S. P. Williams,

Fence Post,

No. 54,989. Patented May 22, 1866.

Fig 1.

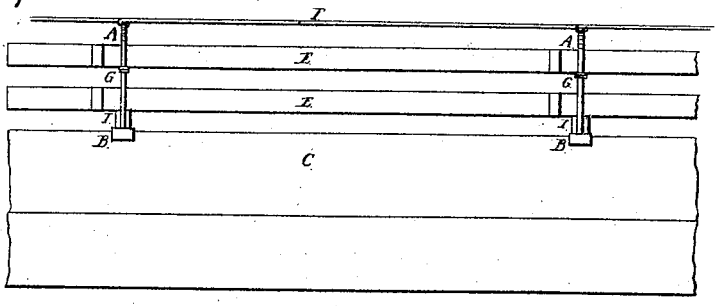


Fig 2.

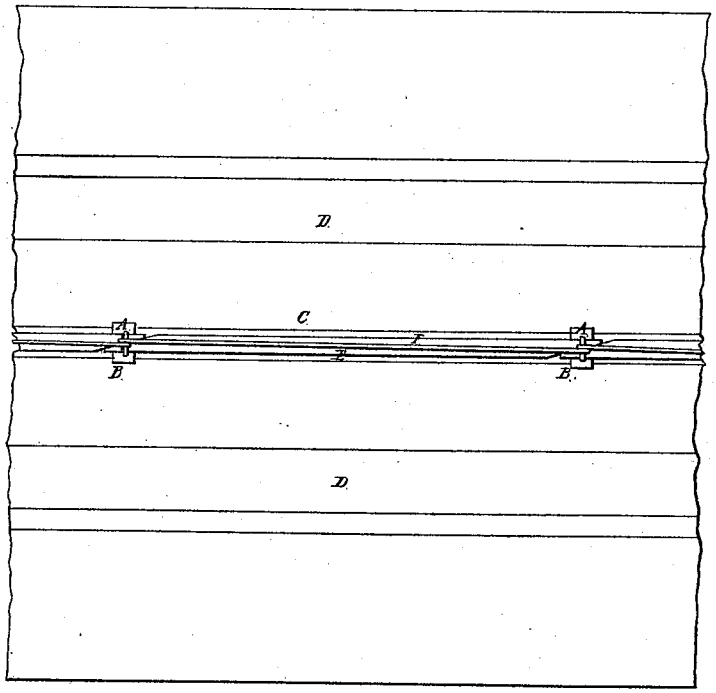
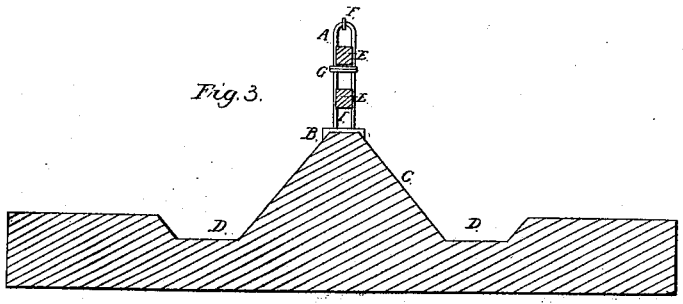


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

S. E. Dennis

James N. Fowler

Inventor:

Samuel P. Williams

By his Attorney J. Dennis Jr.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL P. WILLIAMS, OF SHERIDAN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **54,989**, dated May 22, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL P. WILLIAMS, of Sheridan, Chautauqua county, State of New York, have invented a new, useful, and Improved Fence; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawings are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use my said invention or improvements without further invention or experiment.

The nature of my invention and improvements consists in a ~~staple-shaped~~ iron post with scarfed and scored rails arranged between them; also, in an iron rod or wire extended between the tops of the posts above the rails.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved fence. Fig. 2 is a plan or top view, and Fig. 3 is a cross-section.

In these drawings, A A are staple-shaped iron posts, set in a base, B, of iron, stone, artificial stone, brick, or wood, placed in the bank C, which is made of the earth taken from the two ditches D D.

The wooden rails E E are scarfed, as shown in Fig. 2, at their ends where they are inserted between the sides of the posts A, and on the opposite sides of the rails from the scarfs scores are cut across half the diameter of the iron of which the post is made, so that the ends of the rails are put between the sides of the posts, one above the other, and pressed out to bring the scores onto the posts, and then slipped up or down until the ends of the rails are opposite each other, when some wire, G, may be tied or twisted around both legs of the post, as shown in Fig. 3, to hold up the rails and prevent the sides of the post from spreading.

After the rails are put in and secured, the wire or rod F may be put over the rails by taking one or more turns around the iron top of the post, as shown in the drawings. A block of wood or brick, I, may be put under the lower rails to hold them up, as shown in Fig. 1.

The above-described fence is light, cheap, and durable, and stronger than any other containing the same quantity of materials.

I contemplate that the posts may be bent in a little above, between, and below the rails, which will help to hold the rails in their proper places.

I claim—

1. In combination with the iron staple-shaped posts, the scarfed and scored rails, arranged substantially as described.

2. In combination with the posts and rails, the iron rod or wire extended between the tops of the posts, as described.

SAMUEL P. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

L. HURLBUT,

A. Z. MADISON.