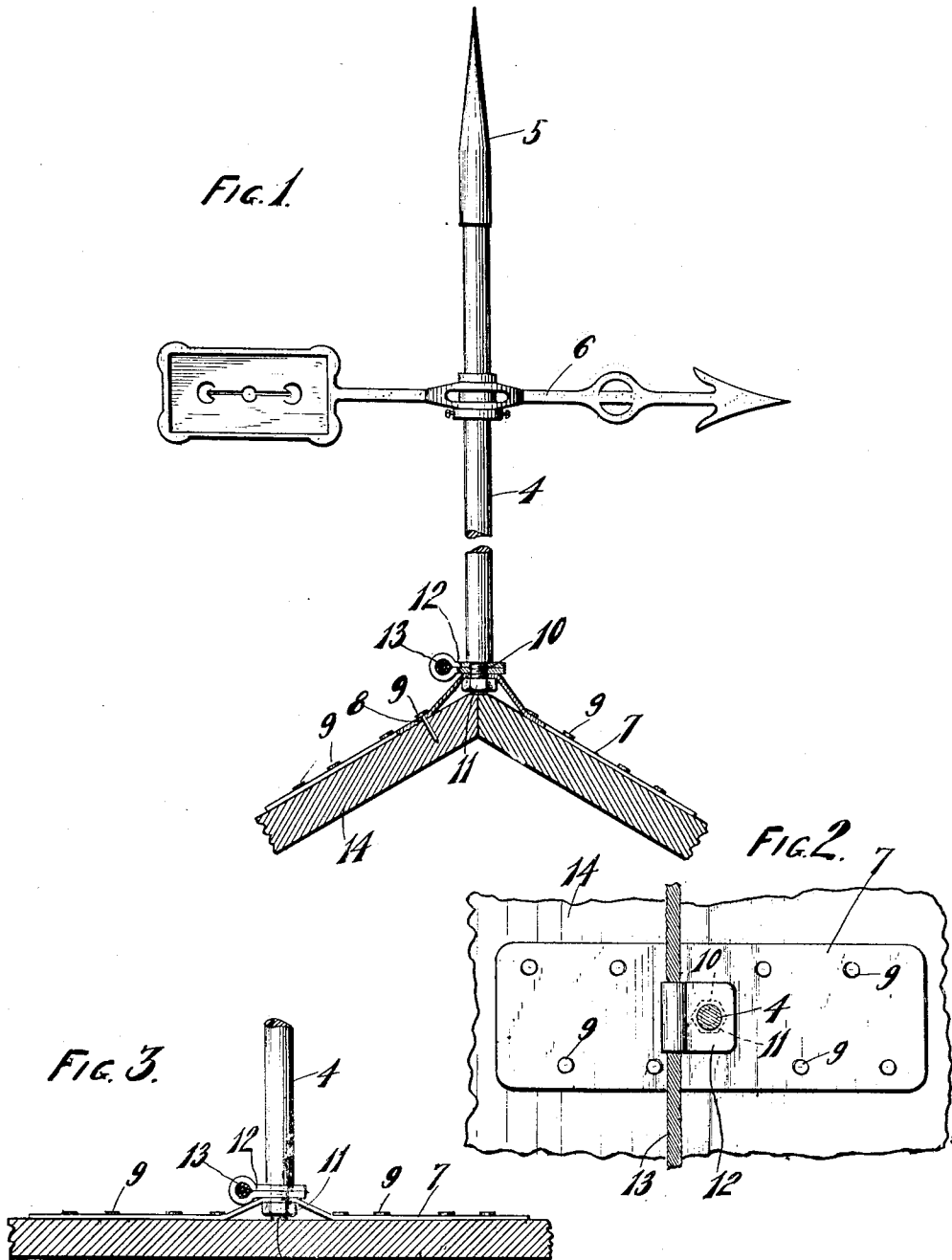


A. J. STEFFES.
LIGHTNING ROD BRACE.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 13, 1914.

1,122,434.

Patented Dec. 29, 1914.



WITNESSES
J. D. Thurner
Katherine Holt

INVENTOR.
Anton J. Steffes.
By Morrell & Caldwell.
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTON J. STEFFES, OF CHILTON, WISCONSIN.

LIGHTNING-ROD BRACE.

