No. 627,932. Patented June 27, 1899.

T. W. HICKSON.

TENT.

(Application filed Dec. 6, 1897.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.

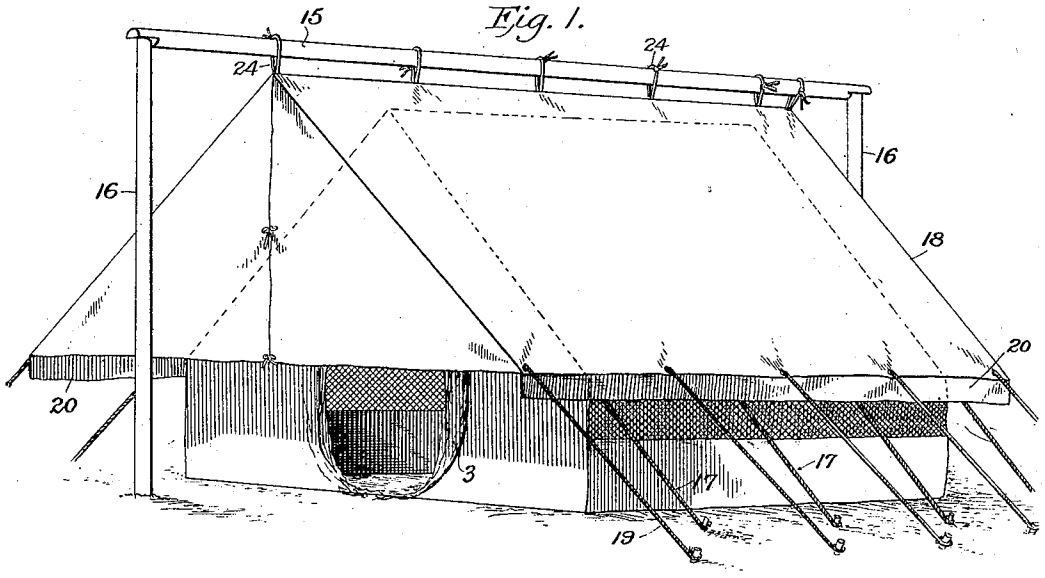


Fig. 2.

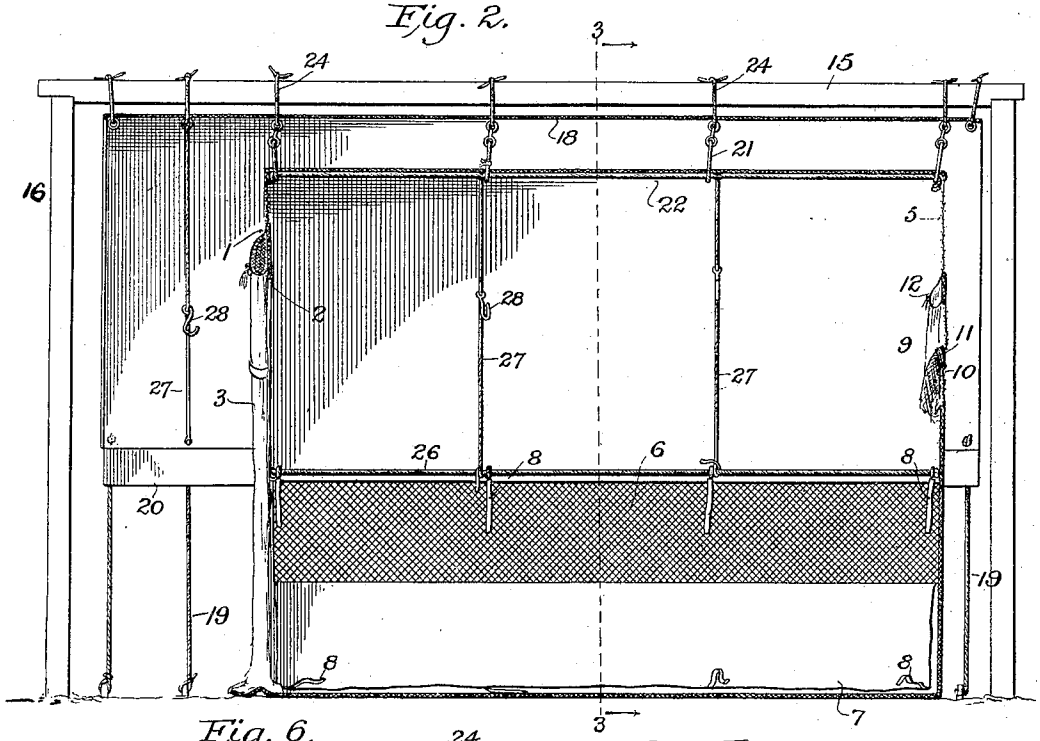
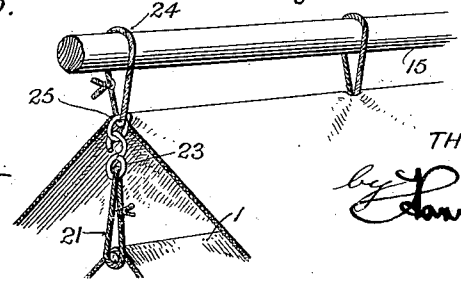


