F. JOHNSON & F. ECCLESTON.

Wire Fence Post and Fastening.

No. 212,706. Patented Feb. 25, 1879.

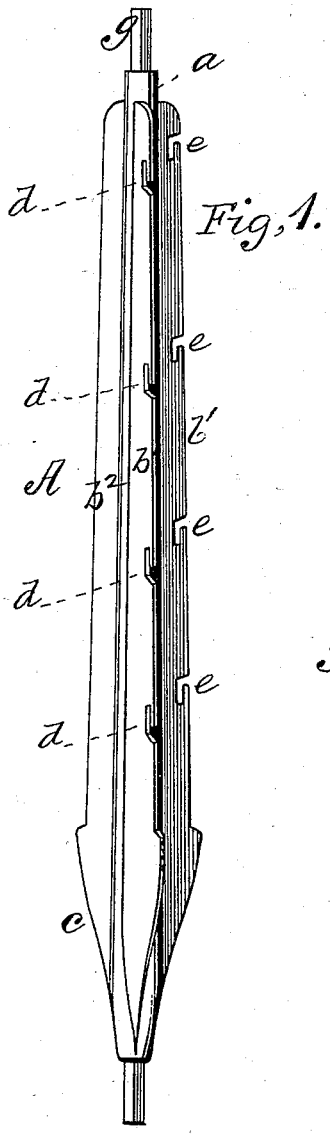

Fig. 1.

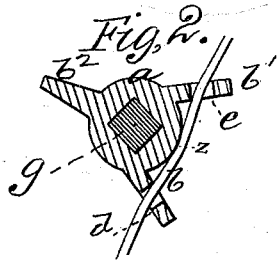

Fig. 2.

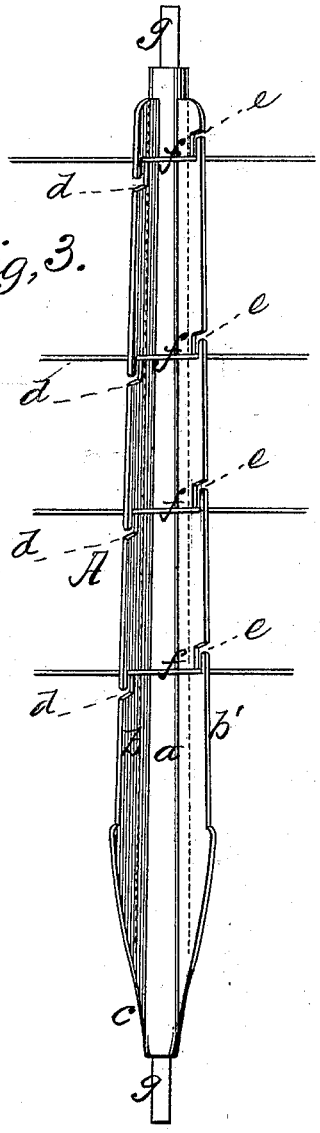

Fig. 3.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED. JOHNSON AND FRANK ECCLESTON, OF NEBRASKA CITY, NEBRASKA.

IMPROVEMENT IN WIRE-FENCE POSTS AND FASTENINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **212,706**, dated February 25, 1879; application filed September 23, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FRED. JOHNSON and FRANK ECCLESTON, of Nebraska City, in the county of Otoe and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Wire-Fence Posts and Fastenings; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a perspective view of our improved fence post and fastening. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section thereof, and Fig. 3 is a side view of the same with the wire applied.

This invention has for its object the improvement of cast-iron fence-posts for wire fences.

The nature of the invention consists in a cast-iron post having a central spine-body, diverging wings projecting therefrom in rear and in front, and terminating in a drive-point, the reversed L-shaped slots formed in the edges of said wings, out of line with each other and close to the central body, whereby a wire engaged in said slots is bent or kinked between the wings and around the projecting body portion, and is thereby prevented from slipping and sagging at the middle of the panel between the posts, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawings, the letter A designates our improved post for wire fences, consisting of a cylindrical spine, *a*, upon which are three wings, *b* b^1 b^2, extending from the top to the bottom of the spine, and terminating in a drive-point, *c*. The wings *b* b^1 form an acute angle with each other and an obtuse angle with the wing b^2, the object of this construction being to bring the said wings *b* b^1 to the front of the post, sufficiently near each other.

d indicates L-shaped open-ended slots formed in the edge of the wing *b* at a suitable distance apart, whereof one branch is horizontal, or nearly so, and the other vertical and above the horizontal branch; and *e* indicates similar slots formed in the edge of the wing b^1 in a position the reverse of the slots *d*—that is, with one branch horizontal and the other vertical and below the said horizontal branch.

As shown in the drawing, the slots *d e* are on different levels, the latter being the higher, and the upper ends of the vertical branches of the slots *d* are below the lower ends of the corresponding branches of slots *e*, said vertical branches being close to the central body, which projects between the branches, as shown at *z*. Consequently, when the wires, having been tautened, are passed into said slots, a portion thereof between the wings *b* b^1 is bent out of line with the length, as shown at *f*, forming a bend or kink, binding around the projecting portion of the central spines, which effectually prevents the wires from slipping and slackening up. By this means the wires are prevented from sagging when under strain and getting so low at the middle of the panels as to be readily leaped over by domestic animals.

The post A, with its wings *b* b^1 b^2, spine *a*, and slots *d e*, is cast complete, a wrought-iron rod, *g*, being placed in the center of the mold before running in the metal. This rod, as shown in Fig. 2, is in the center of the spine *a*, and greatly increases the strength of the post, and effectually obviates the danger of breaking during the act of driving.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, the following:

A cast-iron fence-post having a wrought-iron core, *g*, around which its cylindrical spine *a* is cast, said spine having the rear wing, b^2, and the front wings, *b* b^1, provided with reversed angular notches *d e*, and the intermediate rounded projecting body portion *z*, forming a bearing, and adapted to prevent the fence-wires from slipping out of said notches, substantially as specified.

In testimony that we claim the above we have hereunto subscribed our names in the presence of two witnesses.

FRED. JOHNSON.
FRANK ECCLESTON.

Witnesses:
PAUL SCHMINKE,
JOHN PALLISTER.