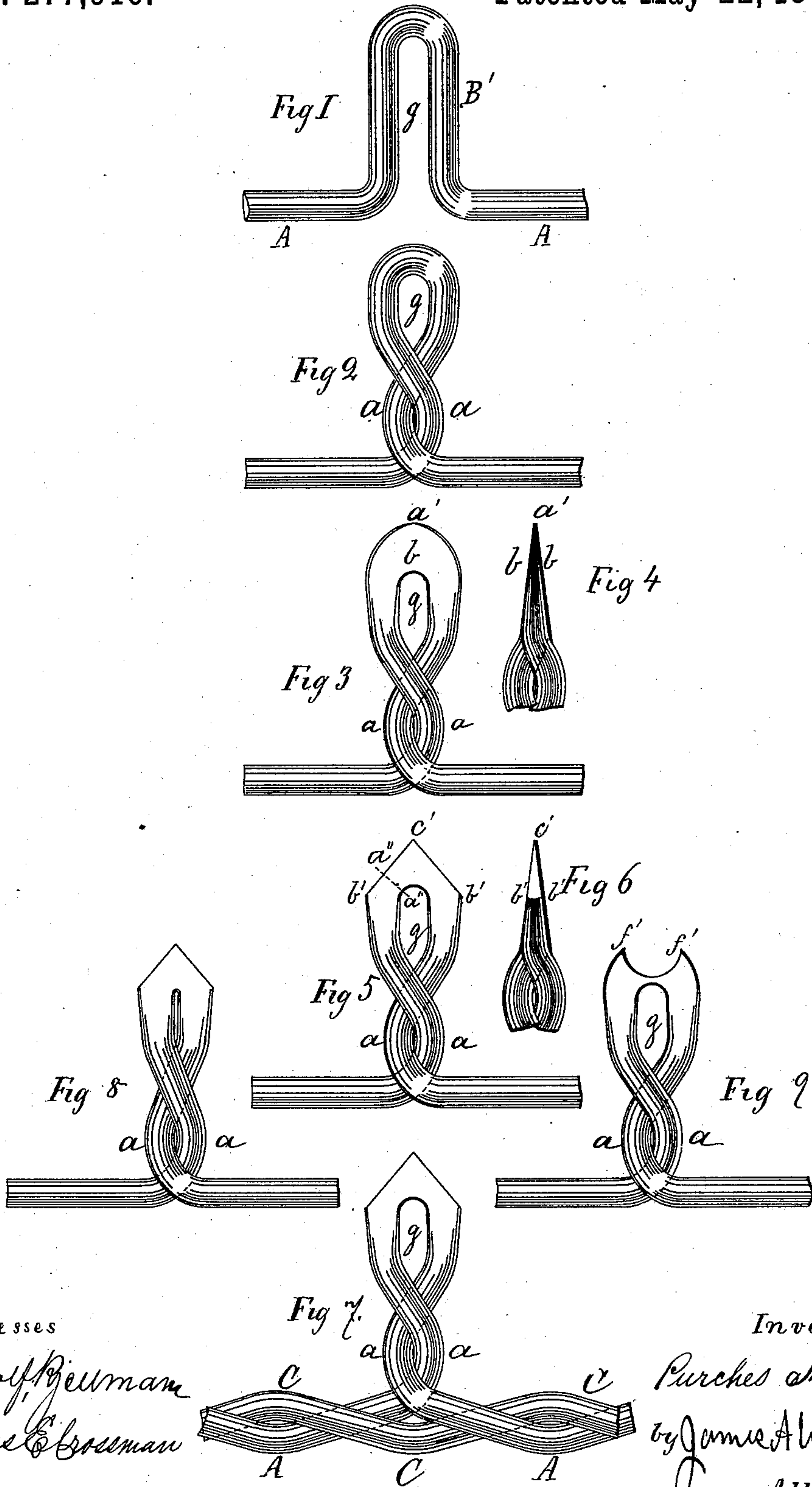


(No Model.)

P. MILES.
BARBED WIRE FOR FENCES.

No. 277,916.

Patented May 22, 1883.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BARBED WIRE FOR FENCES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 277,916, dated May 22, 1883.

Application filed August 29, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PURCHES MILES, of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in the Manufacture of Barbed Wire for Fences, of which the following is a specification.

This invention comprises a novel improvement in the structure of wire fence-barbs, whereby the same are rendered very rigid and permanent, and whereby, furthermore, they are rendered capable of being very cheaply and readily manufactured.

Figures 1, 2, and 3 are side views illustrating different stages in the process of manufacturing the barbed wires according to my said invention. Fig. 4 is an edge view of Fig. 3. Figs. 5, 8, and 9 are side views illustrating various modifications in my said invention. Fig. 6 is an edge view of Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a side view illustrating an additional feature of my said invention. The aforesaid figures are on a scale somewhat larger than is intended to be ordinarily adopted in the practice of the invention.

In the production of barbed wire according to my said invention the wire A is formed with a loop, B', for each of the barbs to be formed upon the said wire, the said loop being substantially at right angles to the length of the wire, as represented in Fig. 1. This done, the loop is twisted upon itself, as shown at *a* in Fig. 2. This done, the outer end of the loop is then flattened, by hammering, swaging, or equivalent means, to the form represented at *b* in Figs. 3 and 4, thereby bringing the end portion of the loop to a tapering or wedge-like form, terminating in an edge, *a'*, more or less sharp. The flattened outer end of the loop is then cut to bring the said end to one or more points—for example, by two cuts at an angle to each other, as from *b'* to *c'* in Figs. 5 and 6, or by a central semicircular cut, which, intersecting the edge of the said portion of the loop, forms two points, as represented at *f'* in

Fig. 9. The loop may have a space, *g*, between its two sides, as represented in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, and 9; or the two lateral portions of the loop may be brought in close juxtaposition, as shown in Fig. 8. By bringing the two parallel portions of the loop in close proximity, so as to leave no considerable space between them, and then flattening and sharpening the outer end thereof, without the hereinbefore-described twisting, a fairly serviceable barb may be formed; but in such case the wire will be somewhat weakened against longitudinal strain, whereas by twisting the loop, as hereinbefore explained, the end of the lateral portion—that is to say, the part adjacent to the point—is relieved of strain by the interlocking of the parts at *a*, so that should a fracture occur adjacent to the point—as, for example, at the line indicated by *a''* in Fig. 5—the wire will not part, and the barb will retain its pointed or acute character, and still remain capable of operation.

In order that the wire carrying the barb formed as aforesaid may be itself strengthened and the part *a* in a measure relieved of strain, another wire, C, is twisted therewith, as represented in Fig. 7, for use under such circumstances as may require a wire of great or exceptional strength. The snug twisting of the wire C with the wire A insures such frictional contact of the two that strain upon the wire A will be in a great measure taken up by the wire C, and thereby relieve the twisted portions *a* to a corresponding extent.

What I claim as my invention is—

A barb for wire fences, composed of an undivided loop forming part of the wire itself, and having its outer extremity flattened and brought to a point or points, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

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Witnesses:

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