

(No Model.)

F. E. RANDOLPH.
FENCE POST.

No. 589,980.

Patented Sept. 14, 1897.

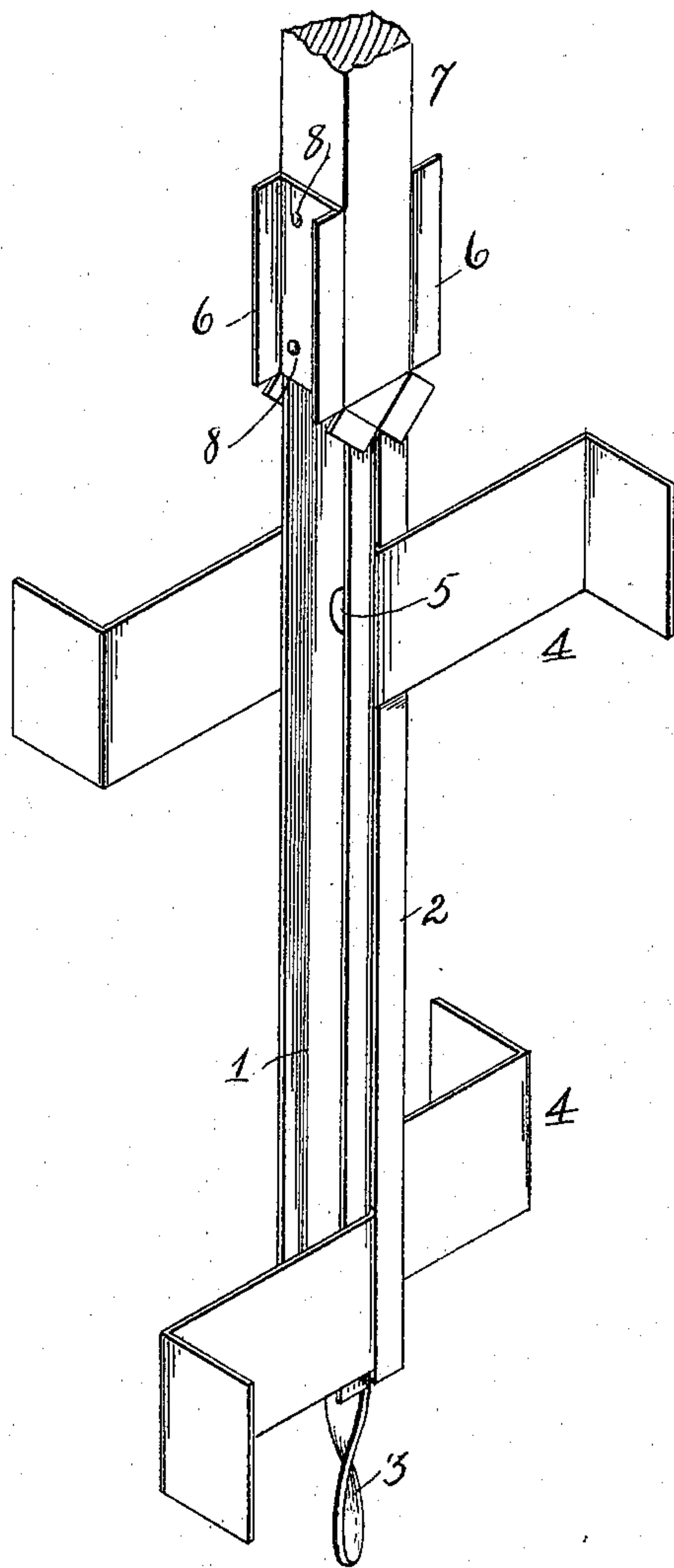


Fig. 1.