Fig. 6.



Witnesses
Robert Reussner
Milton T. Weston

Inventor,
THEODORE W. HICKSON,
by Lonny Cobb Kennedy
Attorney

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Fig. 3.

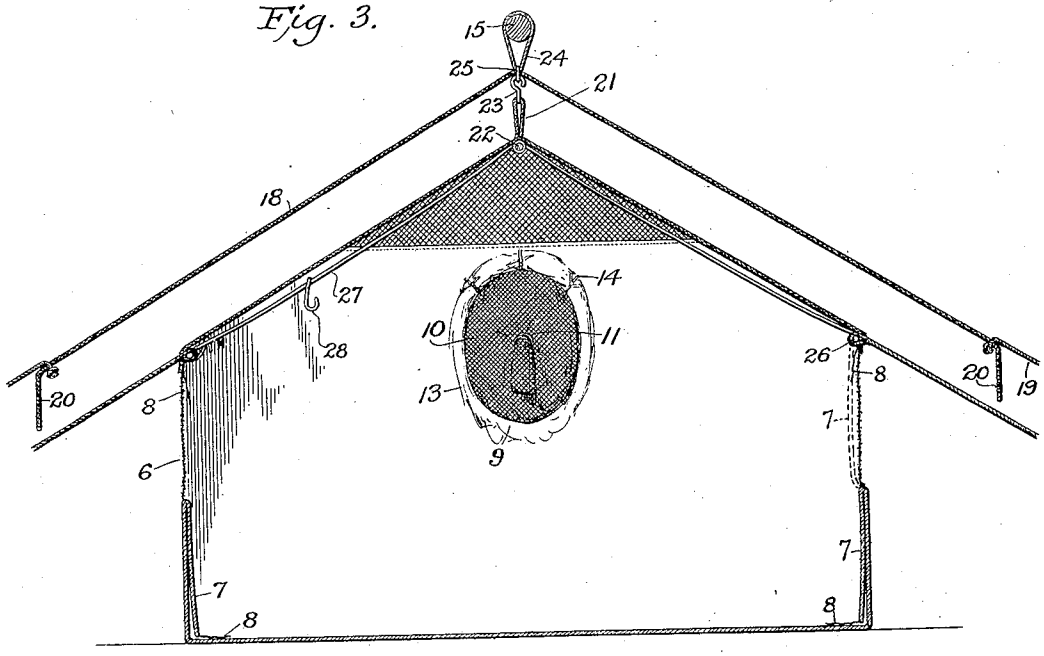


Fig. 4.

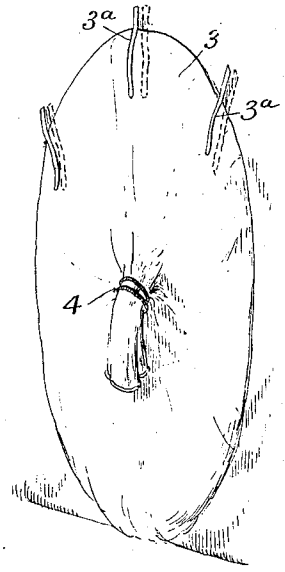
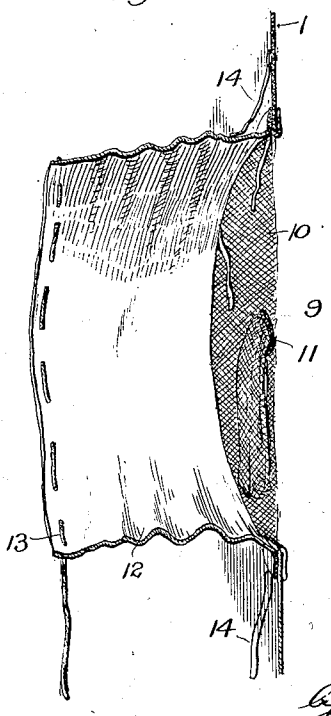


Fig. 5.



