G. A. H. BRIGGS.

FIRE SCREEN.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 22, 1908.

**920,423.** **Patented May 4, 1909.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

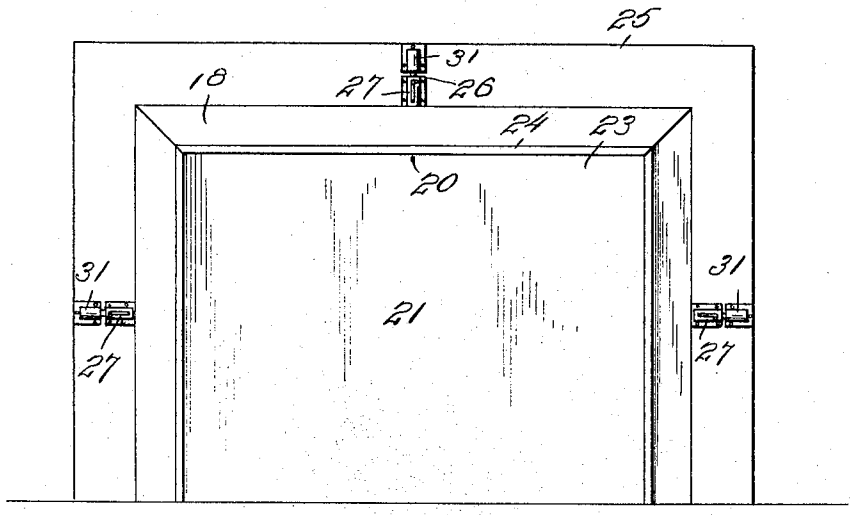
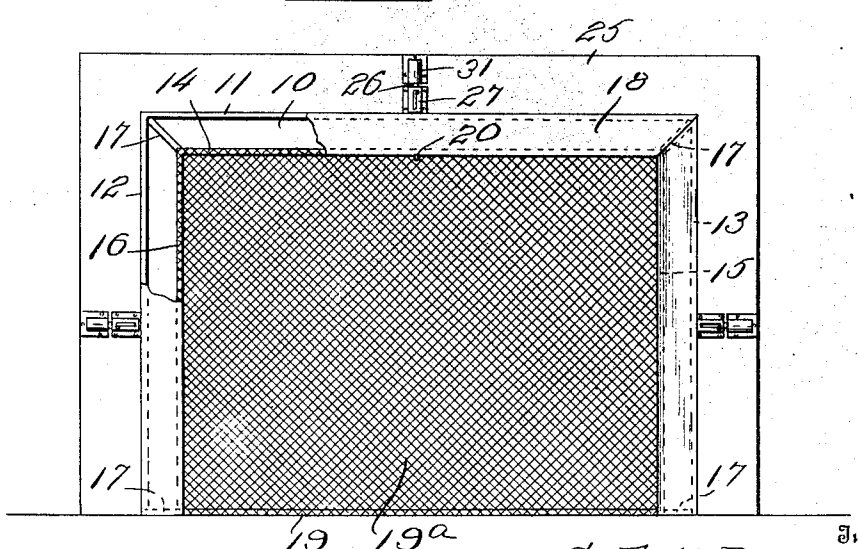



Fig. 2.




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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

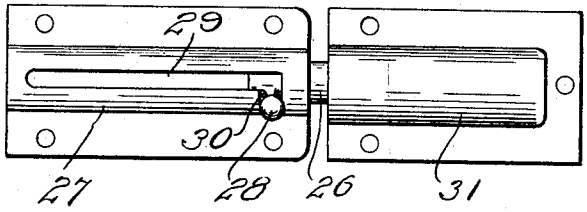



Fig. 5.

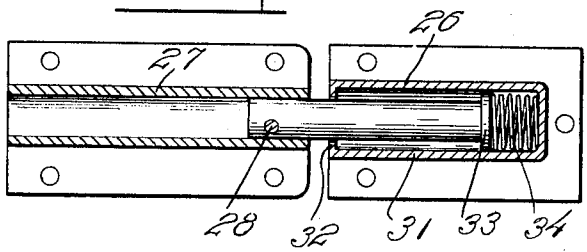
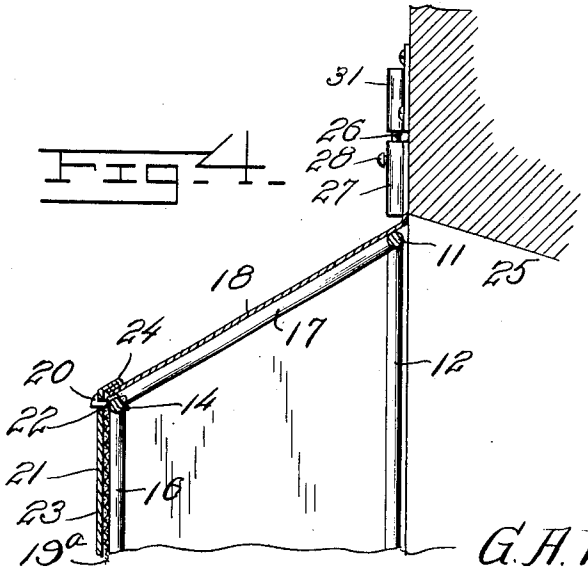



Fig. 4.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE A. H. BRIGGS, OF WILLARD, GEORGIA.

