

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. SAWYER, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR TO THE AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS, OF SAME PLACE.

ELECTRIC CABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 473,352, dated April 19, 1892.

Application filed October 27, 1891. Serial No. 410,010. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. SAWYER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Providence, in the county of Providence and 5 State of Rhode Island, have invented new and useful Improvements in Electric Cables; and

I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of said invention, reference being had to the accompanying 10 drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this

specification. My invention relates to certain improvements in electric cables, which is designed

particularly for telephone and telegraph service, the object of my invention being the production of a cable of low-inductive capacity and high insulating properties, combined with cheapness of construction and increased lightness and flexibility.

I attain the above object by means of the construction hereinafter described, and which consists, essentially, in interbraiding or weaving a series of insulated wires or conductors

- 25 with a sufficient quantity of suitable fibrous material into a flat continuous strip or ribbon and then twisting or winding said strip or ribbon into a spirally-tubular form, leaving a central air-space, the interbraiding of 30 said wires or conductors with the fibrous ma-
- terial being such as to provide an open mesh between the wires, the wires in such strip being arranged equidistant to each other to secure the greatest separation of conductors in 35 the smallest space, and upon such spiral tube
- is adapted to be wound a series of successive strips or ribbons similarly constructed, each successive strip or ribbon being wound in a reverse direction to that of each underlying
 section, and the cable thus constructed adapt-
- 46 section, and the cable indicional determination of the cable inclosed in a lead sheath or other suitable covering, all as will hereinafter be more fully described, and specifically pointed out in the claims.
- 45 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a plan view of a section of wires interbraided with fibrous material into a continuous flat strip or ribbon; Fig. 2, a front elevation of a spiral tube formed from said strip
 50 or ribbon; Fig. 3, a similar view showing a
- similarly-constructed strip superimposed spi- ribbons similarly constructed being wound

rally upon the first spiral tube, only in a reverse direction; and Fig. 4, a transverse sectional view of the complete cable.

Similar letters of reference indicate like 55 parts in the several figures of the drawings.

In the practice of my invention a suitable number of insulated wires or conductors a, preferably four in number, are interbraided or woven at suitable distances apart with 60 fibrous material into a continuous flat strip or ribbon, which is then twisted or wound into a spiral tube A, leaving a central air-space through the same. The insulated wires or conductors are so interbraided or woven with 65 the fibrous material as to form an open-mesh work between the wires, and when the said strip or ribbon is twisted into a spiral form the wires are all approximately equidistant, thereby securing the lowest inductive capa- 70 city between the same. Upon the spiral tube A thus formed is adapted to be wound a strip or ribbon similarly constructed as that of the first section; but the same is wound on in a reverse direction to that of the first, thus se- 75 curing the greatest separation of conductors within the least possible space.

In forming the complete cable a number of sections constructed as above described are grouped together and inclosed within a lead 80 sheath or other suitable covering, or a series of successive flat strips or ribbons carrying the interbraided wires or conductors may be wound upon the spiral tube A until the cable is built up to the desired diameter and then 85 inclosed within a lead sheath or other suitable covering, each strip or ribbon being wound on in a reverse direction to that of each underlying section and the spirals or convolutions of the wires or conductors of each successive 90 layer running in reverse directions to those of the adjacent layer.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and useful is—

1. An electric cable formed of a number of 95 sections grouped together, each section being composed of a series of insulated wires or conductors interbraided with fibrous material into a continuous flat strip or ribbon, which is wound or twisted into a spiral tube having 100 a central air-space, and one or more strips or ribbons similarly constructed being wound upon said spiral tube in reverse directions and the whole inclosed within a lead sheath or other suitable covering, substantially as specified.

2. An electric cable formed of a series of 5 insulated wires interbraided with fibrous material into a continuous flat strip or ribbon, which is wound or twisted into a spiral tube having a central air-space, and a series of suc-10 cessive strips or ribbons similarly constructed wound upon said spiral tube in reverse direc-

tions to each other to build up the desired diameter of cable and the whole inclosed within a lead sheath or other suitable covering, substantially as specified. In testimony whereof I affix my signature in

15 presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM H. SAWYER. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

GILMAN E. JOPP, CHARLES H. WAGENSEIL.