

Z. I. PRATT.

Nails.

No. 151,511.

Patented June 2, 1874.

Fig. 1

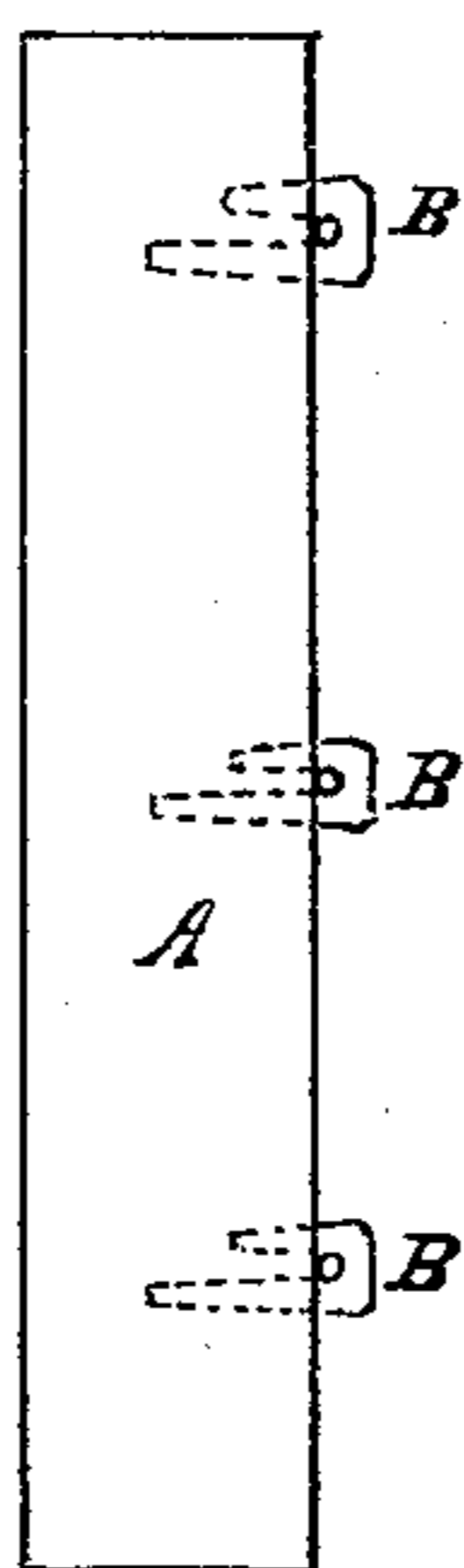
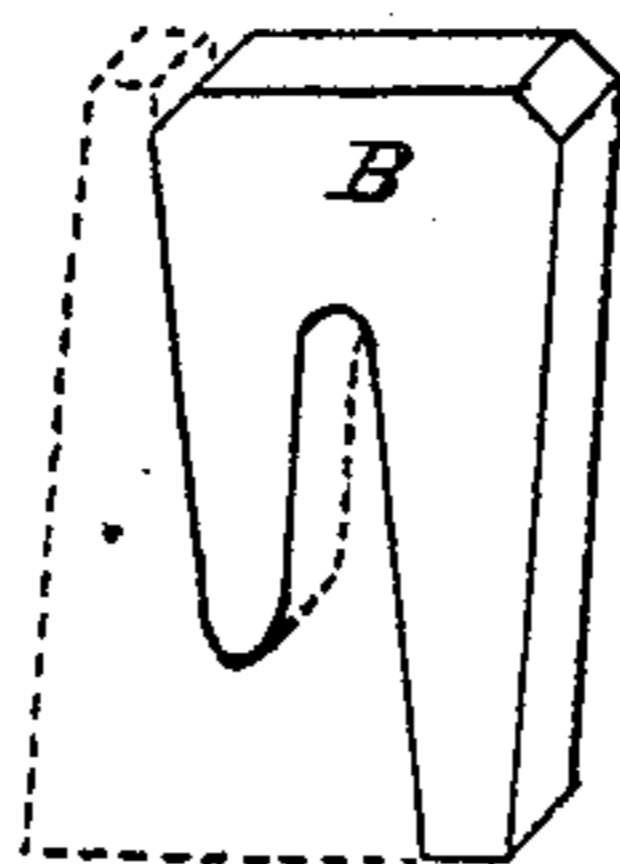


Fig. 2



WITNESSES.

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ZIMRI I. PRATT, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO MARY E. PRATT,
OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN NAILS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **151,511**, dated June 2, 1874; application filed
April 29, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ZIMRI I. PRATT, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new, useful, and Improved Nail for Wire Fences, and for similar purposes, of which invention the following is a full, clear, and exact description, which will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, and in which—

Figure 1 represents the manner in which my improved nail is applied to use, and Fig. 2 a perspective view of the nail.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

The object of my invention is to make a cheap and serviceable nail especially adapted to be used for the purpose of connecting wires to the posts of wire fences, and for similar purposes; and to that end my invention consists of a two-pronged nail stamped or cut from sheet metal, one prong being considerably shorter than the other, and the space between the said prongs being the narrowest near the head of the nail, substantially as hereinafter described and set forth.

In the drawing, A represents a post of a wire fence, and B is my improved nail. The nail B is cut, stamped, or struck from sheet metal sufficiently rigid, when made into a nail of the form shown, to be driven into hard wood. The nail is continuous across its head, but its lower part is divided into two prongs, one of which is considerably shorter than the other, and both of which are tapered off toward their lower ends, as shown, thus making the space between the prongs narrower at the top than at the bottom.

The manner of arranging or driving the nail, so as to sustain or support the wires of a wire fence, is clearly illustrated in Fig. 1. By making the nail in this manner, and in this

form, it may be driven into hard wood, and will retain the wire in its proper position with relation to the posts. By making one prong shorter than the other, the nail may be more readily driven than if both prongs were of the same length, the shorter prong entering the post but a comparatively short distance. The shorter prong may be made much more pointed or slender than the longer one, the only function of the former being to prevent the wire from being lifted from the nail. By making the space between the prongs narrower at the top than at the bottom, the wire may be either firmly held or allowed to lie loosely in the said space, as may be desired, and according to the distance the nail is driven into the post, it being understood that the size of the nail may be varied to correspond to the size of different wires. There is also little or no waste of metal in the manufacture of these nails, for the reason that, as each nail is cut, the cut edges of the sheet constitute edges of the nails next cut or stamped, as represented by the dotted lines in Fig. 2. The nail is, therefore, cheap and serviceable, and well adapted to the purposes for which it is intended.

I do not here claim a two-pronged nail, broadly; but

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

A new article of manufacture, consisting of a two-pronged nail cut or stamped from sheet metal, one of the prongs being longer than the other, and the space between the prongs being narrower at the top than at the bottom, substantially as shown and described, and for the purposes set forth.

ZIMRI I. PRATT.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS F. WARREN,
N. C. GRIDLEY.