G. W. WEIL.

METALLIC FENCE POST.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 10, 1909.

976,235.

Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

FIG. 1.

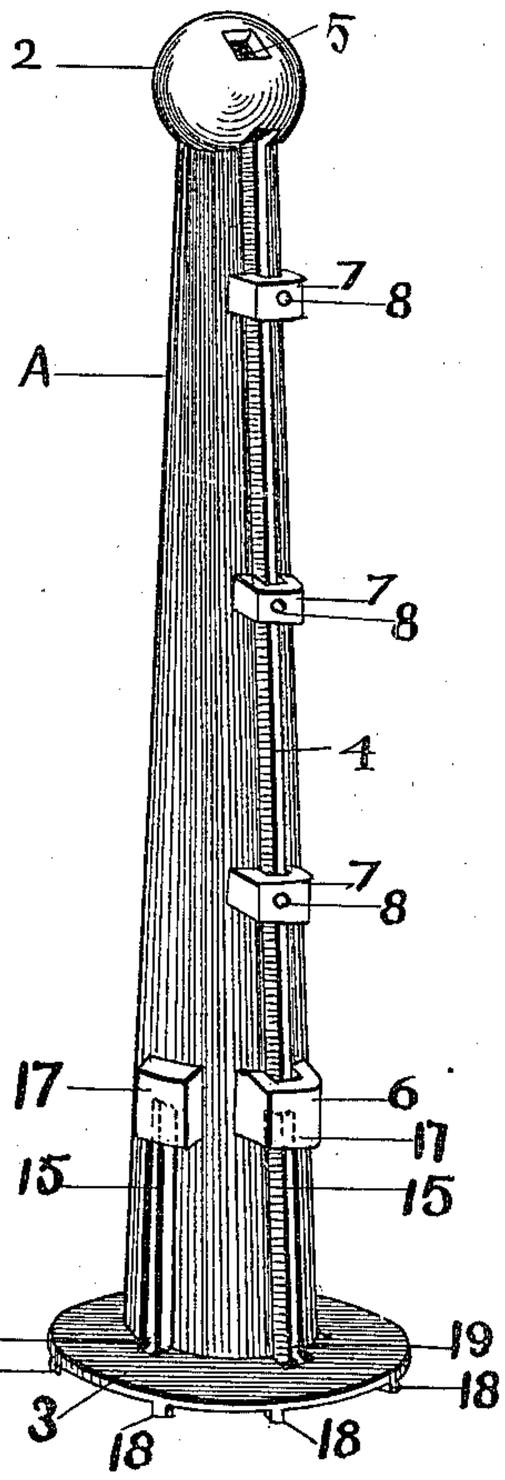


FIG 2.

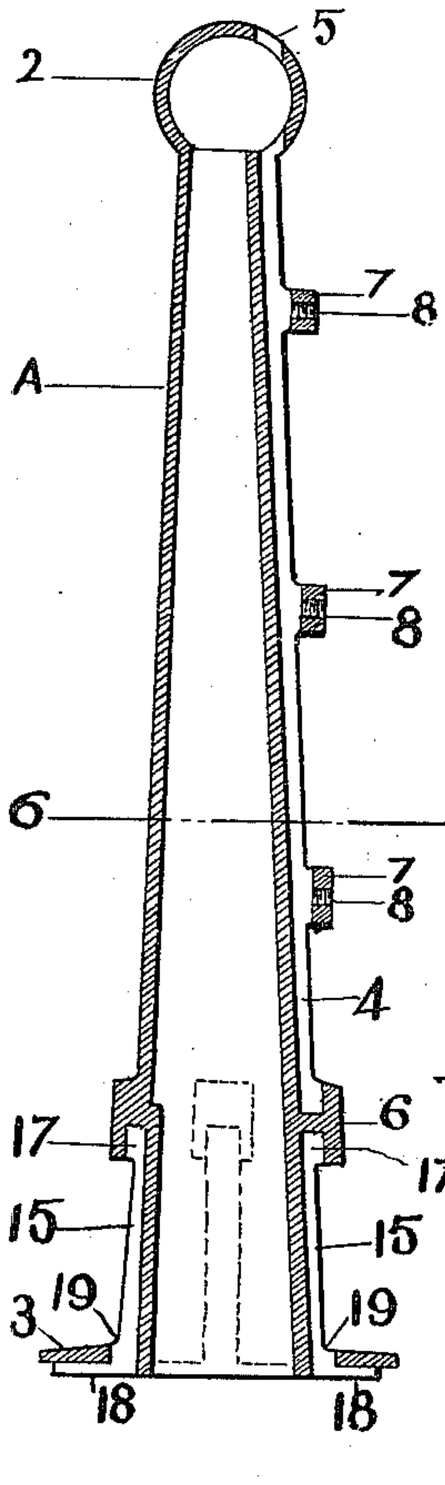


FIG. 3.

