

M. M. FITZGERALD.

Improvement in Wagon-Sheet and Tent.

No. 130,417.

Patented Aug. 13, 1872.

Fig. 1.

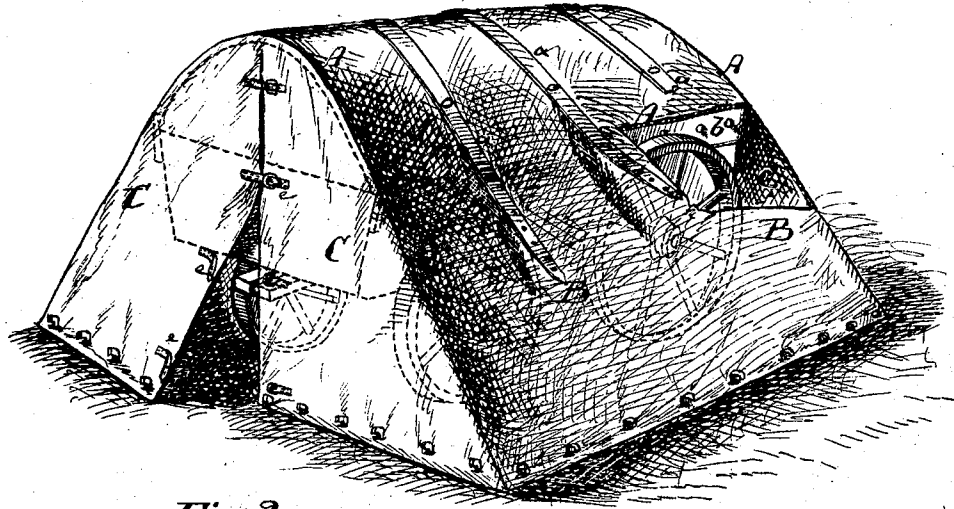


Fig. 2.

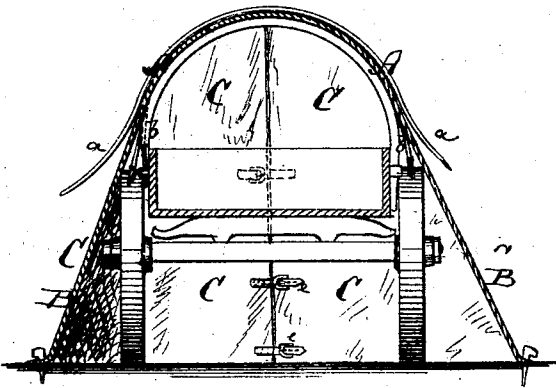
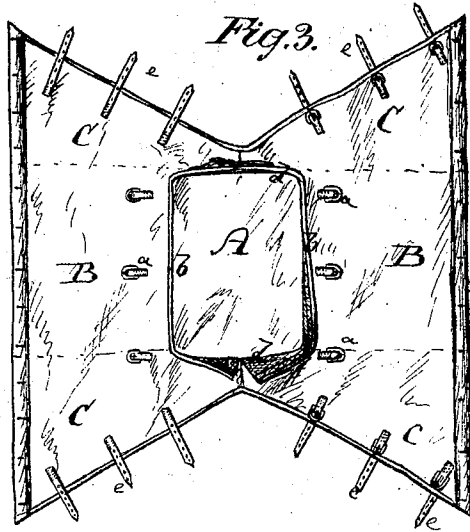


Fig. 3.



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MILAM M. FITZGERALD, OF GONZALES, TEXAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN WAGON SHEETS AND TENTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 130,417, dated August 13, 1872.

Specification describing a new and Improved Wagon Sheet and Tent, invented by MILAM M. FITZGERALD, of Gonzales, in the county of Gonzales and State of Texas.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a perspective view, Fig. 2 a vertical transverse section, and Fig. 3 a bottom view, of my improved wagon sheet and tent.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to supply for the use of travelers and emigrants a wagon sheet or canvass, which can, at night, be extended to form a tent around the entire wagon for the accommodation and protection of its occupants. The invention consists in providing the ordinary wagon sheet or cover at the sides with pieces of canvas or other fabric, which can be let down and staked to the ground to form a tent around the wagon, and which, during daytime, or while the concern is in motion, can be rolled up and secured at the sides of the cover to be entirely out of the way. The tent-sides are provided with lapels which form the ends of the tent when let down.

A in the drawing represents a wagon sheet or cover, of ordinary size or shape, made of canvas or other material, and stretched over the ordinary wagon-bows, and fastened to the sides of the wagon-box by means of buttons or otherwise. B B are two pieces of canvas or equivalent fabric attached to the sides of the wagon-sheet A, and long enough to reach to the ground, when let down as in Fig. 2. When not required for use the side pieces are rolled up along the sides of the cover, and se-

cured by straps and buckles *a a*, to be out of the way. Instead of being attached to the sides of the covers separately the side-pieces B B may constitute one piece with the top of the cover A, as shown, in which case the sides and ends *b d* of the cover are separately attached to the upper sheet. C C are lapels attached to the ends of the pieces B B to form the ends in front and rear of the wagon-tent, in the manner clearly indicated in Fig. 1. These lapels are also staked to the ground, and can be secured to leave an opening for entrance and exit, as indicated. Straps and buckles *e e* on the lapels serve to close the tent at the ends.

A wagon thus provided with a combined sheet or cover and tent will be very convenient for travelers—more so, and much less expensive and cumbersome than the separate tents with poles and bars of various description now required to be carried for similar protection. It will be seen that no poles, rods, or bars of any kind need be carried for this improved tent, and that the same can be pitched in a very short time, and also rolled up quickly.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

As an article of manufacture, the wagon-sheet A, having the two pieces of fabric B B provided with straps and buckles, arranged as described.

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Witnesses:

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