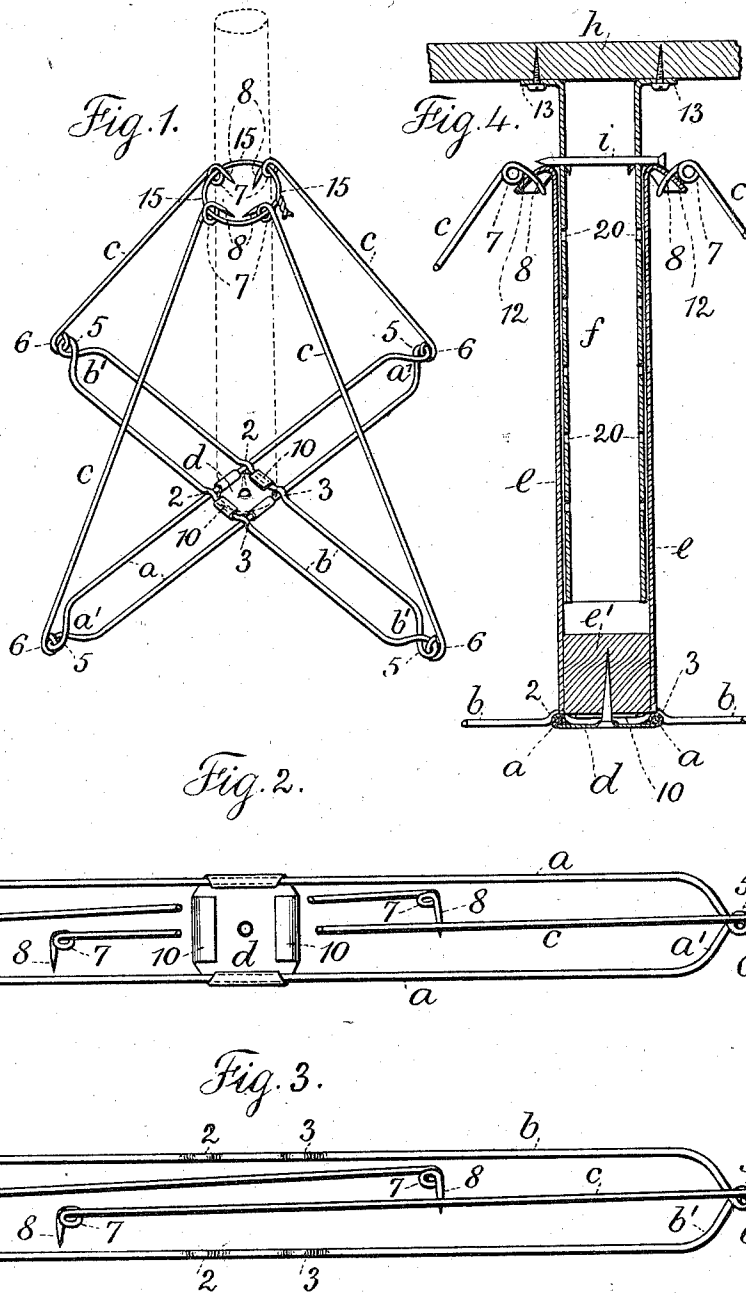


(No Model.)

P. M. PIERSON.
CHRISTMAS TREE HOLDER.

No. 580,423.

Patented Apr. 13, 1897.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL M. PIERSON, OF SING SING, NEW YORK.

CHRISTMAS-TREE HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 580,423, dated April 13, 1897.

Application filed October 30, 1895. Serial No. 567,412. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL M. PIERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sing Sing, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stands for Christmas Trees, &c., of which the following is a specification.

Stands of wood of various kinds have heretofore been made for supporting Christmas trees. These are usually clumsy and more or less unsightly and are not acceptable articles of merchandise and sale.

My invention relates to a portable and collapsible stand of wire or light metal tubing, and in making the same I employ two frames of wire or light tubing adapted to be crossed and held together at the center, and brace-arms connected at one end to the outer ends of the frames and adapted after the tree is stood over the center of the frames to be engaged therewith at their other and upper ends, so as to support the tree in an upright position.

