(No Model.)

W. A. HOLMES.

FENCE.

No. 360,155. Patented Mar. 29, 1887.

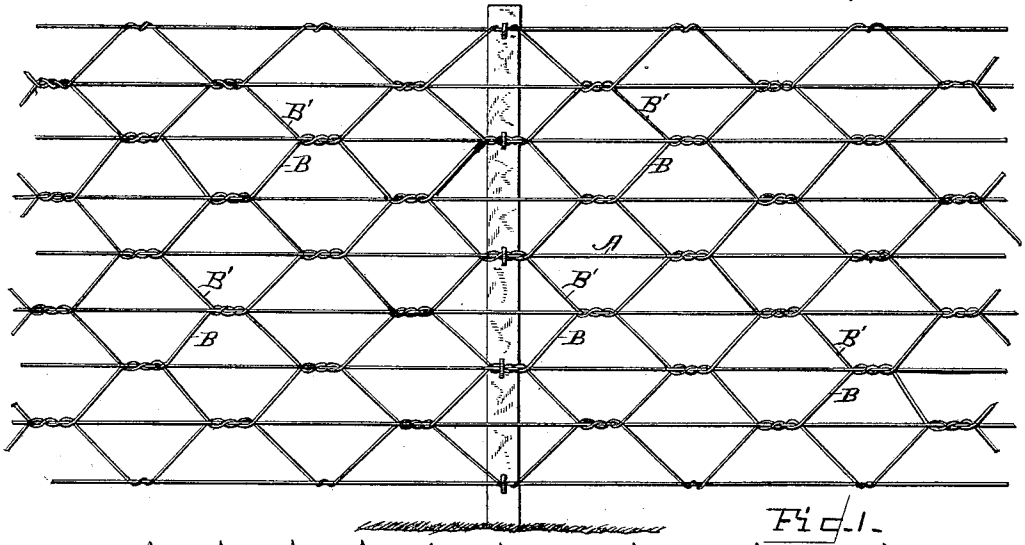


Fig. 1.

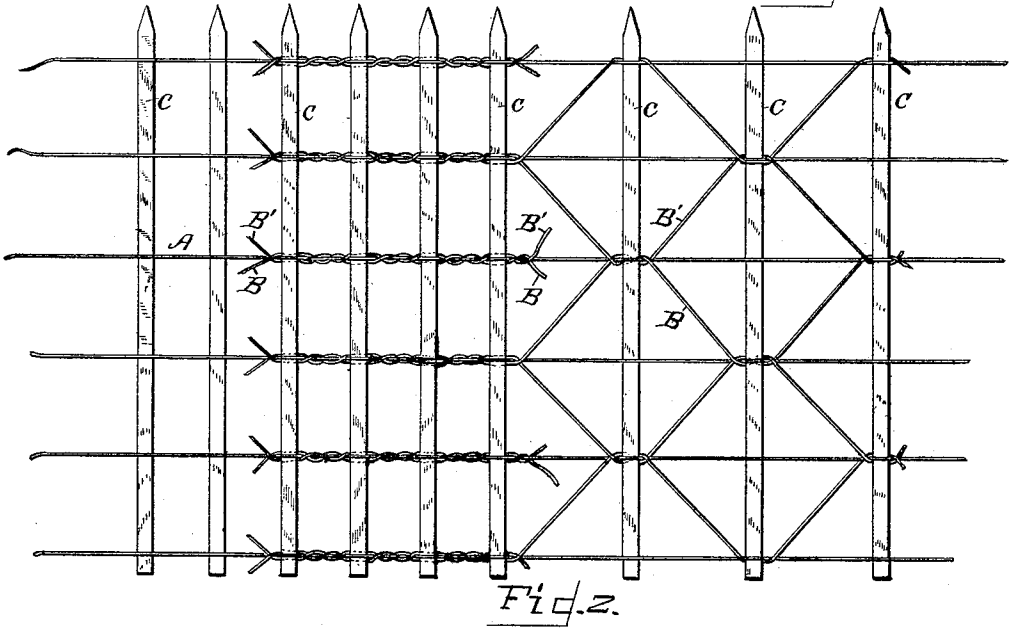


Fig. 2.

