L. WILLIS.

PLANT MARKER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 29, 1908.

901,137. Patented Oct. 13, 1908.

Fig. 7.

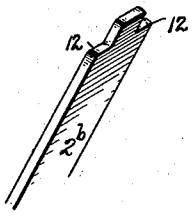


Fig. 1.

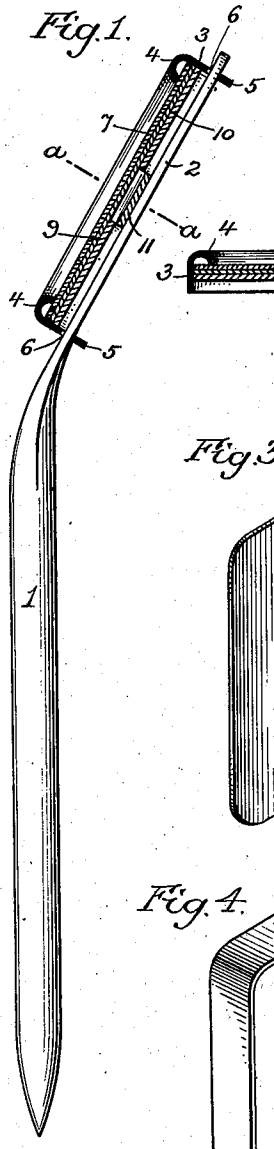


Fig. 2.

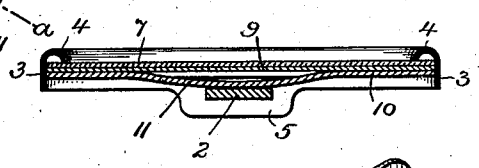


Fig. 3.

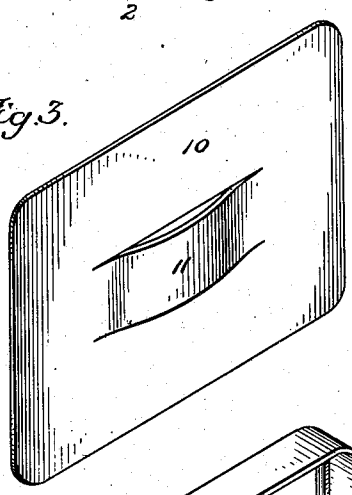


Fig. 4.

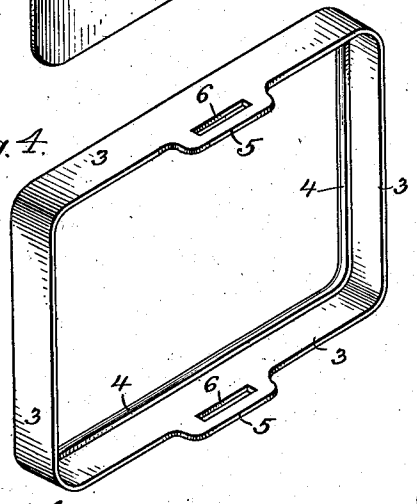


Fig. 5.

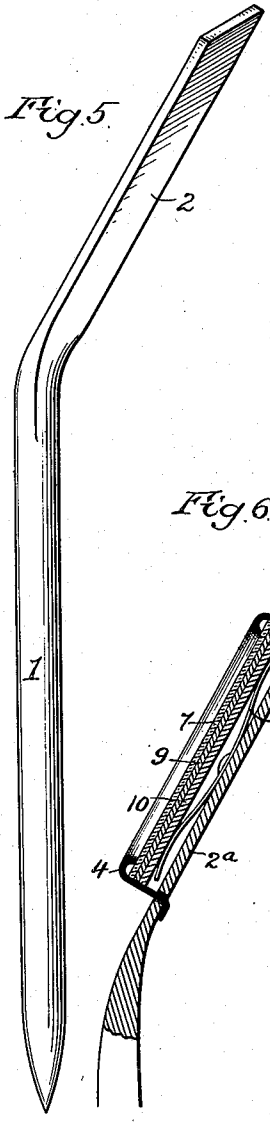


Fig. 6.

Witnesses
Harry L. Smith
Hamilton D. Turner

Inventor
Leland Willis
by his Attorneys
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LELAND WILLIS, OF GRENLOCH, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO BATEMAN MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF GRENLOCH, NEW JERSEY, A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

PLANT-MARKER.

No. 901,137. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 13, 1908.

