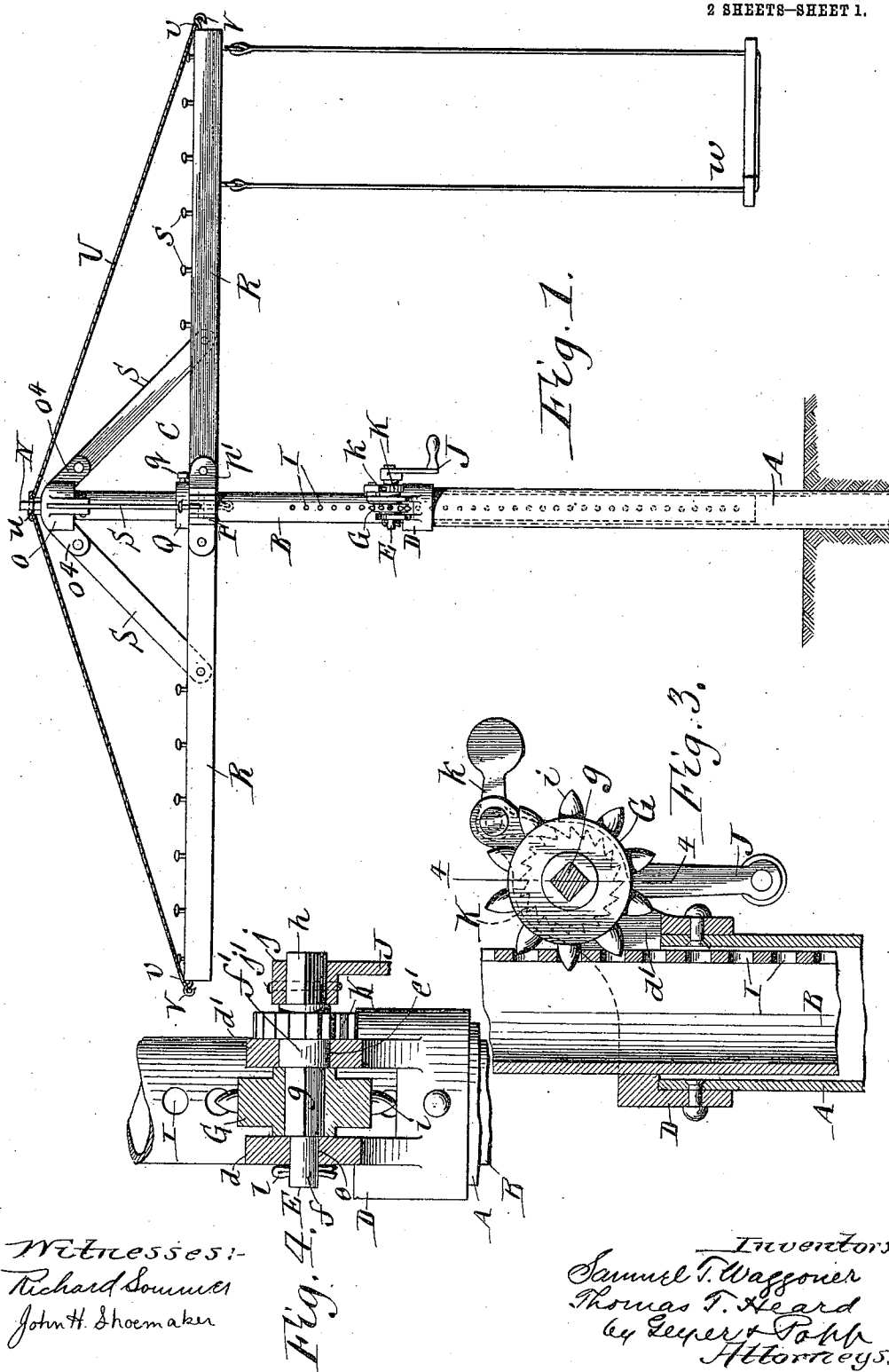


S. T. WAGGONER & T. T. HEARD.
 REEL FOR DRYING CLOTHES, &c.
 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 21, 1910.

975,660.

