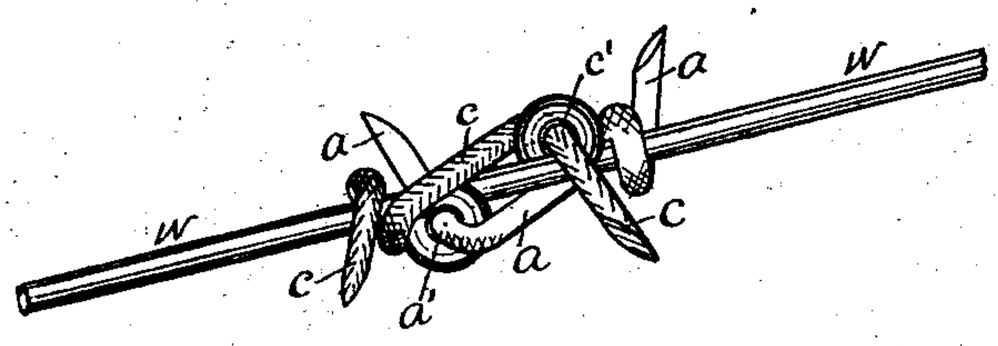
(No Model.)

A. W. SPROULE.

BARBED WIRE FOR FENCES.

No. 275,536. Patented Apr. 10, 1883.



Witnesses.

Thos. H. Hutchins.

Wm. J. Hutchins.

Inventor.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADAM W. SPROULE, OF JOLIET, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CHARLES H. SPROULE, OF SAME PLACE.

BARBED WIRE FOR FENCES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 275,536, dated April 10, 1883.

Application filed November 25, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADAM W. SPROULE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Joliet, in the county of Will and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Barbed Wires for Fences, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

The figure is a perspective view.

This invention relates to the peculiar and particular manner in which the wire barbs are attached to a single-strand wire so as to form four points or prods in a place, and in such manner that they are permanent and cannot rotate on the strand-wire, or have lateral motion along on the strand-wire.

The invention is for fencing purposes, and especially adapted for use as a stock-fence. One single-strand wire is used for economy, and is as durable as more than one wire, as two or more corrode when in contact with each other.

The peculiar form of my barb is shown in the figure, in which *w* represents the strand-wire, having two loops, *a' c'*, formed in it, through each of which loops one of the prods of the barbs *a* and *c* passes.

The barb is constructed in two parts, *a* and *c*, which are reverse duplicates, and applied to the strand-wire alike, so a description of the application of one to the strand-wire will suffice for both.

For convenience, I will describe the application of barb *a* to the strand-wire *w*. As is shown in the figure, one end passes through the loop in the strand-wire, and then its body is bent back against the coil of the loop in a line nearly parallel with the strand-wire, and then its opposite prod coiled upon the strand-wire immediately beyond the other loop in the strand-wire, so that each barb incloses the opposite loop in the strand-wire, and the two barbs combined form four points or prods, and are held firmly thereon by passing through said loops and by being coiled upon the strand-wire, as described.

The novelty consists in thus combining the two barbs *a* and *c* on a single-strand wire by means of the two loops, and in such manner that each barb incloses the loop of the opposite barb, for the purpose of preventing thoroughly the straightening of the loops by a strain on the wire.

I am aware that loops in a single wire for this purpose are in common use; but I am not aware of the unity of the two barbs *a* and *c* with the strand-wire, having the twin loops inclosed by the two barbs and the whole combined as set forth; but in this case the most particular feature is that but one end or prod of the barbs *a* and *c* passes through a loop from the outer side so the two bodies of the barbs may cross the strand-wire *w* diagonally between the loops on the strand-wire and then coil upon the strand-wire just beyond the loop of the other barb, thus forming a complete tie to prevent the loops from straightening out when a strain is applied to the wire strand.

I am also aware of the use of a single-strand wire for this purpose having two loops a short distance apart for the reception of the prods of wire barbs formed like a staple, each prod of the barb passing through a separate loop in the strand-wire, and then the two prods bent in opposite directions from each other to hold them in but not coiled upon the strand-wire. Such a construction I do not claim.

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

In a barbed wire for fences, the wire barbs *a* and *c*, each passed through one of the loops in the single-strand wire *w*, and each having its body bent back against the coil of the said loops and coiled upon the strand-wire *w* next beyond the opposite loop containing the other barb, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 22d day of November, 1882.

ADAM W. SPROULE.

Witnesses:
WM. J. HUTCHINS,
THOS. H. HUTCHINS.