No. 871,698. PATENTED NOV. 19, 1907.

J., S. & T. HOHULIN.

FENCE CONSTRUCTION.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 27, 1906.

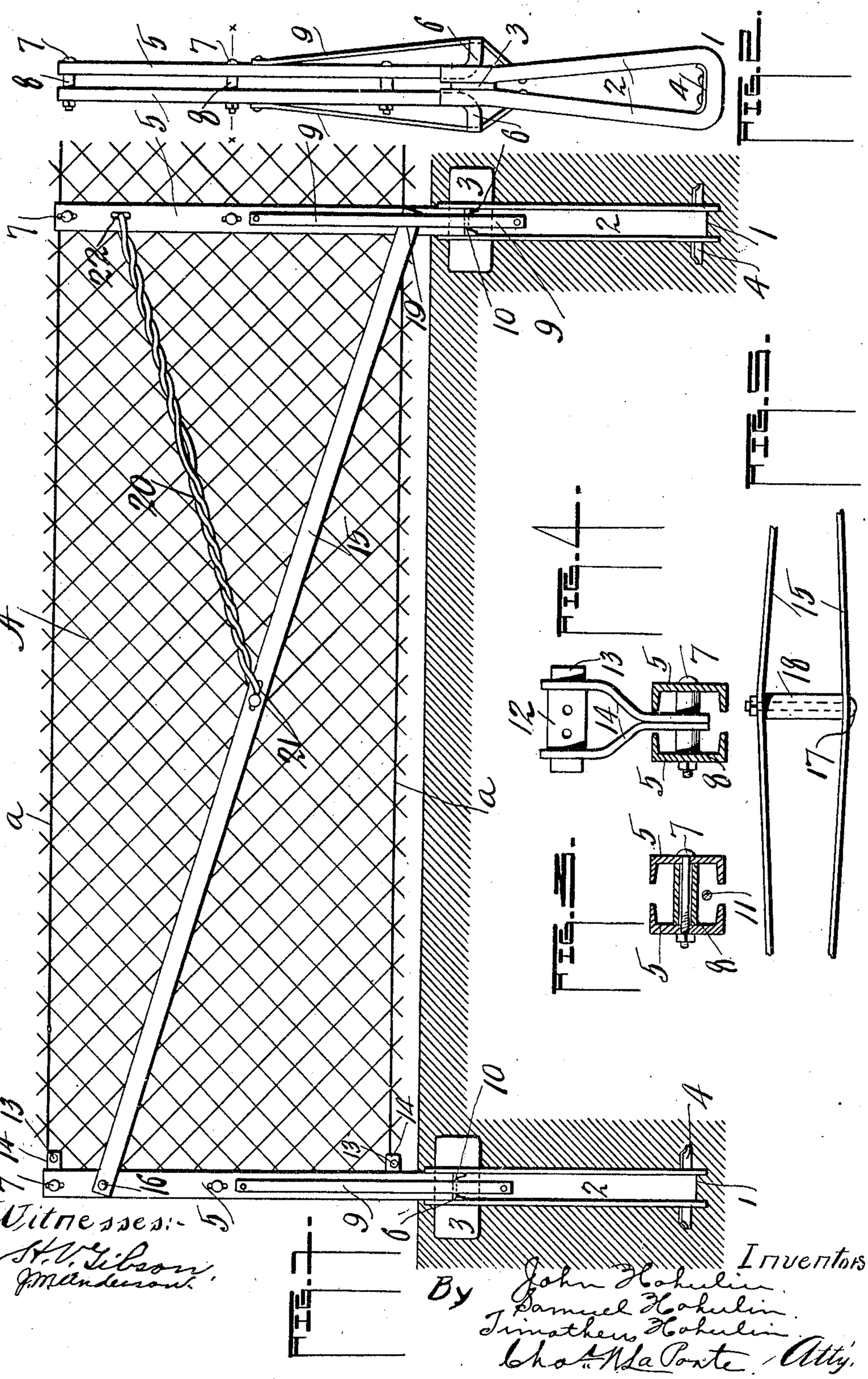

FIG. 1.

