

SHELTER OR SLEEPING TENT.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SHELTER OR SLEEPING TENT.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK SEARLE, residing at Ennis, in the county of Madison and State of Montana, have invented a new and Improved Shelter or Sleeping Tent, of which the following is a specification.

My invention, which relates to improvements in that class of tents, capable of being quickly and conveniently set up as a shelter or sleeping compartment, and adapted for being easily folded up for transportation, has for its object to provide an improved construction of tent of the character stated, capable of being readily carried as a part of the bodily outfit, and especially adapted to the needs of the hunter, prospector, or civil engineer.

In its generic nature, my invention comprehends an improved arrangement of parts, so designed and capable of being coöperatively arranged whereby the tent may be readily set up on ice, level ground, supported across a gulch or held above the ground without the aid of pegs or stays.

In its more subordinate nature, my invention consists in certain details of construction and peculiar combination of parts, all of which will be hereinafter fully explained, specifically pointed out in the appended claims and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1, is a perspective view that shows my tent suspended above the ground. Fig. 2, is a view that shows it set up on unlevel ground and supported by a wagon tongue. Fig. 3, shows the same as set up on ice. Fig. 4, is a horizontal section taken just above the ground bars or poles. Fig. 5, is a detail transverse section taken on the line 5—5 on Fig. 4. Fig. 6, is a detail perspective view, that more especially shows the application of the stretcher members. Fig. 7, is a detail view of one of the hinged side bars hereinafter referred to. Fig. 8, is a detail view that shows the concaved end of one of the stretcher members, for coöperating with a pole base. Fig. 9, is a perspective view that shows the tent folded for transportation.

In carrying out my invention, I make the body of the tent of convenient size, say four by seven feet, and comprising a bottom or floor portion 1, of a heavy material, such, for example, as heavy twenty ounce canvas, the front and back members 2—2 and the sides 2^a—2^a, said sides and ends being pref-

erably of balloon silk or light ducking. The bottom 1 is cut wide enough at the opposite long edges to provide for hemming to form loops 10—10 for receiving the side bars or poles 3—3 that are slid endwise into the said loops, the said bars forming the base members for engaging the ground or ice when the tent bottom is supported directly over the ground or ice.

In the most complete form of my invention, I make the side bars 3—3 as best shown in Figs. 2 and 3, from which it will be seen the said side bars comprise two sections joined by a hinge 30 so as to fold upwardly, and with their edges abutting like a rule joint when the bars are extended, and to stiffen the hinged joint laterally a brace rod 31 is pivotally mounted on one of the bar sections and is adapted to swing over the adjacent section and engage a latch piece 32 on said adjacent section, as shown. At each end of the foldable side bars 3—3 is pivotally joined a leg piece 35—35 secured by the bolt 36 and nut 37 and arranged to be swung up next the side bar when the bottom of the tent is on flat ground or the tent is suspended above the ground, as in Fig. 1. The leg pieces 35 have at their lower end, spurs 35^a for penetrating the ground or the ice when the tent is set up, as shown in Fig. 3. The sides and ends 2—2^a of the tent have the usual inverted V-shape so that when joined and extended vertically they form the usual peak shaped tent.

The tent front is slitted its length to form the doorway *x*, the edges of which are lapped or reinforced and provided with the conventional snap hook and eye connection *x'*. The sides have their lower ends sewed to the edges of the bottom 1 except at the doorway or slitted portions, and these are reinforced by lapping and sewing the edges. The front door or slitted portions have their lower fold-back ends provided with a strap and buckle connection *x*² for conveniently drawing the parts tightly together. The back of the tent has a cut-out portion that forms a window opening *Z* and this opening has its bottom and side edges reinforced and provided with snap fastenings, *z'*. The window opening *Z* is normally closed by the pendent flap portion that is an integral part of the back 2^a.

4 designates mosquito netting that is hung on the inside of the back member 2^a to close off the window when the window flap is

raised. By sewing the front and back and side members of the tent to the bottom as stated and shown, the floor or bottom edges of the tent will be closed against ingress of dirt, dust, moisture, insects and small animals. Seams 6 are formed at the four corners or edges of the tent to receive the stay ropes 9, the upper ends of which join and extend through the peak end of the tent and are formed into a hanger 90.

For cooperating with the foldable side bars 3—3 stretcher devices are provided for each end of the tent and these each consist of two half section bars 8—8 whose inner ends have each a series of apertures 80—80 for coacting with a lock pin 83 that holds the two stretcher bar sections to their adjusted positions. The outer end of each stretcher bar section is concaved as at 84, such forming of the ends being provided for conveniently fitting against the common round poles when the latter are used as side bars, as shown in Fig. 8, and the foldable side bars are left behind on account of weight.

When used in connection with the side bars 3, the concaved ends of the stretcher sections have pins 85 sufficiently long to pass through alining apertures 87 in the leg pieces and the ends of the side bars, so as to stiffen the said parts and lock the leg pieces to their perpendicular position. The outer ends of the side bars project beyond the leg pieces and said ends are apertured as at 87 for passing through and tying the lower ends of the guy ropes in the manner clearly understood by reference to Figs. 1, and 2 of the drawings.

By reason of constructing a tent in the manner shown and described, I have provided an economically made shelter that can be readily set up on the ice or any other level place without the use of pegs, and by joining the guy ropes to form a loop at the peak end, the ropes 9 form the supports for holding the tent above a gulch, or on hilly ground, since the sustaining means may be an elevated wagon tongue, as shown in Fig. 2, a limb of a tree, as shown in Fig. 1 or a tripod of poles as in Fig. 3 and while I have not so shown it, it is obvious that the bottom bars may be laid on fence posts or chunks, and the top held up by leaning a rail across a fence.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A tent having a bottom joined to the lower edge of the tent sides and ends, a bar secured to each of a pair of opposite lower edges of the tent, guy ropes secured to the opposite ends of the bars, said ropes extending through the peak of the tent, and formed into a hanger loop.

2. A tent having a bottom joined to the lower edge of the tent sides and ends, a bar secured to each of a pair of opposite lower edges of the tent, guy ropes secured to the opposite ends of the bars, said ropes extending through the peak of the tent, and formed into a hanger loop, and stretcher devices for engaging the said bars.

3. In a foldable tent, the combination with the front, back and side members, cross bars mounted in the lower ends of a pair of opposite sides of the tent, the corners of the tent having seams, guy ropes held in the seams, whose lower ends fasten to outer ends of the bars and whose upper ends join and form a hanger loop.

4. In a foldable tent, in combination with the front, back and side members, foldable cross bars removably mounted in the lower ends of a pair of opposite sides of the tent, guy ropes for the four corners of the tent, having their lower ends extended for tying to the outer ends of the bars, and whose upper ends join at the peak of the tent and form a hanger loop.

5. In a foldable tent, in combination with the front, back and side members, the lower ends of a pair of opposite members having loops, cross bars removably held in said loops, guy ropes for the four corners of the tent, fastened to the outer ends of the cross bar and whose other ends join at the peak of the tent and form a hanger loop.

6. In a foldable tent, a base consisting of side bars, a leg piece pivotally mounted on each end and stretcher devices for spreading the side bars, said devices including means for engaging with and locking the leg pieces to their vertical adjustment.

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Witnesses:

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