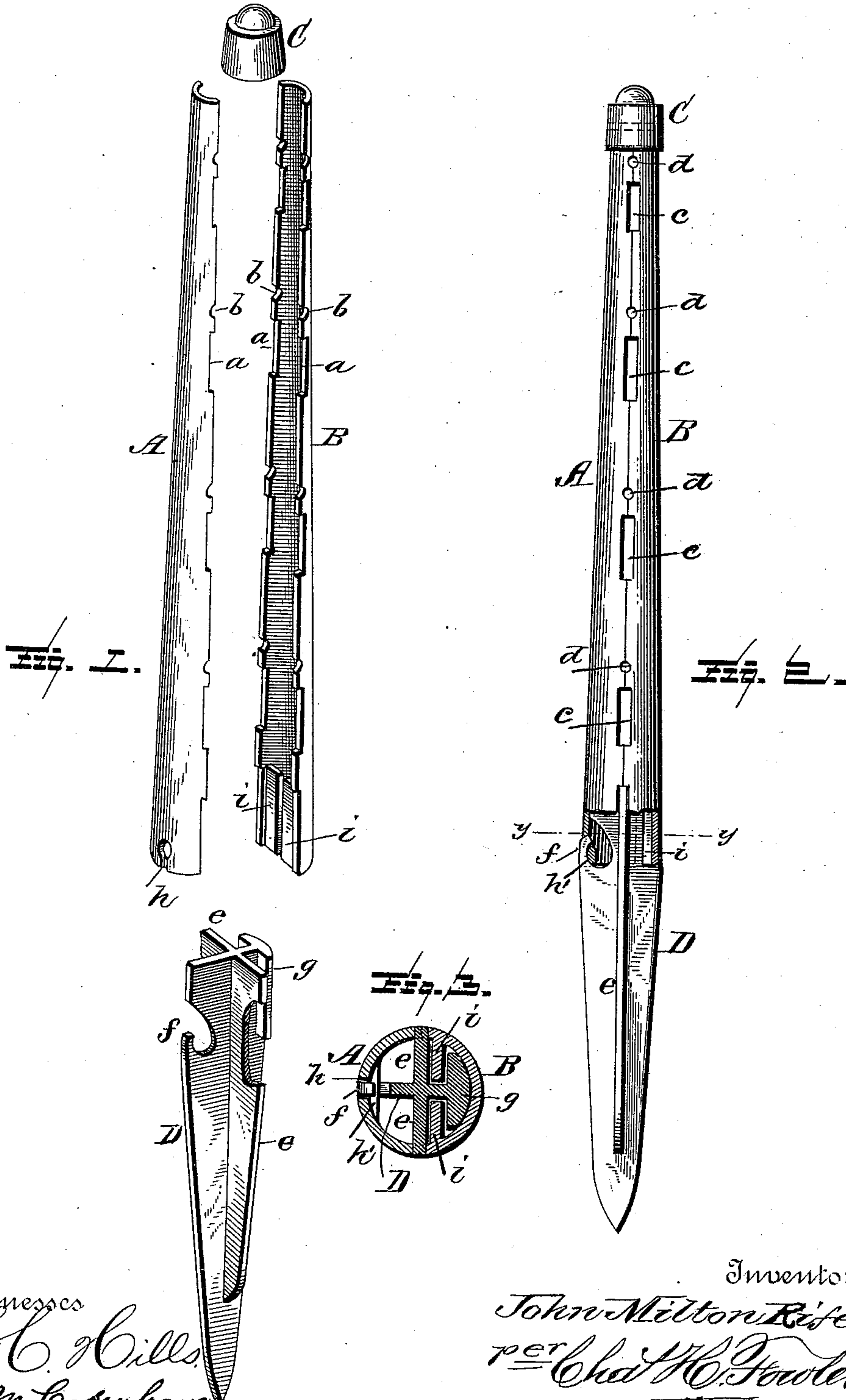


(No Model.)

J. M. RIFE.
FENCE POST.

No. 447,204.

Patented Feb. 24, 1891.



Witnesses
L. C. Hills
J. M. Copenhagen

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MILTON RIFE, OF TROY, OHIO.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 447,204, dated February 24, 1891.

Application filed November 5, 1890. Serial No. 370,419. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN MILTON RIFE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Troy, in the county of Miami and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Posts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents a perspective view of the several sections composing my improved separable fence-post, the sections being separated from each other; Fig. 2, an elevation showing the sections connected together; Fig. 3, a transverse section, on an enlarged scale, taken on line *y y* of Fig. 2.

The present invention has for its object to provide a metal fence-post possessing both lightness and durability and capable of use with a wire fence or with slats or rails, and one composed of separable parts that can be readily connected together or disconnected, as circumstances may require, which objects I attain by the construction substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

The fence-post is hollow, and consists of the two semi-cylindrical sections A B, cut away at their edges, as shown at *a* and *b*, to form when together, as shown in Fig. 2, the holes *c* and elongated openings *d* to receive, respectively, either wire or the usual slats or rails, so as to adapt the post to various kinds of fences. The two semi-cylindrical sections A B are tapering in a longitudinal direction, so that when together the post will gradually increase in diameter from its upper end to its base, as shown in Fig. 2. The two sections A B are held together at the top by a thimble C, which tightly fits over the ends of the sections and forms an ornamental top for the post.

The base of the post, which enters the

ground, consists of the tapering blade D, having right-angle webs *e* to strengthen it laterally, so that the blade may be made light and yet sufficiently strong.

The blade D has a hook *f* upon one of its edges, and at the opposite edge is a cross-head *g*, said hook entering a hole *h* in the post-section A at its lower end and engaging with a cross-bar *h'*, and the cross-head *g* engaging with the post-section B, so that it will be between it and the locking-flanges *i*.

In Fig. 3 is more clearly shown the position of the hook *f* and cross-head *g* with relation to the cross-bar *h'* and locking-flanges *i*, respectively, which forms a very durable and strong means of detachably connecting the blade to the post and enabling it to be readily detached when desired and the two post-sections separated from each other.

Any suitable means may be employed for holding together the upper ends of the post-sections, and I reserve the right to make any such changes in the details of construction as would come within ordinary mechanical skill without departing from the principle of my invention.

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

In a fence-post, the combination, with the base thereof having hook and cross-head, as described, of the semi-cylindrical post-sections detachably held together and having respectively upon their lower ends an opening and cross-bar for engagement of the hook upon the base, and upon the opposite post-section locking-flanges for the cross-head of the base, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN MILTON RIFE.

Witnesses:

GEORGE A. LONG,
F. V. FLINN.