E upon the small end of the pipe, and two bolts uniting the plates E F, said bolts having their heads within the flaring end of the pipe, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the tubular setting, consisting of a length of earthen pipe having its flaring end at the bottom, the cap for the same, the base-plate F, and cement H within said flaring end, and the bolts for connecting said cap and base-plate, said bolts having their heads embedded in the cement, substantially as described.

3. The combination of a tubular setting, a post, and a brace pivoted to said post with a connecting-bar composed of the two duplicate parts having the elongated horizontal and vertical slots, the offsets, and the upturned flaring ends, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with the connecting-bar having horizontal and vertical slots and offsets upwardly turned, the fence-post secured to the horizontally-slotted portion of the bar, and the brace pivoted at one end to the post and adjustably connected at its opposite end to the vertically-slotted ends of the connecting-bar, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination of a post consisting of two parallel flat bars with the two-part socket-pieces M, each having extensions *m* and lateral flanges *m'*, and a bolt *m*², passing between the bars of the post and through the socket-pieces, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

MONTROVILL D. CUMMINGS.

In presence of—

C. C. SHEPHERD,
BARTON GRIFFITH.