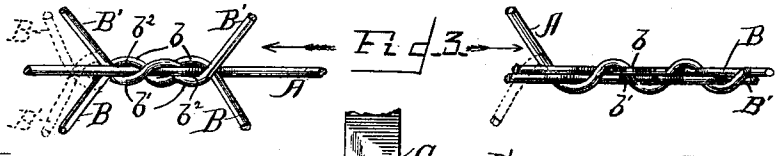


Fig. 3.

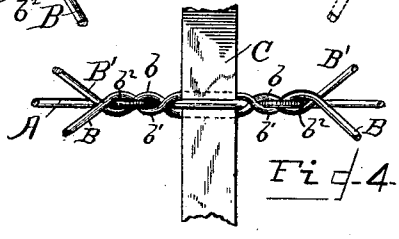


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WESLEY A. HOLMES, OF SHORT CREEK, OHIO.

FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 360,155, dated March 29, 1887.

Application filed July 29, 1886. Serial No. 209,452. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WESLEY A. HOLMES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Short Creek, in the county of Harrison and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to fences; and the improvement consists in the novel construction and method of uniting the several strands, as more fully hereinafter set forth and claimed, and shown in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of a section of fence of ordinary construction, having the several strands joined at their points of intersection by my improved method. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing two forms of fence and pickets interlocked with the strands. That form of fence to the right-hand side shows the strands forming meshes, and that form to the left-hand side shows the strands forming a continuous cable. Fig. 3 is a side and top view, respectively, on an enlarged scale, of a section of the interlocked strands, showing the manner of intertwining them; and Fig. 4 is a side view, on an enlarged scale, of a section of the interlocked strands having a picket bound in with them.

The soul of my invention is the construction and method of interlocking the several strands of a wire fence at their points of intersection. Heretofore such interlocking was accomplished by twisting or braiding the several strands, which has been found objectionable, in that the particles are separated and the action of the elements soon produces a rupture. Again, the twisting comparatively with my method is more costly.

Figs. 1 and 2 show portions of fences of ordinary form and configuration and composed of the usual number of strands of wire, the only difference being that the several strands B, B′, and A are interlocked at their points of intersection by my improved method, which consists in bending the strands B and B′ alternately up and down and passing the strand A back and forth across the point of intersection of the strands B and B′ in such manner that the several strands present a wave-like appearance, and the swell *b* of the strand B will come opposite the swell *b′* of the strand B′, forming an opening, b^2. As there are a series of swells, there will be a corresponding series of openings. The strand A passes alternately through said openings from opposite sides, crossing in front of and behind their points of intersection, as most clearly shown in Fig. 3.

For convenience of reference, the strands B and B′ will be designated as the "cross-strands," in contradistinction to the strands A, which will be called the "longitudinal strands." The cross-strands form the mesh and the longitudinal strands the binder to lock the cross-strands at their point of intersection.

The strands are interlocked in the following manner: The cross-strands B and B′ are bent in opposite directions, the strand B being shown bent up and the strand B′ down by full lines in Fig. 3, crossing each other at a point opposite the longitudinal strand A, which is bent across said crossing, as shown by full lines to the right in Fig. 3. At this stage the cross-strands B and B′ are again bent in opposite directions, crossing in front of the strand A. The strand B is bent up and the strand B′ down, as shown in dotted lines in the same figure, and so on. Thus after each movement of the strands B and B′ in any one direction the strand A is carried across their point of intersection.

The cross-wires may be made to form a mesh in the usual manner, as shown in Fig. 1 and to the right-hand side in Fig. 2; or they may be made into a continuous cable, as shown to the left-hand side in Fig. 2, in which case pickets C will be set in at intervals and clamped between the cross-strands on one side and the longitudinal strand on the opposite side. In like manner pickets may be set in the mesh fence, as shown to the right-hand side in Fig. 2.

It is preferred that the cross-strands move up and down each in its respective plane, so that they will not cross laterally, and when

bound together will lie parallel to each other, as shown most clearly in Fig. 3.

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

1. The combination, with the longitudinal strands A, of the cross-strands B and B′, bent alternately up and down, the longitudinal strands being bent alternately from right to left across the points of intersection of the cross-strands, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination, with the longitudinal strands A and the cross-strands B and B′, bent alternately up and down, the longitudinal strands being bent alternately from right to left across the points of intersection of the cross-strands, of the pickets C, clamped between the longitudinal strands and the cross-strands, substantially as shown and set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WESLEY A. HOLMES.

Witnesses:

JAMES HOWARD,

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