C. H. BAKER & F. L. BESTOR.

Wire-Fence Barb.

No. 208,140. Patented Sept. 17, 1878.

Fig. 1.

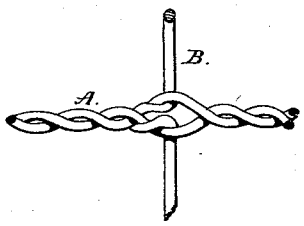
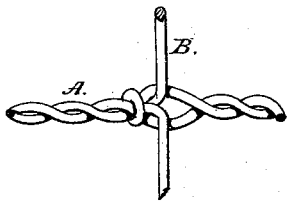


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. BAKER AND FRANCIS L. BESTOR, OF KNOXVILLE, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN WIRE-FENCE BARBS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **208,140**, dated September 17, 1878; application filed June 18, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES H. BAKER and FRANCIS L. BESTOR, both of Knoxville, in the county of Marion and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Wire-Fence Barb; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification.

Our invention relates to the mode of constructing wire-fence barbs and to the application of the same to the strands of twisted-wire fences, for the purpose of deterring cattle from breaking through the fences or from otherwise damaging the same by throwing their weights against it; and it is our object to produce a barb which will form a strong knot with the wire strands without damaging or weakening the same, and in such a manner that it will resist lateral strain, and will prevent the strands from untwisting in case that one of these strands should get broken.

Our invention therein consists in applying a wire barb to a two-strand fence-wire by bending the wire at or near its center around both strands, then passing both ends of the wire through in the same direction between the strands, and then bending such ends outwardly in opposite directions and on line with each other.

Figure 1 represents a front perspective view, and Fig. 2 a rear perspective view, of our improved barb, shown as applied to a two-strand fence-wire.

A is the fence-wire, and B the barb. In forming our improved barbs, the wire is cut diagonally to the desired lengths, so as to have pointed or sharp ends. This wire is first doubled up, so as to form a loop for embracing both fence-wire strands, and thence both ends are bent laterally in one and the same direction and passed through between the two strands at one and the same point, whence they are extended in opposite directions to be on a straight line with each other, whereby the barb-wire will coil once around each fence-wire independently of its loop, clasping both wires together, thus forming a strong knot, which will resist lateral strain and will hold the barbs rectangularly with the line of the fence-wires, while at the same time it will prevent untwisting of the same in case one of its strands should get broken.

These barbs can be formed either while attaching the same to a fence already in position or they may be formed by suitable tools or machinery upon the fence-wires in manufacturing before the same are twisted.

We are aware that many devices for forming wire barbs have been patented before, which, however, we do not believe to give the same advantages as the one we have above described, since they either did not so rigidly obtain a hold to the fence-wires, and therefore did not resist lateral strain so well, or else where such had been provided against it was accomplished by bending or offsetting the fence-wires at every place where a barb had to be attached, and thereby were more or less damaged or weakened.

What we claim as our invention is—

The combination, with the two-strand fence-wire A, of the wire barb B, bent at or near its center around both strands of the wire, then having both ends passed through in the same direction between said strands and bent outwardly in opposite directions on line with each other, substantially as described and shown.

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