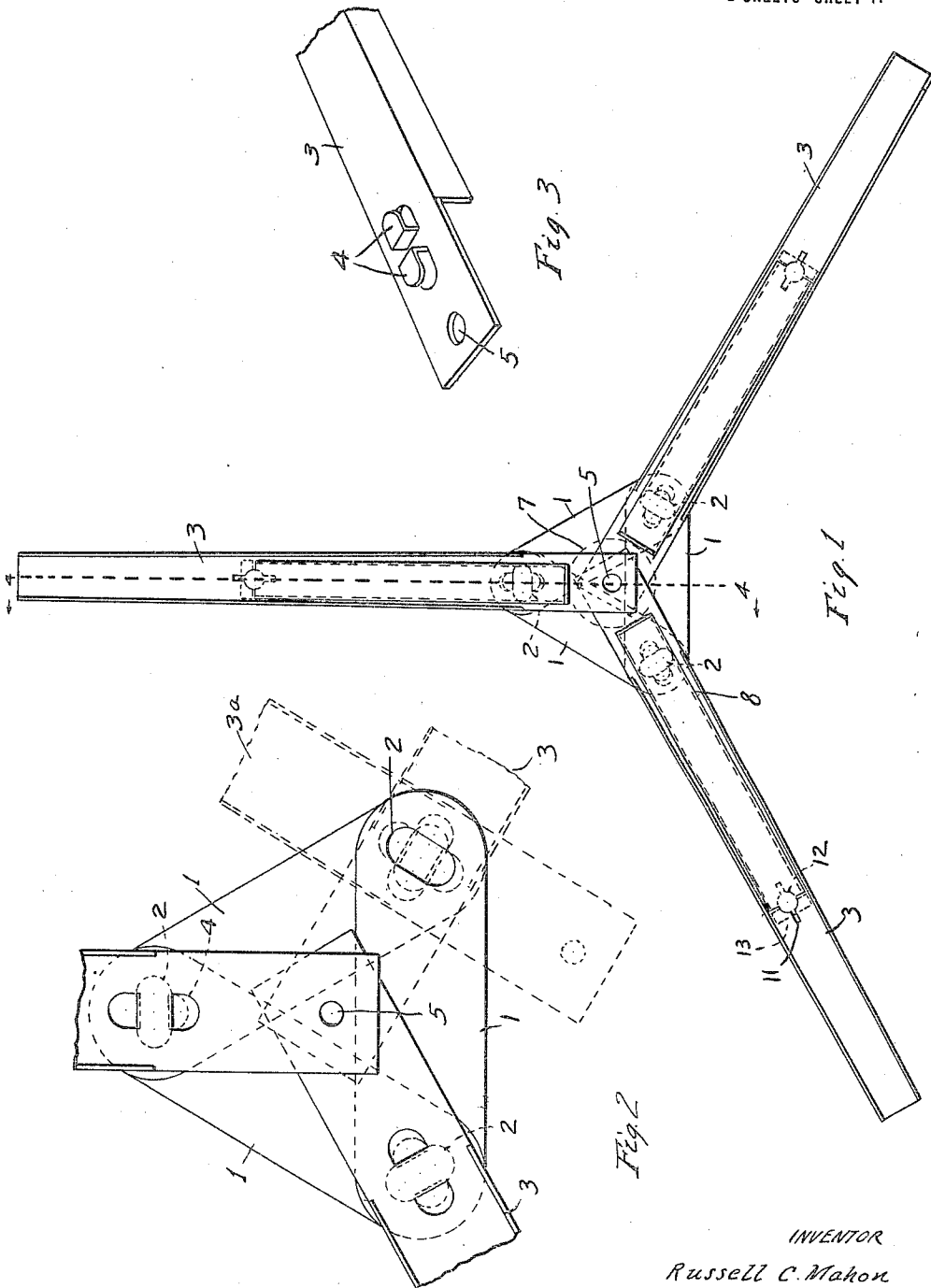


R. C. MAHON.
BASE SUPPORT FOR UPRIGHTS.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 19, 1919.

1,319,481.

