(No Model.)

J. DU BOIS.

FENCE.

No. 305,682. Patented Sept. 23, 1884.

Fig. 1.

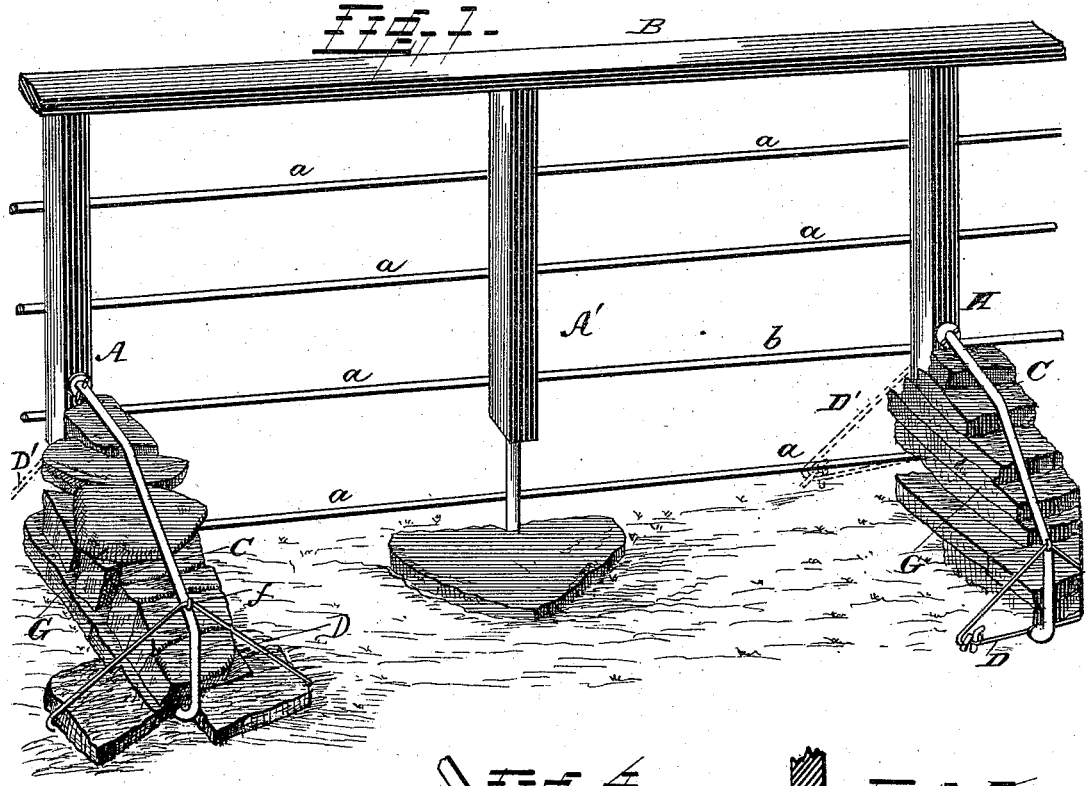


Fig. 4.

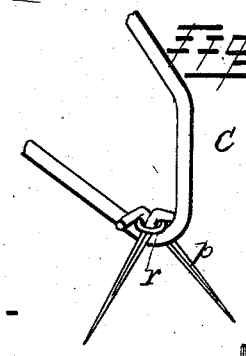


Fig. 3.

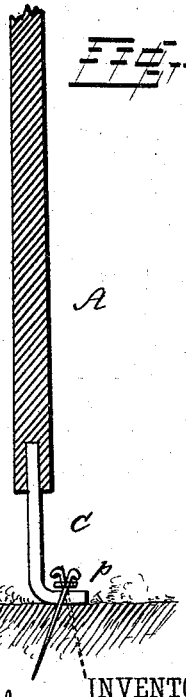


Fig. 2.

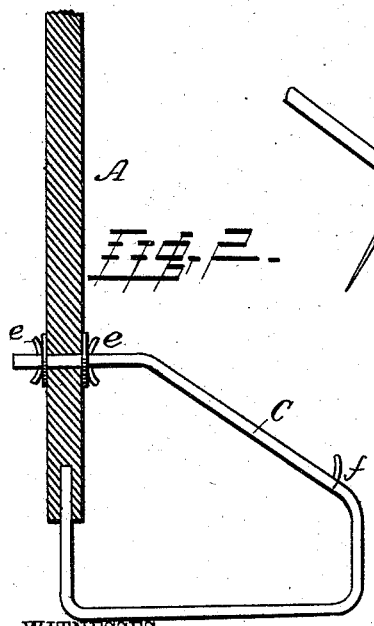
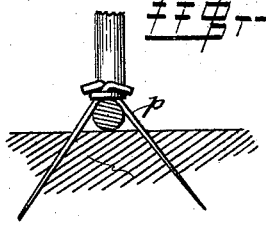


Fig. 5.



