

J. McNEILL.  
BARBED FENCE-WIRE.

No. 189,122.

Patented April 3, 1877.

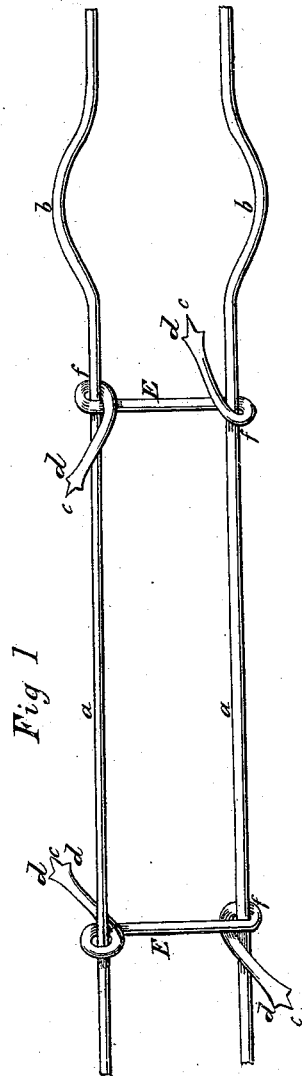


Fig 1

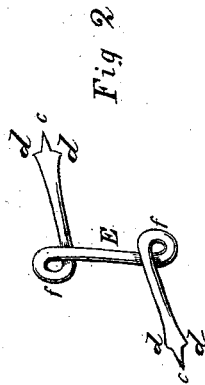


Fig 2

Attest:  
A. R. Brown.  
E. L. Schmidt.

Inventor:  
John McNeill.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN McNEILL, OF CHICAGO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF OF HIS RIGHT TO  
ALEXANDER C. DECKER, OF BUSHNELL, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BARBED FENCE-WIRES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **159,122**, dated April 3, 1877; application filed  
July 18, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN McNEILL, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Barbed Fence-Wires; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention has relation to an improvement in wire-barb fences; and consists in applying to the rail-wires of such fence a wire barb, provided with beveled points and shoulders, in the manner and for the purpose hereinafter more fully described.

In the annexed drawing, Figure 1 is a side view of two parallel rail-wires, with barbs attached, and Fig. 2 is a view of my improved wire barb.

The rail-wires are represented by *a a*, and have curves *b b* formed in them. They are to be secured to suitable posts in any convenient manner, and are connected by the barbed wires *E*. These barbs are each formed of one piece of wire, flattened at the ends, and having beveled points *c* and shoulders *d d*. The barbs are twisted around each rail-wire at *f*, so as to form the letter **Z**, thus holding

the two wires *a a* firmly in position, and leaving the points of the barb pointing slightly up and down on opposite sides of the wires. By making the barbs with beveled points *c* and shoulders *d* they will possess a sufficiently offensive character for cattle, and, at the same time, avoid the danger of injuring them by penetrating too far.

The curves *b b* in the rail-wires serve to compensate for their contraction and expansion, and, when fine wires are used, a piece or pieces of sticks, weighted at one end, may be inserted in these curves for the purpose of keeping the wires at a proper tension.

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

Wire-fence meshes, consisting of the rail-wires *a a*, provided with curves *b b*, the **Z**-shaped wire barb *E*, herein described, having beveled points *c* and shoulders *d d*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature this 18th day of July, 1876, in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN McNEILL.

Witnesses:

A. R. BROWN,  
E. L. SCHMIDT.