No. 853,560. PATENTED MAY 14, 1907.

R. P. ORR.

PORTABLE TENT FRAME.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 25, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

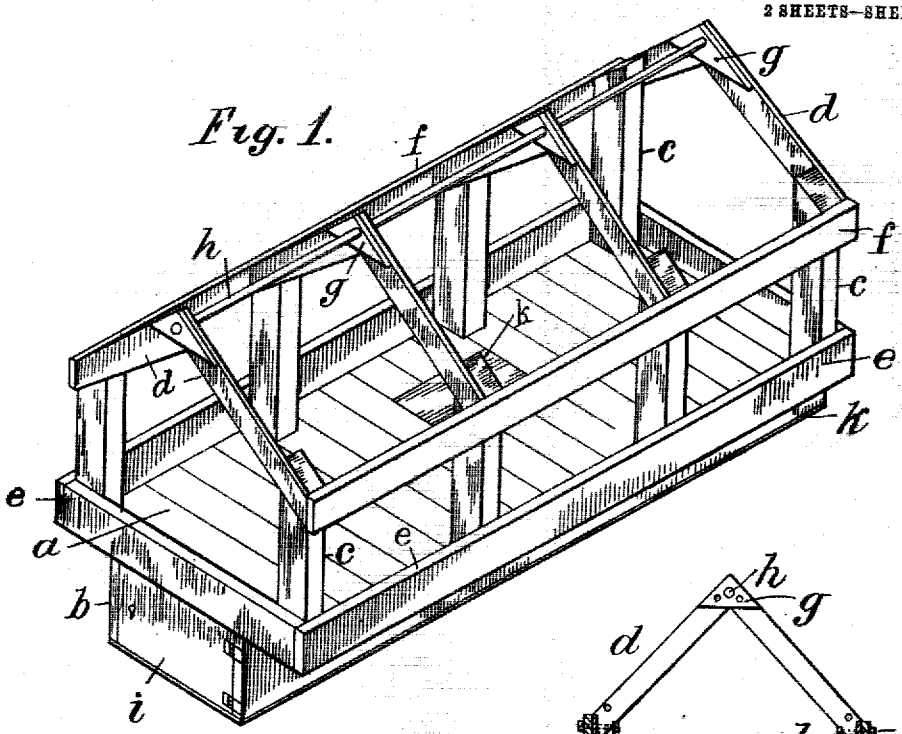


Fig. 2.

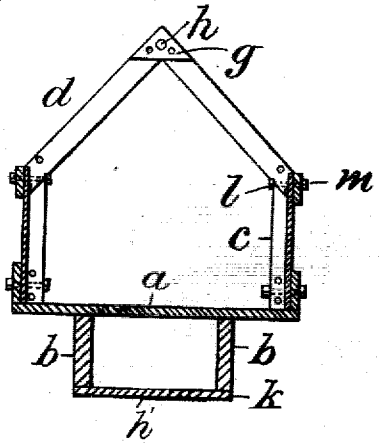
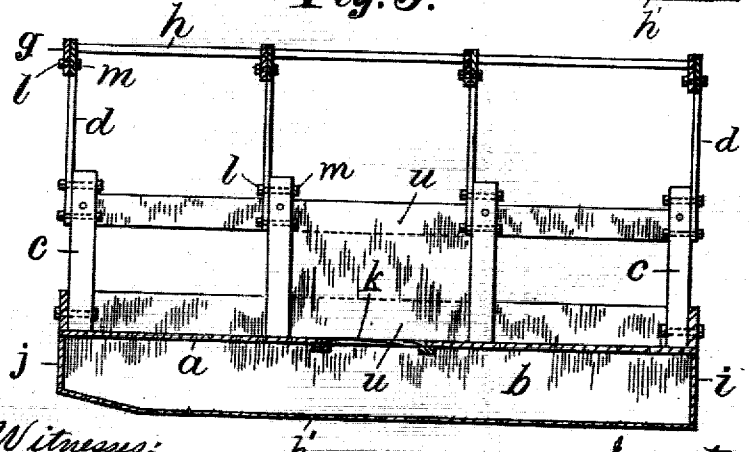


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Myra C. Wall.
Ethel N. Crane.

Inventor.
Robert P. Orr, per
Thomas L. Crane, Atty.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

No. 853,560. PATENTED MAY 14, 1907.

