P. HAYDEN.
Fence.

No. 207,518. Patented Aug. 27, 1878.

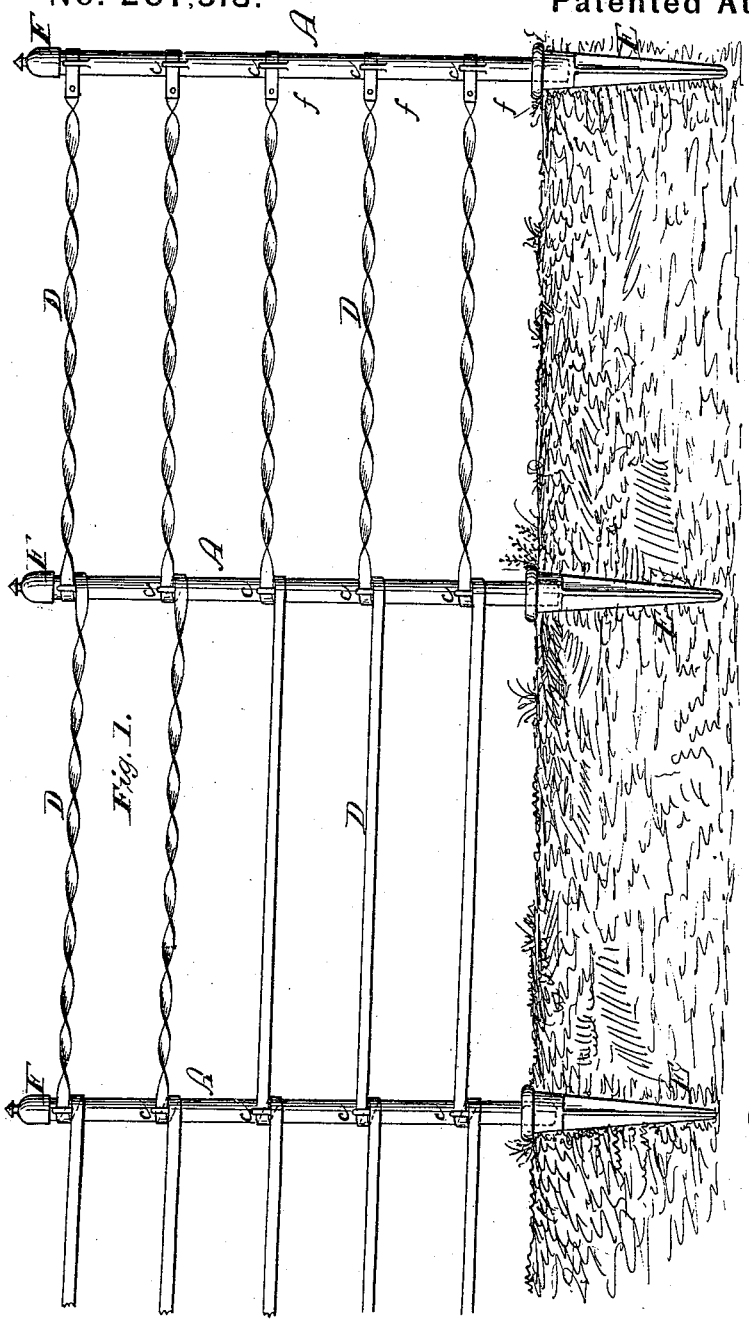

Fig. 1.

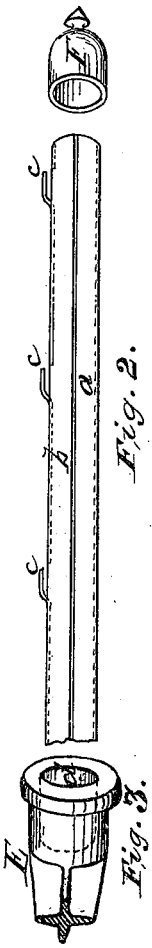

Fig. 2.

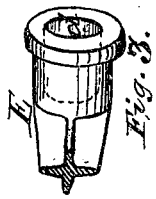

Fig. 3.

