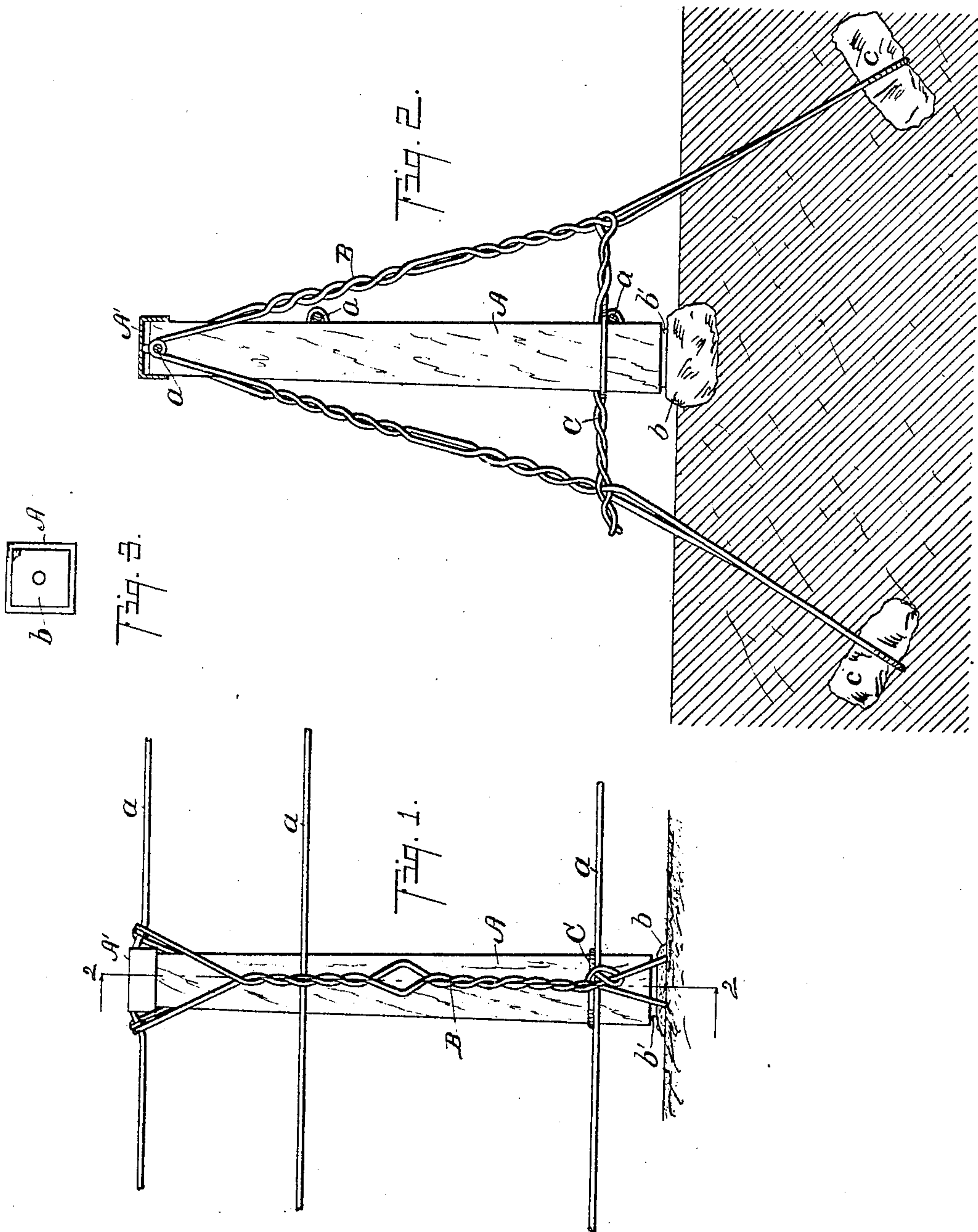


No. 795,445.

PATENTED JULY 25, 1905.

C. G. KRAFT.
FENCE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 8, 1902



Witnesses:

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Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTOPHER G. KRAFT, OF SHERMAN TOWNSHIP, ST. JOSEPH COUNTY,
MICHIGAN.

FENCE.

No. 795,445.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 25, 1905.

Application filed December 8, 1902. Serial No. 134,360.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTOPHER G. KRAFT, a citizen of the United States, residing in the township of Sherman, in the county of St. Joseph and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in fences.

The objects of the invention are to provide an improved fence made of light and inexpensive materials, which is strong, rigid, and durable; second, to provide an improved fence-post embodying the above advantages. Further objects will definitely appear from the detailed description to follow.

