No. 805,707. PATENTED NOV. 28, 1905.

G. BROWN.

FLAGSTAFF SUPPORT.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 9, 1905.

Fig 1

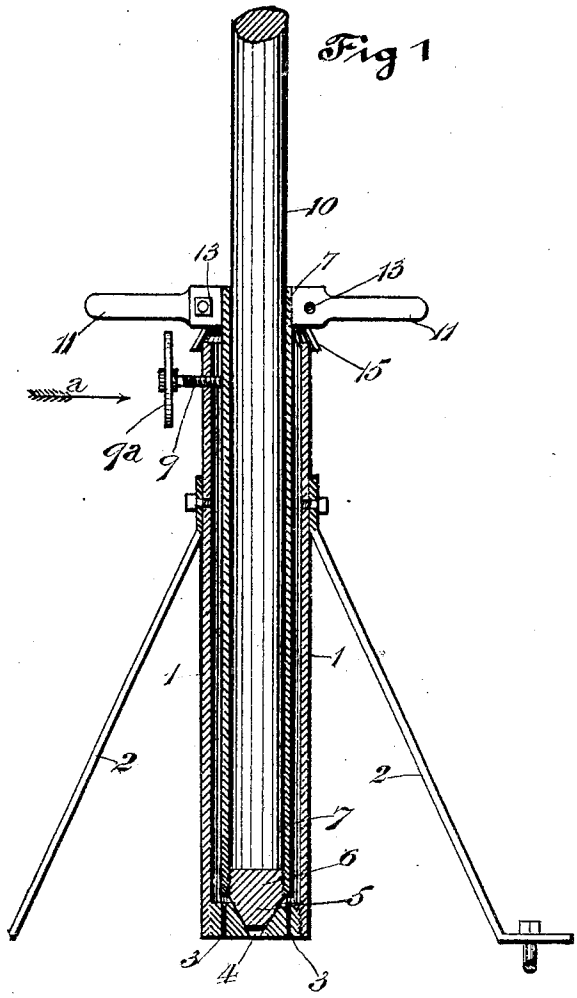


Fig 4

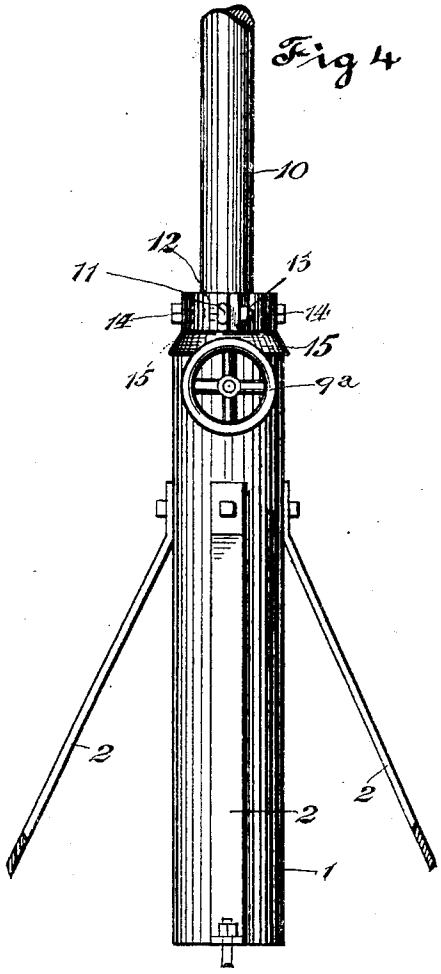


Fig 2

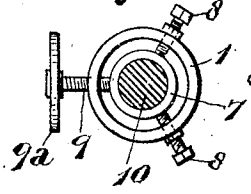
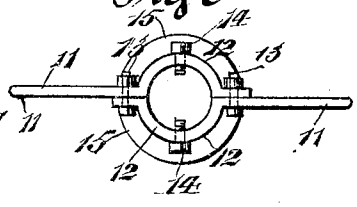


Fig 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FLAGSTAFF-SUPPORT.

No. 805,707. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 28, 1905.

Application filed February 9, 1905. Serial No. 244,908.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE BROWN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flagstaff-Supports, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to improvements in supporting-bases for flagstaffs; and it consists in the means hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

Heretofore flagstaffs were rigidly connected to their supporting-bases or were connected and supported in such a way that the flag would foul or become wound around its staff, (an occurrence that frequently happens by reason of the change in the direction of the wind or in such cases as on board ships when by a change, not only in the direction of the wind, but also in the direction of the course of the vessel, the flag is wound or tangled around its staff with each change of the course of the vessel or direction of the wind,) which was difficult to unfurl to spread the flag out to the wind or lower it without injuring or tearing it.

The object of this invention is to provide a means whereby the flag can be unfurled or spread to the wind or lowered without tearing the same and without necessitating the climbing of the flagstaff to clear the flag before lowering it. I attain this object by means of the flagstaff-base illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which similar numerals designate like parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a sectional elevational view of my invention of a flagstaff-supporting base. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the turning-arms, and Fig. 4 is an exterior elevational view of said base looking in the direction of the arrow *a*. (See Fig. 1.)

