

(No Model.)

E. SIMS.
FENCE POST.

No. 419,080.

Patented Jan. 7, 1890.

Fig. 1.

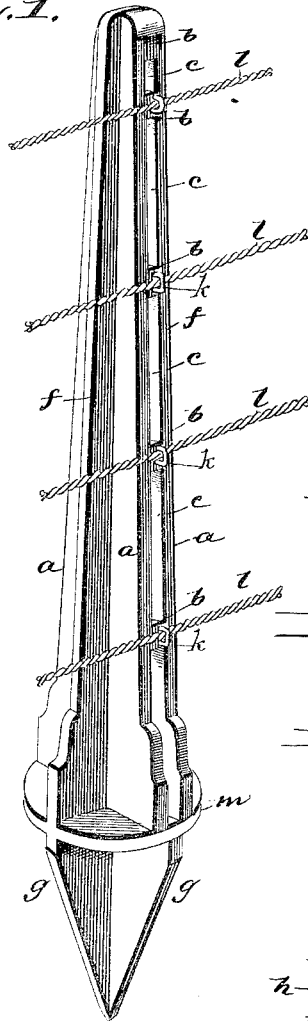


Fig. 2.

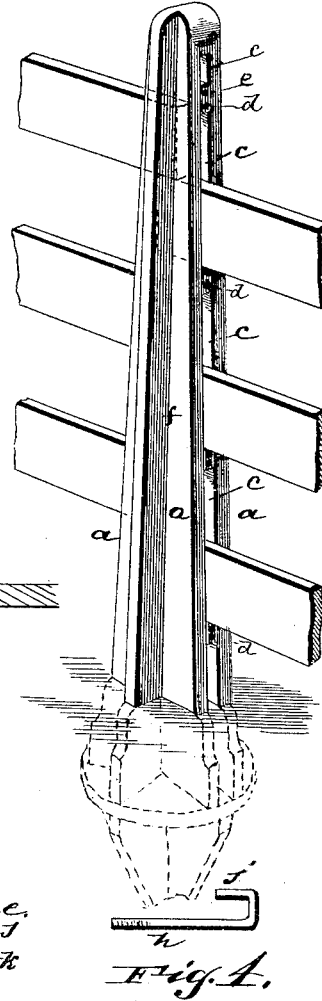


Fig. 5.

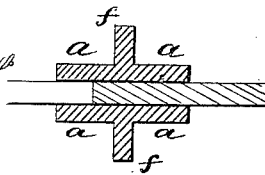
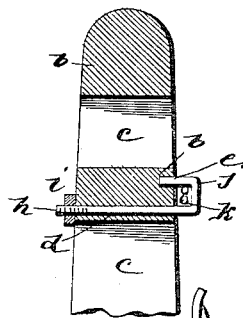


Fig. 6.



Witnesses,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIJAH SIMS, OF AURORA, ILLINOIS.

FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 419,080, dated January 7, 1890.

Application filed January 30, 1889. Serial No. 298,132. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIJAH SIMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Aurora, in the county of Kane and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fence-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my improvement is to produce a cast-iron post for fences which, by its construction, gives the required strength and proper weight and is adapted for a wire or for a rail or board fence, and which can be manufactured at a comparatively small cost.

The construction, which adapts the post for the erection either of a wire or of a board fence, consists of two parallel plates, with a space between them, having divisions a proper distance apart, which are provided with perforations for hook-eye-forming bolts, so that by setting the post in one position the hook-eyebolts are used to receive and secure the wires, and by setting the post in position at right angles the divisions of the open space between the plates serve to receive and secure the ends of the boards.

The base or foot of the post is formed of radial blades capped by a horizontal base-plate from which the parallel plates rise, and which latter are provided with radial ribs on their outer sides, and the post is cast complete with these parts, including the holes in the divisions of the space between the parallel plates to receive the hook-eye-forming bolts.

The drawings furnished illustrate my improved fence-post, which I will now describe, and by specific claims point out the particular matter of my improvement.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents in perspective my improved post as used for a wire fence. Fig. 2 is a similar view of my improved post as used for a board fence. Fig. 3 is a sectional detail of one of the perforated divisions which unite the parallel plate, and Fig. 4 shows the hook-eye-forming bolt adapted for such perforations. Fig. 5 is a cross-section of Fig. 1, and Fig. 6 is a cross-section of Fig. 2.

The post shown is cast as an entirety, with a sufficient amount of metal to give it the proper strength and weight. It consists of two parallel plates *a a*, separated about an

inch, joined at the top and at the bottom and at intermediate points by divisions *b*, which divide the space between the said plates into openings *c* of a length adapted to receive the ends of boards in the construction of a board fence, as shown in Fig. 2. Each of the said divisions has a perforation *d*, which extends horizontally through it, and a perforation *e*, which need extend only a short distance into one end of said division parallel with the said through perforation, so that when the post is to be used in the construction of a wire fence these perforations of each division are suited to receive a hook-bolt adapted to form eyes at one side of the post at the end of each of the said divisions, as shown in Fig. 1. These parallel plates are preferably made widest at their lower ends and taper to their upper ends, and at their widest ends they join a horizontal base-plate. Each plate is also preferably formed with a radial rib *f* on its outer side for strength, which also taper to their upper ends, and which, like the parallel plates, join the base or foot of the post. This base or foot is formed of radial blades *g*, preferably four, which taper from the base-plate to a point central with the post. In setting the post the base-plate should be about eight inches below the surface of the ground, and, with the base-blades, serve to hold the post firmly in the ground. In setting the post the holes need only be dug deep enough to receive the base-plate, as the base or foot can be driven into the ground below such depth.

The hook-eye-forming bolt which I use in constructing a wire fence has its screw-threaded part *h* of a greater length than the width of the parallel plates and passes through the perforation *d* in the solid dividing parts *b*, which separate these plates, and is secured by a nut *i* on its projecting screw-threaded end, while the short arm *j* of the hook end enters the perforation *e* of the said solid divisions and thereby forms a closed eye *k*, through which the wires *l* are passed and may be clamped hard against the ends of the said solid divisions by means of the nuts. In thus using the post its parallel plates stand at right angles to the lines of the wires.

In using the post for a board fence the parallel plates stand in the line of the fence, and the ends of the boards extend into the open-

ings between the plates beyond the center line of the post, the board entering from one side resting on the division *b* and the board entering from the other side resting upon the end of the other board. In thus using the post the hook-bolts are dispensed with; but the provision for using them is formed with the post and can be utilized at any time.

The top space or opening of the post is adapted to receive a comparatively narrow top board.

I claim as my improvement—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, an iron fence-post cast solid at the top and at the bottom and at intermediate portions *b*, with slots between said intermediate solid portions, the latter having horizontal perforations *d* and *e*, the post having a base composed of radial pointed blades and a horizon-

tal plate capping said blades, substantially as described.

2. An iron post cast solid at the top and at the bottom and at intermediate portions *b*, with slots between said intermediate solid portions, the latter having horizontal perforations, one of which extends through said solid portions, in combination with the hook-shaped bolts, each having a long and a short arm entering said perforation in the solid portions and having a nut upon said long arm, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ELIJAH SIMS.

Witnesses:

THOS. GOLDEN,

JOHN KAUTENBURGER.