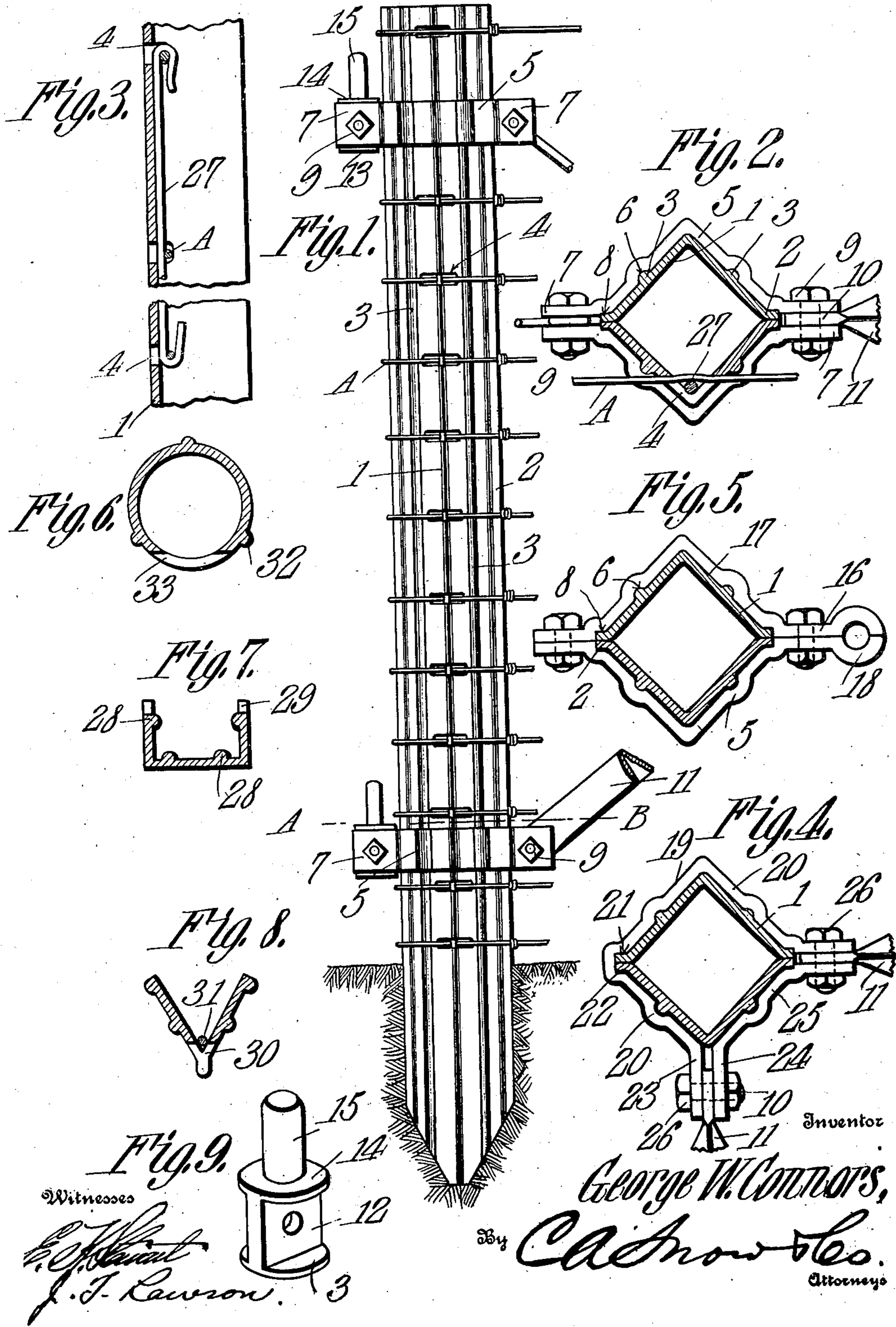


G. W. CONNORS.  
FENCE POST.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 22, 1909.

Patented Feb. 28, 1911.

985,661.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. CONNORS, OF HELENA, ALABAMA.

## FENCE-POST.

985,661.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 28, 1911.