Witnesses
Robert Rumsey
Milton T. Weston

Inventor,
THEODORE W. HICKSON,
by Ramsey Cobb Kennedy
Attorney

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE WM. HICKSON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

TENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 627,932, dated June 27, 1899.

Application filed December 6, 1897. Serial No. 660,880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE WILLIAM HICKSON, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, and a resident of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tents, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to a novel construction in a tent, and has for its objects primarily to provide an insect-proof tent with means for permitting quick and convenient ingress and egress; further, to provide a well-ventilated tent and one that can be quickly set up, taken down, and packed within a small compass, and to provide for the general efficiency, durability, and convenience in a device of this character.

To these and other useful ends the invention consists in the features of construction hereinafter fully described and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tent and fly constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a portion of the front wall of the tent and illustrating the door as closed. Fig. 5 is a vertical section of the window and illustrating the shade open and netting closed. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the ridge portions of the tent and fly and the supporting means therefor.

In accordance with the principle of this invention the end and side walls, the floor, and the roof of the tent are closed and sealed conveniently by being made in one piece—that is to say, they can be made of canvas or duck that is suitably stitched to form in effect a bag that is closed and sealed on all sides, but which partakes of the shape of a tent in the manner illustrated. Although for the purpose of illustration a wall-tent is selected, yet it is understood that the invention is applicable to other forms of tents—for instance, an A-tent. As far as the insect-proof feature of the invention is concerned, the tent can be supported and held in position by any convenient means, and, further, the ventilation thereof can be attained in the most approved manner. The important feature in making a tent insect-proof is to provide a tent that is closed and sealed on all sides, but having an opening to permit ingress and egress which can be quickly opened and closed and sealed. The closure for this opening or door is flexible and surrounds the same, having one end secured to the tent-wall around the opening, while its other or free end is provided with means for quickly sealing the same—for instance, a gathering-cord. Said closure may be said to be tubular and the opening in the tent is preferably elliptical.

In the drawings, 1 indicates the front wall of the tent, 2 the opening therein, and 3 the closure, that is secured at its inner end around the opening 2. This closure being of canvas or suitable flexible material can be passed to either side of the wall, and its outer or free end is provided with a fastening-cord 4 to close and seal the same. This fastening-cord is arranged as a gathering-cord, so that by pulling upon it the end of the closure is gathered and quickly sealed by wrapping the cord around the gathered portion and suitably tying the same. It is obvious that when this closure is sealed the tent is closed at all points to effectually exclude insects. Around the opening 2 and on either side of the closure 3 are the tapes or cords 3^a for the purpose of holding the closure open, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2—that is to say, when the closure 3 is rolled up in an obvious manner. This construction permits the closure to be opened and closed quickly and with little trouble. For instance, suppose that the closure has been gathered and tied from the outside and a person wishes to enter the tent. By pulling upon the end of the cord, it being noted that it is best to tie the cord in a slip-knot, the knot is untied and the mouth of the closure can be quickly opened in an obvious manner. A person can then quickly pass through the opening, and by retaining his hold upon the cord can gather the ends of the closure as soon as he has passed therethrough and then wrap and tie the same as before. In this way it is seen that the only time the tent is open is during the short period consumed in passing through the opening and gathering the ends of the tube by a quick pull of the cord after enter-

ing the tent, which can be accomplished in a moment. With a tent sealed in this manner ventilation is desirable, and the walls are provided with ventilating-sections of strong netting sealed at their edges around the openings in the walls, across which they extend. These ventilating-sections can also have closures. In the drawings ventilating-sections 5 are shown in the front and rear walls just below the ridge. The side walls have a ventilating-section 6 extending downwardly from the eaves and provided with a closure 7 at its lower edge, consisting of a flap-section that can be tied in an upright position and over this ventilating-section 6 by the tapes or cords 8. These side ventilators can be closed by tying the loose closure-flap 7 over the same or can be opened by allowing it to drop, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. As a further improvement the tent is provided with another opening or window to provide for further ventilation, as well as light, but which can also be closed when necessary. This window-opening 9 is preferably situated in the rear end wall, and around which is secured one end of a closure 10, of netting or the like, having a fastening-cord 11, and a closure 12, of canvas or the like, having a fastening-cord 13, said closures 10 and 12 being opened or closed in the same manner as described with relation to the closure 3. Tapes or cords 14 are secured on opposite sides of the closure or shade 12 for the purpose of holding it in an open position, while the net closure 10 when opened can be tucked around the folded portion thereof. In this way it is seen that the window can be opened entirely, can be closed by the netting, or sealed by the curtain.