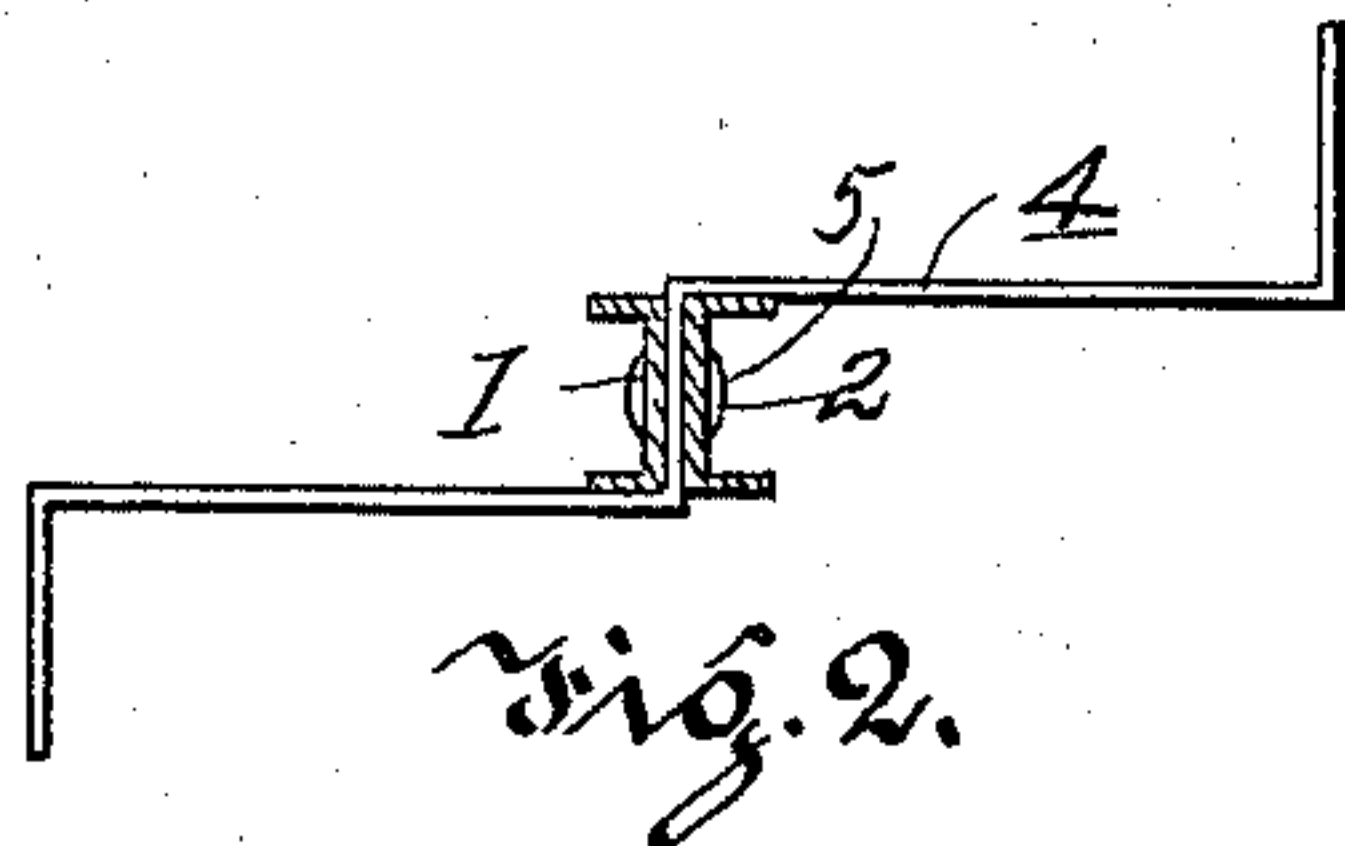


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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FREDERICK E. RANDOLPH, OF LESLIE, MICHIGAN.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 589,980, dated September 14, 1897.

Application filed October 8, 1896. Serial No. 608,221. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK E. RANDOLPH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Leslie, in the county of Ingham and State of Michigan, 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.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved metallic base for fence-posts which is strong and durable, which is adapted to be sunk or driven into a post-hole in which lateral displacement is rendered impossible, and which is provided with means whereby the wooden post proper may be secured upon both sides, to the upper end thereof.

The device is made up of two strips of channel-iron parallel to each other, with the convex portion of one adjacent to the convex portion of the other, laterally-extending wings or shields passing between said strips of channel-iron and riveted thereto, the said strips being flared at their upper ends, forming extensions between which the wooden fence-post proper is adapted to fit and to be bolted in place. I also provide at the lower end of one of said strips of channel-iron a twisted pointed extension whereby the same may be driven into the post-hole.

The invention also consists in other details of construction and combination of parts, which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved device, showing the same inserted in the post-hole with the fence-post proper bolted to the upper end thereof. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section through one of the laterally-extending wings or shields.

Like reference-numerals indicate like parts in both views.

It is a well-known fact that wooden fence-posts after they have been in the ground for some time become decayed and break off at a point adjacent to the surface of the ground. They are also extremely liable to bend or become twisted in the earth, causing the sagging of the line-wires, which brings about great inconvenience and causes extra labor in keep-

ing the fence in repair. In order to overcome this objection, I have devised a metal base for fence-posts which is made up of two substantially parallel strips 1 2 of channel-iron, the same being riveted, bolted, or otherwise secured together, with the convex portion of one adjacent to the convex portion of the other.

The strip 1 is slightly longer than the strip 2, being formed with a twisted pointed extension 3 upon its lower end, which adapts the device to be driven into the earth forming the bottom of the post-hole. In connection with the strips 1 and 2 I use one or more laterally-extending wings 4 4, of sheet metal, which pass between the strips 1 2 and are held in place by the rivets 5, by which said strips 1 2 are connected. The wings 4 extend outwardly in opposite directions on each side of the strips 1 2, and are themselves again bent outwardly at right angles to provide a better gripping-surface. These wings or shields serve to prevent lateral displacement of the base-piece after it has once been inserted and the post-hole filled up with earth. The upper ends of the strips 1 2 are slightly flared, forming parallel extensions 6 6, between which the fence-post proper, 7, is adapted to fit and be held in place by the bolts 8 8.

As thus constructed it will be seen that I have provided a base-piece for fence-posts which is adapted to be inserted beneath the ground, which will not corrode and decay, which is strong and durable, in which lateral displacement is made impossible, and which has means whereby the fence-post proper may be readily, conveniently, and securely connected thereto.

Having now 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 base therefor, the same being constructed of strips of channel-iron riveted or otherwise secured together with the convex surface of one strip adjacent to the convex surface of the other and provided with means for connecting the fence-post thereto, one of said strips having a pointed twisted extension at its lower end, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination with a fence-post, of a

base therefor constructed of substantially parallel strips of channel-iron riveted or otherwise secured together, the convex portion of one of said strips lying adjacent to the
5 convex portion of the other and the upper ends of said strips being slightly flared forming extensions between which the fence-post proper is adapted to fit and to be bolted and laterally-extending wings or shields of sheet
10 metal secured between said strips and pro-

jecting outwardly therefrom in opposite directions, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscrib- 15
ing witnesses.

FREDERICK E. RANDOLPH.

Witnesses:

G. C. RANDOLPH,
JESSIE BLACKMORE.