(No Model.)

J. & B. L. SIMPSON.

FLAGSTAFF HOLDER.

No. 545,385. Patented Aug. 27, 1895.

Fig. 1.

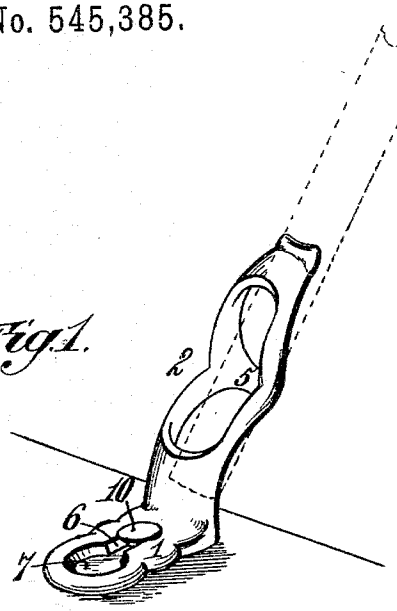


Fig. 2.

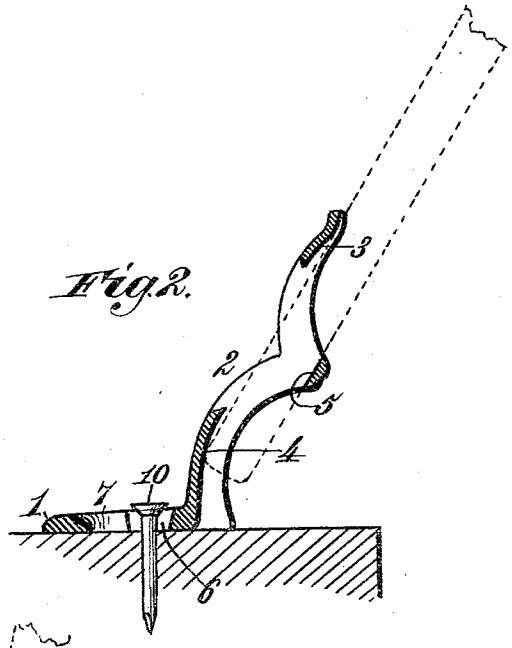


Fig. 7.

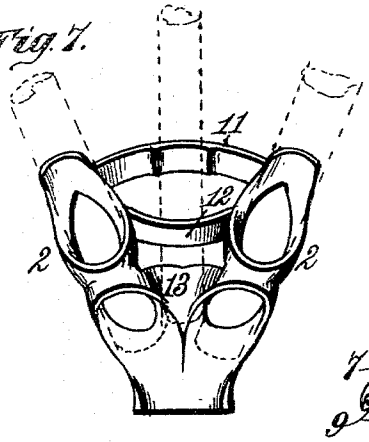


Fig. 3.

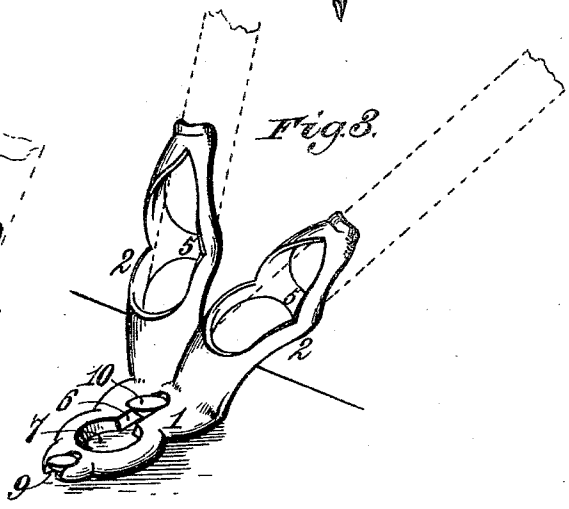


Fig. 4.

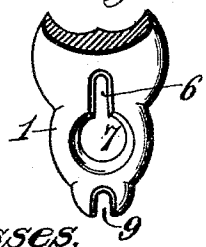


Fig. 5.

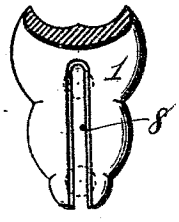
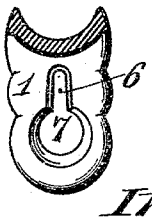


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH SIMPSON AND BENJAMIN L. SIMPSON, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

FLAGSTAFF-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 545,385, dated August 27, 1895.

Application filed November 19, 1894. Serial No. 529,339. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH SIMPSON and BENJAMIN L. SIMPSON, citizens of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Flagstaff-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to flagstaff-holders, and has for its particular object to provide a cheap, quickly attachable and detachable holder, of neat and durable construction, and especially adapted for the decorative display of flags from windows or elsewhere upon the exterior of buildings or in halls and other apartments. An effective arrangement or grouping of flags attached to staffs is usually attended with great inconvenience, frequently requiring considerable time and labor, and if nails are used the staff will be often split and ruined, the means of support will be unsightly and insecure, and the parts of the building to which the flags are attached will be defaced. Various forms of flagstaff-holders have been devised to obviate some of these difficulties, but they have been usually cumbersome and expensive, and often require a number of nails or screws to hold them in place, so that they are not quickly detachable and call for some skill and labor to put them properly in place.

It is one of the purposes of our invention to provide a flagstaff-holder that can be at once detached without the drawing of a nail, screw, or other fastening, so that there need be but little, if any, marring of the part or support to which the holder is secured. The holders may be constructed to receive and securely brace either a single flagstaff or a number, and will permit the flags to be taken in quickly upon approach of a storm or threatening weather, either by withdrawing the staffs from the holders or by readily detaching the holders together with the inserted flagstaffs.

