

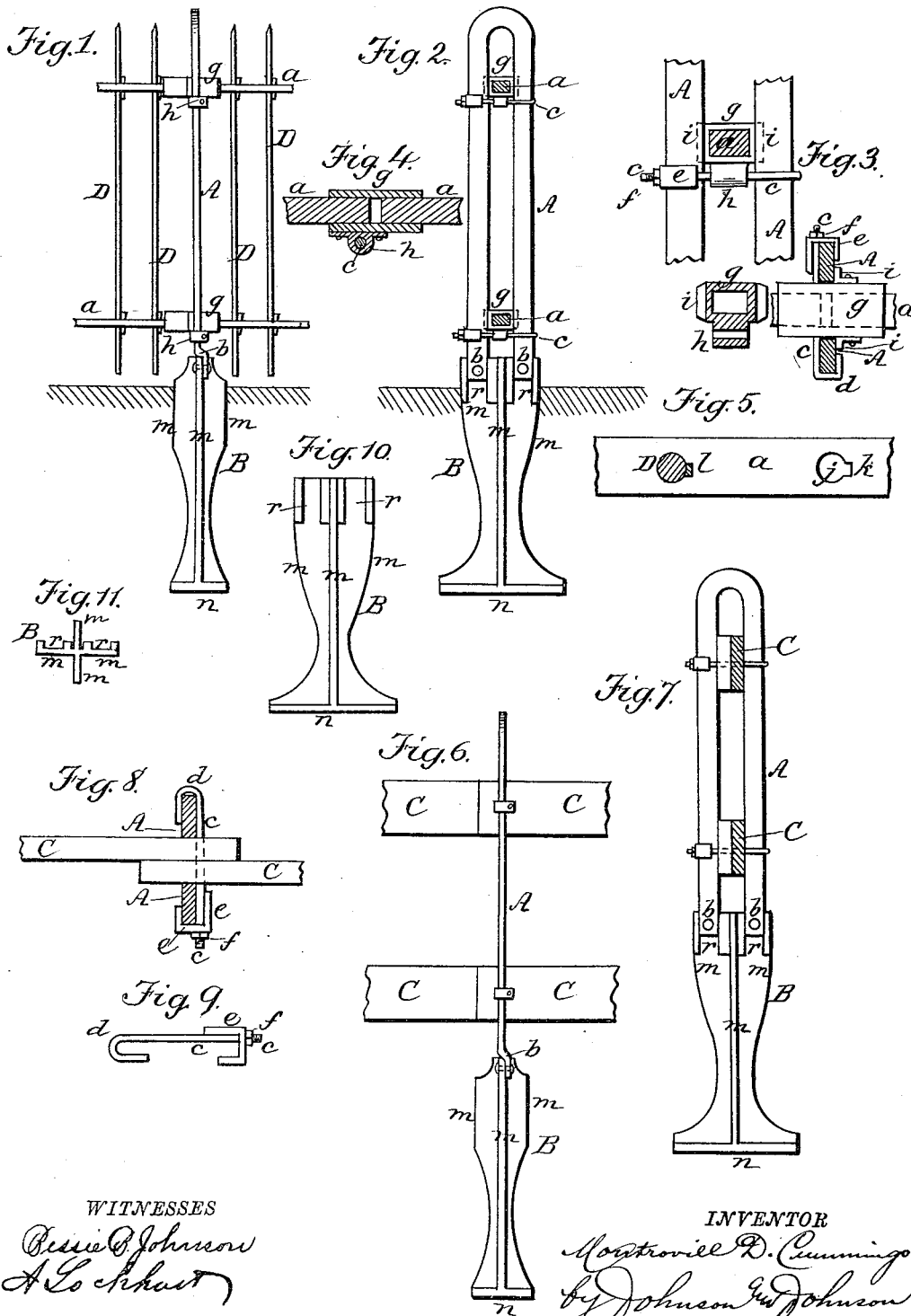
(No Model.)

M. D. CUMMINGS.

IRON FENCE POST.

No. 348,383.

Patented Aug. 31, 1886.



WITNESSES

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MONTROVILL D. CUMMINGS, OF HOPE, OHIO.

IRON FENCE-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 348,383, dated August 31, 1886.

Application filed September 26, 1885. Serial No. 178,274. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MONTROVILL D. CUMMINGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hope, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Iron Fence-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of fences which have posts of iron with provision for receiving and securing the fencing.

The object of my invention is to combine durability, neatness, strength, simplicity, and cheapness in a fence and post, and to construct a metal post that can be used to make wooden or iron fences.