FIG. 5.

FIG. 4.

FIG. 3.

FIG. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HOHULIN, SAMUEL HOHULIN, AND TIMOTHEUS HOHULIN, OF GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS.

FENCE CONSTRUCTION.

No. 871,698. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 19, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN HOHULIN, SAMUEL HOHULIN, and TIMOTHEUS HOHULIN, citizens of the United States, residing at Goodfield, in the county of Woodford and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fence Construction; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention has reference to an improvement in fence construction; the end and intermediate posts adapted to support or sustain the same; and the means of bracing the end post from the first intermediate post therefrom.

The invention relates more particularly to a fence post comprising a base formed of angle-iron or channel-bar bent into the form of a U, with the upper free ends converging toward each other; to a pair of duplicate uprights of angle-iron or channel-bar, spaced apart and having their lower ends connected with the upper opposite ends of the base; to braces connected to the uprights and the base; to means for locking a fabric in the said uprights; and to various details of construction hereinafter more fully described and claimed, due reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a view in elevation illustrating several of our improved posts supporting a fence, and also the manner of bracing the end post; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of either of the posts shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a cross section taken on the line *x*—*x* of Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a cross section of the uprights, also showing in plan a stretcher adapted to be attached to the end post, and Fig. 5 is a detail in plan of a portion of the bracing means employed for bracing the end post from the first intermediate post.

Like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the figures.

The description of one post applies in whole and in part substantially to all of the posts, hence the detail description of one will suffice for all.

The base of the posts consists preferably of a channel-bar 1 bent substantially into the form of a U, with the vertical portions 2, thereof converging toward each other and then extending parallel for a short distance as shown, in Fig. 2. The channel-face or faces of the base projects outwardly and also downwardly, with the smooth sides of the said base facing each other. The upper parallel ends of the base are held spaced apart for a short distance and connected through the interposition of a plate 3 projecting a suitable distance beyond the opposite sides of the said base, for a purpose to be explained. And in the lower bent portion of the base 1 is carried a plate 4, which lies preferably flatwise as shown, having substantially the same function as the plate 3, to be more fully explained.

The upright of the post or posts consists of two duplicate vertical uprights 5, each of which are preferably channel-bars, and the lower ends thereof are seated in the upper channel-faces of the upper ends of the portions 2 of the base and are turned or bent outwardly to provide the short lateral extensions 6 of the said uprights. Attaching the lower ends of the uprights 5, to the upper portions of the base, spaces the body portions of the uprights apart from each other as shown, with the channel-faces thereof facing inwardly. The uprights are connected at intervals by bolts 7 which pass through the same, and also through the tubular members 8 interposed between the inner matching faces of said uprights, as shown, particularly in Fig. 3.

As a means of bracing the uprights from the base, we employ the bars 9 attached at their upper ends to the outer opposite faces of the said uprights, at suitable points thereon, and diverging outwardly and downwardly, the same engage recesses 10 in the outer ends of the short lateral extensions 6 of the uprights, and then converge inwardly and downwardly and are secured at their lower ends to the outer channel-faces of the portions 2 of the base.

When arranged or combining the posts in series, as in Fig. 1, for supporting or sustaining a fence fabric, one of said posts is designed to serve as the end post. In this in-

stance the end post is located at the left of Fig. 1. The fabric, which is here indicated as A, may pass through any and all the intermediate posts, but is intended to be secured to the end post. Various means may be employed to do this, but we employ, preferably, a rod 11 shown in cross section in Fig. 3, which is adapted to be threaded through the meshes of the fabric A, and the rod disposed parallel and between the two uprights 5 and on the outside of the tubular members 8, as shown. The cables or selvage wires *a* of the fabric are engaged by the stretching members, consisting of the drums 12 connected by the bolts 13 with the outer ends of a pair of bars or plates 14 which extend back in between the matching faces of the uprights 5 and are supported by members 8 which pass through the same.

