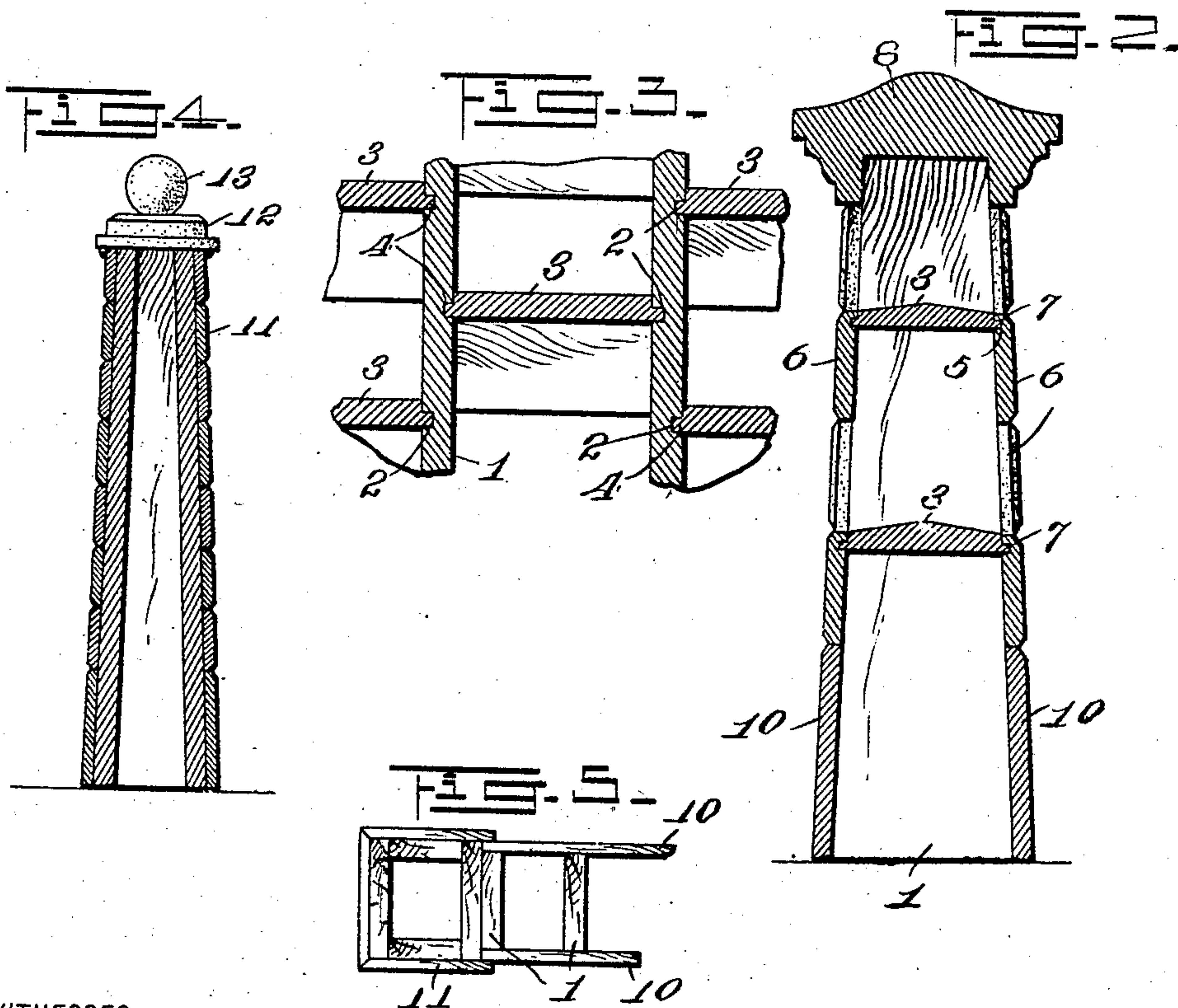
