L. BAGGER.

BARBED FENCE-WIRE.

No. 183,883. Patented Oct. 31, 1876.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

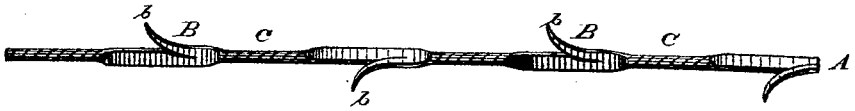
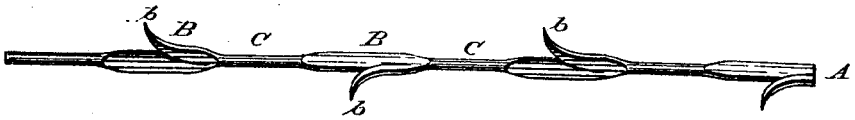


Fig. 3.

Fig's 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS BAGGER, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BARBED FENCE-WIRES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **183,883**, dated October 31, 1876; application filed August 16, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS BAGGER, of Washington, in the county of Washington and District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Barbed Fence-Wire; 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, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to that class of barbed wire for fences in which the barbs or spurs form integral parts of the wire; and it consists in compressing or flattening the wire in equidistant sections, leaving the intervening or alternating sections untouched, and cutting the barbs or spurs from said compressed or flattened sections, substantially as hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents a piece of wire, showing the flat sections alternating with the plain or untouched sections, as it appears previous to the cutting of the barbs. Fig. 2 represents the same section after the barbs have been cut and the wire has been twisted. Fig. 3 represents a blank in which the flattened sections are so formed as to present faces at an angle to each other, and Fig. 4 represents the same blank after the barbs have been cut.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A is the wire, preferably, but not necessarily, round. B are the flattened or indented parts, and C the sections, alternating with the former where the wire is left intact. *b* are the barbs or spurs, cut from one or both edges of the flattened parts, or from the centers thereof, if desired. I prefer, however, to cut them from the edge, as shown in the drawing.

The flattened sections are easily produced by passing the wire, after heating, through suitably-constructed dies or rollers; or they may readily be made by hand, with a hammer, upon an anvil.

The barbs *b* may either be cut from the wire by the same operation, or by the same machine which produces the flattened parts, or they may be cut afterward.

When the barbs are cut from sections whose faces lie in the same plane, as in Fig. 1, I prefer to twist the wire, as shown in Fig. 2, so as to present the points or barbs in all directions; but when the barbs are cut from blanks in which the flattened sections present faces at an angle to each other, as in Fig. 3, the wire need not be twisted. I prefer to use this style of blank when a cheap grade of wire is used, as low grades of wire do not stand twisting as well as the better qualities.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I do not cut the barbs from the surface of the wire, but rather from the interior or body of the wire, by making blanks in which the metal of the interior or body of the wire is brought out by compressing alternate sections, thereby entirely changing the character of the wire.

Where, in the foregoing description, I have used the words "flattened" or "flat," I do not desire these to be understood as meaning flat, or straight, or plane surfaces only, but the compressed or indented portions of the wire, without reference to the precise contour or surface shape of these indents. In practice it is preferable to make these indents or flattened sections with elongated and slightly-concave faces or surfaces, inclining gradually, and not abruptly, from the full body of the wire, for the threefold reason that these indents are easier to make than perfectly straight and square ones, they do not weaken the wire, and the barb cut from them has a stout and substantial base.

My improved barbed fence-wire can be made from ordinary wire by machinery of the most simple construction, so that I can furnish it to the trade or to consumers at a slight advance on the cost of the plain wire. The barbs do not readily bend or break, and the barbed wire can be readily coiled for transportation, and again uncoiled for use, without becoming entangled.

Having thus described my invention, I

claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

A barbed fence-wire, consisting of a wire having indents or flattened sections B, from which the barbs *b* are cut, alternating with full wire-sections C, substantially as and for the purpose herein shown and specified.

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

LOUIS BAGGER.

Witnesses:
C. F. TRILL,
E. E. COURT.