R. P. ORR.

PORTABLE TENT FRAME.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 25, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

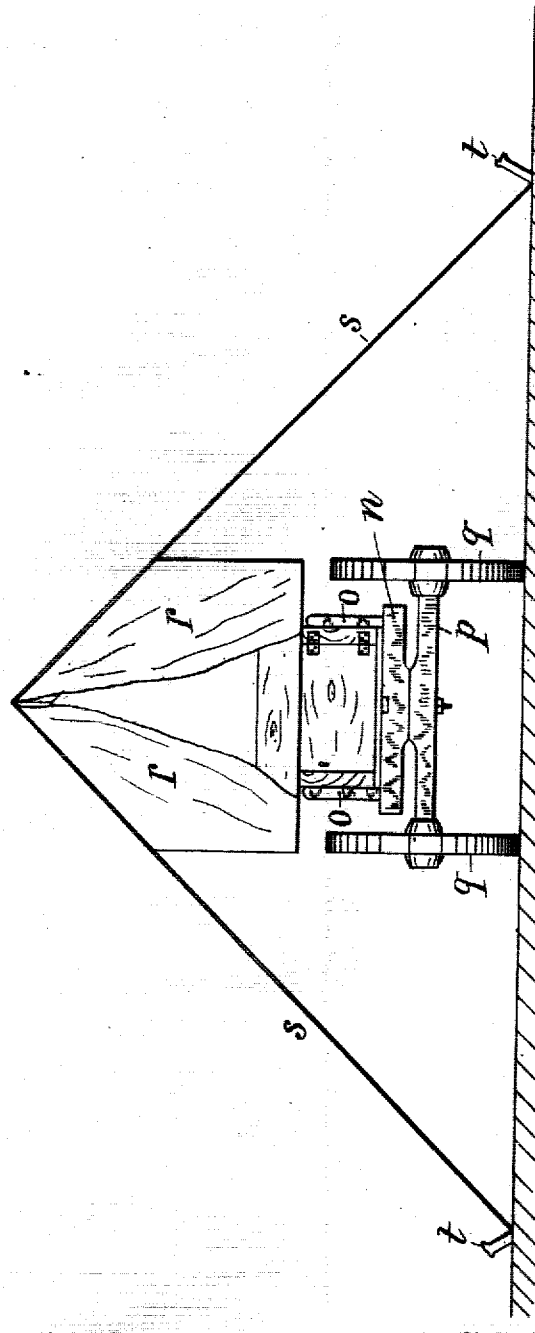


Fig. 1.

Witnesses:
Myra C. Wall.
Ethel M. Crane.

Inventor.
Robert P. Orr, per
Thomas S. Crane, Atty

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT P. ORR, OF PLEASANTVILLE, NEW YORK.

PORTABLE TENT-FRAME.

No. 853,560. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 14, 1907.

Application filed July 25, 1906. Serial No. 327,685.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT P. ORR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pleasantville, county of Westchester, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Tent-Frames, fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same.

One object of this invention is to furnish a portable tent frame with a board floor which, when supported upon the ground, is held by the structure above the level of the ground, and the space beneath a great part of the floor wholly uninclosed and open to the circulation of air. This object is attained by supporting the posts and rafters wholly upon the edges of the floor, and sustaining the floor itself upon two sills which are attached to the floor intermediate to the edges, at a suitable distance apart to fit between the stakes of ordinary wagon bolsters, so that the entire structure can be mounted upon the running-gear of an ordinary wagon, and not only transported from place to place, but occupied and used while upon such running-gear. The longitudinal sills are secured edgewise to the floor, so as to form a space of suitable depth which when inclosed at the bottom forms an excellent store closet, which may be reached by a trap-door through the floor and also by doors applied between the ends of the sills.

The structure is suited for use in the field by soldiers, engineers, or by parties camping out either for health or pleasure, and it may also be used contiguous to a dwelling house where there is sufficient ground or space to accommodate the structure; and in such latter case it may be used by inmates of the dwelling to house an invalid. The structure is also adapted to receive removable panels to exclude cold or rain during inclement weather.

