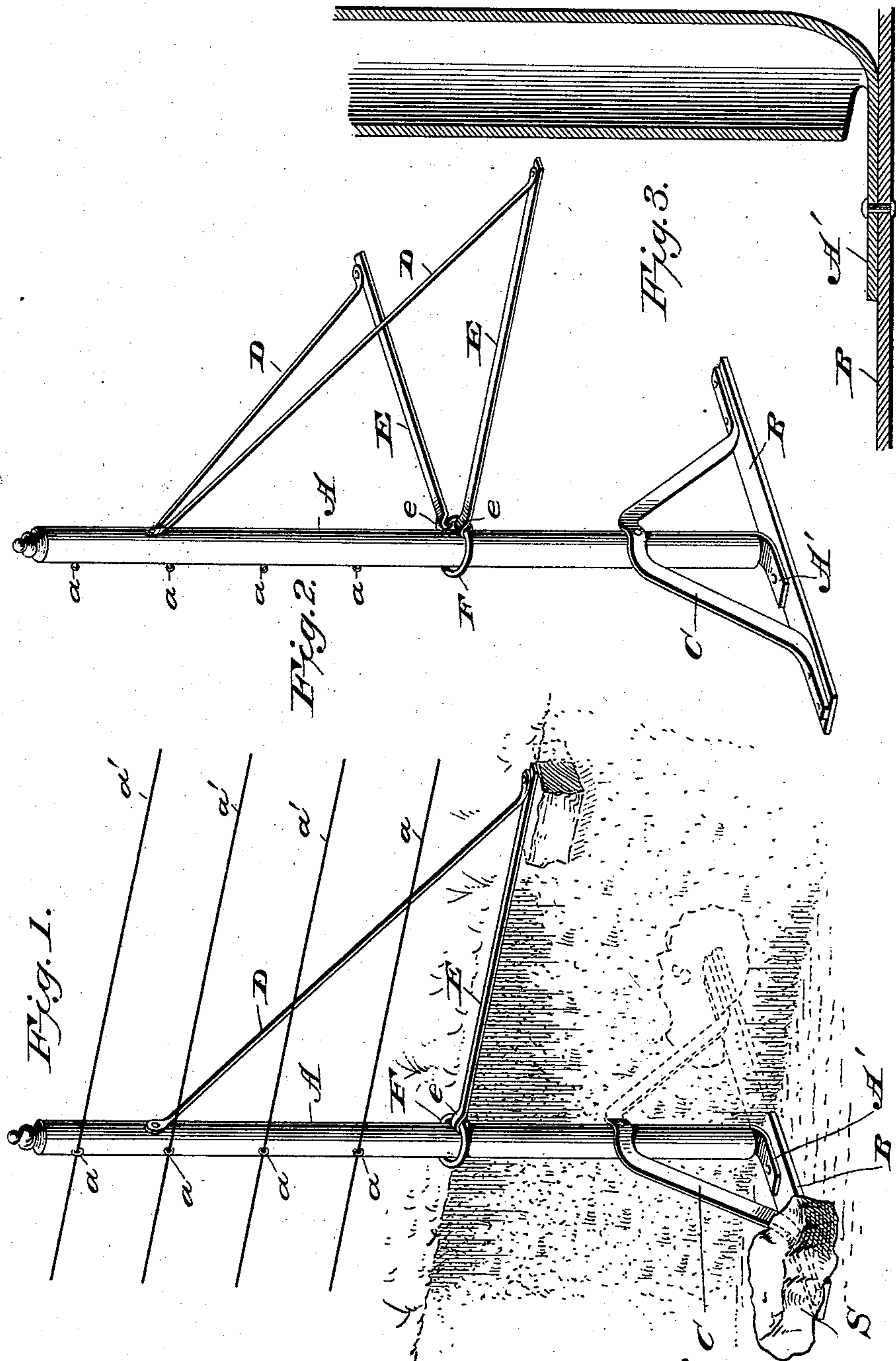


(No Model.)

W. VAN WERT.
FENCE POST.

No. 534,089.

Patented Feb. 12, 1895.



WITNESSES
L. S. Elliott,
W. Johnson

William Van Wert

INVENTOR

by *[Signature]* Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM VAN WERT, OF DE KALB COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 534,089, dated February 12, 1895.

Application filed October 25, 1894. Serial No. 526,959. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM VAN WERT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in De Kalb county, Illinois, (post-office address being Irene, in the county of Boone and State of Illinois,) 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a fence-post which is simple in construction, can be cheaply manufactured and is effective in use.

The invention consists in a tubular fence-post made up preferably of a piece of wrought metal piping one end of which is cut away on one side to provide a portion which is flattened and bent at right angles to provide means for attaching a base-plate thereto, the base-plate having brace bars which extend from the ends thereof to the post, as will be hereinafter fully set forth and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the application of a fence-post constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing a modification, and Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the lower end of the post.

A designates the post which is preferably made of a metallic tube having a suitable number of perforations through which pass cotter-pins or staples *a* for attaching the wires *a'* thereto. The upper end of the post is adapted to receive a cap and the lower end is cut away on one side for a short distance to leave a portion *A'* which is flattened and bent at right angles to lie under and beyond the adjoining side of the post as shown.

B designates a base-plate of suitable length which is secured to the projecting portion *A'* of the post by means of a suitable rivet or bolt, and the ends of this base-plate have at-

tached thereto the ends of a brace C the central portion of which is bent upwardly and secured to the post at a suitable distance above its lower end. The base-plate being flat will prevent the post sinking unduly into the ground and the brace C being made of a flat strip of metal will hold the post against lateral movement when earth is packed about the same. It will also be observed that the lower end of the post is open which provides means for the escape of any water that may collect therein when it is planted in moist soil.

In setting the post it is preferred to place over the ends of the base-plate and brace C stones S which will assist in holding the post firmly in an upright position.

End and corner posts of fences usually require additional braces, and to provide such braces I attach to near the upper end of the post a brace bar D which is connected at its lower end to the outer end of a flat bar E, the inner end of said bar E being bent in the form of a loop or eye *e* for engagement with a ring F which encircles the post at about the level of the ground. The outer end of the flat bar E rests upon a stone or other bearing and the intermediate portion lies immediately upon the ground.

In providing corner posts I duplicate the bars D and E, and position them so that they will be at right angles with each other.

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

1. In a fence post, the combination, of a tubular post A cut away at its lower end on one side to provide a portion *A'* which is flattened and bent to lie under and beyond the adjoining side of the post leaving an opening as shown, together with a flat plate B secured to the portion *A'*, and a flat brace-bar C secured to the post above its lower end and to the ends of the plate B, substantially as shown, and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a fence post, the combination, of a tubular post A cut away at its lower end on one side to provide a portion *A'* which is flattened and bent to lie under and beyond the adjoining side of the post leaving an opening as shown, a flat plate B secured to the por-

tion A', and a flat brace-bar C secured to the post above its lower end and to the ends of the plate B, together with a supplemental brace consisting of ring F, horizontal bar E
5 and inclined bar D, secured to the upper part of the post A, substantially as shown and for the purpose set forth.

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

WILLIAM VAN WERT.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM MAIN,
E. L. KING.