

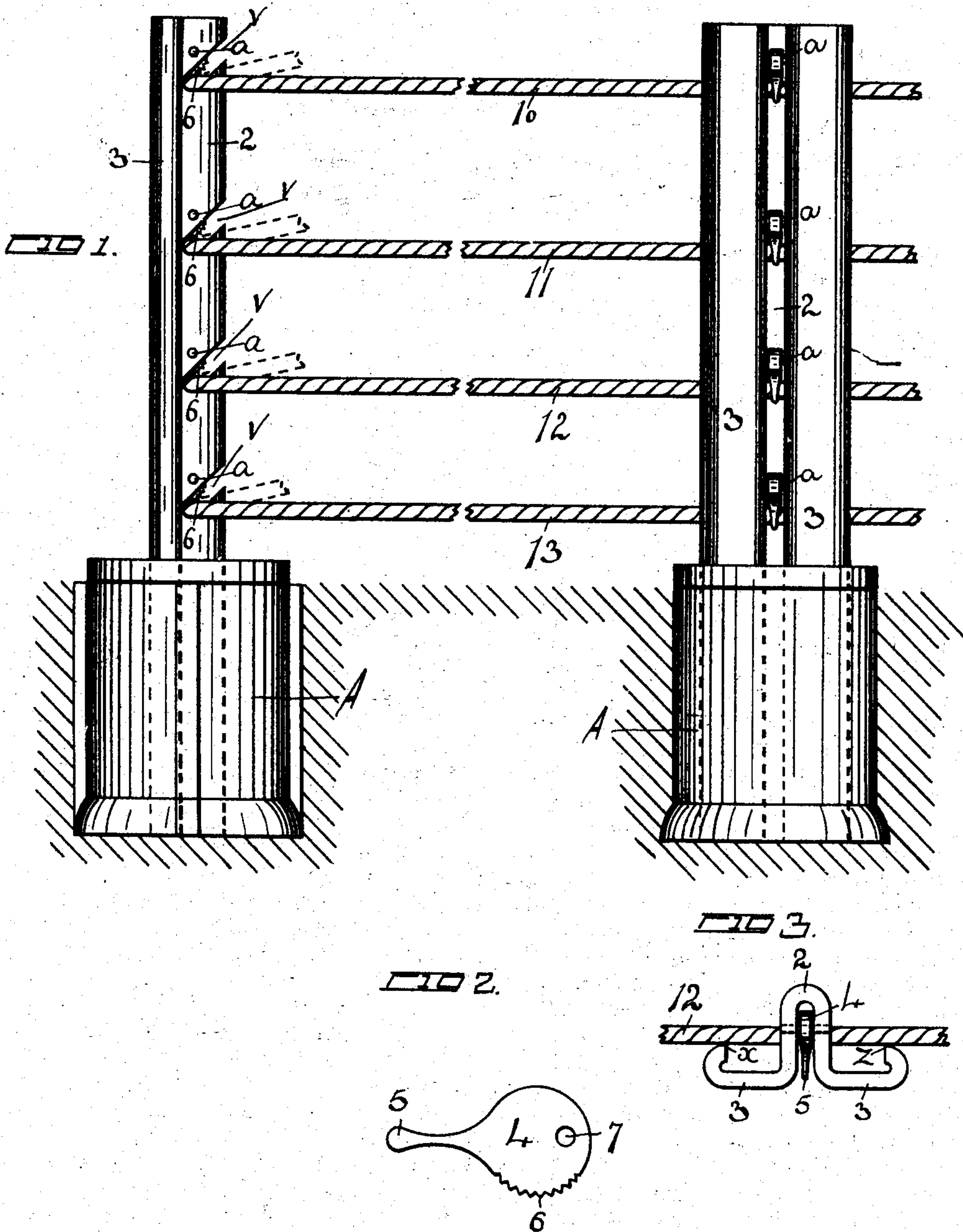
No. 773,063.