Patented Oct. 21, 1919.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



INVENTOR
Russell C. Mahon

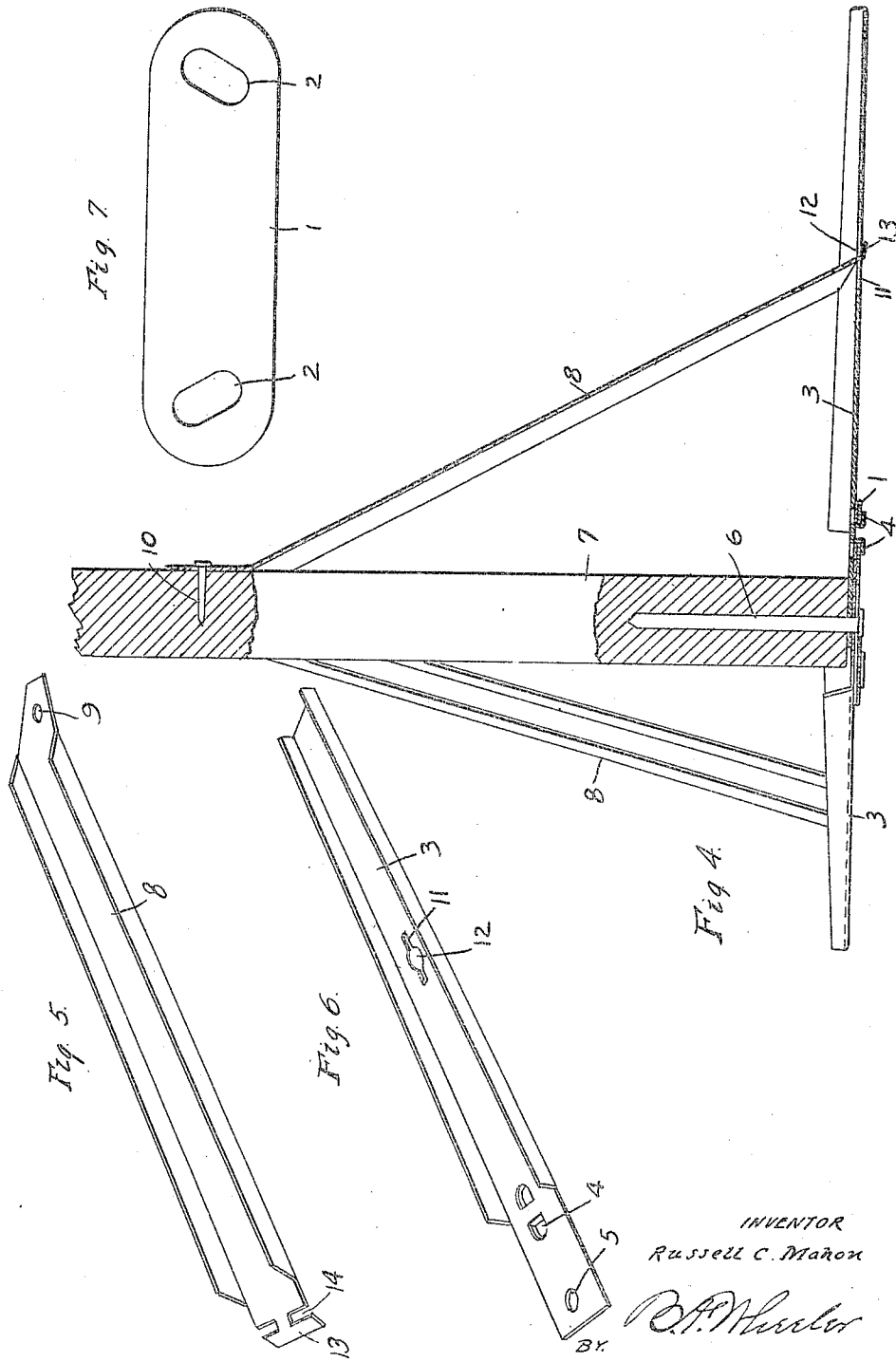
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUSSELL C. MAHON, OF HIGHLAND PARK, MICHIGAN.

BASE-SUPPORT FOR UPRIGHTS.

1,319,481.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 21, 1919.

Application filed March 19, 1919. Serial No. 283,562.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUSSELL C. MAHON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Highland Park, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Base-Support for Uprights, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to base supports for uprights, and its object is to provide a collapsible or "knock-down" structure for supporting Christmas trees or upright members of any sort.

More specifically it is the object of the invention to provide a base support for uprights comprised of a number of sheet-metal parts, all of which may be formed from scrap material, said parts being adapted to be assembled or disassembled quickly and without the use of special tools or exercise of mechanical skill.

A preferred embodiment of the invention is disclosed in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a top view of the supporting frame assembled complete, but for the sake of clearness omitting the supported upright.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged top view of the center portion of the frame.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the inner end of one of the radial feet of the frame.

Fig. 4 is a view in partial side elevation and partial section, showing the base support engaged with an upright, the section being taken on line 4-4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a brace member, several of which are employed in the base support.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a foot member, of which there is one corresponding to each brace member.

Fig. 7 is a view of one of the plates.