As a means of bracing the end post from the first intermediate post, we employ the duplicate bars or braces 15, which are preferably placed upon opposite sides of the fence fabrics, and connected at 16 with the upper portion of the uprights 5, diverge therefrom to a point, midway between the end and first intermediate posts, where the same are connected by a bolt 17 which passes through both of said braces, and also a tubular spacing member 18 disposed intermediate the said braces. Both the bolt and spacing member just referred to are adapted to pass through the fabric and from the spacing member the braces 15 converge inwardly and are connected at 19 to the lower portions of the uprights 5 of the intermediate post. A supplemental brace is provided, in the form of a twisted cable 20, which is preferred, one end of which is connected at 21 with one of the braces 15, and the opposite end is connected at 22 with the upper portion of one of the uprights 5 of the intermediate post.

The setting of the posts in the ground is plainly seen in Fig. 1, and the approximate depth at which the bases and uprights are inserted, being also very plainly seen. The provision of the plates 3 and 4, together with the portions 6 of the lower ends of the uprights, provides that when the post has been secured in the ground, dirt will fill up between and around the parts described and securely anchor and hold the base therein.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:—

1. In a fence post, a base bent into form from a single piece of material having converging side portions which lie parallel for a short distance at their upper ends, a plate connecting the parallel portions of the base and extending beyond the same on opposite sides, a pair of uprights connected with and extending up from the upper ends of the base, and a pair of braces connected at their upper ends with the uprights and having their lower ends connected with the base and also with the lower ends of the uprights.

2. In a fence post, a base bent into form from a single piece of material having converging side portions which lie parallel for a short distance at their upper ends, means connecting the parallel portions of said base, a pair of uprights connected at their lower ends to the upper ends of the base and bent outwardly therefrom, and braces connected at their upper ends with the uprights intermediate their ends and having their lower ends engaging the ends of the outwardly bent portions of the uprights and at their extremities secured to the base below all connection of the uprights therewith.

3. In a fence post, a base bent into form from a single piece of material having converging side portions which lie parallel for a short distance at their upper ends, a plate connecting the parallel portions of the base and extending beyond the same on opposite sides, a plate secured in the lower portion of the base, a pair of uprights connected to and extending up from the upper ends of the base, means connecting and retaining said uprights spaced apart, comprising tubular members interposed between the uprights in combination with bolts, and braces connected at their upper ends to the uprights and having their lower ends connected to the base.

4. In a fence post, a base bent into form from a single piece of material having converging side portions, means connecting the upper ends of said base, a pair of uprights connected to and extending up from said base, means connecting and retaining said uprights spaced apart comprising tubular members interposed between said uprights in combination with bolts passing through said uprights and tubular members, and a stretcher connected to the upper end of said post by means of the uppermost bolt connecting said uprights.

5. The combination of a plurality of posts, comprising bases and locking plates attached thereto and adapted to enter the soil, uprights attached to and extending up from said bases, a brace comprising a pair of bars extending from the upper end of one post to the lower end of the other post, and a cable connected at one end to the upper end of one of said posts and at its opposite end to one of said brace bars.

6. The combination of a plurality of posts, the bases of said post bent into form from a single piece of material having converging side portions, a pair of uprights connected to and extending up from the upper ends of each of said bases, means for connecting and retaining said uprights spaced apart, braces

connected at their upper ends with the uprights of each post, and at their lower ends with the bases supporting the same, a brace comprising a pair of bars connected to the upper ends of the uprights of one post and to the lower ends of the uprights of the next post, and a cable connected at one end to one of said posts and its opposite end to one of said brace bars.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures, in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN HOHULIN.
SAMUEL HOHULIN.
TIMOTHEUS HOHULIN.

Witnesses:
SIMON E. NAFFZIGER,
S. C. NIXON.