E. S. ELMER.
Hitching-Post.

No. 217,004. Patented July 1, 1879.

Fig. 1.

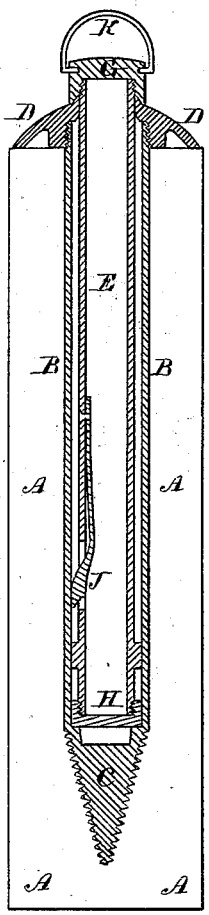
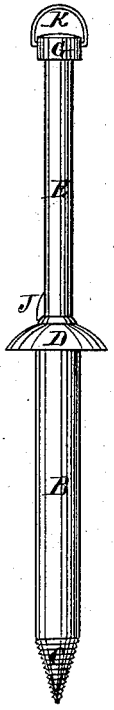


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELISHA S. ELMER, OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN HITCHING-POSTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **217,004**, dated July 1, 1879; application filed June 27, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELISHA S. ELMER, of Hartford, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hitching-Posts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, whereby a person skilled in the art can make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Like letters in the figures indicate the same parts.

My invention relates to hitching-posts for horses or other animals, which can be let down out of the way when not in use; and it has for its object the arrangement of a post so that it can be raised up for use when required, and when not in use can be let down into the ground, so as to be flush, or nearly so, with the surface.

My invention consists in the construction and mechanism that will be hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a sectional view of my improved post when closed or let down into the socket. Fig. 2 shows the post upon a smaller scale when raised up for use.

A is a wooden post, whose top is even with the surface of the ground. It is set into the earth in the usual manner, or any old post may be sawed off at the surface of the ground to receive the working parts hereinafter described.

B is a metallic tube. This is furnished with a screw-plug, C, at the bottom, which is fitted with a screw-thread to screw into the wood of the post and hold the tube firmly in its socket. At the top of the tube B is the plate D, which can be made of cast metal and screwed upon the tube B, which can be of ordinary wrought-iron gas-pipe. The plate D rests upon the top of the wooden shell A, as shown in the drawings.

E is an interior sliding tube, which may likewise be of ordinary gas-pipe, fitted with a head, G, which laps over the upper edge of the plate D to prevent the entrance of water or dirt, and also fitted with rings H at the bottom, of a suitable diameter to slide truly in the tube B.

J is a latch-spring, operating through a hole in the side of the tube E, which rests against the inside of the tube B when the interior tube is lowered, but which springs out and latches over the upper edge of the plate D when the interior post is raised up.

K is a ring attached to the cap G, to take hold of when it is desired to raise the post.

The wooden post A may be dispensed with in suitable soils, and the thread upon the foot at C may be made larger, so that the post can be screwed directly into the ground.

The operation of my invention is as follows: The parts being in the position shown in Fig. 1, and inserted into the ground up to the plate D, the post is shut down and out of the way. If it is desired to raise it for use, the ring K is taken hold of and the interior tube drawn up to the position shown in Fig. 2. The spring-latch flies out and holds upon the top of the plate D. When it is desired to lower the post, the foot is placed against the latch J, which presses it in and allows the interior tube to descend to its first position.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The combination of the tube E, having an overlapping head, G, and latch J, with the socket B, having the head D and the screw-plug C, for securing it into the wood or ground, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the wooden socket A with a sliding metallic hitching-post provided with the screw-plug C, constructed substantially as herein described.

ELISHA S. ELMER.

Witnesses:

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