## FIRE-SCREEN.

No. 920,423. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 4, 1909.

Application filed April 22, 1908. Serial No. 428,700.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. H. BRIGGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Willard, in the county of Putnam and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Screens, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to screens and particularly to those which are adapted to be placed before an open fire.

An object of this invention is to construct a device of this nature that may be more securely fastened in position than devices of this nature heretofore used and that will prevent any sparks or burning particles from passing through the screen which are dangerous as they frequently set fire to any inflammable substances with which they come in contact.

The invention has as another object the provision of a rigidly yet detachably secured screen across the fire place that will resist displacement by any person or object which is thrown against the same, and protect the person or object from coming in contact with the fire within.

A further object is to produce a device of this character that will allow all possible heat to be passed into the room and yet will include the above enumerated advantages.

A still further object is to provide a shield which will completely inclose the fire place and which will be so constructed as to be detached or applied by simply lifting it off or hanging it on a hook supplied for the purpose.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description and it will be understood that changes in the specific structure shown and described may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings forming a portion of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the complete device. Fig. 2 is a view of the same with the shield removed. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detached view of one of the securing bolts and the casing into which the end of the bolt extends when in the locked position, Fig. 4 is a vertical cross section of the device, Fig. 5 is a longitudinal cross section of Fig. 3.

Referring now to the drawings, 10 designates a rectangular frame which is constructed of an upper horizontally disposed rod 11 and the depending rods 12 and 13 at its outer edge and which is provided with the rod 14 disposed in parallel with the rod 11, and the rods 15 and 16 arranged in parallel with the rods 12 and 13 on its inner edge. Suitable connecting strips 17 hold the inner and outer edge rods apart in their respective positions. Sheet metal 18 is adapted to be secured upon said rods to form the surface of the frame 10.

Stretched across the center of the frame 10 and supported by the rods 14, 15, 16 and 19′ is a wire screen 19 of fine mesh which is adapted to prevent sparks and burning particles from the fire from passing through. The rod 14 carries an outwardly extending hook 20 disposed intermediately of its length and which is adapted to support a shield 21 which is engaged with the hook 20 through an aperture 22 formed in the upper edge of the shield 21. The shield 21 comprises a metallic plate 23 having a turned over edge 24 which serves to strengthen the shield 21 and which is bent backwardly at a slight angle for the purpose of more closely fitting against the outer edges of the screen 19.

In order to secure the frame 10 in position before the fire place 25 sliding bolts 26 are employed which operate in cylindrical casings 27 and having laterally projecting arms 28 extending through a longitudinal slot 29 formed in the side of the casing 27. The slot 29 has a downwardly extending portion 30 near the open end of the casing 27 for the reception of the arm 28 when the bolt 26 is to be locked in a securing position. These bolts 26 are carried upon the frame 10 extending outwardly from the same and are so disposed as to allow the bolts 26 to protrude beyond the outer edges of the frame 10. Cylindrical casings 31 are secured upon the outer face of the fire place 25, the open ends of which are disposed inwardly for the reception of the extremities of the bolts 26. These casings 31 are of slightly enlarged diameter compared to that of the casings 27 and are provided upon their open ends with inwardly extending flanges 32 against which are pressed circular disks 33 by the action of springs 34 carried on the inside of the casing 31.

To operate the screen 19 in the application of the same and in removing it from the fire place 25 the following steps are taken: The bolts 26 are drawn back in the casings 27, the bolts 26 disposed upon the upper

edges of the frame 10 fall back by gravity when the arms 28 are released from the depending slot 30 while the laterally disposed bolts 26 are held back by grasping the same when raising the screen into position. When the frame 10 is properly adjusted across the opening of the fire place 25 the bolts are forced outwardly into the casings 31 against the disks 33 against the tension of the springs 34 and are held in that locked position by the insertion of the arms 28 into the slots 30. The springs 34 serve the purpose of forcing the disks 33 against the flanges 32 to keep the dust and the like from entering the casing 31 when the bolt 26 is withdrawn from the same. As the frame 10 and the screen 19 are of strong and durable construction it is readily seen that this device serves as a very strong guard over the fire place 25.

The whole device may be ornamented by any suitable design and it may be made attractive as well as useful. If the opening in the fire place 25 is to be completely closed the shield 21 may be hung in position upon the hook 20 through the aperture 22. The shield 21 may be also provided with a fanciful design upon its outer surface which will lend much to its attraction. The springs 34 serve to impinge the arm 28 against the sides of the slots 30 to keep the arm in position from jarring and becoming detached.

What is claimed is:

1. A fire screen comprising a frame, a screen carried by said frame, a hook disposed upon said frame, a shield adapted to be hung upon said hook and bolts carried by said frame adapted to hold said frame in position.

2. A device of the character described comprising a screen, a frame about said screen and a detachable shield adapted to be suspended from said frame over said screen.

3. A guard for a fire place comprising a frame, a screen carried by said frame, a shield adapted to be suspended from said frame over said screen, bolts carried by said frame and casings carried by said fire place adapted to receive said bolts.

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

GEORGE A. H. BRIGGS.

Witnesses:
E. W. INGRAM,
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