To these ends our invention consists in a flagstaff-holder having the features of construction hereinafter described and claimed.

In the annexed drawings, illustrating the invention, Figure 1 is a perspective of one form of our improved flagstaff-holder, designed for reception of a single flagstaff. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective showing a holder designed for receiving two flagstaffs. Figs. 4, 5, and 6 are plans of the base portion of the holder, showing differently formed or arranged slots for the fastenings. Fig. 7 is an elevation of a flagstaff-holder in which two radially-disposed main socket-arms are connected at suitable points by oppositely-curved bars adapted to serve as bearings for an additional or intermediate flagstaff.

The flagstaff-holder is cheaply and conveniently made of cast metal and comprises a base portion 1 and an arm or socket 2, projecting from the said base at any required inclination and rigidly connected to and integral with the base. The holder may have only one staff-receiving socket-arm 2, as shown in Fig. 1, or it may be provided with a plurality of such arms, as shown in Fig. 3. While the socket arm or arms may have a generally tubular form, it is preferable, for sake of lightness and economy of material, to cast them in open-work, as shown. Each socket-arm is so constructed that an inserted flagstaff will have a wedging engagement with the socket when forced firmly into place and will be securely braced therein by the diagonally-opposed arrangement of the bearings 3, 4, and 5, with which each socket-arm is provided. If the holder has a plurality of socket-arms 2, they are preferably given a radial arrangement and may closely converge at their inner ends, where they spring from the base of the holder, and the inner ends of inserted flagstaffs may thus be made to have a wedging action on each other that will assist to hold them securely in place. It will be observed that the bearings 3 and 4 in the socket-arms have such relatively reverse curvatures and are diagonally opposed to the intermediate bearing 5 in such manner as will greatly assist a firm wedging action on an inserted flagstaff to hold it securely in place. Where the flag-holder has a plurality of staff-receiving sockets, their inner ends are so closely approached, as shown in Figs. 3 and 7, that the inner ends of inserted flagstaffs will bear against each other and be thereby still further secured.

In the base 1 of the flagstaff-holder is a slot, as 6, Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, having an enlarge-

ment 7 at one end to facilitate engagement with a large-headed nail, tack, or screw inserted into a window-sill or other suitable support for the flagstaff-holder; or, as shown in Fig. 5, an elongated open-ended slot 8 may be provided, the said slot being throughout of a width corresponding to the diameter of the shank portion of the nail, tack, or screw, and one end of the said slot 8 being extended to the edge of the base 1 to permit its ready engagement with or removal from the fastening. The elongated and open-ended slot 8 is particularly adapted to permit engagement with two nails, screws, or like fastenings spaced a suitable distance apart, as may be necessary where several flags are supported in the holder and might tend to render it top-heavy. By means of a holder having the elongated and open-ended slot 8 in its base a group of flags may be securely supported without any liability to topple over. The same purpose may be accomplished by providing an open-ended slot 9, Figs. 3 and 4, in the rear edge of the base in which the slot 6 is formed. The slot 6 will then engage with one fastening and the slot 9 with another, and these fastenings, being located a suitable distance apart, will securely brace the flagstaff-holder even when a number of flags are supported in it.

Any fastening having a large head 10—such as a suitable nail, tack, or screw—may be employed as a means for attaching the flagstaff-holder. By means of the slot or slots provided in the base of the holder it can be quickly attached to or detached from the fastening with ease and convenience. A building can thus be quickly and conveniently decorated without involving much expense for the flag-holders, and the flags can be quickly taken down and preserved from injury in stormy weather and may be as easily replaced. It will be observed that the nail, screw, or fastening 10 does not need to be drawn in order to detach the flagstaff-holder, and may consequently be left permanently in the window-sill or other support.

In Fig. 7 we have shown a flagstaff-holder of the same construction, as already described, except that the two main radially-disposed socket-arms 2 are connected at or near their upper ends by a bar 11, having a curvature that is preferably rearward, below which is a similar bar 12 having an opposite or forward curvature, and near the base of the radial socket-arms 2 is a connecting-web 13, the said bars and web being adapted to serve, by reason of their diagonally-opposite arrangement, as bearings for an additional flagstaff inserted intermediate the main radially-disposed socket-arms. Thus at but a trifling additional cost for the casting and but little increase of weight the flagstaff-holder is readily adapted to the support of three flags.

We are aware that a flagstaff-holder has heretofore been provided with a series of radially-disposed sockets formed in a plate or frame having a pivotally-adjustable connection with an unslotted base portion adapted to be clamped to a window-sill or like support. We are also aware that clothes-racks have been provided with adjustable arms inserted into a notched and grooved frame having key-hole-slots, through which the said rack is to be suspended from screws or nails driven into a wall, and we are further aware that whip-sockets for permanent attachment to the dashboards of vehicles have been constructed with diagonally-opposed bearings adapted to hold the handle portion of a whip with a wedging action. These we do not claim, and our invention differs therefrom in that it consists of a flagstaff-holder having a slotted base portion for quick and ready attachment to and detachment from a permanent fastening and having integral with said slotted base one or more socket-arms adapted to receive and securely brace one or more flagstaffs.

What we claim as our invention is—

The herein described flag-staff holder composed of the base portion provided with a slot to detachably engage a permanent fastening and one or more socket arms integral with said base, projecting therefrom at an angle, and each constructed to receive and securely brace a flag-staff, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH SIMPSON.
BENJAMIN L. SIMPSON.

Witnesses:
E. C. BEACH,
ISAAC D. ROSS.