

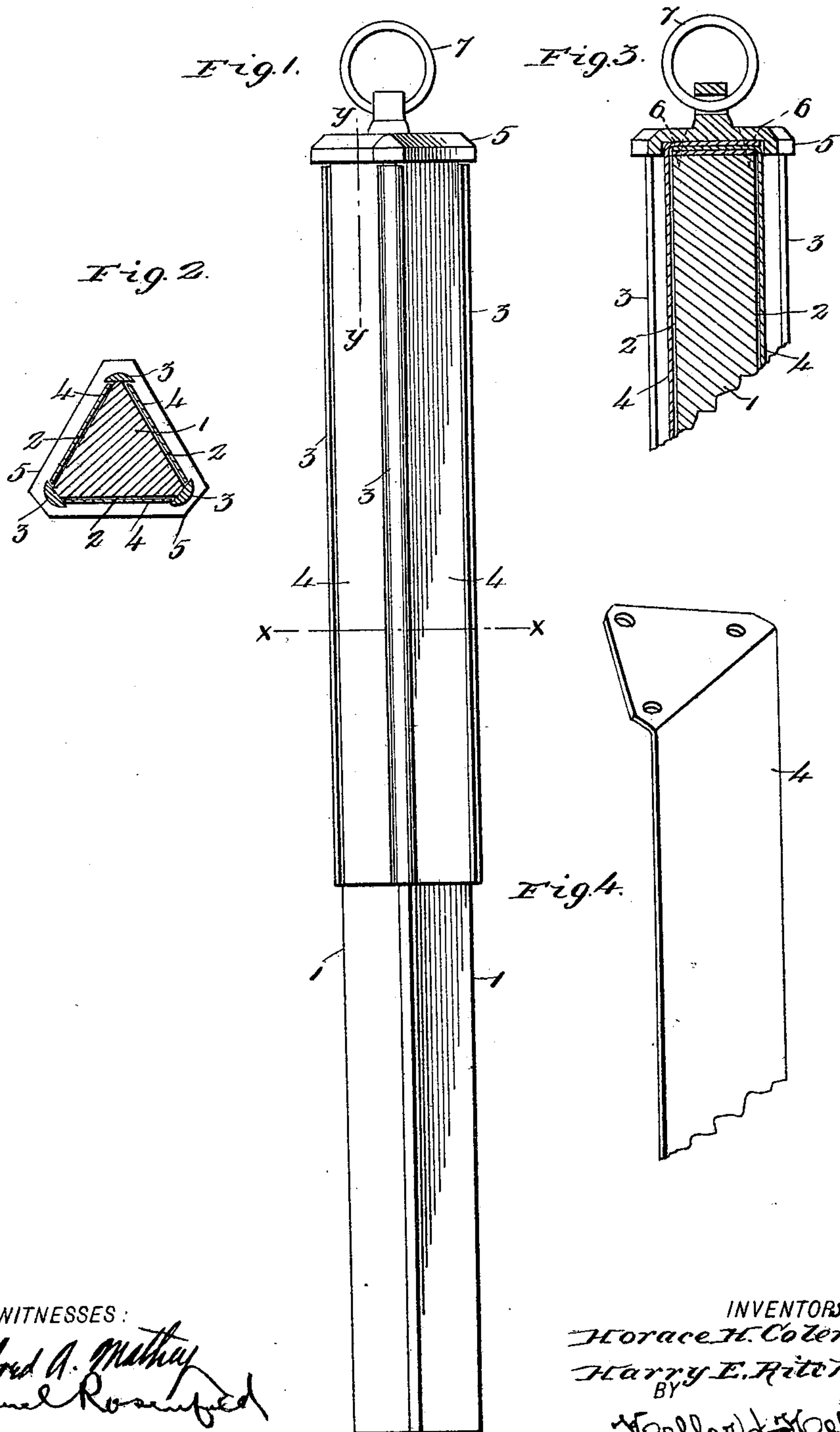
No. 637,322.

Patented Nov. 21, 1899.

H. H. COLEMAN & H. E. RITCHEY.  
ADVERTISING HITCHING POST.

(Application filed Mar. 27, 1899.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HORACE H. COLEMAN AND HARRY E. RITCHEY, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

## ADVERTISING HITCHING-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 637,322, dated November 21, 1899.

Application filed March 27, 1899. Serial No. 710,690. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, HORACE H. COLEMAN and HARRY E. RITCHEY, citizens of the United States, residing at St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Advertising Hitching-Posts; and we 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.

