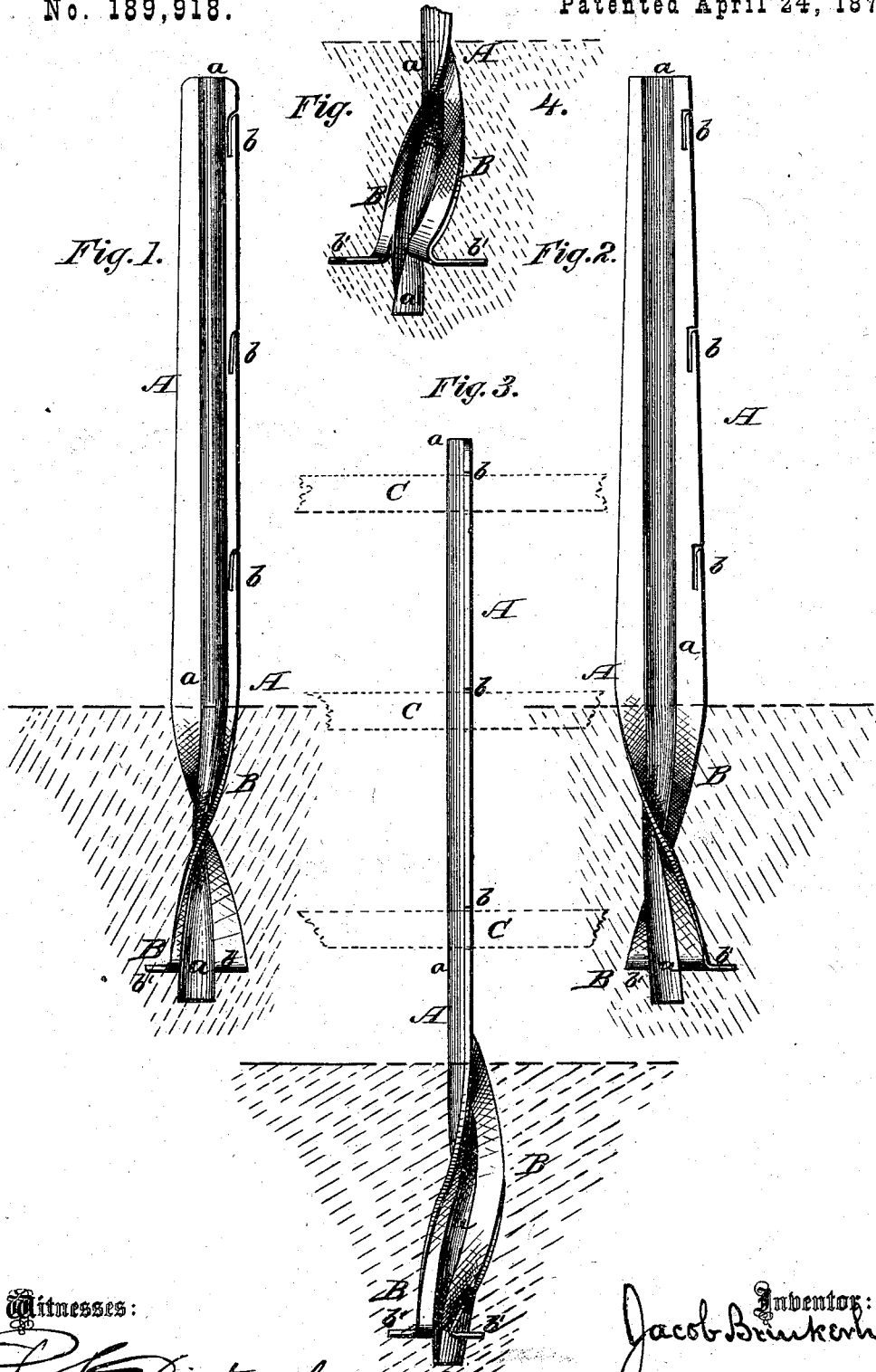


J. BRINKERHOFF.
METALLIC FENCE-POST.

No. 189,918.

Patented April 24, 1877.



Witnesses:
P. Dietrich
Frank H. Duffy

Inventor:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB BRINKERHOFF, OF AUBURN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN METALLIC FENCE-POSTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **189,918**, dated April 24, 1877; application filed March 16, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB BRINKERHOFF, of Auburn, in the county of Cayuga and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metallic Fence-Posts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to metallic fence-posts; and it consists in a sheet-metal fence-post having its base gradually twisted; also, in providing such base, or the base and post, with a longitudinal corrugation; also, in providing such post with slits or slots to receive the band or fence rails; and, further, in cutting the flanges at the lower end of the base, and bending them outward in opposite directions, all as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawing, Figures 1 and 2 are front views of my improved metallic fence-post. Fig. 3 is a side view thereof. Fig. 4 shows the base only.

A represents a fence-post, made of a single piece of sheet metal of suitable dimensions. The lower end of this post, which forms the base B, is gradually twisted either to the right or left, more or less, as desired, so that when set in the ground the earth holds it down. By this twisted form of the base, it will also be seen that the base presents a flat surface on all sides, so that in whatever direction any strain may be put on the post, such strain or pulling will be against a broad, flat surface, and the post cannot be pulled over in any direction.

To increase the strength and stiffness of the fence-post, one or more longitudinal corrugations, *a*, are formed in the sheet metal, and such corrugation or corrugations may extend the length of the base only, or the entire length of the base and post, as may be desired.

In one or both of the edges of the sheet-metal post A is formed a series of slits or slots, *b*, to hold the band or fence rails C. These

slits or slots are preferably made L-shaped, as shown, but may be of any suitable form to receive and hold the band-rails C.

By the above construction of fence-post it is rendered firm and durable, and can yet be made very cheap, and is easily and quickly put up when needed.

At the lower end of the base B the flange, on each side of the corrugation *a*, is cut loose for a suitable distance—say, half an inch, more or less—and these portions bent outward at right angles in opposite directions, forming lips *b' b'*, for holding the post down when the earth is packed down around the post. This part of my invention may be applied to any sheet-metal fence-post. These lips *b' b'* may be attached to the base of the post, if desired, instead of being formed thereon.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A sheet-metal fence-post having its base gradually twisted, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. A sheet-metal fence-post having its base twisted, and provided with one or more longitudinal corrugations extending the entire length of the base, substantially as herein set forth.

3. A sheet-metal fence-post having a twisted base, and provided with one or more longitudinal corrugations through the post and base, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

4. A sheet-metal twisted fence-post having one or more longitudinal corrugations, and a series of slits or slots in one or both of its edges, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

5. A sheet-metal fence-post provided at the lower end of its base with lips *b' b'*, projecting outward in opposite directions, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JACOB BRINKERHOFF.

Witnesses:

C. E. STEVENS,
WM. GEER.