

O. PRESTON.
BARBED WIRE FENCE.

No. 248,348.

Patented Oct. 18, 1881.

Fig. 1.

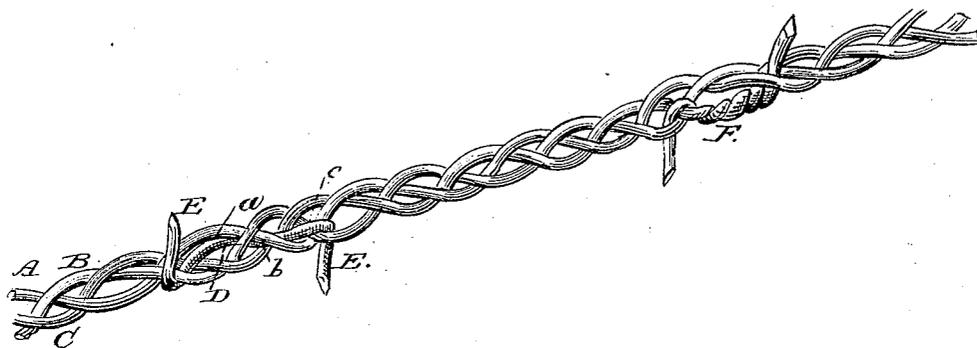
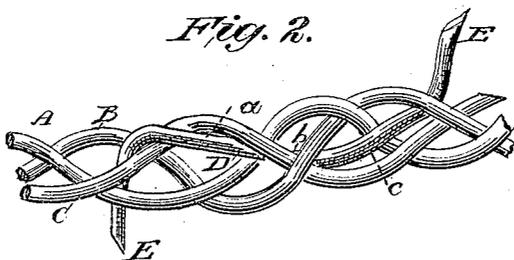


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BARBED-WIRE FENCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 248,348, dated October 18, 1881.

Application filed January 14, 1880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OTHNIEL PRESTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hornellsville, in the county of Steuben and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire Fences; and I do hereby 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 letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

15 My invention relates to the class of wire fences; and it consists, essentially, in a braided rail, composed of three or more wires braided together to form a rail, and provided with barbs at suitable distances along the rail.

20 The object of my invention is to produce a strong and durable barbed-wire fence, having the wires of which the rail is composed so arranged as to present the broadest possible surface to the vision, and at the same time secure the best results as to strength and durability.

30 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my rail. Fig. 2 is a section of the rail, showing a barb inserted therein.

A B C are the wires composing the rail, and they may be braided in any convenient manner, and each strand of the web may be composed of two or more wires twisted together, if thought desirable, and the barbs inserted at the proper intervals as the web is being made; or they may be inserted after the rail is completed. I prefer, however, to make the barb integral with the web by making one or more 40 wires of the web in sections, and form the barb by lapping the ends of opposite sections and uniting the same by giving both a double twist, then turning the points outwardly in opposite directions, as shown at F, Fig. 1.

A form of rail such as above described possesses great strength and stability. It is obvious that its tensile strength or resistance to strain in the direction of its length must be far greater than a single wire or a single central wire with a wrapped or encircling wire. Such is also the case in its resistance to a breaking or cross strain. Moreover, there is a high degree of elasticity in this form of rail, and it affords a compensation for varying degrees of temperature. Again, if one of the wires of the web should be broken, there is not that tendency for the broken wire to unwind or spread from the others as in the case of a rail where the wires are simply twisted.

The wires may be light, and yet when woven in this way they are strong in their entirety, and as the rail presents a distinct view by its broad surface, there is less liability of an animal approaching or coming in contact with it.

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

1. In wire fences, a braided rail or web, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a wire fence, a rail composed of three or more wires braided to form a web, and provided with suitable barbs, substantially as shown and described.

3. In wire fences, the combination of a rail composed of three or more wires braided to form a web with a barb formed by lapping the ends of opposite sections of the wires composing the rail and uniting them by giving to both a double twist, and then turning the points outwardly at right angles with the rail, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

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

OTHNIEL PRESTON.

Witnesses:

JOHN T. ARMS,
PERCY AUGHE.