In these views the reference character 1 designates three similarly shaped sheet metal plates having rounded ends and arranged in a mutually over-lapping relation so as to respectively form the sides of a triangle. Each plate 1 is formed with two slots 2, one at each end, said slots being oppositely inclined at sixty degrees to the longitudinal axis of the plate. From the triangular center-piece formed by the plates 1, there are radially extended three supporting feet 3, each similarly formed of a strip of sheet metal bent to a channel shape, said feet being one hundred and twenty degrees apart and attached to said center-piece by engage-

ment in the slots 2 of tongues 4 struck out from said feet adjacent the inner ends thereof. Said tongues are formed in pairs which are first bent at right angles to the feet on the opposite side from the flanges forming the channels and are then bent oppositely into parallelism with the feet as Fig. 3 clearly illustrates. Each pair of tongues 4 are so spaced and proportioned that they may be passed through one of the slots 2 of the center-piece when the foot formed with said tongues is in the position indicated at 3^a in Fig. 2; that is to say with the longitudinal axis of the foot substantially coincident with that of the slots with which the tongues 4 of the foot are to be engaged. The foot is then swung through a ninety degree angle to its proper position of use in which position the tongues 4 extend at right angles to the slot 2 and prevent disengagement of the foot from the center-piece. The channel-forming flanges are cut away at the inner ends of the feet to permit said ends to overlap as may be best seen in Fig. 2. Close adjacent its inner end each foot is formed with a small opening 5, said openings of all three feet registering when the feet and center-piece are in proper assembled relation so that a nail 6 may be driven through said registered openings and into the base of the Christmas tree 7, or other upright which is to be mounted upon the herein-described frame. The frame is completed by three inclined brace members 8, of a channel-shape and formed from sheet metal similarly to the feet 3, and having their channel-forming flanges cut away at both ends. The upper ends of said brace members are bent so as to lie substantially flat against the tree or other upright 7, and are respectively formed with small openings 9 through which are driven nails 10, securing said ends to the upright. The lower ends of said brace members are detachably secured to the feet 3 at intermediate points of the latter by forming said feet with slots 11 extending longitudinally of the feet and centrally enlarged as indicated at 12, and engaging in said slots tongues 13, one of which is formed at the lower end of each brace member by slotting the same oppositely as indicated at 14. Insertion of the tongues 13 in the slots 11 is possible only when the brace members have been first brought into a substantially perpendicular relation to the feet 3 with the webs of the

brace members parallel to the flanges of the feet. After insertion of the tongues through the slots the brace members are turned on their longitudinal axes through ninety de-
 5 grees so as to establish the tongues in transverse relation to the slots, the brace members being then inclined so as to bring their upper ends to bear upon the upright 7, to be nailed thereto as already described.

10 It is a feature of the above-described construction that the parts thereof, when disassembled, may be very compactly arranged, so as to be packaged and marketed in a comparatively small box or carton
 15 wherein they may also be stored when the device is not in use.

It is also a feature that all of the parts may be made from scrap material, and may be formed by simple stamping operations,
 20 so that the cost of production will be sufficiently low to allow the article to be cheaply marketed as is essential for an article of this nature.

What I claim is:

25 1. A base support for uprights comprising a center piece, feet detachably engaging said center piece and radiating therefrom, said feet over-lapping at the center of the center-piece, brace members detachably en-
 30 gaging said feet and extending upwardly at an inclination to engage the supported upright, and a common means for securing the overlapped ends of the feet to the supported upright.

35 2. A base support for uprights comprising a plurality of elongated plates having their ends apertured and mutually over-

lapped to form a center-piece, the apertures of the overlapped ends being registered, feet radiating from said center-piece hav-
 40 ing projections engaging in the apertures of the center-piece, and brace members detachably engaging said feet and extending upwardly at an inclination to engage the supported upright.

45 3. A base support for uprights comprising a center-piece formed with slots adjacent its periphery, a plurality of feet radiating from said center-piece formed with struck-out tongues engaging in said slots
 50 to detachably secure the feet to the center-piece, the inner ends of said feet being overlapped, a common means for securing said feet to the supported upright, and brace members detachably engaging the feet and
 55 extending upwardly at an inclination to engage the upright.

4. A base support for uprights comprising a center-piece, a plurality of feet detachably engaging said center-piece and
 60 radiating therefrom, said feet being intermediately formed with slots having central enlargements, and brace members having at their ends tongues insertible in said slots in a certain position of the brace members
 65 and locked in engagement with the feet through a quarter turn of the brace members about their longitudinal axes, said brace members being inclined upwardly to the supported upright to bear upon the
 70 same.

In testimony whereof I sign this specification.

RUSSELL C. MAHON.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."