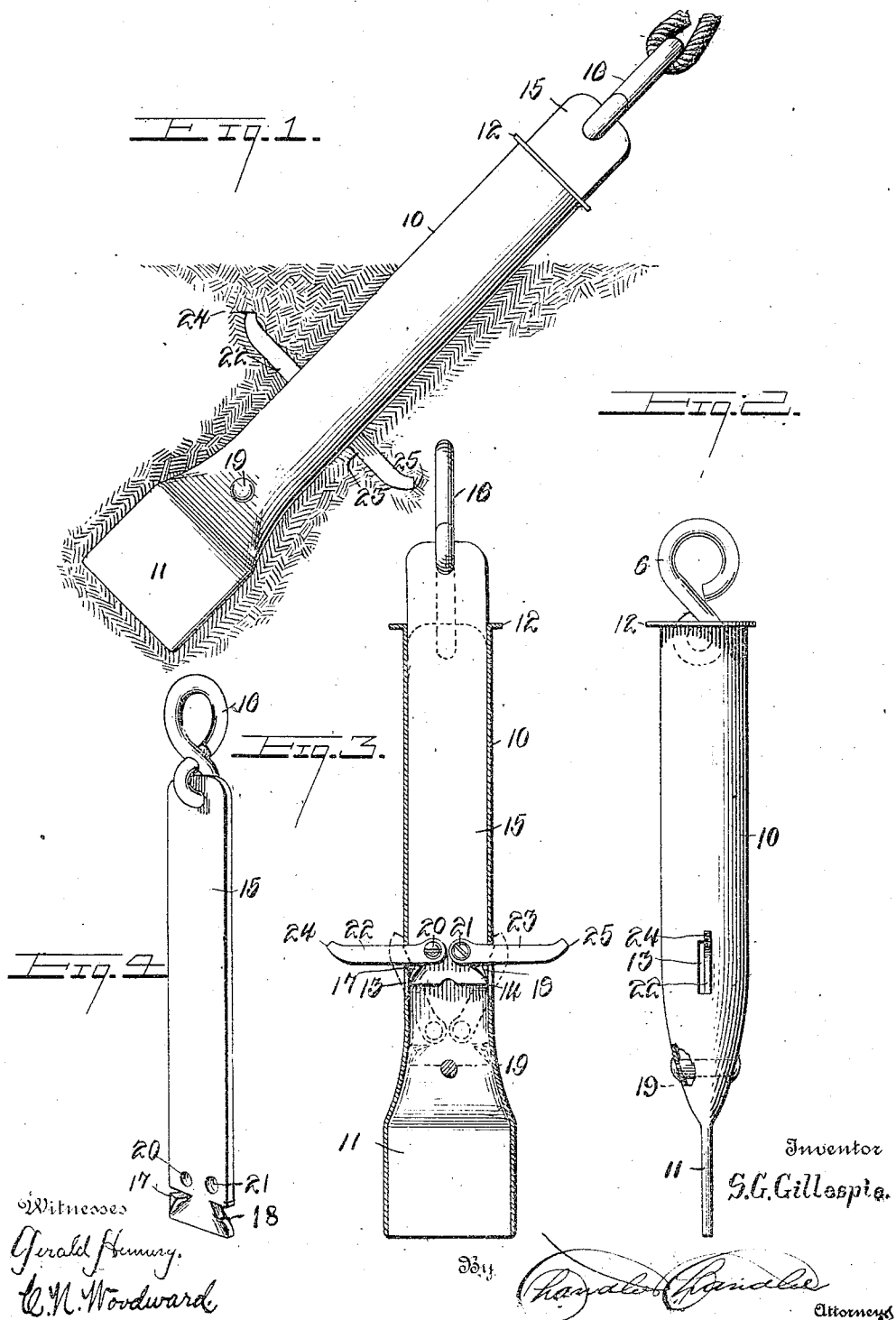


S. G. GILLESPIE.
ANCHORING TENT PIN.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 26, 1910.

1,008,323.

Patented Nov. 14, 1911.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL G. GILLESPIE, OF WAKE FORREST, WEST VIRGINIA.

ANCHORING TENT-PIN.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 14, 1911.

Application filed January 26, 1910. Serial No. 540,260.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL G. GILLESPIE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wake Forrest, in the county of Kanawha, State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Anchoring Tent-Pins; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to anchoring tent pins and it has for its object to provide a new article of manufacture in that its structural details are designed wholly for the purpose of enabling the manufacture of the article at such a low cost as will insure its commercial success.