The invention will be understood by reference to the annexed drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the tent-frame; Fig. 2 is a transverse section; and Fig. 3 a longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 4 is an end view with the running gear.

a designates the floor which consists of cross boards nailed permanently to longitudinal sills *b* which are set edgewise so as to raise the floor 10 or 12 inches above the ground. Posts *c* are extended upward from the floor along its edges, and rafters *d* are extended inward therefrom and connected together at the peak and to a ridge-pole *h*. Skirt boards *e* connect the posts together at the base to keep them erect, and rails *f* connect the posts together at the top.

Triangular tie-plates *g* are attached to the joint of the rafters to stiffen the same and prevent them from spreading apart. The bottoms of the sills are connected by cross boards *h'* and the space thus formed is closed with hinged and locked doors *i* and *j* at the opposite ends, thus forming a secure store closet for the use of the inmates. The boards *h* form a bottom to the closet when the sills are sustained upon the bolster of a wagon, and when the sills rest upon the ground they protect the inner space from the access of rain and vermin.

The projection of the floor beyond the sills at opposite sides, as shown in Fig. 2, exposes the under side of the floor to ventilation, and thus protects it from dampness when the tent frame is supported upon the ground.

When the tent frame is supported upon a wagon running-gear, the depth of the bolsters supports the floor and its projecting portions above the tops of the stakes *o*.

A trap door *k* affords access to the closet from the inside of the tent.

In Figs. 2 and 3, the different parts are shown jointed together by bolts *l* having nuts *m* by which the parts can be readily detached or separated for packing and storage when not in use. A bolster *n* of an ordinary box wagon is shown beneath the frame in Fig. 4, with the usual stakes *o* near its opposite ends between which the closet portion of the structure can be set upon the bolster, and an axle *p* is shown jointed to the bolster in the usual manner with wheels *q* upon its opposite ends.

A canvas cover *r* is shown over the tent-frame with cords *s* extended to the ground and secured by tent pegs *t*.

By disconnecting the separable parts of the frame, the whole may be readily transported to any desired place, as it may be readily erected and mounted, with its canvas cover upon the bolsters of any ordinary farm wagon, and transported by the running gear of such wagon.

By retaining the running gear under the tent-frame while in use, it may be used upon a lawn during the season without any injury to the grass of the lawn, as only the wagon wheels would contact with the grass, and the

elevation of the tent above the ground would wholly avoid any dampness.

A board floor for a tent of comfortable size is much larger than the body of an ordinary farm wagon and could not be supported upon the bolsters of the wagon without interfering with the wheels; but the extension of the sills *b* downwardly from the floor operates not only to raise the floor above the ground if set thereon, but adapts the sills to support the tent-frame above the bolsters of a wagon so that it could be transported thereon.

The structure thus serves the purposes of a portable house, but much cheaper and lighter; while it also furnishes a tent which is less liable to be overset or deranged by wind, than a structure supported upon mere poles.

A detachable panel *u* is shown fitted between the posts adjacent to the rails and skirting; and all the spaces may be filled with such panels when required, to protect the inmates when occupying the tent late in the season, or when subjected to unusual cold and wet.

Having thus set forth the nature of the invention what is claimed herein is:

1. A portable tent frame provided with a board floor, posts and rafters secured together and supported wholly upon the edges of the floor, and longitudinal sills secured edgewise to the floor beneath the same, intermediate to the edges, at a suitable distance apart to fit the bolsters of a wagon running-gear, the space between the sills being inclosed beneath to form a store closet.

2. A portable tent frame provided with a board floor, posts and rafters secured together and supported wholly upon the edges of the floor, and longitudinal sills secured edgewise to the floor beneath the same intermediate to the edges, at a suitable distance apart to fit the bolsters of a wagon running-gear, the space between the sills being inclosed beneath to form a store closet, and the floor having a trap-door leading into such closet, and the space between the ends of the sills being provided with a door *i* for external access to such space.

3. A portable tent frame provided with a board floor, posts and rafters secured detachably together to hold the tent cover and supported wholly upon the edges of the floor, skirt-boards held detachably to the posts for keeping them erect, longitudinal sills permanently secured edgewise to the floor beneath the same intermediate to the edges, at a suitable distance apart to fit the bolsters of a running-gear, bolsters *n* fitted transversely to the sills with stakes *o* embracing the outer sides of the sills, and wheels with running-gear fitted to the bolsters, to render the tent frame movable from space to space at pleasure.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT P. ORR.

Witnesses:
W. H. VAN STERNBERGH,
JACOB MARX.