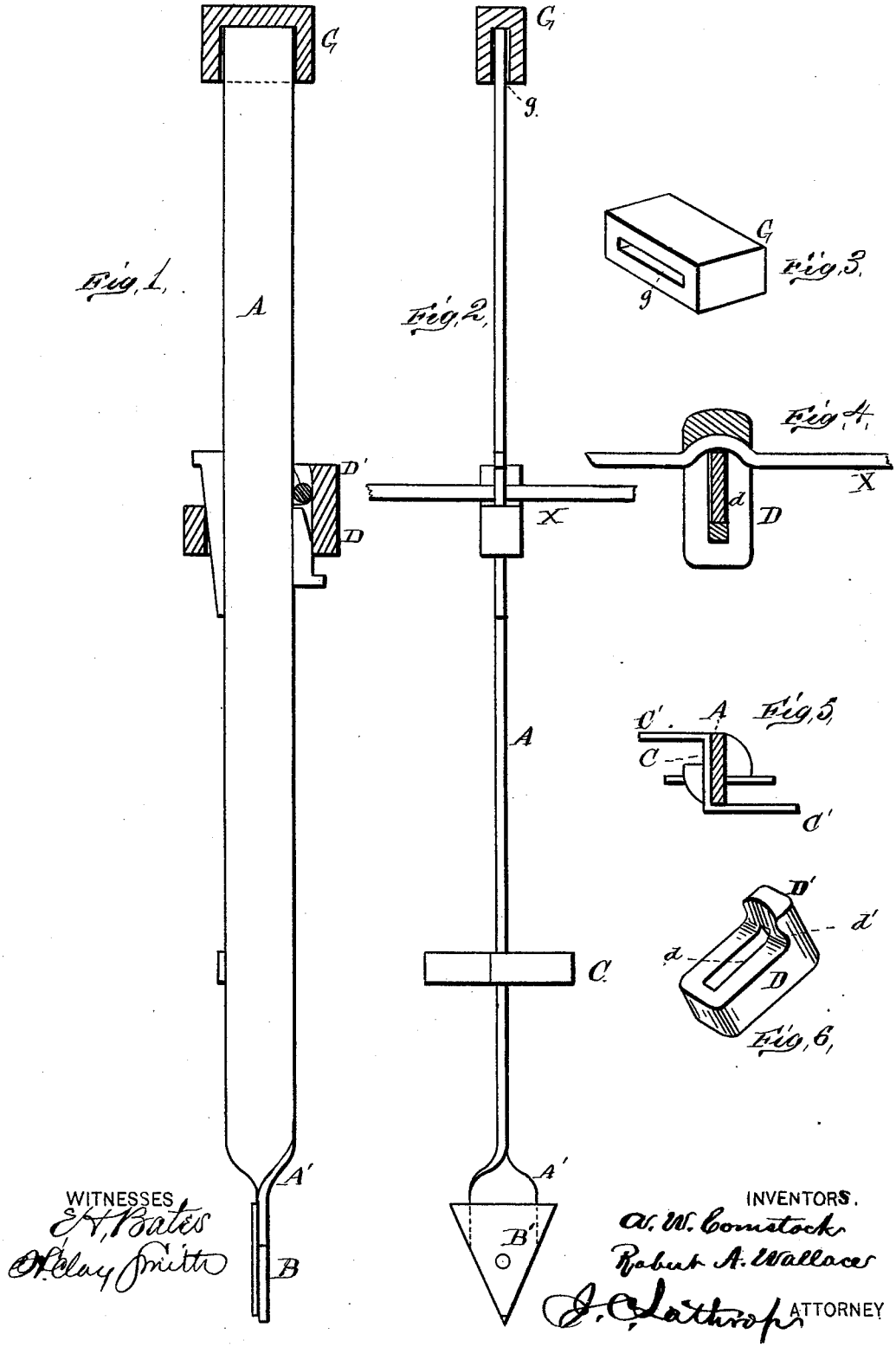
A. W COMSTOCK & R. A. WALLACE.

Iron Fence-Post.

No. 208,795. Patented Oct. 8, 1878.



WITNESSES

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AUSTIN W. COMSTOCK AND ROBERT A. WALLACE, OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN IRON FENCE-POSTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **208,795**, dated October 8, 1878; application filed March 21, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, AUSTIN W. COMSTOCK and ROBERT A. WALLACE, of Mount Pleasant, in the county of Henry and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Iron Fence-Posts and attachments, and fastenings for wire; and we 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 letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

In the accompany drawings, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my invention; Fig. 2, a transverse elevation; and Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6 are views of details.

The nature of our invention relates to metal posts adapted to be used in wire fences.

Our invention consists in a wrought-iron post, of any required dimensions and length, but preferably flat. Its width and depth must be adapted to the amount of strength required, but as the greater strain will be applied to the fence laterally the width of the post is greater. The entire fence only can be subjected to longitudinal strain, and the post is adapted accordingly.

This bar of metal of suitable length is bent or twisted near the bottom one-fourth round, so that the flat surface of one portion lies in a plane at right angles with the flat surface of the other portion, and this twisted intervening portion may be of sufficient length to supply a necessary strength in any direction. The lower portion of the post is brought to a point to adapt it to be driven in the ground, and a hardened triangular plate may be there attached when it is deemed necessary.

To prevent the post from being forced out of place in the direction of its narrow dimensions, we rigidly attach thereto a wide plate, each extremity of which is bent so as to rest at right angles with the plane of the width of the post and parallel with the plane of the fence. This plate is to be located below the surface of the ground, and its action is obvious.

As a means of attaching the wire to the posts we furnish a chair having a body and a vertical projection. The body is slotted to receive the post, and the inner surface of the vertical portion is concave both horizontally and vertically. The slot is adapted to receive the post and is wedged or keyed thereto. The wire is placed in the concavity between the vertical portion and the post, and the wedges bind it firmly.

These chairs are removable and adjustable, and any number required may be used on a post.

To prevent the upper extremity from becoming battered from the pounding necessary to drive the post into the ground, we provide a cap of hardened metal which is adapted to fit over the end of the post. The necessity of this is obvious from the fact that the chairs must pass over that end of the post, and if battered out of shape they could not be properly operated.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the wrought-iron post, and A′ the twisted portion. B represents the pointed lower end of the post, and B′ the triangular or conical hardened point. C is the metal brace-plate, rigid with the post, and C′ the bent extremities thereof.

D represents the chair, provided with slot *d* to receive the post. D′ represents the vertical portion of the chair, having the concave inner surface, *d′*, to receive the wire X.

G is the hardened metal cap to receive the blows, and *g* the slot which receives the head of the post.

The chair D D′ is wedged above and below, as shown, and serves to bind the wire and post rigidly at any desired point.

The operation, from the above description of our invention, is obvious.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the fence-post A,

having twisted portion A′, with the hardened pointed tip B′ and brace C C, as specified.

2. The chair D D′ *d d′*, constructed as shown, and wedged above and below to bind the wires and post rigidly at any desired point, in combination with the post A A′ and wire X, as specified.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

AUSTIN W. COMSTOCK.
ROBERT A. WALLACE.

Witnesses:
L. G. RAMER,
D. F. ANDERSON.