I accomplish the objects of my invention by the devices and means described in the following specification. The invention is clearly defined and pointed out in the claims.

A structure embodying the features of my invention is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation view of a structure embodying the features of my invention. Fig. 2 is a detail transverse view taken on a line corresponding to line 2 2 of Fig. 1, the posts and the anchors therefor being shown in full lines to show their relations. Fig. 3 is an inverted view of the body portion A of the post.

In the drawings similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The sectional view is taken looking in the direction of the little arrows at the ends of the section-lines.

Referring to the lettered parts of the drawings, I provide a body portion A for the post, preferably of wood. This is, preferably, of a length to correspond with the height of the fence which it is intended to support, the longitudinal wires *a* only of the fence being illustrated in the drawings. The body portion A rests upon a base *b*. I preferably use a stone for this purpose. To the bottom of the body portion A, I secure a metal washer *b'*, which holds the body portion A above the base, so that there is a free circulation of air between, which prevents decay of the bottom of the post. The body portion A is supported in an upright position by anchors B. These anchors are formed of a loop of wire, the ends

of the loop being passed around anchor-blocks *c*, small stones being used for the purpose. The anchor-blocks, with the anchors secured, are buried in the ground to each side of the post and at a distance of about two and one-half feet in a lateral direction therefrom. The anchors are secured to the top longitudinal strand *a* of the fence, which rests upon the top of the post, by wrapping the wire loop of which they are formed about the same, the wires being arranged one to each side of the post, so that it is supported in all directions thereby. With the anchors thus in position they are tightened, and tension is applied by twisting the wires together, as will clearly appear from the drawings.

The anchors are secured together near the ground, and the bottom of the post is secured thereto and retained in position by a cross-stay C. The cross-stay C is secured to the anchors below the bottom twist therein, so that it is prevented from slipping upward. The cross-stay C is formed of a wire loop which embraces the bottom of the post. Tension is applied thereto by twisting. This tightening of the cross-stay C also applies tension to the anchors B by drawing them inward and forms in connection therewith a triangular support for the body portion A of the post. With the parts thus arranged it is immaterial from what direction the stress is delivered to the post. It is sustained throughout by both of the anchor-wires, and as all of the stress upon the wires is a suspension and pulling stress they may be of comparatively light material and posts sustain a very great pressure, all the strain upon the wires being delivered to call into action only their tensile strength.

To prevent decay from the top of the post, I provide a cap A', preferably of sheet metal, which is placed over the top strand *a* of the fence. This supports the same in position, so that the air is free to circulate over the top of the post and protects the post from becoming water-soaked.

As the post is so rigidly braced in all directions, the body portion A may be made of very light material and still be very durable, as the strain thereon is reduced to a minimum. It is also supported out of contact with the soil, so that the air is free to circulate about the same and its liability to decay is reduced to a minimum.

The anchor and stay wires, as before re-

marked, may be comparatively light and still support the post in a manner to withstand a very great strain, as the strain is distributed throughout the structure.

As the anchor-blocks *C* are embedded in the earth, it is found entirely practical to use comparatively small ones without danger of loosening. I preferably use stones for these anchor-blocks and for the base *b* of the post, though it is evident that artificial stone could be substituted, or even blocks of wood thus buried in the ground will be found very durable.

Other variations in structural details will readily occur to those skilled in the art to which my invention relates.

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

1. In a fence, the combination of a post consisting of a body portion *A* and a base portion *b*; a metal washer *b'* on the bottom of said body portion; a strand of a fence resting upon the top of said post; anchors for said post consisting of a loop of wire secured to the said fence-strand at each side of said post; anchor-blocks *c* for said anchors; and a cross-

stay *C* consisting of a loop of wire arranged to embrace the said body portion *A* near its base and secured to said anchors, the wires forming said loop being twisted together to apply tension thereto; and a metallic cap for said post, all coacting for the purpose specified.

2. In a fence, the combination of a post consisting of a body portion *A* and a base portion *b*; a metal washer *b'* on the bottom of said body portion; a strand of a fence resting upon the top of said post; anchors for said post consisting of a loop of wire secured to the said fence-strand at each side of said post; anchor-blocks *c* for said anchors; and a cross-stay *C* consisting of a loop of wire arranged to embrace the said body portion *A* near its base and secured to said anchors the wires forming said loop being twisted together to apply tension thereto, all coacting for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of two witnesses.

CHRISTOPHER G. KRAFT. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

H. C. KRAFT,

THOS. J. COLLINS.