M. P. MIGHELL.
Barbed Fence-Wires.

No. 199,924. Patented Feb. 5, 1878.

Fig. 1.

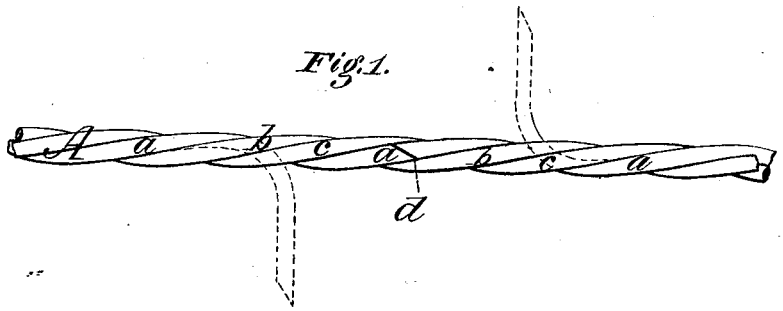
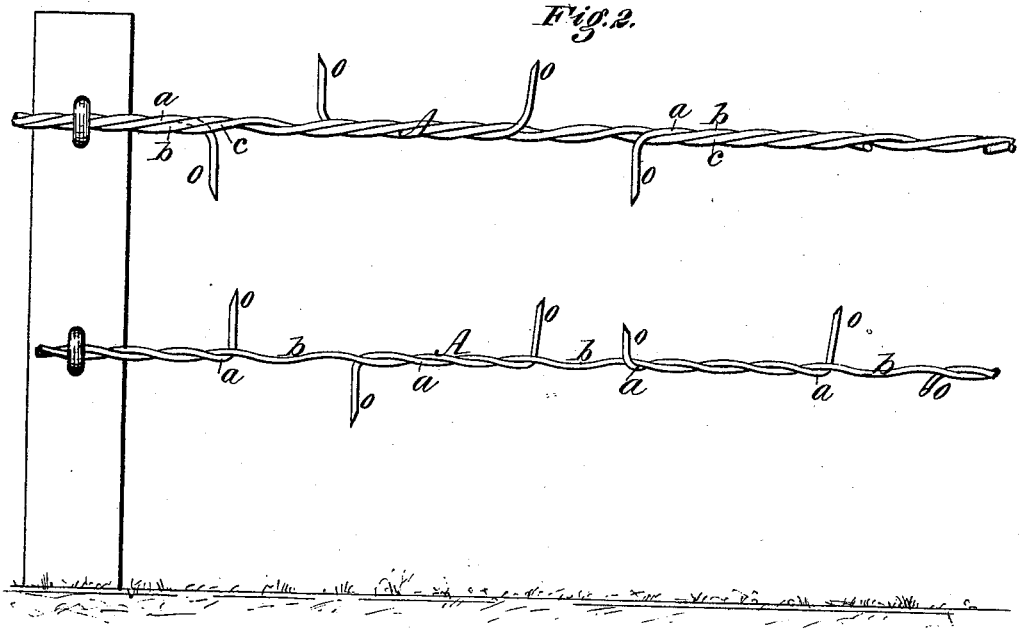


Fig. 2.



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MONTRAVILLE P. MIGHELL, OF DELTA, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BARBED FENCE-WIRES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **199,924**, dated February 5, 1878; application filed July 25, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MONTRAVILLE P. MIGHELL, of Delta, in the county of Keokuk and State of Iowa, have invented certain Improvements in Barbed Fence-Wires, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to that class of fences which are constructed of wire and provided with metal points or barbs; and the improvement consists in forming each of the finished strands of two or more smaller strands twisted together, one of which latter is cut at intervals, and has its ends bent or turned outward to form barbs, as hereinafter more fully explained.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a short section of a wire, composed of three strands, previous to bending out the ends of the severed strands, and Fig. 2 represents two finished wires, composed, respectively, of three and two strands.

The object of this invention is to produce a barbed wire which may be produced by machinery cheaply and rapidly, and one from which the barbs are not liable to become detached or loose.

To accomplish these objects I twist together two or more strands of wire of proper size and strength, as represented in Fig. 1, these strands being of great length without joints, a very desirable object in fences of this class.

In Fig. 1, A represents the entire strand or wire, composed of three smaller strands, *a*, *b*, and *c*, the first of which is severed at intervals after the twisting is completed, as shown at *d*, the cut being made diagonally across the wire, as represented, for the purpose of giving sharp points to its ends. After being thus cut or severed, the ends of the wire or strand *a* are bent outward, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, and further shown in Fig. 2. This forms the points or barbs *o*, which can be made to stand at any angle, and project from all sides of the wire A, by cutting or severing the strand *a* on different sides of the same, as shown.

If preferred, the wire A may be composed of but two strands, *a* and *b*, twisted and severed, as above described and as shown in Fig. 2, but in practice I prefer to use three strands, for the reason that the wire A is not so much weakened in forming the barbs as where but two are used.

In cutting the strand which forms the barbs care should be taken that the same strand is cut each time, in order that the strength of the remaining strands may remain unimpaired.

The strands being tightly twisted together, it will be seen that it is impossible for the barbs or points *o* to become loose or detached.

The strands can be very rapidly and evenly twisted together by machinery, and the strand *a* may be readily cut and bent outward, thus rendering the construction of the finished wire very simple and cheap.

I am aware that wire barbs have been wound upon fence-wires in various forms, and that said wires have been bent at the points where the barbs are located to retain the barbs in place; and such construction I do not claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A barbed fence-wire consisting of one or more unbroken strands, having a continuous spiral twist or curvature, and additional short strands *a* twisted tightly into the curves or sinuosities of the main strand, and bent outward at their ends, substantially as shown and described.

2. The herein-described method of forming barbed fence-wire by twisting two or more strands together, and subsequently severing one of said strands at suitable intervals, and bending the ends formed thereby outward.

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