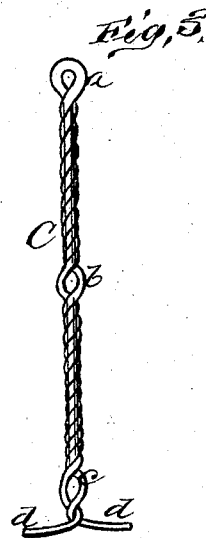
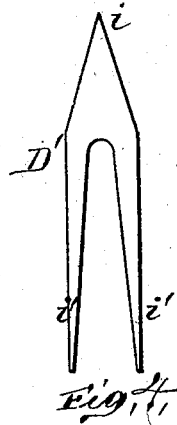
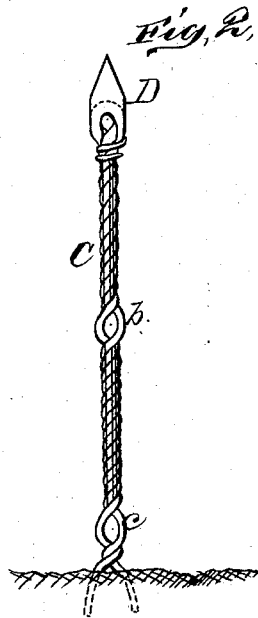
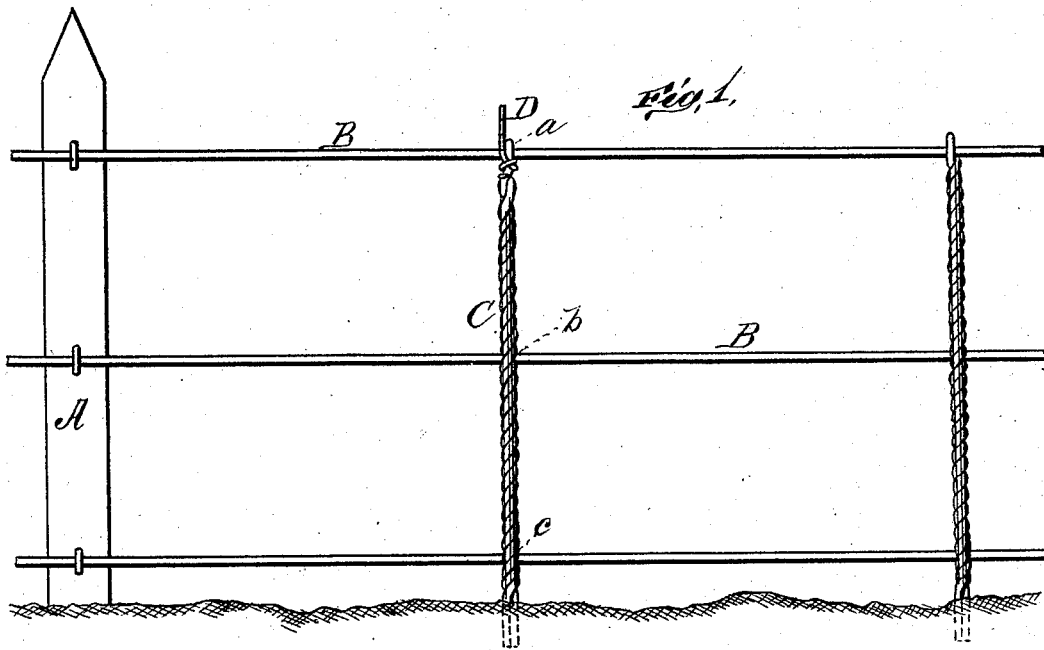


F. L. SARMIENTO.
 Support or Picket for Strengthening Fences.
 No. 203,502. Patented May 7, 1878.



WITNESSES
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FERDINAND L. SARMIENTO, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SUPPORTS OR PICKETS FOR STRENGTHENING FENCES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 203,502, dated May 7, 1878; application filed March 16, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FERDINAND LOUIS SARMIENTO, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Supports or Pickets for Strengthening Iron or Steel Wire Fences or other fences; and I 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 front elevation of a wire fence with said support or picket attached. Fig. 2 is a view of the support or picket itself, showing ends or prongs which run into the earth or are attached to a base. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the picket or support, and Fig. 4 is a detail view of the barb-blank.

This invention has relation to improvements in pickets designed to be attached to the wires of the fence at intervals between the posts, to afford them adequate support and prevent sagging.

The nature of the invention consists in such a picket formed by bending a piece of wire over upon itself to form a loop at one end, then twisting the branches of the said wire together tightly, seats being formed at intervals for the reception of the fence-wires, and then branching the ends of the picket to afford a support and give a hold to the picket upon the ground-stub or other base.

It also consists in a spur secured to the upper end of the picket, to prevent it from being leaned upon and bent or broken down, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawings, the letter A designates the posts; B, the spaced wires secured thereto in any suitable manner; C, the pickets to prevent sagging of the said wires, and D the barbs.

The picket C is formed of a single piece of wire of suitable rigidity, as follows: It is first bent around a former or wire to form a loop,

a. The branches, which are of equal length, are then tightly twisted upon each other until about one-half of the picket is completed. A former or wire being then passed between the branches of the wire, twisting is then resumed, thus forming the second eye *b*, for the reception of the second wire B of the fence, and the body of the picket extended to a third eye, *c*, constructed in the same manner as the eye *b*. One or more turns being then made, the wires are then separated, forming distinct branches *d*, that, when buried in the ground or fixed to a suitable base, afford proper support to the picket.

The picket-barb D is formed of a blank, D', Fig. 4, having at one end a point, *i*, and terminating at the other in two sufficiently long strips, *i*. This barb is placed astride the fence-wire and pushed against the upper end of the picket. The strips are then tightly twisted around the picket below the wire, as shown in Fig. 2, and its attachment to the wire completed. This barb effectually deters persons or animals from leaning upon the picket and bending or breaking it down.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The wire-fence picket consisting of the twisted-wire body, having spaced eye-seats *a b c* for the fence-wires, and the branched prongs *d*, for attachment to the ground or base, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with the fence-wire B and the picket C, of the barb D, having point *i* and spaced strips *i'* at opposite ends, placed astride the wire against the picket, and secured thereto by twisting the said strips around the picket below the wire, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

FERDINAND LOUIS SARMIENTO.

Witnesses:

EDWIN H. HILL,
JOTHAM E. BIGELOW.