With this and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereinafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claim; and, in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation viewed from one side of the improved device with the anchoring attachment in projected position. Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 viewed from another side, or with the anchoring attachments in edge view. Fig. 3 is a side elevation with the shell in longitudinal section and the anchor members in projected position in full lines and in withdrawn position in dotted lines. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the slidable member detached.

The improved device comprises a stock or body 10 formed of a metal tube and compressed or flattened at the lower end as shown at 11 to form a point to facilitate the forcing of the body into the ground, and with an outwardly directed flange 12 at the opposite end. Formed through the sides of the body 10 near the lower end are longitudinal slots 13—14. The body may be of any required size and of any required length, according to the size of the tent with which it is employed.

Slidably disposed within the tubular body 10 is a plate or plunger 15, preferably in flat form and provided with a pulling ring or eye 16 at the upper end and with transverse clefts 17—18 near the lower ends with the metal plate below the clefts bent laterally from the body of the plate to form stops for the anchor device, as hereinafter ex-

plained. Extending transversely through the body 10 at the upper end of the flattened portion 11 is a transverse stop pin 19 against which the lower end of the plate 15 bears when the plate is in its lower position, as hereinafter explained.

Pivoted at 20—21 to the plate 15 just above the clefts 17—18 are two anchor arms 22—23, the arms extending through the slots 13—14, as shown. At their outer ends the arms 22—23 are curved as shown at 24—25. The arms 22—23 are so formed that when the plate 15 is disposed in its inner position or with its lower end resting upon the stop pin 19, the arms 22—23 will be caused to engage against the bottoms of the slots 13—14 and be moved therethrough into their withdrawn position with the curved terminals 24—25 bearing against the sides of the stock 10 just above the upper ends of the slots 13—14, or in the position shown dotted in Fig. 3. When in this position the anchor devices do not offer any appreciable resistance to the insertion of the stock 10 into the ground, but when any upward strain is applied to the stock the anchor devices will be forced outwardly into the position shown in Fig. 3 with the arms in engagement with the upper terminals of the slots 13—14 and likewise supported by the stops 17—18 to limit their movement and prevent them from passing beyond a position substantially at right angles to the plate 15. By this means the pin is effectually anchored in the ground and prevented from being withdrawn by any strains to which it will be liable to be subjected when in use, while at the same time the anchor devices 22—23 will be locked in position and prevented from displacement downwardly. The stop devices produced by the clefts 17—18 are thus important elements in the construction and materially increase the efficiency and utility of the device. The stop pin 19 is also an important feature as it not only forms a stop to the downward movement of the plate 15 but likewise strengthens the stock 10 and prevents the collapsing of the stock under the strains to which it is liable to be subjected when driven into the ground. The pin 19 it will be noted is located at the point where the crushing strains are the strongest when the body is being driven into the ground, and where the reinforcement produced by the presence of the pin is most needed.

The improved "pins" are preferably driven into the ground at an angle of about forty-five degrees, or in alinement with the tent ropes which are to be supported thereby, and connected to the pull eye 16, as will be understood. When the pins are to be removed from the ground the tent ropes are slackened and the members 15 forced downwardly into the stock 10 to cause the withdrawal of the anchor devices 22—23 as before described. The body 10 is then worked laterally in any suitable manner to loosen it in the ground.

One of the tent ropes, or other similar device is then looped around the body 10 beneath the flange 12 and the body 10 withdrawn from the ground, care being taken to hold the member 15 in its withdrawn position within the shell 10, so that the anchor members will be retained in their withdrawn position, and not cause appreciable resistance to the withdrawal of the body.

In the manufacture of the body portion of the tent pin, the formation of the blade and the adjacent lower portion is accomplished by one operation of a die, after which the perforations for the brace pin are made and then the slots for the anchoring arms. The flanging of the upper end of the body is performed before the die operation just referred to.

What is claimed is:—

The combination in a tent pin, of a tubular metallic member having one end flattened to form a blade and the opposite sides thereof tapered toward the upper end of the said blade, a slide movable through the tubular member and being provided at its lower opposite edges with slits with the material adjacent thereto bent to form a pair of ears, arms pivoted above the said ears and limited in their downward movement by their contact therewith, a pin extending transversely of the tubular member adjacent the blade for engagement with a notch located in the lower end of the slide whereby the same will be held against any undesired lateral movement which would serve to loosen the arms, the said tubular member being provided with slots through which the arms extend, the said slots at their upper edges and the ears adapted to firmly engage the opposite sides of the arms and rigidly hold them against displacement when the slide is moved to its uppermost position and an attaching means for the slide.

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

SAMUEL G. GILLESPIE.

Witnesses:

A. M. CRAMER,
S. R. BRATTAN.