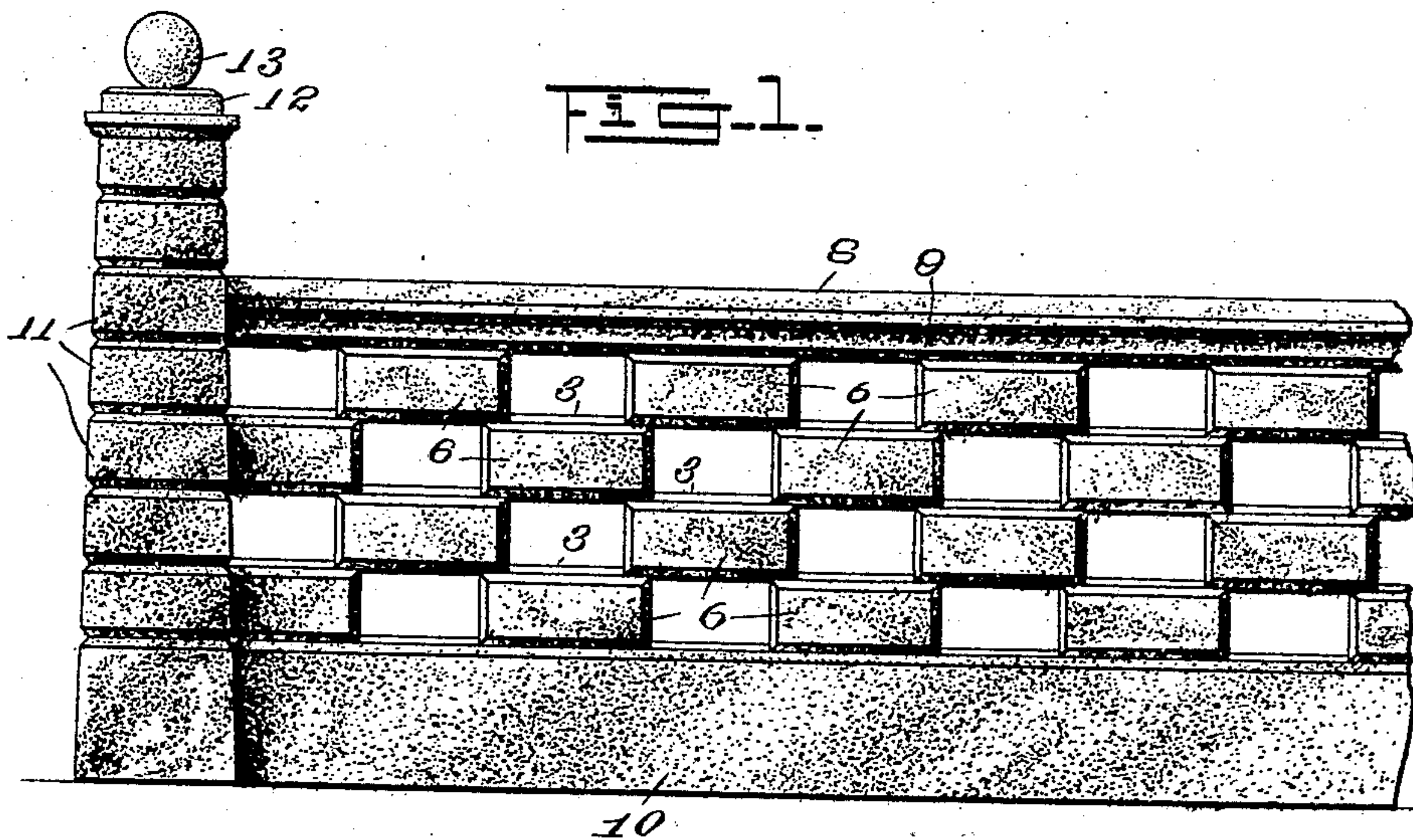


