

F. ARMSTRONG.
BARBED FENCE-WIRE.

No. 176,262.

Patented April 18, 1876.

Fig1.

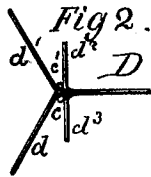
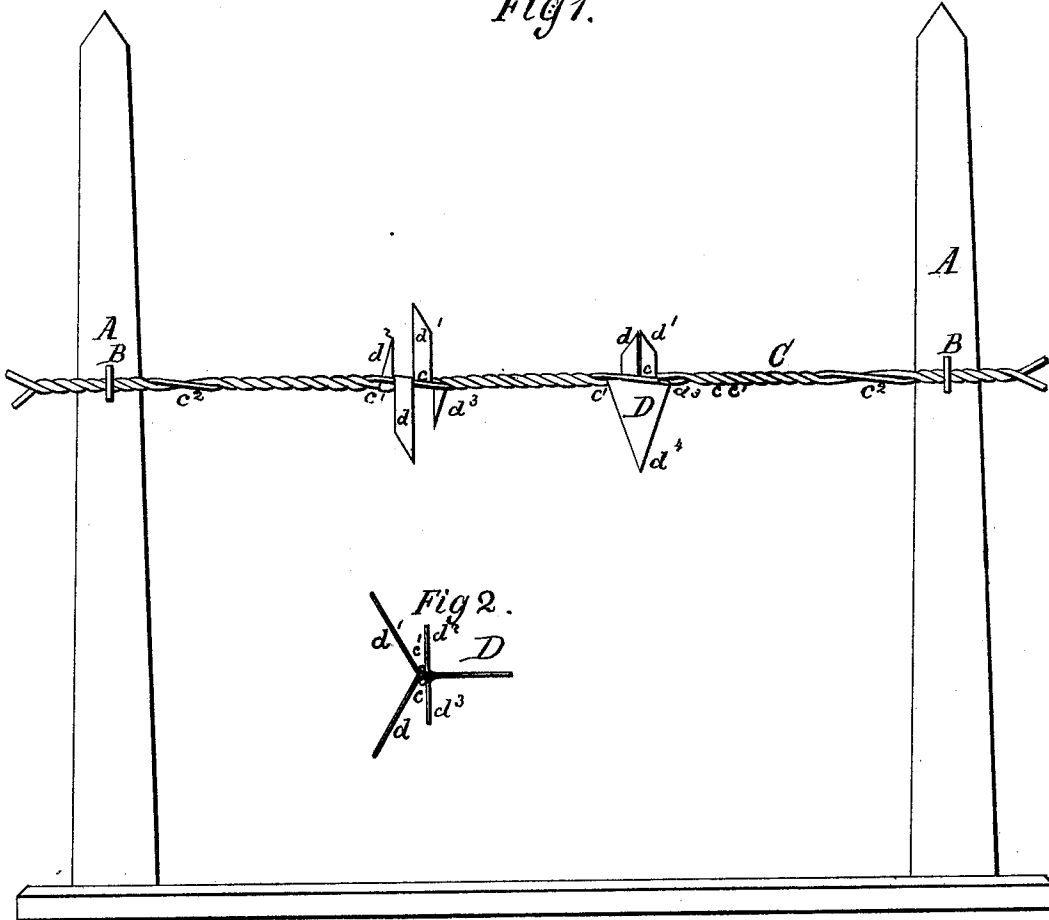


Fig5.

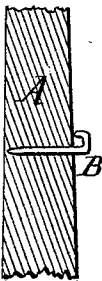


Fig6.

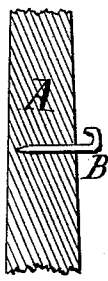


Fig3.

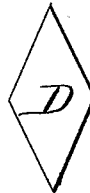


Fig4.

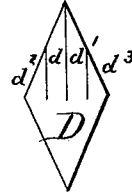
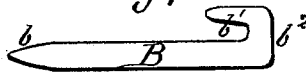


Fig7.



Witnesses:
J. F. Theodore Lang
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Inventor.
Frank Armstrong
by his atty
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK ARMSTRONG, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN BARBED FENCE-WIRES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **176,262**, dated April 18, 1876; application filed February 3, 1876.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, FRANK ARMSTRONG, of Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Barbed-Cable Fences; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a part of my wire fence in elevation. Fig. 2 illustrates the manner of fastening the barbs to the wire cable. Fig. 3 is a blank from which the barb is made. Fig. 4 shows the preparation of the said blank previous to its insertion into the cable. Figs. 5 and 6 represent the mode of fastening the cable to the supporting-posts, and Fig. 7 represents the hook with which the said fastening is done, on an enlarged scale, but forms no part of my present invention.

My present improvement in the barbs for wire fences relates particularly to the shouldered barbs patented by me on December 21, 1875; and the nature of my invention consists, first, in the combination of a two-wire cable with barbs made of flat lozenge-shaped pieces of metal, which are split in the longest direction from about midway of their length, so as to form two long and two short prongs, between which the two strands of the cable are grasped by bending them over at different angles, the two short prongs thus forming an abutment for the wires of the cable during the act of inserting the barbs in the "eyes" of the cable, and such abutments constituting an improvement on the abutting shoulders *b* of the barbed-wire fence for which a patent was granted me December 21, 1875.

In the drawings, A represents a number of posts, to which, by means of hooks B, a wire cable, C, consisting of two wires, *c c'*, is fastened. At suitable distances the cable is left slightly open, as at *c''*, so as to form eyes for the insertion of metal barbs D. The said metal barbs D are cut out of sheet metal, in the shape of a lozenge, and split longitudinally, as shown in Fig. 4, thereby forming two prongs, *d d'*, with sharp points, while two shorter prongs, *d'' d'''*, are formed by making

two cuts parallel to the first one, as also seen in Fig. 4. The short prongs *d'' d'''* are now bent in opposite directions, and about rectangularly to the plate D, and those *d d'* are then inserted between the wires *c c'*, during which act these short bent prongs will abut against the wires of the cable, although the eye or slot in which the barb is being inserted is of greater length than the greatest width of the barb, and thus arrest the barb at the proper point for its permanent fixture within the eye or slot. The prongs *d d'* are now bent in opposite directions upon the wires, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, thereby securing the barbs in permanent position upon the cable. The prong of the hook B, which is driven into the post, is shaped like a spike, and provided with a point, *b*, and the prong which forms the eye *b'* is provided with a straight back, *b''*, whereby the bending over or closing up of the said eye *b'* is prevented when the hook is struck by the hammer or hatchet.

The position of the hook B represented by Fig. 5 is its normal position. When occasional lifting or displacement of the wire cable is desired, the hooks may be withdrawn slightly, as seen in Fig. 6, and the wire cable lifted out of them.

The short prongs of the barbs, as described, form abutments against the wires *c c'* of the cable during the act of applying the barb in the eye of the cable, as well as retaining the barbs on the cable while in use.

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

A diamond-shaped sheet-metal barb, having a central longitudinal slit at one of its points and provided with additional side slits to form short abutting points when the barb is inserted within a double twisted fence-wire, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

FRANK ARMSTRONG.

Witnesses:

HENRY ROTH,
THEODORE E. VEIL.

1750 words