Patented Nov. 15, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

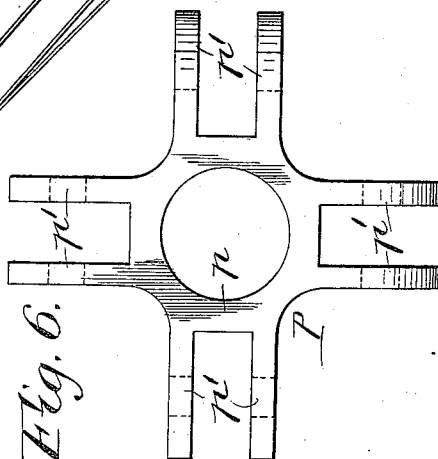
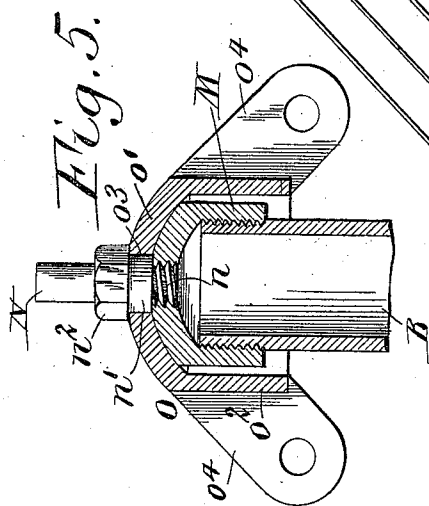
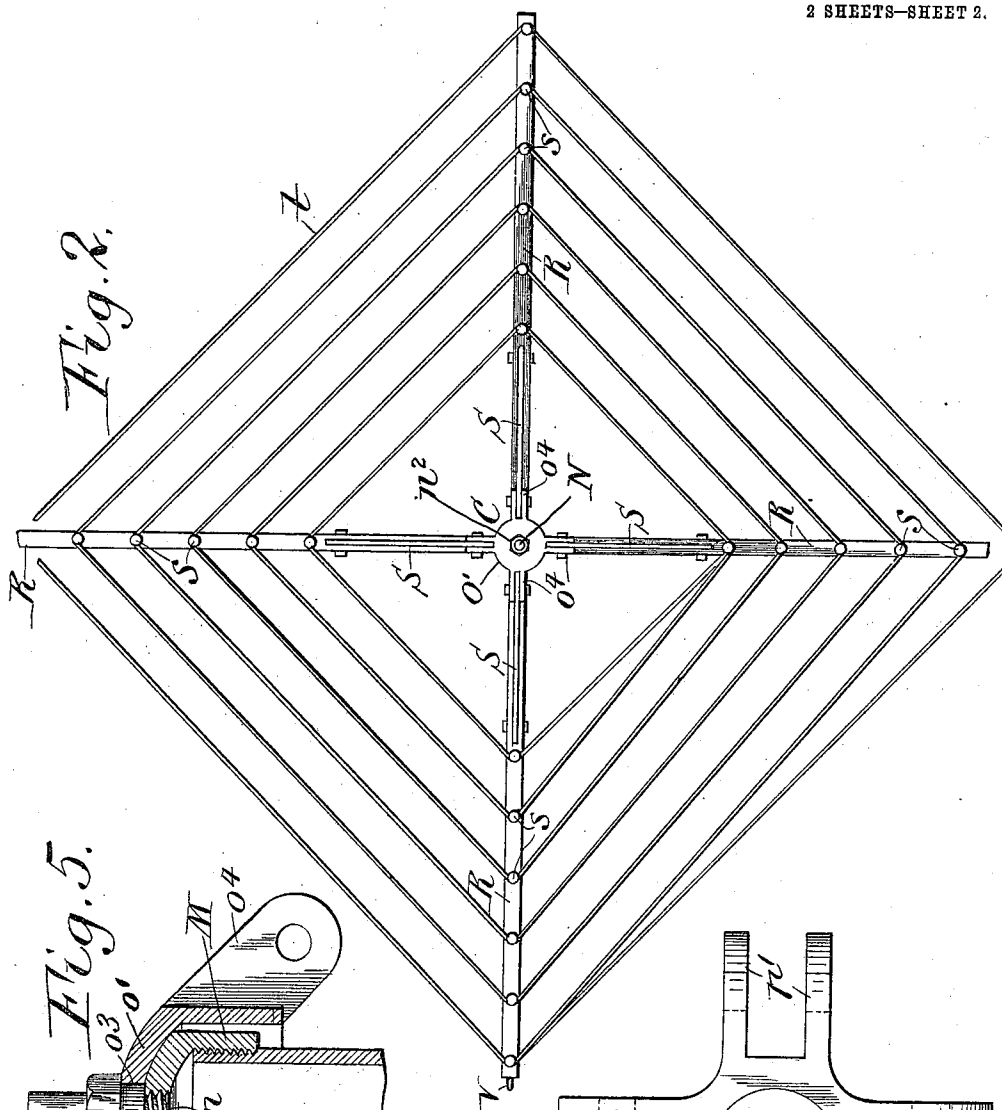


