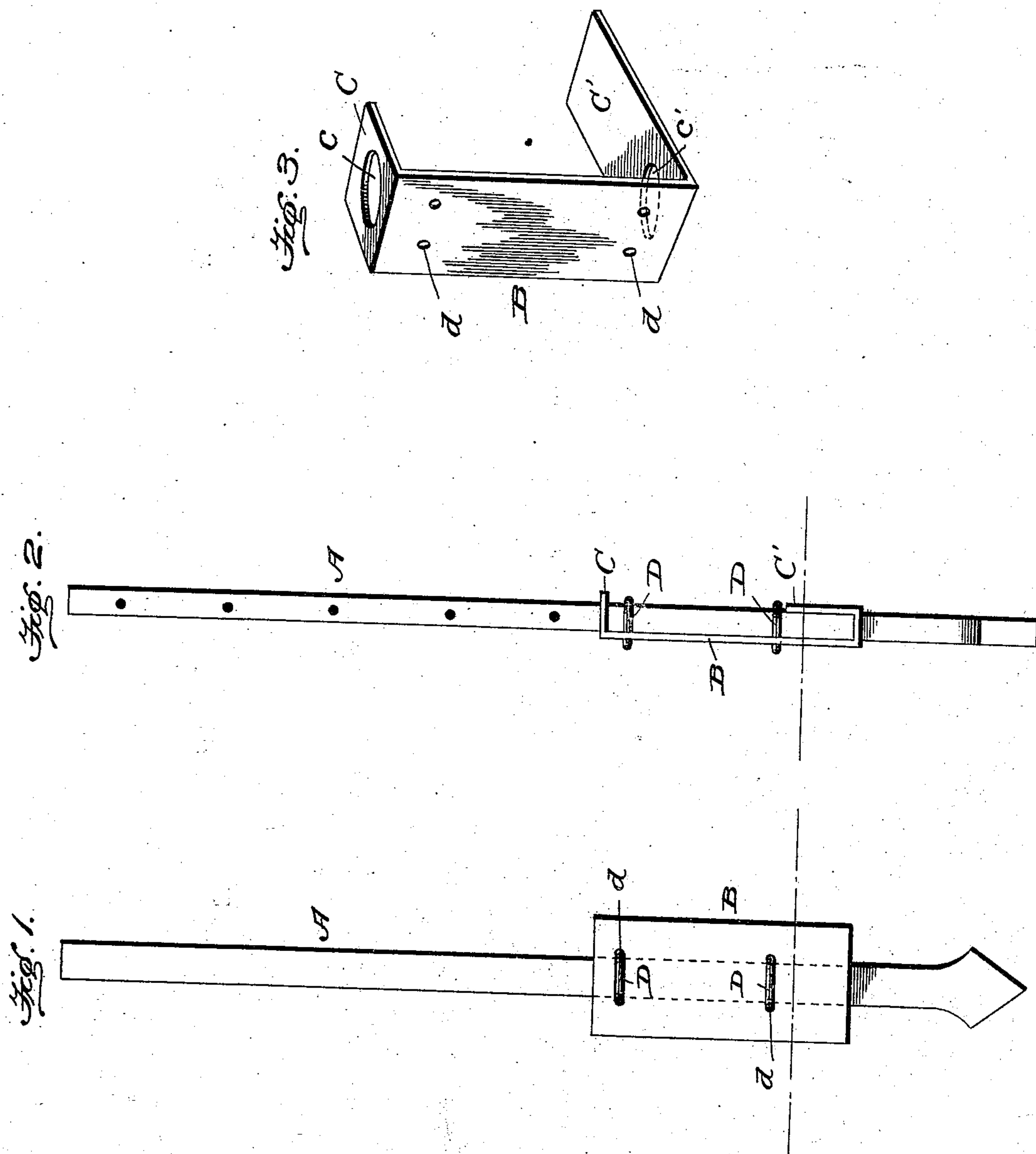


(No Model.)

B. F. THOMAS.  
FENCE POST.

No. 501,747.

Patented July 18, 1893.



Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. THOMAS, OF CAMDEN, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
PHILIP RAY, OF SAME PLACE.

## FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 501,747, dated July 18, 1893.

Application filed April 3, 1893. Serial No. 468,917. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Camden, in the county of Carroll and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence-Posts; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in fence posts and the object of the invention is to prevent any lateral movement of the post in the ground.

With this end in view my invention consists in the combination with a post, of a plate having its ends bent to extend at right angles to the body thereof and provided with aligned apertures through which the post extends.

My invention further consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully pointed out and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a front elevation of a fence post provided with my improvements. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the retaining plate.

Like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings, referring to which—

A designates any desired form or style of post. To the post A is attached a retaining plate B which extends for a portion of its length below the surface of the ground and serves to prevent the post from moving laterally. The retaining plate B is preferably made in the form shown in Fig. 3 and is provided at its ends with parallel laterally extending flanges C, C'. Aligned apertures c, c', are formed in the flanges C, C', through which apertures the post A extends. The apertures in the flanges C, C', which flanges are preferably formed by bending the plate, conform to the cross sectional shape of the post so that the post fits snugly therein; and the retaining plate is further attached to the post by means of fastening wires, D, which extend around the post and through aperture d formed in the body of the plate. The two lowermost line wires of the fence may be

passed through the apertures d in the plate B. The apertures c, c', are formed at the inner edge of the flanges C, C', so that the main body of the plate B lies close against the front face of the post. The lower flange C' of the retaining plate is of such length that it can be bent upwardly to extend along the rear face of the post A parallel to the main body of the plate B on the opposite side of the post. The upper end of the upturned portion of the lower flange, terminates flush with the surface of the ground.

My improved retaining plate can be placed on the post prior to driving or setting the same, or the post may be first driven into the ground the desired distance and the plate B then slipped on over the upper end thereof, and, after being forced down the desired distance, firmly secured in position by bending the lower flange up against the rear face of the post and by the wires D.

An anchor or retaining plate constructed and attached to a post in the manner hereinbefore described prevents any lateral movement of the post and materially strengthens it at and above the surface of the ground at the point where the greatest strain occurs and where it is most likely to be broken.

My improved retaining plate is very simple and cheap of manufacture; can be readily applied to a post and operates to maintain the post firmly in position.

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

1. The combination with a fence post, of a retaining plate provided at opposite ends with parallel laterally extending flanges having aligned apertures formed therein to receive the post, substantially as described.

2. The combination with a fence post, of a retaining plate arranged to extend along one face of the post both above and below the surface of the ground and provided at its ends with integral parallel flanges having apertures formed therein to receive the post, substantially as described.

3. The combination with a fence post, of a retaining plate which extends partially below the surface of the ground and is provided at its ends with parallel flanges having formed



therein aligned apertures through which the post extends, the lower flange being bent up against the rear face of the post, substantially as described.

- 5 4. The combination with a fence post, of a retaining plate which extends partially below the surface of the ground and is provided at its ends with parallel flanges in which are formed aligned apertures to receive the post,  
10 and wires D extending around the post, be-

tween the flanges on the retaining plate, and passing through apertures in the body of said plate, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

BENJAMIN F. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

E. C. RICE,

CHAS. E. BAKER.