C. D. JOHNSON & L. F. JOHNSTON.

WIRE FENCE.

No. 188,916. Patented March 27, 1877.

Fig. 1.

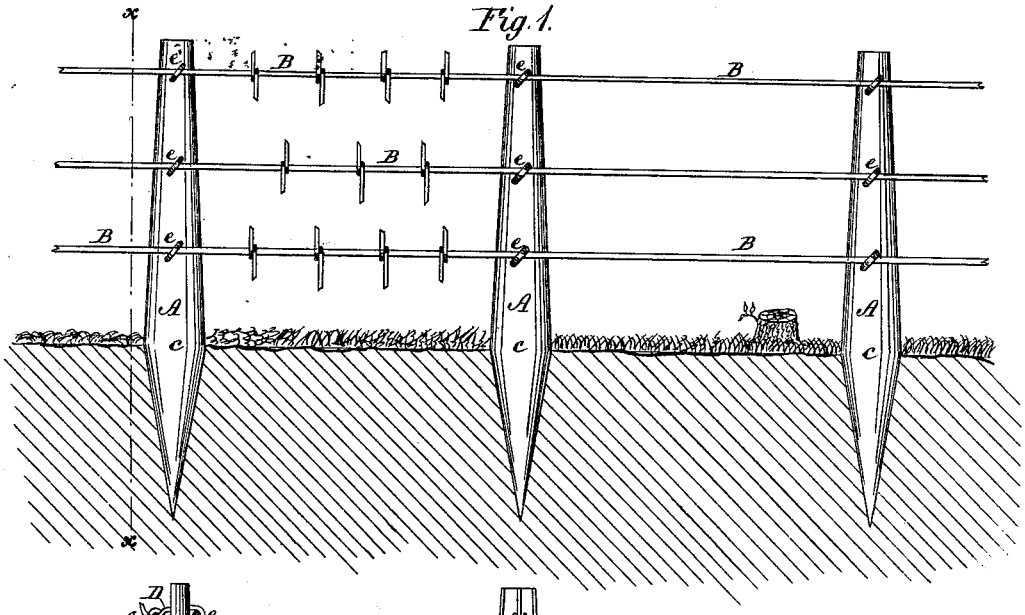

Fig. 2.

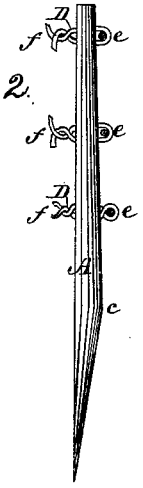

Fig. 3.

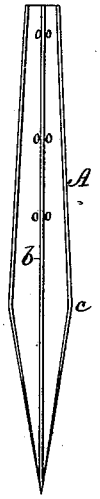

Fig. 4.

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CHARLES D. JOHNSON AND LEVI F. JOHNSTON, OF MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN WIRE FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **188,916**, dated March 27, 1877; application filed January 22, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES D. JOHNSON and LEVI F. JOHNSTON, of Marshalltown, in the county of Marshall and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wire Fences; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

The invention relates to the construction of the post and the fastenings by which the wires are attached thereto.

In the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a front view of a section of fence, showing our improved post and the manner of securing the barbed wires thereto Fig. 2 is a cross-section on line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of our improved post. Fig. 4 is a cross-section of the post, showing the manner of attaching the wire-fastenings.

The cast-iron posts A are semicircular in cross-section, provided on the concave side with a central lengthwise rib *b*, extending from one end to the other, and are tapered in each direction from the point *c*. That part below said point *c* is driven into the ground, and the remaining portion constitutes the body of the post to which the barbed wires B are attached. This form or construction of post secures the desired combination of strength and lightness at minimum cost. The wires B are attached to the posts by means of fastenings D, which are constructed of short lengths of thick wire, doubled to form eye *e* to receive the wires B, and having their respective ends inserted through holes in the posts on each side of the lengthwise rib *b*, and bent over or across said rib and twisted together to form projecting points or barbs *f*, as shown, Figs. 2 and 4. The points *f* prevent cattle rubbing against the posts, and thus serve as protectors for the back of the same. They have also the further advantage that they can be easily and quickly applied, or replaced if broken, and at slight expense. It is immaterial whether the wires B have barbs attached or not, since the wires do not require to be drawn through the eyes *b* of the fastenings D.

With a view to economy of time and labor in constructing our improved fence we stretch the wires between two posts, situated a considerable distance apart, and then attach them successively to all the intermediate posts by applying the fastening *e* to the wires, inserting their ends through the holes in the posts and twisting together their projecting ends, as before stated.

We do not claim, broadly, a concave iron fence-post, nor the attachment of wires to posts by means of staples.

What we claim is—

1. The cast-iron fence-post A, tapered each way from the point *c*, made semicircular in cross-section, and provided on the concave side with the lengthwise rib *b*, extending from end to end, as shown and described.

2. The combination, with the posts A and wires B, of the wire fastenings D, having their ends twisted together, and forming projecting points for the posts, as shown and described.

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