No. 854,479.

PATENTED MAY 21, 1907.

J. FORSTER.
ORNAMENTAL FENCE.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 24, 1906.



WITNESSES

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ORNAMENTAL FENCE.

No. 854,479.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 21, 1907.

Application filed October 24, 1906. Serial No. 340,293.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN FORSTER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented a new and Improved Ornamental Fence, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to a new and improved ornamental fence, which is at the same time very strong and easily constructed. It involves the use of a small amount of lumber, therefore making it economical of construction, and the parts may be all cut out by machinery and sold in a detached form to the person desiring to use the same, for the parts may be so easily assembled that a skilled workman is not necessary.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures, in which

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a section of my improved fence; Fig. 2 is a vertical cross section thereof; Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section of a portion of the fence; Fig. 4 is a vertical section through the corner post; and Fig. 5 is an inverted plan view of the corner post and a portion of the fence.

The main body of the fence comprises a plurality of vertical posts 1 of considerably greater depth than width and narrower at the top than at the bottom. These posts are provided with lateral grooves 2 across their opposite faces, each groove on one face being spaced intermediate of two adjacent grooves on the opposite face. Supported in these grooves and extending from each post to the next adjacent one, are a plurality of horizontal plates 3 of substantially the same width as the post at the point where the former is supported, and by reason of the arrangement of grooves above referred to, no plate between two adjacent posts would be on the same level as any plate between the next two posts but would be on the same level as the plates in the second row beyond. Each of these plates is preferably provided with a tongue 4 across each end and extending into the groove to support the plate, and is also provided with a tongue 5 extending along its longitudinal edge beyond the plane of the front surfaces of the posts. The upper surface of each plate is preferably beveled downward so that it is thicker in the center than

adjacent the edges in order that rain beating thereon will more readily fall off.

Attached to the front sides of the posts are a plurality of face plates 6, extending from the outer edges of each pair of adjacent posts so as to conceal the posts, and of a width substantially one-half the distance between successive grooves on one surface of the posts. Each of these plates is preferably provided with a groove 7 on its back side and extending throughout its length to receive the tongue 5 of the corresponding horizontal plate, as the upper edge of each of these face plates is placed at substantially the same level as the upper surface of the corresponding horizontal plate. By providing each horizontal plate with a corresponding face plate, the complete structure when built up appears to be made of solid blocks, and the appearance of blocks of stone may be created by beveling the front surface of each face plate and painting and sanding the same.

The upper ends of the posts are preferably covered by an ornamental rail 8 cut from a single piece of material and having a carved upper surface and downwardly-projecting flanges 9 in engagement with the upper edges of the top row of face plates. This rail prevents moisture from reaching the ends of the posts and gives a finished appearance to the fence. It is evident that other forms of the same different from that shown, may be constructed. Base boards 10 extend along the front sides of the posts at their lower ends, as clearly indicated in the drawings.

Corner posts may be constructed in any suitable manner and having surfaces covered with face plate 11, similar to those employed along the main body of the fence, so as to give the posts a more finished appearance, while the top may be finished off in any suitable manner, as by a top plate 12 and ornamental balls 13.

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

1. A fence, comprising a plurality of posts having transverse grooves on the two opposite surfaces of each post, grooves on one surface being spaced intermediate of the grooves on the opposite surface, horizontal plates of substantially the same width as the posts and having their ends supported in the grooves in the adjacent posts, and face plates connecting each adjacent pair of posts and

being substantially one-half as wide as the distance between the horizontal plates, the upper edge of each face plate being substantially even with the upper edge of the corresponding horizontal plate.

2. A fence, comprising a plurality of posts having transverse grooves on the opposite surfaces of each post, the grooves on one surface being substantially the same distance apart as the grooves on the opposite surface but arranged alternately therewith, horizontal plates of substantially the same width as the posts and having their ends supported in the grooves of the adjacent posts, the upper surfaces of said plates being downwardly inclined from the center and the front edges being provided with tongues, face plates connecting each adjacent pair of posts and provided with grooves on their back sides adjacent their upper edges adapted to fit the tongues of said horizontal plates, a rail extending along the upper ends of the posts and above the plates, and a base board extending along the lower ends of the rail and below the plates.

3. A fence, comprising a plurality of posts,

tiers of horizontal plates supported between each adjacent pair of posts, the plates of each tier being of substantially the same distance apart but spaced alternately with the plates in the next succeeding tier, face plates attached to the front edge of the horizontal plates and extending from one post to the next adjacent post, and a rail extending along the upper ends of all of the posts.

4. A fence, comprising a plurality of posts, rows of face plates connecting each adjacent pair of posts, the face plates of one row being spaced alternately with the plates of the next adjacent row and the front surface of each plate being beveled, a rail extending along the upper ends of all of the posts, and a base board extending along the lower ends of all of the posts.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN FORSTER.

Witnesses:

A. LAWSON,
L. Y. CARTER.