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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL T. WAGGONER AND THOMAS T. HEARD, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

REEL FOR DRYING CLOTHES, &c.

975,660.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 15, 1910.

Application filed March 21, 1910. Serial No. 550,561.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, SAMUEL T. WAGGONER, a citizen of the United States, and THOMAS T. HEARD, a citizen of Canada, residing at Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Reels for Drying Clothes, &c., of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a reel which is more particularly designed for supporting a clothes drying line but which may be also used for supporting a tent or a swing.

The object of this invention is the production of a reel for this purpose which is simple, durable and inexpensive in construction, and which can be easily and readily adjusted into different positions.

In the accompanying drawings consisting of 2 sheets: Figure 1 is a side elevation of the reel embodying our improvement showing the same used as a tent and swing support. Fig. 2 is a top view of the same showing the same used for supporting a clothes drying line. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary vertical section, on an enlarged scale, showing the means for raising and lowering the upper part of the post and the parts carried thereby. Fig. 4 is a vertical section in line 4-4, Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary vertical section, on an enlarged scale, of the upper pivot of the head of the reel. Fig. 6 is a top plan view of the runner on which the sweeps are pivoted.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

In its general organization this reel comprises a post or mast having a lower section A which is supported in the ground and an upper section B movable vertically on the lower section, and a horizontally rotatable turret or head C mounted on the upper post section.

The lower and upper post sections are preferably tubular and the upper section telescopes or slides within the lower section upon raising and lowering the upper section. The upper post section is lowered for the purpose of bringing the turret or head C within convenient reach of a person on the ground and permit the clothes to be dried to be hung on the turret or for mounting a tent or a swing on the turret in a manner which will be presently more fully described. After the clothes, tent or swing have been

mounted on the reel head the latter and the upper post section are raised, so that the clothes hang farther above the ground, the tent gives more head room or the swing clears the ground, as the case may be. The preferred means for raising and lowering the upper post section and the parts mounted thereon comprise a bracket having a circular cap or socket D which is secured to the upper end of the lower post section, and two arms d , d^1 projecting laterally from the cap. A horizontal shaft E is provided with two circular journals f , f^1 which turn in circular bearings e , e^1 in the arms d , d^1 , an intermediate square or flat-sided part g between said journals, and a square shank h at one end thereof. On the intermediate square part g is mounted a sprocket or gear wheel G the bore of which corresponds to the shape of the shaft section g , so that the same are compelled to turn together. The teeth i of the sprocket wheel are engaged with an upright row of openings I in the adjacent side of the upper post section which openings form practically a gear rack. A hand crank J is provided for turning the shaft and gear wheel the same having a hub j which is provided with a flat-sided bore for receiving the shank h and which is secured to said shank by a pin j^1 , as shown in Fig. 4, or by any other suitable means.

Upon turning the crank shaft and gear wheel the upper post section and the parts mounted thereon may be either raised or lowered. These parts may be held in a raised position by means of a detent pawl or dog k pivoted on one of the bracket arms d^1 and engaging with a ratchet wheel K on the shaft between its crank shaft and the adjacent journal f^1 . Upon disengaging the detent pawl from the ratchet wheel the crank shaft and gear wheel may be turned backwardly for lowering the upper post section and the parts mounted thereon.