Our invention relates to improvements in advertising hitching-posts; and it consists in the novel combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more particularly described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of our invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section taken on the line  $x x$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section taken on the line  $y y$  of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the upper end of one of the sign-plates.

The object of our invention is to construct not only a practical and inexpensive hitching-post, which is secured within the ground in the usual manner, but one that is adapted to removably hold advertising sign-plates; and it consists, preferably, of a post which is triangular in cross-section, strips secured to the vertical edges of the same, forming guides, sign-plates constructed of suitable material adapted to be removably received between each of said guide-strips, whereby the said plates are held in their proper position against the post upon the outer surfaces thereof, the exposed surfaces of said plates containing suitable advertising matter, which is painted, printed, or otherwise formed thereon, the upper ends of said plates being bent at right angles to the remaining portions of the same and adapted to be superposed one above the other, the lower one of which is in contact with the upper end of the post, whereby the said plates are held in their proper position, a cap covering the bent ends of said plates and upper ends of the guide-strips and provided with a ring to which a hitching-strap is adapted to be secured, and screws or other fastening devices pass through the said cap, upper bent ends of the plates, and into the post for hold-

ing the several parts together in respect to one another.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents a hitching-post, which is preferably constructed of wood, the lower end of which is adapted to be secured into the ground in the usual manner. The said post is preferably triangular in cross-section, thereby forming three distinct and separate flat surfaces 2; but other shapes may be employed, whereby any number of flat surfaces may be formed without departing from the nature of our invention.

To the edges of the post are secured strips 3, which extend from the top of the same to a suitable distance downwardly or along its length and which are of a size to form guides for receiving the opposite longitudinal edges of the sign-plates 4, whereby the latter are removably secured to the post adjacent or in contact with the flat surfaces 2 of the same.

In order to hold the plates 4 in their proper position along the length of the post, the upper ends thereof are bent at right angles to the same and are shaped to conform with the shape of the post or the upper end thereof and are adapted to be superposed one above the other, as clearly shown in the drawings. After the sign-plates have been properly located between the guide-strips 3 in their proper position in respect to the post a cap 5 is placed over the upper bent ends of the plates 4, and consequently covers the entire upper end of the post, after which screws 6 or other fastening devices are passed through the said cap, bent upper ends of the plates, and into the post, whereby the several parts, or, more properly, the sign-plates, are held in their proper position, and consequently prevented from being removed from the post by unauthorized persons.

Secured to the cap is a ring 7, to which a hitching-strap is adapted to be secured in the well-known manner.

As before stated, the post may be provided with any number of surfaces and guides forming a part thereof for removably receiving suitable advertising sign-plates and means for securing the said plates in their proper position in respect to the post, and consequently we do not limit ourselves to the tri-



angular-shaped post herein shown and described or the particular means for holding the plates in their proper position along the length of the post and the means for preventing the plates from being removed by unauthorized persons.

Having fully described our invention, what we claim is—

1. An advertising hitching-post, comprising  
10 guide-strips secured along the length of the same, sign-plates adapted to be received between said guide-strips, the upper ends of each of said plates being bent at an angle to the remaining portion of the same, a cap covering the upper bent ends of the said plates,  
15 and suitable fastening devices passed through the said cap, bent ends of the plates and into the upper end of the post, as and for the purpose described.

20 2. An advertising hitching-post, comprising guide-strips secured along the length of the

same, and extending from the top of said post, to a suitable distance downwardly, sign-plates, adapted to be received between said guide-strips, the length of which correspond  
25 to the length of the strips, the upper ends of said plates being bent at right angles to the remaining portion of the same, and adapted to be superposed one above the other, a cap covering the upper bent ends of said plates,  
30 and the upper ends of the guide-strips, screws passed through the said cap, bent ends of the plates, and into the post, and a ring secured to the said cap, as and for the purpose described.  
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In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

HORACE H. COLEMAN.

HARRY E. RITCHEY.

Witnesses:

C. F. KELLER,

ALFRED A. MATHEY.