The tent is so constructed that any pole of sufficient length suitably supported can be used as the main or ridge support, or a rope or cable stretched tightly between two trees, for instance, will serve this purpose, so that in transportation it is unnecessary to carry poles of any description. In the drawings, for the purpose of illustration, a ridge-pole 15 and uprights 16 are shown, although it is understood that this ridge-pole simply represents the main ridge-support, which may, as referred to, be a tightly-stretched rope. Between the main support and the ridge of the tent are depending supports that support the tent, conveniently consisting of a plurality of loops secured to the tent-ridge and extending upwardly and around the main support. As described in detail hereinafter, these depending supports consist of separable sections, the lower sections being secured to the ridge of the tent and forming outwardly-extending pieces, constituting upwardly-extending ridge-supports for the tent proper. The tent is held at the sides by guy-ropes 17 in the usual manner. The main support also carries the fly 18, which can pass over the same or may be supported by the said loops depending therefrom. It is stretched by the guy-ropes 19, as heretofore. As a further improvement the tent and fly each have portions that extend downwardly from the point of connection of the guy-ropes 17 and 19—namely, the side walls of the tent and the flaps 20 of the fly. This prevents the accumulation of moisture at the guy-rope connections, since the water passes downwardly into the side wall or flap 20. The accumulation of water at the guy-rope connections causes the material to decay and necessitates patching or a new connection, which is thus obviated, since the fabric dries quickly and will not rot as readily.

The particular construction shown for supporting the ridge of the tent and fly comprises a plurality of loops 21, that pass through the openings in the ridge of the tent, while a cord or rope 22 passes through the lower ends of these loops, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 6. Said loops are provided above the ridge with hooks 23. The ridge of the fly is provided with a plurality of openings, and loops 24 pass therethrough and are provided at their lower ends with rings 25. These rings are larger than the openings in the ridge of the fly, so as to support the same. The hooks 23 upon the loops 21 engage the rings 25, and in this manner the ridge of the tent is supported from the main support 15. It is understood that the connection between said depending supports and the main support and the ridge of the tent can be variously modified. It is thus seen that the said depending supports consist of the separable sections 21 and 24, the former being attached, practically, in a permanent manner to the ridge of the tent proper by the interlocking cord or rope 22 and the section 24 being attached to said section 21. In this way the tent is always provided at its ridge with outwardly-extending pieces, constituting upwardly-extending ridge-supports, which are ever ready to be attached to the main support to sustain the ridge of said tent. The guy-ropes 17 are fastened to the eaves of the tent by a cord or rope 26, that runs through the loops in the ends of said guy-ropes in the same manner as the loops 21 are fastened within the ridge of the tent. Within the tent and extending between the ridge-cords 22 and these cords 26 are supporting-ropes 27, provided with hooks 28 upon which to hang clothing and other articles. Another supporting-rope 27 is fastened to the loop 24, that supports the fly just in front of the door of the tent, said supporting-rope 27 being secured to the end of the guy-ropes 19 and being also provided with hooks 28. These hooks upon the outside of the tent are adapted especially to receive wet clothing.

It is seen from the foregoing description in connection with the drawings that I provide a tent possessing the capabilities referred to—that is to say, the tent is insect-proof, and a person can enter and leave quickly and in a manner to effectually prevent the entrance of insects. The tent is also well ventilated, and the window provides light, so that a person can read or work. Furthermore, the

tent is so constructed that it can be set up, taken down, and packed quickly and with comparatively little trouble. In setting the tent up it is obvious that an ordinary pole supported at its ends by uprights or by being placed within the crotches of two trees will serve the purpose of a main support, or a rope or cable can be stretched tightly between two trees for this purpose. In striking the tent and packing the same it is to be noted that the fly can be disconnected from the ridge of the tent by means of hook 23, while the depending supports of the fly and tent remain fastened to these parts as well as the other ropes and adjuncts, so that when the tent is to be set up the parts are ready for connection.

