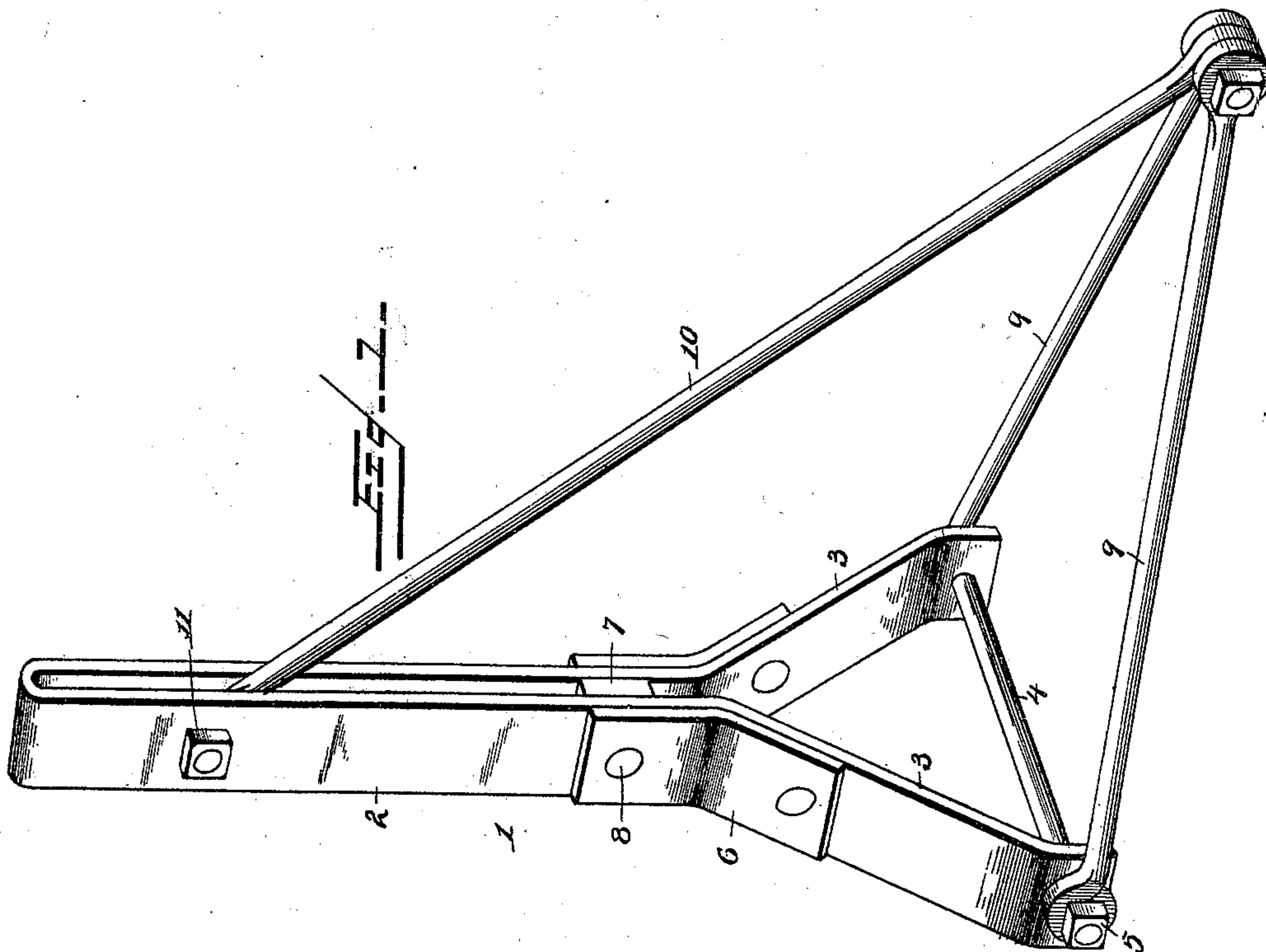
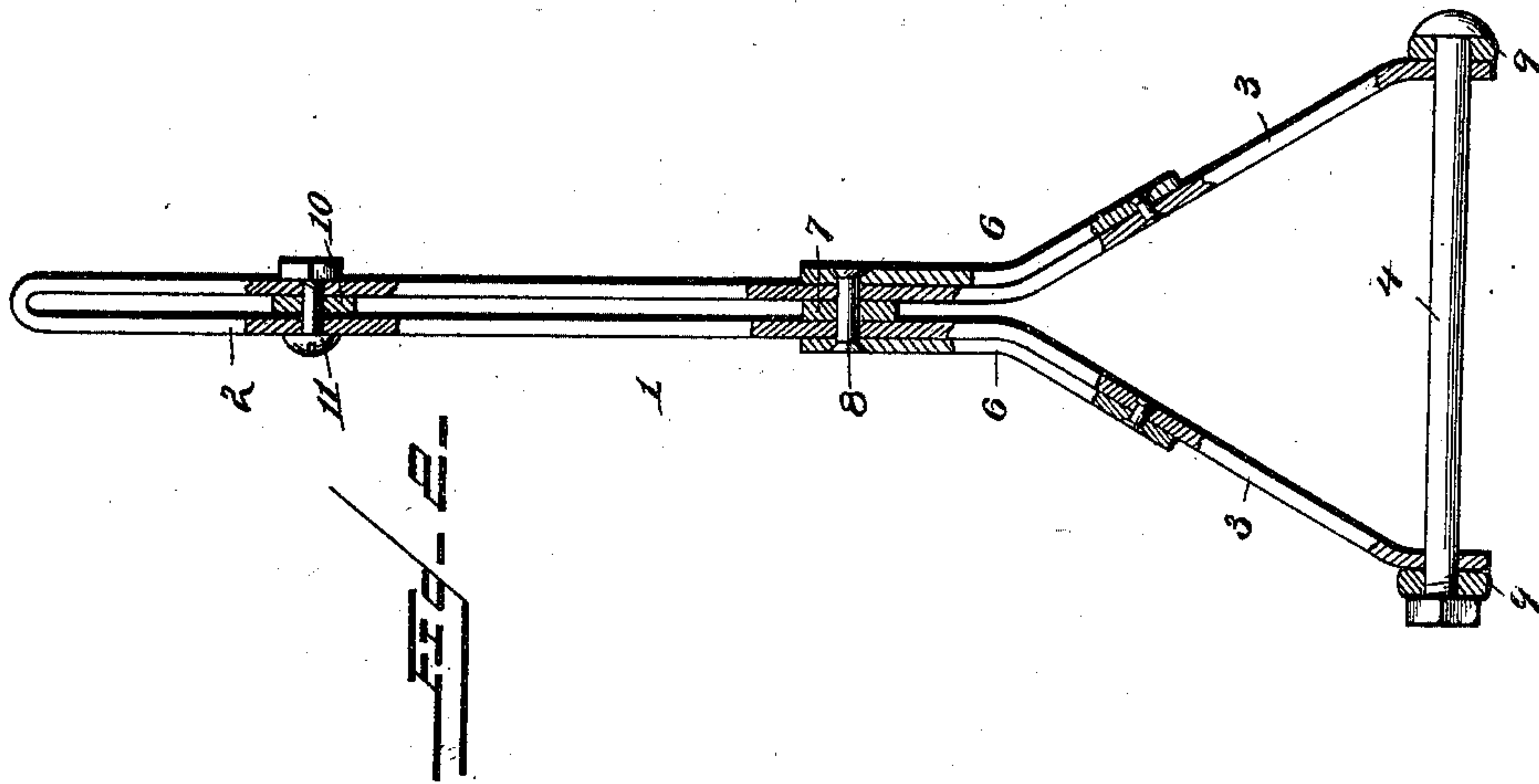