The fixed tubular casing 1 may be constructed of a metallic tube of the required diameter and length, or any suitable frame may be substituted, which casing is firmly supported and maintained in vertical position by the braces 2, which are secured at their top ends to the fixed tubular casing 1, near the top end thereof, and are inclined downwardly from said tubular casing to the level of or beneath the level of the bottom or base of the casing 1 to permit the bottom ends thereof to be secured to the roof of a building or other structure. A portion of the interior of the bottom portion of the fixed tubular casing 1 is threaded to receive the threaded base-plug 3, wherein it is tightly screwed to be permanently secured therein. The center of the base-plug 3 is provided with a concentric coned bore or foot-step bearing 4, which extends through said plug 3, with its smaller end opening at the bottom, base, or outer end of the plug 3, and said cone-bore 4 is truly machined to receive the truly-turned conical foot-step bearing 5 of the base-plug 6. The foot-step bearing is preferably made conical in form or in the form of a truncated cone for the purpose of readily centering the bottom or base end of the flagstaff-supporting tube 7. The cylindrical portion of the plug 6 is screwed securely and permanently into the interiorly-threaded bottom or base of the revoluble flagstaff-supporting tube or socket 7 to be central therewith by reason of the coned foot-step bearing 5 accurately fitting in the conical bore or foot-step bearing 4 of the plug 3 and is centered thereby.

The flagstaff-supporting tube or socket 7 is adjusted at its top end to be maintained in vertical position concentric with the tubular casing 1 by means of the set-screws 8 and the hand-wheel 9^a. In the tube 7, with its bottom or base end bearing or resting on the plug 6 thereof, is the flagstaff 10, the lower portion of which latter is dressed or turned truly to fit securely within the revoluble staff-supporting tube 7.

The set-screws 8, of which there are two in number, and the wheel-screw 9, having the turning-handle 9^a, are situated near the top portion of the casing 1, into which they are screwed, and said set-screws and wheel-screw are equally spaced around said casing 7, and are therefore at an angle of one hundred and twenty degrees apart, for the purpose of centering it at its top end with the casing to support the flagstaff in its true vertical position. To adjust said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket, the set-screws 8 are first adjusted to right the revoluble staff-supporting tube 7 or adjust it to be maintained in its true vertical position or centrally in the casing 1. The wheel-screw 9 is then screwed to rigidly bear against said tube 7 to clamp the same against the ends of said set-screws 8, and thus the revoluble flagstaff-supporting tube 7 is rigidly held and maintained at its top end and said flagstaff-supporting tube and its flagstaff is in vertical position.

The turning-handles 11 are preferably

formed integral with the clamping-collars 12, which latter are adapted to accurately fit the top portion of the flagstaff-supporting tube 7 to be securely clamped thereon by means of the clamping-screws 13. The turning-handles 11 may not only be used as a means or leverage for turning the flagstaff-supporting tube or socket 7, but also as cleats or belaying-pins whereto the halyards or hoisting-ropes of the flag may be belayed or fastened. In order that the said sleeve or collar 12 be positively connected to the flagstaff-supporting tube or socket 7 so as not to slip thereon, I provide the screws 14, which are threaded, to be screwed into the collar 12 and thence into the tube portion of the revoluble flagstaff-supporting tube or socket 7. The collar 12 may be formed with a watershed collar or hood 15, and the said collar may be constructed sufficiently large in diameter to close or cover the open space between the revoluble flagstaff-supporting tube or socket 7 and the base-tube 1 and prevent water entering therethrough into the interior of the casing 1, or the watershed-collar may be secured in any suitable manner to said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket 7 to cover the top opening of said base or casing 1.

If it is desirable at any time to reduce the frictional resistance of the conical foot-step in its bearing 4, either ball or roller bearings may be employed for that purpose without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Now suppose a flag connected to the top end of the staff 10 becomes fouled with or is wound around the flagstaff by any cause whatever and it is necessary to unfurl, unwind, or clear the flag before shipping or hauling it down to prevent its being injured or torn and destroyed. Now to unfurl the flag with despatch and certainty the attendant by use of this invention releases the hand clamping-screw 9 by means of the hand-wheel 9^a, then grasps the turning-handles 12, one in each hand, to turn the revoluble tube 7 in the required direction to unfurl or unwind the flag from its staff and to disengage the hoisting ropes or halyards of the flag which may have been wound or have fouled the flagstaff. The flag being thus unfurled and righted the clamping-screw now is turned by means of its hand-wheel 9^a to clamp the said tube or socket 7 to maintain the same securely in position to prevent motion or vibration of said revoluble tube 7 of the flagstaff 10, which it supports or carries.