My improved stand is also adapted to carry an adjustable standard for supporting ornamental potted plants for decorative purposes, in which case the stands can be compactly set together with the plants carried thereby as a background behind other plants set upon the floor.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents by a perspective view the stand as set up for use. Figs. 2 and 3 represent by plan views the respective frames of the stand, and Fig. 4 represents by a vertical section an adjustable standard and parts of said stand for carrying the same.

The frames *a b* are similar and of wire or small metal tubing. They are long and narrow, the parallel members thereof being united, preferably, by rounded ends *a' b'*, having eyes 5, wire brace-arms *c*, preferably of equal length, and each made with an eye 6 at one end and an eye 7 and prong 8 at the other end. The eyes 6 of the brace-arms *c* are connected to the eyes 5 of the frames *a b*.

The frame *a* is provided with a central sheet-metal clip *d*, whose opposite eyes are turned over upon the parallel members of the frame *a* to grip the same, and the intermediate and parallel opposite edges of this metal

clip are turned over at 10 10 to receive the parallel members of the frame *b*, as shown in Fig. 1.

The parallel members of the frame *b* have bends 2 3 therein to straddle the members of the frame *a* when the frames are crossed, and the members of the frame *b* are sprung toward one another and brought within the opposite edges of the turned-over parts 10 10, and when released immediately spring out within these parts and hold the frames securely in position when crossed. These turned-over parts 10 10 prevent movement of the frames in one direction and the bends 2 3 prevent movement in the other direction.

An opening is made in the center of the plate *d* for an attaching device, such as a nail or screw, to be inserted into the lower end of the Christmas tree or other upright in connecting the frames of the stand to such upright. When the brace-arms *c* are set in their inclined position against the tree, the prongs 8 may be driven into the tree, and, if desired, and as an extra fastening, a wire or string 15 may be passed around the tree through the eyes 7 and the ends of the same be twisted together or tied, as in Fig. 1. In this manner the tree is held securely and the stand is rather ornamental than otherwise, and when not in use the arms *c* fold down upon the frames, and the frames can be set together compactly in a small space. * If desired, the stand may be securely held to the floor by double-pointed tacks when in use.

In Fig. 4 I have shown an adjustable standard supported by my improved stand for carrying ornamental potted plants for decorative plantwork. This stand preferably comprises a tube *e*, resting upon the crossed frames *a b*, with a wooden plug in its lower end that receives a nail driven through the clip-piece *d*. The upper end of this tube *e* is turned over, as lips 12, and perforated for engagement by the prongs 8. Within the tube *e* is a tube *f*, whose upper end is bent over, as lips 13, and perforated for screws that connect the same to a platform *h*. This adjustable tube *f* is perforated through at intervals with pairs of holes 20, through which a wire nail *i* can be inserted in adjustably supporting the tube *f* in and by the tube *e*. By this device ornamental potted plants or other articles may be

supported at various heights for collections and groups in decorative work.

I claim as my invention—

1. A stand for Christmas trees or similar articles, comprising two open metallic frames, a sheet-metal connecting-piece for receiving and holding the open frames where they cross each other and having a hole for the insertion of a nail, and arms connected at their lower ends to the open metallic frames and adapted at their upper ends to be connected to the tree or other article to be supported, substantially as set forth.

2. A Christmas-tree stand consisting of two open metallic frames, a central clip-piece of sheet metal having its edges bent over to receive and hold the wires of the frames where they cross each other, and metallic arms or braces pivoted at their lower ends to the open work frames, and having hooks at their upper ends adapted to be connected with the tree or other article to be supported, substantially as set forth.

3. A stand for Christmas trees comprising two frames of wire or tubular metal having parallel members with rounded ends and eyes

5 at the extremities, a clip-piece *d* secured to the center of one wire frame and having turned-over parts 10 10 adapted to receive the parallel members of the other wire frame when crossed therewith, brace-arms *c* having eyes 6 to engage the eyes 5 of the wire frames and eyes 7 and prongs 8 at their other ends for connecting the braces to the tree, substantially as set forth.

4. A stand comprising two frames of wire or tubular metal crossing each other and means for removably holding them together at their center, and brace-arms connected at one end to the ends of said frames, and having prongs at their other ends, and an adjustable standard connected to and carried by the stand and a platform thereon for supporting ornamental potted plants or other articles, substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 26th day of October, A. D. 1895.

PAUL M. PIERSON.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,
HAROLD SERRELL.