Application filed October 22, 1909. Serial No. 524,042.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. CONNORS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Helena, in the county of Shelby and State of Alabama, have invented a new and useful Fence-Post, (Case A,) of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to metallic fence posts.

Fence posts, as heretofore constructed of metal, have been formed of heavy pipes, castings or the like, which, in order to be of sufficient strength, have necessarily been of such bulk, and weight, as to render them extremely difficult to handle as well as prohibitive in cost. Moreover such posts have been considerably weakened by the formation of wire receiving slots or kerfs unless considerable metal has been added to the posts in order to sufficiently reinforce them.

One of the primary objects of the present invention is to provide a post which can be formed of rolled metal, comparatively thin and consequently lighter than the ordinary type of post, as well as cheaper to manufacture, the said post being so shaped as to give the maximum strength with the minimum amount of metal.

A still further object is to provide a metal post having wire receiving kerfs interposed between longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs which not only prevent the post from buckling at the points where weakened by the kerfs but also strengthen the post throughout its length.

A still further object is to provide novel means whereby the post, if made up of sections, can be held properly assembled under all conditions, the said holding means serving to connect hinge members, braces and the like to the post without the necessity of utilizing any supplemental attachments.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings the preferred forms of the invention have been shown.

In said drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a post constructed in accordance with the present invention, wires and braces being shown in position thereon. Fig. 2 is a section on line A—B, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal section through a

portion of one of the members of the post and showing the key employed for holding the fence wires to the post. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section through the post and showing a modified form of clamp thereon. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 and showing another form of clamp in position upon the post, this clamp constituting a portion of a hinge member. Figs. 6, 7 and 8 are transverse sections through modified forms of posts. Fig. 9 is a detail view of a hinge member.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference 1 designates a post member preferably made up of a rolled metal plate which is comparatively thin and is angular in cross section, the longitudinal edges of the member being provided with flanges 2 while longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs 3 are formed upon the outer face of the member at opposite sides of the angle or apex thereof. A desired number of kerfs or slots 4 are cut into the angle portion of the member at right angles to the longitudinal center thereof, these kerfs being designed to receive the wires A of the fence. The ribs 3 are located close to the end walls of the kerfs so as to reinforce the post at these points where reinforcement is most needed. Two of these members 1 are employed to make up a complete corner, gate and strain post but only one member is used for the other posts of the fence. When the members are assembled, the flanges 2 thereof contact as shown in Fig. 2.

The means utilized for holding the post members together may consist of oppositely disposed similar angular straps 5 designed to fit snugly upon the respective members and having depressions 6 for the reception of the ribs 3, there being ears 7 formed by the terminals of the straps and which are recessed as at 8 to receive the flanges 2. The adjoining ears of the two straps are connected by means of bolts 9 and, as shown in Fig. 2, one of these bolts can be extended through a tongue 10 located between the ears 7 and formed at one end of a metal brace 11. Also, if desired, a metal plate 12 may be interposed between the adjoining ears of the straps, this plate being provided with oppositely extending ribs 13 upon its lower end and a disk 14 at the upper end thereof. The ears are designed to fit between the disk and the ribs and when the bolt 9 is inserted through the plate and ears it will securely

fasten the parts together as well as bind the straps upon the post members. A pintle 15 extends upwardly from disk 14 and constitutes one member of a gate hinge.

5 Although the means utilized for binding the post members together are preferably formed and applied in the manner hereinbefore set forth it is to be understood that, if preferred, the ears 16 at one end of the  
10 clamping members 17 may be provided with bowed extensions 18 as shown in Fig. 5 these extensions coöperating, when the clamping members are secured together upon the fence post, to form a split eye adapted either to  
15 receive a hinge pintle or a hinge rod.