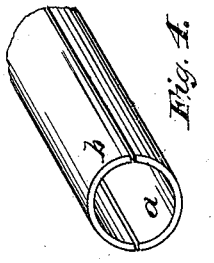

Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER HAYDEN, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **207,518**, dated August 27, 1878; application filed August 2, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER HAYDEN, of Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of fences in which the panels are formed of wrought or flexible metallic rails; and its object is to provide for such fences a substantial and cheap metallic post, having a neat appearance, light, and capable of supporting the rails firmly in proper position. Metallic posts for this class of fences have heretofore been formed of both cast and wrought metal, and having various forms of devices for supporting the rails. Among others may be mentioned a concave or semi-cylindrical post, open at its back, and having tongues punched out from its face for supporting the rails; also, a hollow cylindrical post, formed in one piece, and having a series of tongues punched out in a line from top to bottom. The semi-cylindrical or concave post is objectionable, for the reason that it is unsightly in appearance and requires, to give it strength, a thickness of metal which makes it very expensive and unwieldy. The hollow cylindrical post is light and neat; but a post of this kind formed in one piece is very expensive of manufacture, from the fact that the metal must be first rolled flat, the rail-supporting tongues be then punched out, and the metal then given its cylindrical form by folding and welding upon a mandrel, great care being necessary to avoid forcing the supporting-tongues back into the spaces from which they were punched, and so rendering them useless.

In my invention I comprise all the beauty of appearance and strength of the cylindrical post made as above set forth, while reducing the cost of manufacture very greatly, providing a post better adapted for packing, for shipping, and handling; and to this end it consists in the combination, in a metallic fence, of a series of hollow cylindrical posts, each composed of two semi-cylindrical parts, one of which is provided with a longitudinal series of tongues punched outward from its wall, and series of flexible metallic strips or rails connecting said posts, and each of which is bent once around each post and supported by one of the tongues thereof, thereby holding the intermediate portions of the two parts of the posts firmly together and preventing their separation.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a view in elevation of a fence constructed according to my invention, some of the rail-strips being shown not twisted. Fig. 2 is a view of the detached semi-cylinders and cap of which the post is composed. Fig. 3 is a view of the post-point. Fig. 4 is a detail view.

The letter A indicates the posts, each of which is composed of two semi-cylindrical parts, *a* and *b*, the part *b* having punched out from its wall a longitudinal series of tongues, *c*, which serve to support the rails D, which form the panels of the fence. In forming these posts I use the same rolls for all the semi-cylindrical parts, and after rolling a sufficient number one-half of these parts have the tongues *c* punched from their walls by any suitable metal-punching-machine. The semi-cylinders may be formed from thick sheet or boiler iron, or may be rolled directly from the bloom, if desired. The points E, which penetrate the ground and form the foundation of the posts, are each provided with a socket, *d*, into which fit the bottoms of the two semi-cylindrical parts, and by which said parts are held well together at the ground, the tops being held together in a similar manner by a cap, F

In building a fence, I first set the posts at a proper distance apart, and after having secured the end of one of the strips or rails D, untwisted, to the first post just above its lowest tongue, by bending it around and riveting it to itself, as shown in the drawing, at *f*, I stretch the strip to the next post and insert it between the bottom tongue and the body of the next post, and then bend it entirely around the post, passing it below and at the base of the tongue, and then carry it directly to the succeeding post and secure it to the same in a similar manner, and so on. After having thus stretched all the strips to form the panels of the fence I twist each of the strips by seizing it at its middle between two posts and turning it sufficiently to take up the slack, using a suitable instrument for this purpose. After all the strips have been twisted I in-

spect the entire fence carefully, and, by further twisting here and there, equalize the tension, so that the posts will all be maintained in a proper position.

It will be observed that the winding of the strips above and below the tongues *c* prevents these strips or rails from becoming displaced either upward or downward.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim is—

The combination, in a metallic fence, of a series of hollow semi-cylindrical posts, each composed of two cylindrical parts, one of which is provided with a longitudinal series of tongues punched outward from its wall, and series of flexible metallic strips or rails connecting said posts, and each of which is bent once around each post and supported by one of the tongues thereof, thereby holding the intermediate portions of the two parts of the posts firmly together, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

PETER HAYDEN.

Witnesses:
JOHN M. GWINNELL,
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