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

1. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, and a flexible sealing-closure having closed sides and open ends, one of said open ends being secured to the wall at and entirely surrounding said opening, and means for sealing the other or free open end of said closure.

2. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, and a tubular flexible sealing-closure having closed sides and open ends, one of said open ends being secured to the wall at and entirely surrounding said opening, and means for sealing the other or free open end of said closure.

3. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, a flexible closure having one end secured around said opening, and a gathering-cord extending around the other or free end of said closure and slidingly connected therewith, whereby said free end can be drawn together to contract and close or seal the same.

4. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, and a flexible sealing-closure having closed sides and open ends, one of said open ends being secured to the wall at and entirely surrounding said opening, means for sealing the other or free open end of said closure, and means for securing said free open end of the closure to the said wall and entirely surrounding said opening when it is unsealed.

5. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, and a flexible sealing-closure having closed sides and open ends, one of said open ends being secured to the wall at and entirely surrounding said opening, means for sealing the other or free open end of said closure, and tapes or cords secured to the wall of the tent outside of and around said opening, whereby the closure can be folded and secured around said opening when it is unsealed.

6. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, and a flexible sealing-closure having closed sides and open ends, one of said open ends being secured to the wall at and entirely surrounding said opening, means for sealing the other or free open end of said closure, and tapes or cords situated around said opening and at the inner or secured end of said closure, and corresponding tapes or cords secured to the wall of the tent outside of and around said opening, whereby the closure can be folded and secured around said opening when it is unsealed.

7. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, and a plurality of separate and independent sealing-closures around said opening, each of which is adapted to independently close and seal the same.

8. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, and a plurality of flexible, sealing-closures around said opening, one of said closures being of netting, and each of said closures adapted to independently close and seal said opening.

9. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, a plurality of flexible, sealing-closures around said opening, one of said closures being of netting, and tapes or cords around said opening and on opposite sides of the other closure, and each of said closures adapted to independently close and seal said opening.

10. In a tent having its sides, roof and floor closed and sealed, an opening in one of the walls, netting covering said opening, and a flexible, sealing-closure around said opening.

11. In a tent, the sole supporting means for the roof and walls thereof, comprising a longitudinal main support, and a plurality of depending supports connected therewith and with the ridge of the tent.

12. In a tent, the sole supporting means for the fly and for the roof and walls of the tent, comprising a longitudinal main support, a fly supported thereby, and a plurality of depending supports connected with the main support and with the ridge of the tent.

13. In a tent, the combination with a main support, of depending supports connected therewith and with the ridge of the tent, and a fly secured to said depending supports below the main support.

14. A tent having a plurality of outwardly-extending pieces secured to the ridge thereof to form upwardly-extending ridge-supports.

15. A tent having a plurality of outwardly-extending pieces secured to the ridge thereof to form upwardly-extending ridge-supports, the ridge of the tent being provided with a plurality of openings through which the lower ends of the pieces project, and securing means situated on the inside of the tent interlocking with and fastening the inner ends of said pieces.

16. In a tent, the combination with a main support, of depending supports connected therewith and with the ridge of the tent, pro-

jections or shoulders between the ends of said supports, and a fly having a plurality of openings at its ridge through which said depending supports extend, said fly being sustained upon said projections or shoulders.

17. A tent provided with upwardly-extending ridge-supports, consisting of separable sections, the upper sections having projections at their lower ends, and a fly having openings at its ridge to receive the upper sections of said ridge-supports.

18. A tent provided with upwardly-extending ridge-supports, consisting of separable sections, a hook and a ring upon the adjacent ends of said sections, the part upon the upper section forming a projection, and a fly having openings at its ridge to receive the said upper sections.

19. In a tent, the combination with the main support, of depending supports connected therewith and with the ridge of the tent, said supports consisting of separable sections, projections upon the upper sections, and a fly having a plurality of openings at its ridge to receive said depending supports and resting upon said projections.

20. A tent-fly provided with a plurality of guy-ropes, said guy-ropes being connected at intervals with the lower side edges of said fly, and depending flaps along the lower side edges of said fly extending below the point of connection of said guy-ropes.

Signed at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, this 19th day of November, A. D. 1897.

THEODORE WM. HICKSON.

Witnesses:
HARRY COBB KENNEDY,
WM. T. GAUSS.