Application filed January 29, 1908. Serial No. 413,317.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LELAND WILLIS, a citizen of the United States, residing in Grenloch, New Jersey, have invented certain Improvements in Plant-Markers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of certain improvements in the plant marker forming the subject of Letters Patent No. 833,663, granted October 16th, 1906, to Frank Bateman, the object of my invention being to simplify and cheapen the construction of said device and to provide a marker whose parts are light, strong and easily assembled or taken apart. This object I attain in the manner hereinafter set forth, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a view, partly in side elevation and partly in vertical section, of a plant marker constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a section on the line *a*—*a*, Fig. 1; Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are perspective views of parts of the marker separated from one another; Fig. 6 is a sectional view illustrating a modification of my invention, and Fig. 7 is a perspective view illustrating a special construction of one of the parts of the device.

The marker forming the subject of the above recited Letters Patent consisted of a stake to be driven into the ground, this stake being provided with an enlarged and inclined head to which was fitted a frame for confining to said head the card to be displayed, said inclosing frame being confined to the head by means of a detachable or movable key or like locking device. The stake, with its enlarged head and the inclosing frame, were made of cast iron.

In carrying out my invention, I provide the stake 1 with an inclined upper end 2, which is preferably flattened, as shown.

The retaining frame 3 is composed of a piece of sheet steel, or other metal, of rectangular or other desired configuration, and has, at the front, an inturned hollow flange 4 and at the back oppositely disposed and centrally located ears 5, each having formed therein a slot 6 for the reception of the inclined upper end 2 of the stake 1, as shown in Fig. 1.

Against the inturned flange 4 of the frame 3 bears the celluloid or other protective cover 7 for the marking card 9, and in the rear of the latter is a backing plate 10, from whose central portion is struck up a curved strip 11, which, when the parts are assembled, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, bears against the inclined upper end of the stake, and, by reason of its resiliency, not only insures the pressing of the covered card firmly against the inturned flange of the frame but also serves, by its frictional bearing against the inclined end of the stake, to prevent accidental displacement of the parts when they are mounted upon said stake. As shown in the drawing, the elastic strip 11, pressed up from the backing plate 10, extends in a direction transversely to the upper end 2 of the stake, but this is not essential.

The parts can be readily assembled by first placing the marking card with its cover and backing plate in the frame 3, and then passing the inclined upper end of the stake through the slots 6 in the ears 5 on said frame, and the parts can be separated with equal facility.

The cover plate 7 of the marking card is pressed against the inturned edge of the flange 4 of the frame with such force as to maintain a substantially watertight joint between the two, and thus prevent the staining of the marking card or other injury thereto by reason of its becoming wet.

As the frame 3 and backing plate 10, and, if desired, the stake also, can be composed of steel or other tough and ductile metal, the parts can be made much lighter than when composed of cast iron, and they are not likely to be broken or injured by rough handling. The device, moreover, does not necessitate the employment of keys or other small parts which are likely to be lost or mislaid.

While I prefer in all cases to employ the slotted ears on the frame 3 for the reception of the upper portion of the stake, a reverse construction may, if desired, be adopted, the projecting ears on the frame being passed through slots in the stake, and then bent so as to confine said frame to the stake, as shown, for instance, at 5^a in Fig. 6, and in such case the spring tongue may be carried by the stake, if desired, as shown at 11^a in said Fig. 6.

The upper portion of the stake may, if desired, be reduced in width at the top, as shown at 2^b in Fig. 7, so as to form shoulders 12 for the support of the upper ear 5 of the

frame, in order to limit the descent of the latter upon the stake.

I claim:—

1. A plant marker consisting of a frame having an inwardly projecting bearing flange in front and projecting ears at the rear, and a stake projecting below said frame and having a portion for engagement with said ears.

2. A plant marker consisting of a frame having an inwardly projecting bearing flange in front and projecting ears at the rear, and a stake projecting below said frame and having a flattened portion for engagement with said ears.

3. A plant marker consisting of a frame having an inwardly projecting bearing flange in front and slotted ears in the rear, and a stake projecting below said frame and having a portion for passing through said slotted ears.

4. A plant marker comprising a frame having an inwardly projecting bearing flange at the front, and projecting ears at the rear, a backing plate, a stake projecting below said frame and having a portion for engaging said ears of the frame, and a spring interposed between the backing plate and the stake.

5. A plant marker comprising a frame having an inwardly projecting bearing flange at the front and projecting slotted ears at the rear, a backing plate with elastic strip thereon, and a stake projecting below said frame and having a portion passing through said ears of the frame and bearing upon said elastic strip of the backing plate.

6. A plant marker consisting of a frame having a hollow inturned flange at the front and projecting ears at the rear, and a stake having a portion engaging said ears.

7. A plant marker comprising a frame with bearing flange at the front and projecting ears at the rear, a backing plate having a spring strip struck up therefrom, and a stake having a portion engaging said ears and bearing upon the struck-up strip of the backing plate.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LELAND WILLIS.

Witnesses:
O. P. NEWCOMB,
E. E. WILSON.