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JOSEPH DU BOIS, OF WAVERLY, NEW YORK.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 305,682, dated September 23, 1884.

Application filed February 27, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH DU BOIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waverly, in the county of Tioga and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to that class of fences in which the posts are not embedded in the ground, but are suitably anchored and secured, so as to be firmly held in position.

To this end my invention consists in certain details of construction and arrangement of the several parts, as will hereinafter be more fully set forth in the specification and pointed out in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a section or panel of a fence embodying my improved anchoring means; Figs. 2 and 3, sections of posts and the securing-rods, and Figs. 4 and 5 detail views of the means employed for securing the anchoring-rods to the ground.

The object of the invention is, primarily, to construct a fence in which the posts are raised above the ground, so as to prevent decay, and yet be firmly held in position.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, it will be noted that each panel consists of two end posts, A, and a central post, A′. I preferably use a broad or string piece, B, to cover the top of the posts, although this is not absolutely essential. The panels may be in line, or they may be built as a worm.

In practice, and for convenience, I use wires *a* for the intermediate portions of the fence. These wires may be barbed or not, as desired. I may, however, use the ordinary fence-board instead of the wire *a*. The posts are ordinarily four feet long and about three and a half inches square. In the bottom of the posts A A′ a half-inch hole is bored to the depth of about six inches, and about eight inches above the bottom of the posts A a horizontal hole is bored through said posts. Through these horizontal holes an iron rod or bar, C, is passed and bent downward and outward to the ground, then brought horizontally along the ground, and the end brought up vertically and inserted in the vertical post-hole just described. The upper end of this rod or bar C is prevented from becoming detached from the post by means of the pins *e*, the outer one of which also serves another purpose, that will be explained.

An anchor wire or rod, D D′, is secured in front and rear of each post, as follows: The front rod or wire, D′, is passed over the pin *e*, which acts as a hook, and the rear wire, D, passes over the hook *f* on rod C. These wires D D′ extend outward on each side a foot or more, as deemed essential, and are intended to secure and hold in place the mass of stones used for anchoring the fence, as hereinafter explained. These wires are not fastened to the ground, only as they are held there by the weight of the stones, and are otherwise kept in place by being attached to the rod C.

In order to hold the rod C more securely, I place stones G on said rods. These stones are placed on the outside of the fence, so as to leave the least obstruction to stock on the inside.

I do not, however, limit myself to the use of stones as a means of securing or anchoring my fence, as they are not always convenient or obtainable in all localities; but I also use long metallic pins *p*, having a hook or bend for the head, which pins are driven into the ground obliquely across the rod C, through a ring, *r*, at the outer angle, where the rod comes in contact with the ground, as shown in Fig. 4, also at the angle at the foot of the post, as shown in Figs. 3 and 5. When pins are used, I am able to dispense with the use of stones for anchoring purposes, and vice versa; or both may be used, if deemed necessary. These means of anchoring hold the fence-panels securely in place against the action of the wind, stock, &c., and as the posts are raised above the surface of the ground they are not liable to be destroyed by fire caused by the burning of grass, brush, &c., along railway-tracks. Moreover, it affords a free passage for snow, which often drifts against fences and turns them over.

Such a form of construction is one that is cheap, durable, and is, moreover, simple and

easily made by any person not specially skilled in the art.

I make no broad claim to a fence supported above the ground by means of metallic rods or bars, this being old; but

What I do claim as new herein, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

The combination, in a fence, with the end posts, A, and anchoring-rods C, bent and secured to said posts, substantially as shown, and provided with the hooks *e* and *f*, of the transversely-placed anchoring-wires D and D′, arranged to engage said hooks *e* and *f*, and suitable means for securing said anchoring-wires D and D′, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose, described and shown.

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

JOSEPH DU BOIS.

Witnesses:

J. F. SHOEMAKER,

W. H. TOPPING.