My improved construction furnishes a post capable of receiving boards, rails, or pickets by means of adjustable clips embracing a U-shaped post attached to an anchor of advantageous construction, as will hereinafter appear from the description and the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 represents in elevation a portion of a picket fence embracing my improvements; Fig. 2, a view of the post, taken in the line of the fence. Figs. 3 and 4 are details of the fastening-clip for the picket-rails. Fig. 5 is a part of the picket-rail; Fig. 6, a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing a board fence with iron posts; Fig. 7, a view of the post, taken in the line of the fence. Fig. 8 shows the boards fastened by the clip, and Fig. 9 the fastening-clip. Fig. 10 is the anchor-foot, showing the post-receiving grooves *r*; and Fig. 11 a top view of the anchor-foot.

The post proper, A, is preferably made of a flat thin wrought-iron bar bent edgewise into a shape somewhat like a tuning-fork, so as to give strength and to receive the rails *a* between the edges of the bent bar. The ends *b b* of this bent bar A are riveted or bolted to a cast-iron anchor-piece, B, to be presently described. The post has vertically-adjustable clip-bolts *c*, having one end formed into a hook, *d*, for grasping the bar of the open post upon one edge. The bolt passes through a separate hook-clip, *e*, embracing the other edge of the post. These bolts have threaded ends to receive nuts *f*, for their securement and to clamp the post-bars. In the case of a fence made up of board rails, the bolts pass

through or under the lapped rails C in their position of lapping within the open bars of the post; but when the post is required to be used for a picket fence, whether the pickets D (see Fig. 1) be of wood or iron, then a sleeve, *g*, having an eye, *h*, is swung or pivoted upon the said bolt within and between the open bars formed by the tune-fork-shaped post. This sleeve may receive either wooden or iron rails *a* for the pickets D, and if the latter they should meet or nearly abut, and the sleeve be of sufficient length to permit of its confining the ends of the meeting rails in their expansion and contraction, which prevents the fence from drawing out of line. The sleeve *g* has stop-lugs *i*, which bear against the post-bars when the iron or wooden bar is within it. The clips, with or without the sleeve, are capable of vertical adjustment, as will be understood from the above, at any point upon the post-bars.

In a picket fence wherein the pickets must pierce the rails *a*, whether they be of wood or iron, the hole *j*, (see Fig. 5,) through which the pickets pass, has a notch, *k*, to receive a locking key or wedge, *l*, to hold the pickets firmly.

The anchor-piece B is of cast-iron, having four projections, *m m m m*, joining a broad long foot, *n*, whereby it is held firmly in the ground.

The ends of the bent tune-fork-like wrought-iron post are secured and braced in grooves *r r* on the side of the foot projection *m* of the anchor, and secured by rivets or screw-bolts. The lower ends of the post-bars may have a series of holes by which to adjust the height of the post in the base-grooves *r r* at any time, or the post and its base may be set and fastened together, as shown. The grooves *r r* are formed by side lugs, which serve to brace the post and make the connection secure. The separate hook-clip has long and short legs, the long leg lying upon the bolt, serving to keep the clip level and prevent its drawing around. If a hooked bolt be used, then only one clip is necessary, for in that case the hook will serve the purpose of a clip, as shown. The fastening of the pickets by the key *l*, driven into the notch *k*, makes the securement adjustable, and permits the pickets to be easily removed and replaced. The

- anchor-foot prevents the post from being frozen out or leaning over and keeps the fence in good line. Its right-angled wings or projections *m* are wider as they approach the surface of the ground, and, in connection with the foot *n*, give steadiness to the post, and it is on these wide ends on their sides that the lugs are cast to form the bracing-grooves *r r* for the open ends of the bent bar *A*.
- 10 The clip-bolt *c* and its hook-clip *e* serve to clamp the post-bars upon the sides of the sleeve *g* or upon the boards *c*, and thus firmly and securely bind these parts to the post at the proper height, so that the clips *c d e f* will
- 15 secure the boards *C C* for a board fence or rails *a* for a picket fence.
- I claim—
1. In an iron fence-post, the combination, with the line-post yoke-bar, of a foot-anchor
- 20 having sockets *r r*, to receive the ends of said yoke, fastening-bolts for said yoke ends, and a clip-bolt clamped upon the opposite outer edges of said yoke, whereby to support and clamp the fencing by and between the inner
- 25 edges of said yoke-bar, as set forth.

2. The fence-post clip-clamp consisting of the bolt *c d*, the hook-clip *e*, and the nut *f*, combined with the sleeve *g*, having an eye, *h*, whereby the sleeve is secured to said clip-bolt, and the bent **U**-shaped post-bar clamped upon said sleeve, as described.

3. The clip-clamp fastening consisting of the bolt *c*, the hook-clip *e*, the nut *f*, and the sleeve *g*, having an eye, *h*, and side lugs, *i i*, combined with a bent **U**-shaped post-bar, *A*, as described.

4. The combination, with the line-post yoke-bar, of a tubular holder, *g*, for the meeting ends of the fencing, and a separate clip-bolt upon which said tubular holder is carried between said yoke-bars, whereby said tubular fencing-holder is clamped to the post.

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

MONTROVILL D. CUMMINGS.

Witnesses:

PAUL JONES,
LULIE JONES.