The crank shaft and the gear wheel are preferably formed in one piece and in order to permit of inserting the shaft in the bearings e , e^1 and the bore of the gear wheel, the intermediate square part g of the shaft is made of smaller diameter than the journal f^1 , and the journal f is made of smaller diameter than the square part g , and the bearings e , e^1 and the bore of the gear wheel are of corresponding diameters, thereby producing a strong and durable construction at comparatively small cost.

The shaft is held against displacement in its bearings and in the gear wheel by a cotter or pin *l* passing transversely through the same outside of the bearings *e*.

5 The turret of the reel is preferably constructed as follows:—M represents a cap secured to the upper end of the upper post section. On top of this cap is arranged a centering or pivot pin N having a lower screw threaded end *n* which is secured in a threaded opening in the top of the cap, a cylindrical neck *n*¹ above the screw thread, and an enlarged head, shoulder or collar *n*² above the neck.

10 O represents a cup-shaped hub resting with its top *o*¹ on the top of the cap M and projecting with its depending flange *o*² downwardly around this cap. The top of this hub has a central opening *o*³ which receives the neck *n*¹, thereby centering the hub on the post cap M. The top of the hub is confined against vertical movement between the top of the cap M and the collar or shoulder *n*² of the centering pin. On the outer side of its flange the hub is provided with a plurality of laterally projecting pivot ears *o*⁴.

P represents a runner capable of sliding vertically on the upper post section below the cap thereof and comprising a collar *p* which surrounds this post section and which is provided with a plurality of laterally projecting pivot ears *p*¹. The upward movement of this runner may be limited by a stop collar Q which may be adjustably secured to the upper post section above the runner by a set screw *q*.

R represents a plurality of sweeps arranged radially and preferably horizontally around the post and each pivotally connected at its inner end with the adjacent pivot ears of the runner.

S represents a plurality of inclined braces each of which is pivoted at its upper end to the adjacent ears of the hub while its lower end is pivotally connected with the adjacent sweep at a greater distance from the center of the post. On the upper sides of the sweeps are arranged pins *s* to which the clothes line *t* may be secured in spider web fashion, as shown in Fig. 2, when the reel is to be used for drying clothes. By shifting the stop collar Q up or down on the upper post section the sweeps may be inclined either one way or the other according to the desire of the user.

Upon rotating the turret the clothes line may be conveniently applied to or removed from the line while the operator is standing in one place and the clothes may be hung on the line and removed therefrom in the same manner.

If desired, the reel may be used to support

a tent or canopy U by providing the latter centrally with a gromet *u* which fits over the upper end of the centering pin N and at its edge with eyes *v* which fit over hooks V at the outer ends of the sweeps, as shown in Fig. 1. The sweeps may also support swings *w* on their undersides, as shown in Fig. 1, so that by turning the turret a merry-go-round is produced.

It will thus be seen that this reel is capable not only of practical use as a clothes drier but the same may also be used for comfort when the canopy or tent is attached thereto and also for amusement when the swings are added, thus producing a structure which permits of utilizing the space of a lawn or yard to the best advantage.

We claim as our invention:

1. A reel comprising a post having a lower tubular section adapted to be supported on the ground, an upper section movable vertically in the lower section and provided with a vertical row of openings, and means for raising said upper post section comprising a bracket having a cap secured on the upper end of the lower post section and arms projecting laterally from said cap and provided with bearings, a shaft journaled in said bearings, a gear wheel mounted on said shaft between said bearings and engaging its teeth with said openings of the upper post section, and a crank handle secured to one end of said shaft, said shaft having a flat sided part which engages with a correspondingly shaped bore of the gear wheel, a journal of larger diameter than said flat sided part on one side thereof and turning in the bearing of one bracket arm, and a journal of smaller diameter than said flat sided part on the other side of the latter and turning in the bearing of the other bracket arm.

2. A reel comprising a post, a cap secured to the upper end of said post, a centering pin secured at its lower end to said cap and provided above the cap with a cylindrical neck and above the neck with an enlargement or collar, a cup-shaped hub having a top resting on said cap and engaging with the underside of said enlargement and provided with a central opening which receives said neck, a runner mounted on the post, sweeps radiating from the runner and braces connecting said hub and sweeps.

Witness our hands this 15 day of March, 1910.

SAMUEL T. WAGGONER.
THOMAS T. HEARD.

Witnesses:

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