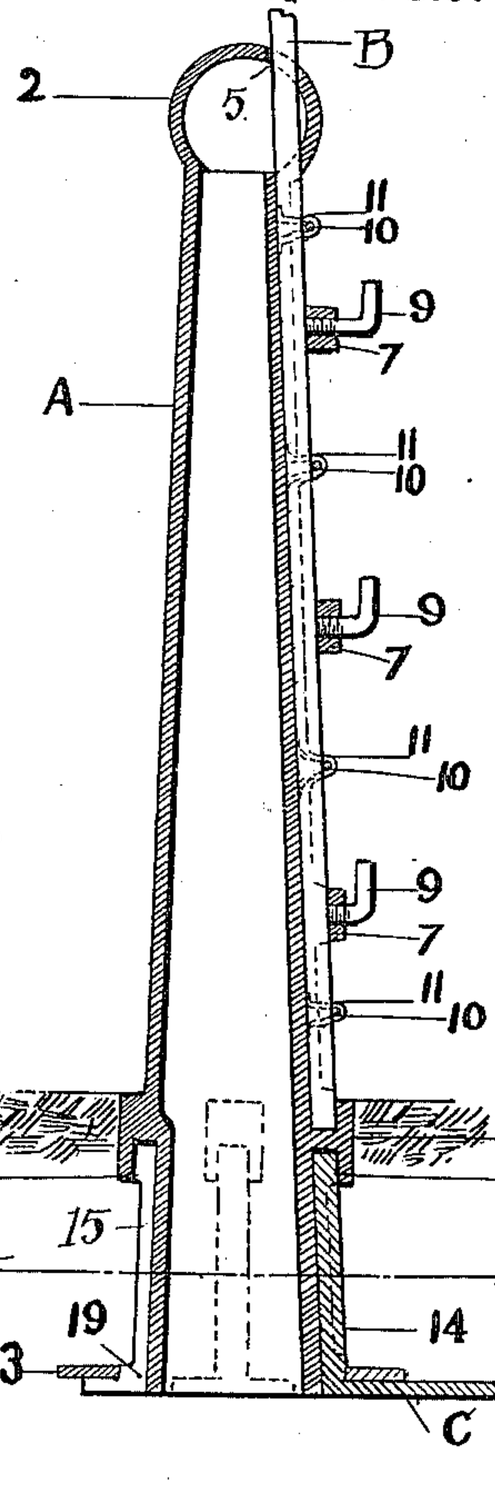


FIG. 4.

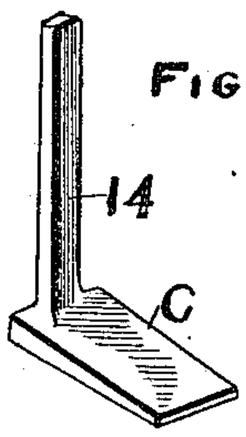


FIG. 5.

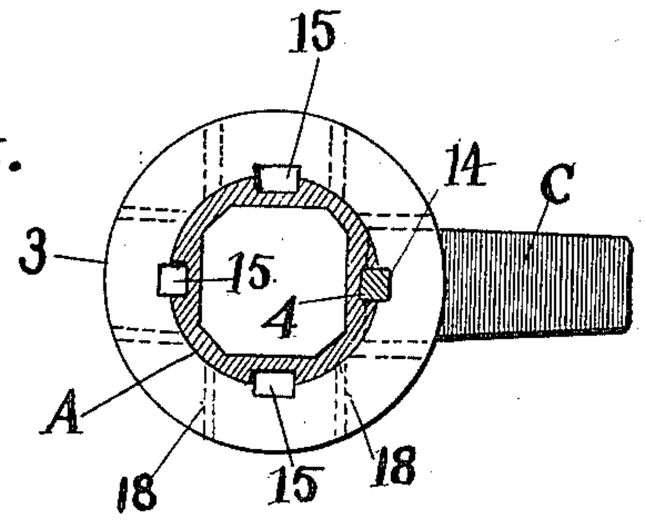
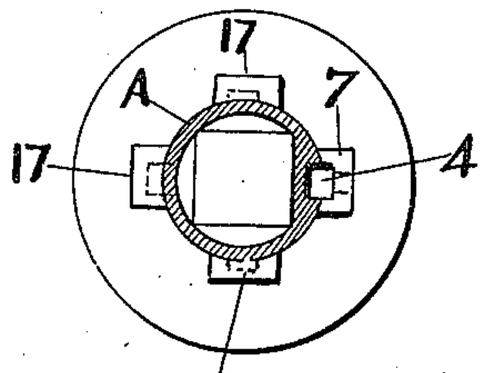


FIG. 6.



ATTEST

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METALLIC FENCE-POST.