1,122,434.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 29, 1914.

Application filed February 13, 1914. Serial No. 818,468.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTON J. STEFFES, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Chilton, in the county of Calumet and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Lightning-Rod Braces, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are a part of this specification.

My invention has relation to improvements in lightning rod braces.

Lightning rod braces or supports, as heretofore constructed, have been of such character as to only be applicable to one particular formation of roof, that is to say, a brace or support adaptable to a flat roof is of such formation as not to be applicable to, or properly attachable to a slanting roof, and vice versa. Hence it has been necessary to provide a special form for flat roofs, and another special form for slanting roofs. These prior constructions, in many cases, consist of a tripod-like arrangement having feet at their lower ends, for attachment to the roof.

It is the primary object of my invention not only to provide a simple and cheap form of lightning rod brace, but, furthermore, one which, while normally in form for application to a flat roof, can, by a simple bending or manipulation of the base plate thereof, be made applicable for attachment to a slanting roof of any degree of inclination.

With the above primary, and other incidental, objects in view, the invention consists of the devices and parts, or the equivalents thereof, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is an elevation of a lightning rod construction equipped with my improvements, the lightning rod being shown as broken away, and the base plate being shown as attached to a slanting roof; Fig. 2 is a plan view of Fig. 1, the lightning rod being shown in section; and Fig. 3 is a view of a fragment of the lightning rod equipped with my improvements, showing the base plate attached to a flat roof.

The lightning rod proper is of the usual construction, being shown as consisting of an upright, copper rod 4, and the shell point 5 mounted on the upper end of said rod, in the usual manner. I have also shown a weather vane 6, revolvably mounted on the rod, and, if desired for ornamental purposes, a glass base (not shown) can also be mounted thereon.

Referring particularly to the improvements, a base attaching plate 7 is employed, and which consists of some readily bendable metal, preferably galvanized sheet iron. This plate is provided with a series of holes 8 for the passing therethrough of nails 9 which are driven into the roof, and thereby securely attach the plate to the roof. Centrally, the base plate is provided with an opening through which passes the lower reduced, threaded end 10 of the rod 4. A nut 11 is turned on to the lower extremity of this reduced threaded end, and thereby serves to hold the base plate in connection with the rod. Also carried on the reduced threaded end, and interposed between the top of the attaching plate and the shoulder of the rod, is a holding clamp 12, for the cable or conductor 13. It is, of course, obvious that, when the nut is turned up tightly against the under side of the attaching plate, not only is this plate securely connected to the rod, but also the holding clamp is securely held in place. If, for instance, it is desired to attach the lightning rod to a slanting roof, such as the roof 14 shown in Fig. 1, all that is necessary to be done is, to bend the base plate so as to conform it to the particular slant of the roof to which attachment is to be made, and then drive the nails through the openings of the base plate and into the roof. On the other hand, if it is desired to attach the device to a flat roof, such as 15, shown in Fig. 3, the attaching plate is left in its original flat condition, and attached in the manner clearly illustrated in Fig. 3.

From the foregoing description it will be seen, that I provide not only a construction having the advantage of adaptability to roofs of all forms and shapes, but furthermore, a most simple and cheap construction, and one wherein the attachment can be made very quickly or expeditiously.

What I claim is:

1. In a lightning conductor, the combination of a rod, means for securing the rod to the roof of a building, a wire conductor, and a clamp for securing said conductor to said rod, said clamp being held in closed position to clamp the rod by the rod securing means.

2. In a lightning conductor, the combination of a rod, a plate provided with an opening through which said rod passes, means for securing the plate to the building, a wire conductor, a clamp for the wire conductor, said clamp being mounted on said rod, and

means for securing said rod and clamp to the plate.

3. In a lightning conductor, the combination with a rod provided at its lower end with a reduced portion, a plate provided with an opening through which the reduced portion passes, said plate being of bendable material, to adapt it to be bent to conform to the shape of the particular roof to which the device is to be applied, means for connecting the plate to the roof, a holding clamp for the

wire cable, said clamp being mounted on the reduced end of the rod adjacent said plate, and means secured to the rod for securing it at the clamp to the plate.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

ANTON J. STEFFES.

Witnesses:

GEO. C. HUME,
ARTHUR V. HUME,