PATENTED OCT. 25, 1904.

A. COTTOM.
FENCE POST.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 20, 1902.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT COTTOM, OF CHILLICOTHE, IOWA.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 773,063, dated October 25, 1904.

Application filed June 20, 1902. Serial No. 112,497. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT COTTOM, residing at Chillicothe, in the county of Wapello and State of Iowa, have invented certain useful Improvements in Fence-Posts; and I do hereby declare that the following is 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, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to a new and novel improvement in fence-posts.

The aim of my invention is to provide a practically indestructible fence-post to which the fence-wires may be adjustably and removably secured.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown in Figure 1 an elevation of a fence-post embodying my invention. Fig. 2 shows a detail of the locking-lever, while Fig. 3 shows an enlarged detail disclosing the manner of securing the fence-wires.

The object of my invention is to provide a fence-post so constructed that the same will removably receive the fence-wire.

In carrying out my invention I construct a fence-post, preferably of sheet metal, in a peculiar manner, forming a U-shaped rib 2, as is shown more particularly in Fig. 4, from which branch laterally in opposite directions and at right angles to the rib two counterpart flat flange members 3 3, these members again recurving in their edges *x* and *z*, as shown, and lying parallel with the rib. In giving the post the peculiar shape to provide the same with the U-shaped rib thin sheet metal may be used, which is given additional strength by means of the recurved edges *x* and *z*.

The central rib 2 of each post is provided with a plurality of downwardly-extending incisions *v*, as is shown in Fig. 1, into which the wire strands 10, 11, 12, and 13 are placed. In Fig. 1 the corner-post discloses a portion of these incisions *v*, adapted to receive the fence-wire. It will be noticed that these incisions enter the rib from the curved side. Positioned between the U-shaped rib 2 and above the incisions *v* are a plurality of lock-

ing-levers 4, which are provided at one point with an opening 7, as is disclosed in Fig. 2, said openings receiving pivots *a*, upon which the levers 4 swing, and said levers are further provided with the extending handles 5, so as to form an eccentrically-held disk which by means of the handle 5 may be depressed to ride upon the fence-wire and force the same downward into the incisions *v*, so that the fence-wire is held in a locked position within these incisions. These locking-levers of course only hold the wire when the handles 5 are depressed, in which position the ratchet edge 6 of the disk 4 is in engagement with the fence-strand. The levers are also concealed by the rib, and consequently the ornamental appearance of the post is not marred. The fence-wires, further, are adapted to rest against the recurved edges of the sheet-metal posts *x* and *z*, as disclosed in Fig. 3, so that the fence-wires are snugly secured but removably held within the fence-posts.

At the lower end each fence-post is embedded within a terra-cotta or other non-rusting ferrule A, the space around the post within the ferrule being filled with cement, the ferrules being permitted to extend upward a suitable distance, as disclosed in Fig. 1.

Now when it is desired to remove a fence-wire held within one of these sheet-metal posts it is simply necessary for the operator to insert a tool of some kind into the slot formed between the ribs 2 and raise the handles 5 to carry up the eccentrically-held disk 4 to release the wire, which can then be lifted out of the slots *v*.

These fence-posts may be made of any suitable height and be provided with any suitable number of wire-holding incisions; and,

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

A fence-post, comprising a U-shaped rib provided at its rear edge with flat flange members extending at right angles to the rib and having their edges recurved and lying parallel with the rib, said rib also having in its bent portion a series of downwardly-extending incisions adapted to receive the line-wires, and a series of cam-levers arranged within the

U-shaped rib and eccentrically pivoted adjacent to the incisions, said levers each having a serrated edge to bind against the line-wires to clamp the latter in the incisions, and also
5 provided with a handle for the application of a suitable tool for operating the levers, the locking-levers being protected by said rib.

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

ALBERT COTTOM.

Witnesses:

LOUISE ADLER,
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