976,235. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

Application filed May 10, 1909. Serial No. 495,110.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. WEIL, citizen of the United States, residing at Akron, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metallic Fence-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in metallic fence-posts, and the improvements consist in the construction and arrangement of parts, substantially as herein shown and described and particularly pointed out in the claim.

The object of the invention is to provide a fence post with a channel in its side lengthwise thereof and provide a series of keepers at intervals opposite said channel to removably hold a wooden cleat to which the running fence wires may be fastened.

A further object is embodied in the series of vertical channels in the base portion of the post, and in the detachable and interchangeable foot brace, and whereby one or more of said braces may be rigidly affixed to said post at different angles relatively to the line of the fence.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved fence post, and Fig. 2 is a vertical section thereof on the line of the cleat holding channel. Fig. 3 is a similar view to Fig. 2 showing a cleat and a foot brace mounted in place upon the post and also showing the hinge supports for a gate. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the foot piece or brace alone. Fig. 5 is a cross section on line 5—5 of Fig. 3, and Fig. 6 is a cross section on line 6—6, Fig. 2.

In construction, the fence post A is preferably tubular and may be cast in one piece or otherwise formed with a hollow spherical upper end 2 and a flanged base 3. As shown, a single vertical recess or channel 4 is formed at one side of the post approximately the main length thereof, but two or more such channels may be made therein if desired. A square opening 5 within the top of spherical end 2 registers with channel 4 to permit the introduction of a wooden cleat B into said channel. This cleat may be of varying lengths but usually comes entirely within the length of the post and rests at its bottom against and within the keeper 6 cast integral with the post, and which keeper is located approximately a foot more or less above flanged base 3, or at the surface level when the post is seated within the ground. A series of other keepers 7 are also provided at spaced intervals from top to bottom opposite recess or channel 4 to hold cleat B in place, and each keeper 7 is preferably provided with a screw threaded opening 8 adapted to receive a right angled screw threaded member 9. These members 9 serve as part hinges of a gate, not shown. Or, I may use fastening or set screws in place of members 9 to secure the cleats in place, and in some instances I may dispense with such fastening means altogether, especially if the interior of the hollow post and especially hollow head 2 is filled with concrete or any other suitable material.

In Fig. 3 I show a cross section of the line wires 10 of the fence fastened to the cleat by staples 11, and which staples are caused to clench themselves upon the cleat at their pointed ends when driven through the cleat against the metallic backing forming the rear wall of channel 4. Opening 5 in the top of the post not only permits the cleat to be introduced into channel 4 but also permits any length of cleat to be used, so that the fence may be extended above the post to any given height or as any given situation requires, such for example as in building a chicken fence or where one or two top runners of barbed wire may be needed to prevent stock from jumping from their confines.

For ordinary purposes, flange 3 of post A is sufficient to securely hold the post upright as against side strains, but when the post is used as a support for a swinging gate, or when used as a corner post, or when used upon the sides of hills, or where extreme strains are imposed thereon from any given direction, I prefer to use an auxiliary foot brace C, which has a right angled stem 14 adapted to enter any one of a series of side channels 15 at the bottom end of the post. Four such channels 15 are shown arranged at different radial points on the post, but I may use more or less as desired. If post A is to support a gate I may use one or more foot braces C at the most efficient angles to sustain the weight of the gate as it is swung either in one direction or another. Thus, if the gate be an extremely long and heavy one, I may use two foot braces at right angles to each other, or even three if the gate swings open on both sides of the fence. Then again, when the posts are running either straight up hill or diagonally

up an incline or parallel with the hillside, these foot braces may be arranged and fixed at any given angular relation relative to the cleat and the run of the fence wires to rigidly stay the post and hold the same upright against strains from any given direction.

It will be noted that the upper end of the stem of foot brace C is adapted to enter any one of the series of sockets 17 located at the upper end of channels 15, and that the lower end of flange 3 is channeled or provided with bottom ribs 18 to hold foot brace C in locked relation laterally with the post. Flanges 3 are necessarily provided with openings 19 which form a part of channels 15 in order that stems 14 may be introduced therein from below.

Cleat B is square in cross section, but may be otherwise formed, and this is also true of recess or channel 4. Post A is also shown as being round in cross section, but it is obvious that it may be either square, hexagonal or other shape.

What I claim is:

A metallic fence post of the kind described having an integral flange extending around the entire base thereof and longitudinal channels at intervals in its outer and lower portion extending through said flange and substantially box shaped sockets at the top of said channels, in combination with a flat bracing foot having a leg engaged in one of said channels and sockets, said foot extending laterally beneath said flange outside the same, and said flange having ribs on its bottom between which the side edges of said foot are engaged.

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

GEORGE W. WEIL.

Witnesses:

E. M. FISHER,

F. C. MUSSUN.