Another form of clamping structure has been illustrated in Fig. 4 wherein one of the straps is made up of an intermediate portion 19 and parallel side portions 20, the said intermediate and side portions being shaped to fit snugly upon the two outer faces of one of the post members and upon one of the outer faces of the other post member, there being a recess 21 in one of the angles of said clamping member for the reception of two of the  
25 meeting longitudinal flanges 22 of the post members. The side arms 20 have terminal ears 23 disposed at right angles to each other and parallel with ears 24 formed at the ends  
30 of a substantially straight clamping strap 25, the ears 23 and 24 being drawn together and upon the post members, by means of bolts 26. This type of clamp is especially useful at fence corners where it is desired to  
35 connect two braces to the post, the said braces being disposed in planes arranged at angles to each other.

It is of course to be understood that the wires A may be held within the kerfs 4 in  
40 the usual or any preferred manner. In Fig. 3 a key wire 27 has been shown extended between the kerfs and the fence wires so as to hold said wires against displacement, the terminals of the key wire being bent upon  
45 the adjoining fence wires so as to be held against longitudinal displacement.

While the post constituting the present invention is preferably made up of two members clamped together, it is to be understood  
50 that, if preferred, one member only can be utilized.

In the construction shown in Figs. 7 and 8 the post is formed of a rolled channeled member, said member being formed with  
55 three sides disposed at right angles to each other as shown in Fig. 7 or being V-shaped as shown in Fig. 8. In the first construction the reinforcing ribs 28 may be located upon the inner faces of the post and the wire receiving slots 29 may be formed in the free  
60 longitudinal edges of the side members of the post, these slots terminating close to the ribs 28. In the form shown in Fig. 8, however, the reinforcing ribs are preferably located upon the outer faces and the kerfs 30

are cut into the angle portion of the member and close to the adjoining ribs. With this last mentioned arrangement a key wire 31 similar to the wire 27, may be employed.

In Fig. 6 a tubular post has been illustrated, the same being provided upon its  
70 outer face with longitudinal ribs 32 and kerfs or slots 33 are formed within the post and with the ends close to certain of the ribs.

Importance is attached to the fact that, by providing the ribs which are rolled upon the faces of the posts, said posts can be formed of comparatively thin plates of metal and the cost thereof is therefore lessened and the weight reduced without correspondingly  
80 reducing the strength of the posts. Moreover the said posts are easier to handle than where non-reinforced castings are utilized and which are of sufficient strength to resist excessive strains.

Various changes can of course be made in the construction and arrangement of the parts without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

What is claimed is:—

1. A fence post consisting of oppositely disposed members contacting throughout the length of their side edges, opposed straps fitting snugly against opposite portions of  
95 the post and embracing said post, said members being separate, and separate adjusting devices engaging the terminals of the straps for drawing said straps toward each other to bind the post members together.

2. A fence post consisting of oppositely disposed members, said members contacting throughout the length of their side edges, separate spaced straps fitting snugly against  
105 opposed portions of the post and having outstanding terminals, and means adjustably engaging the terminals of the straps for drawing said straps toward each other and binding the post members together.

3. A fence post consisting of opposed angular metallic members having longitudinal reinforcing ribs, angular clamping members bearing against opposite portions of the post and having terminal ears, said members having  
115 depressions for the reception of the ribs, and means for adjustably connecting the ears to bind the clamping members upon the post.

4. A fence post consisting of opposed angular members having flanged longitudinal edges, angular clamping devices extending around the members and having terminal ears, and means extending through the ears for binding said devices upon the post members.

5. A fence post consisting of opposed angular metallic members, angular clamping devices bearing upon opposite portions of said members and having terminal ears, there being depressions within said devices,  
120 125 130

longitudinal reinforcing ribs upon the post members and seated within said depressions, and means adjustably engaging the ears for binding the clamping devices upon the post members to hold said members together.

6. A metal fence post consisting of a pair of separate opposed members having means to reinforce them along their marginal side edges, said means constituting extended bearing faces which contact throughout the length of said members when assembled, in combination with a strap located entirely outside of the members and embracing the same when assembled, said strap having a recess for the reception of the meeting re-

inforcing means at one side of the post to hold said members in contact, a second strap located entirely outside of the members, and means engaging the terminal portions of the two straps for drawing them together and for binding the marginal reinforcing portions together against relative displacement.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE W. CONNORS.

Witnesses:

C. B. DOYLE,

C. E. PRINKERT.