(No Model.)

L. MIDDLETON.
FENCE POST.

No. 554,391.

Patented Feb. 11, 1896.



Inventor

Lemuel Middleton.

By his Attorneys.

Witnesses

J. W. Piley.
J. F. Piley.

C. A. Snow & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEMUEL MIDDLETON, OF RUSSIAVILLE, INDIANA.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 554,391, dated February 11, 1896.

Application filed July 9, 1895. Serial No. 555,366. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEMUEL MIDDLETON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Russia-ville, in the county of Howard and State
5 of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Fence-Post, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in fence-posts.

10 The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of fence-posts, and to provide one which will be simple, inexpensive, strong and durable, and which will be anchored firmly in the ground sufficient to support a fence in an upright position against
15 the strains exerted by high winds, cattle, and the like.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of
20 parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claim hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fence-post constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a trans-
25 verse sectional view of the same.

Like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

30 1 designates a fence-post composed of two similar sides constructed of a single bar of metal bent intermediate of its ends at the top of the post, and having parallel portions to form the upper portion 2 of the fence-post,
35 and the lower portions of the sides diverge downwardly, and the diverging portions 3 are designed to be embedded in the ground.

The lower ends of the sides of the fence-post are connected by a transverse rod 4, passing through perforations of the sides of the
40 post, and provided at one end with a head and having its other end threaded and receiving a nut 5.

The sides of the posts are reinforced at the
45 upper terminals of the diverging portions 3 by metal plates 6, which are slightly bent intermediate of their ends, and these plates are located on the outer faces of the sides of the post and are secured thereto by suitable fast-
50 ening devices. A spacing-block 7 is inter-

posed between the parallel portions of the post at the upper terminals of the reinforcing-plates 6, and it is secured in position by the fastening device 8, which also secures the re-
55 inforcing-plates to the post at this point.

The post is firmly anchored in the ground, and is afforded a sufficient base to enable it to maintain a fence in an upright position against the strains exerted by high winds, cattle, and the like, by horizontally-disposed
60 converging or angularly-arranged rods 9, having their inner terminals secured to the lower ends of the sides of the post by the transverse rod 4, and the outer terminals of the horizontal rods are secured by a bolt or other
65 suitable fastening device to the lower end of an inclined bracing-rod 10. The inclined bracing-rod is interposed between the outer ends of the horizontally-disposed rods 9, and its upper end is secured between the parallel
70 sides of the upper portion of the fence-post near the top thereof by a bolt 11, or other suitable fastening device. The rods and the post form a truss-frame and provide a rigid construction possessing great strength and
75 durability, and especially adapted for wire fences in which considerable strain is exerted on posts by the tension of the fence-wires.

Fence-wires may be secured between the parallel portions of the sides of the post, and
80 the upper end of the inclined bracing-rod and the block 7 operate to space the sides of the post and preserve the parallelism of the same.

It will be seen that the fence-post is simple and comparatively inexpensive in construction, that it is strong and durable, and that
85 it is provided with a broad base sufficient to afford a firm anchorage.

Changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted
90 to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

What I claim is—

The combination of a post having similar
95 sides constructed of a single piece of metal and provided with parallel upper portions and diverging lower portions, a transverse rod 4 connecting the lower ends of the sides of the post, the angularly-disposed horizontal rods ar-
100

ranged at the bottom of the post and secured
to the sides thereof by the transverse rod,
and forming with the rod 4, a rigid triangular
base and the inclined bracing-rod secured
5 between the outer ends of the horizontal rods
and between the sides of the post, substan-
tially as described.

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

LEMUEL MIDDLETON.

Witnesses:

ED. MORROW,
B. F. HORNESS.