J. BICKHART.

Hay Stack Cover.

No. 38,547. Patented May 19, 1863.

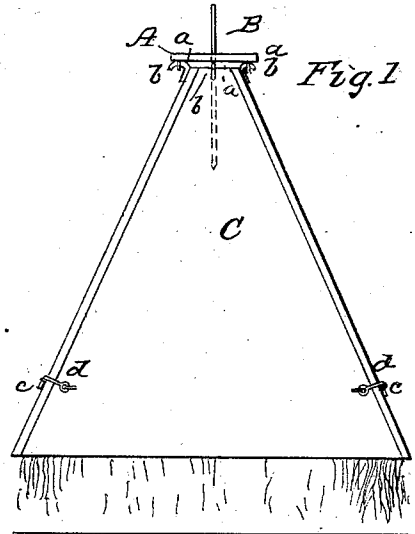

Fig. 1

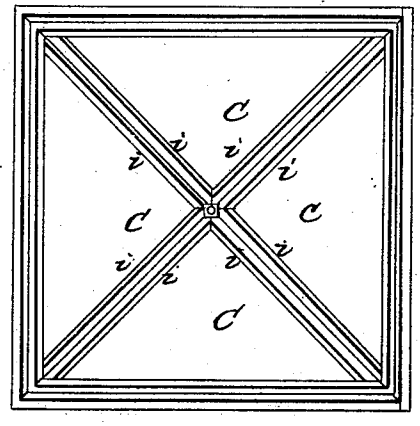

Fig. 2

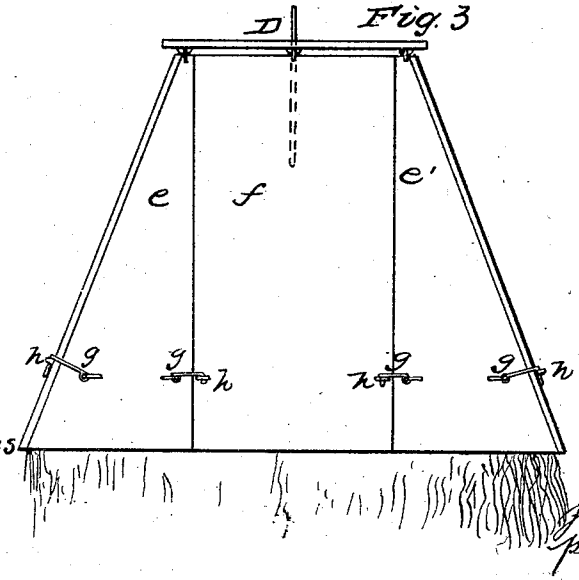

Fig. 3

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB BICKHART, OF HARLAN, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN STACK-COVERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **38,547**, dated May 19, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB BICKHART, of Harlan, in the county of Allen and State of Indiana, have invented a new and Improved Portable and Removable Cover for Hay and Grain Stacks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention applied to a stack; Fig. 2, a detached inverted plan of the same; Fig. 3, a side view of a modification of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The object of this invention is to obtain a cheap substantial cover for hay and grain stacks, one which will admit of being readily applied to the stack and removed from it and afford secure protection from rain or snow.

To this end the invention consists in the employment or use of a cap provided with a central pin, to be inserted vertically into the top of the stack, and using in connection with said cap pendent sides, which are connected to the cap by hooks or an equivalent fastening, and connected together by hooks and staples or their equivalents, as hereinafter fully shown and described.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A, Fig. 1, represents a square or rectangular piece of board, which should be flat, or nearly so, at its under side. The upper part may be flat, conical, or other shape, or have any suitable ornament attached to it. This piece of board forms the cap or top piece of the device, and it has staples *a* driven in its under surface—one at each side. The cap also has a pin, B, passing centrally through it. This pin may be of wood or metal, and of any suitable length; and it is driven vertically and centrally into the top of the stack in order to support the cap A while the sides of the cover are being connected to it.

The sides of the cover are designated by C, and are made of wood, of triangular shape, so that when fitted together they will form a pyramid. These sides are made of such dimensions that when secured together they will cover the top of the stack. (See Fig. 1.) Each side C is provided with a hook, *b*, at its upper end, and these hooks are fitted in the staples *a* of the cap A. The sides C, when thus adjusted to the cap A, have their edges in contact with each other, and they are connected together at the edges by staples *c* and hooks *d*, as shown in Fig. 1. By this means it will be seen that a cover or roof of hollow pyramidal form is obtained, which will thoroughly protect the stack from rain or snow.

This cover is adjusted on the stack by first placing the cap A in proper position on its top, the pin B being shoved down into the stack so as to hold the cap in position while the sides C are being adjusted to it and connected together at their edges. The stack is represented in red.

In case a stack be of oblong form, (see Fig. 3,) the cap D is also made oblong, and each broadside comprised of three or more pieces, *e f e'*, the pieces *e e'* being at the ends and having their outer edges beveled to form a miter-connection with the end pieces of the cover, which may be in one piece, like the sides C in Fig. 1. The central piece, *f*, is of rectangular form, and the inner edges of the pieces *e e'* are parallel with the edges *f*, so as to form tight joints. These pieces may be connected together by hooks and staples *g h*. Any number of intermediate pieces *f* may be used, according to the length of the stack, and the end pieces of the cover may, if necessary, be formed of a plurality of pieces if the width of the stack requires it.

The inner surfaces of the sides C may have cleats *i* attached to them, as shown in Fig. 2, in order to avoid warping and splitting, and form bearings at the edges of the sides so that good joints will be obtained.

It will be seen from the above description that the cover may be very readily applied to and detached from a stack, and that it may be constructed at a very moderate cost, and when not required for use may have its parts disconnected and stowed away within a small space.

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

1. A cover for hay and grain stacks, composed of a cap, A, having sides C connected to it by hooks or hinges, so constructed as to admit of the sides being readily attached to and detached from the cap, and the sides composed of one or more pieces and arranged so as to be connected together at their edges and form close joints, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. The pin B, in combination with the cap A and sides C C, for the purpose herein set forth.

JACOB BICKHART.

Witnesses:

JOHN BEECHGOOD,
RICHARD ANDERSON.