Having thus fully described this my invention, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to cover by Letters Patent of the United States therefor, is—

1. In a flagstaff-supporting base, the combination with a fixed supporting frame or casing, of a lower foot-step bearing, a staff, a coned or staff-base-supporting bearing end pivotally mounted in said bearing, and projecting at its top end above the top end of said frame or casing, and means situated above said bearing and connected to said supporting frame or casing for adjusting said staff into vertical position, a clamping-collar surrounding and secured to said staff and situated above the upper adjusting-bearing means, outwardly-extending arms formed on said collar on diametrically opposite sides thereof.

2. In a flagstaff-supporting base, the combination with a fixed supporting frame or casing, of a lower foot-step bearing, a staff, a coned or staff-base-supporting bearing end pivotally mounted in said bearing, and projecting at its top end above the top end of said frame or casing, and means situated above said bearing and connected to said supporting frame or casing for adjusting said staff into vertical position, a clamping-collar situated above the upper adjusting-bearing means of said staff, and means for positively connecting the said clamping-collar with said staff, and outwardly-extending arms situated on diametrically opposite sides of said collar.

3. In a flagstaff-supporting base, the combination with a rigidly-fixed outer cylindrical casing and a base or foot-step bearing, of a flagstaff-supporting tube or socket situated within said fixed cylindrical casing, a foot-step or base pivot on said socket, and means situated at or near the top end of said cylindrical casing whereby the top end of said socket is centered and maintained centrally with and revolubly in said casing.

4. In a flagstaff-supporting base, the combination with a rigidly-fixed outer cylindrical casing having an open top end and a base or foot-step coned bearing, of a flagstaff-supporting tube or socket situated within said fixed cylindrical casing, a flagstaff-supporting tube coned foot-step or pivot, and adjustable set-screws situated at or near the top end of said outer cylindrical casing and having their binding ends directed radially toward said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket.

5. In a flagstaff-supporting base, the combination with a rigidly-fixed outer cylindrical casing having an open top end and a base or foot-step coned bearing, of a flagstaff-supporting tube or socket situated within said fixed cylindrical casing, a flagstaff-supporting-tube coned foot-step or pivot, a pair of adjustable set-screws and a hand-wheel binding-screw situated at or near the top end of said outer cylindrical casing arranged at equal intervals around said casing having their binding ends directed radially toward said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket.

6. In a flagstaff-supporting base, the combination with a rigidly-fixed outer cylindrical casing having its top end open, and a base or foot-step self-centering bearing, of a flagstaff-supporting tube or socket having an open upper end situated within said fixed cylindrical casing, said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket

having its upper end projecting above the top open end of said outer fixed casing, a flagstaff-supporting-tube base or foot-step pivot, means situated at or near the top end of said fixed casing whereby the top projecting end of said flagstaff-supporting tube is centered and maintained centrally with and revolubly in said fixed casing, and means secured to the projecting end of said flagstaff-supporting tube for rotating the same.

7. In a flagstaff-supporting base, the combination with a rigidly-fixed outer cylindrical casing having its top end open, and a base or foot-step self-centering bearing, of a flagstaff-supporting tube or socket having an open upper end situated within said fixed cylindrical casing, said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket having its upper end projecting above the top open end of said outer fixed casing, a flagstaff-supporting-tube base or foot-step pivot, means situated at or near the top end of said fixed casing whereby the top projecting end of said flagstaff-supporting tube is centered and maintained centrally with and revolubly in said fixed casing, and outwardly-extending arms projecting radially from the upper or top projecting end of said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket.

8. In a flagstaff-supporting base, the combination with a rigidly-fixed outer cylindrical casing having its top end open, and a base or foot-step self-centering bearing, of a flagstaff-supporting tube or socket having an open upper end situated within said fixed cylindrical casing, said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket having its upper end projecting above the top open end of said outer fixed casing, a flagstaff-supporting-tube base or foot-step pivot, means situated at or near the top end of said fixed casing whereby the top projecting end of said flagstaff-supporting tube is centered and maintained centrally with and revolubly in said fixed casing, a clamping-collar surrounding the upper or top projecting end of said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket means for positively connecting said collar to said tube to turn therewith and radially-projecting arms on diametrically-opposing sides of said collar.

9. In a flagstaff-supporting base, the combination with a rigidly-fixed outer cylindrical casing having its top end open, and a base or foot-step self-centering bearing, of a flagstaff-supporting tube or socket having an open upper end situated within said fixed cylindrical casing, said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket having its upper end projecting above the top end of said outer fixed casing, a flagstaff-supporting-tube base or foot-step pivot, means situated at or near the top end of said fixed casing whereby the top projecting end of said flagstaff-supporting tube is centered and maintained centrally with and revolubly in said fixed casing, a clamping-collar surrounding the upper or top projecting end of said flagstaff-supporting tube or socket, means for positively connecting said collar to said tube to turn therewith and radially-projecting arms on diametrically-opposing sides of said collar, a water-shed surrounding said latter tube adjacent the top open end of said fixed casing.

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

GEORGE BROWN.

Witnesses:

THOMPSON R. BELL,

FLORENCE GIMBEL.