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UMBRELLA TENT CLAMP

Filed March 3, 1927

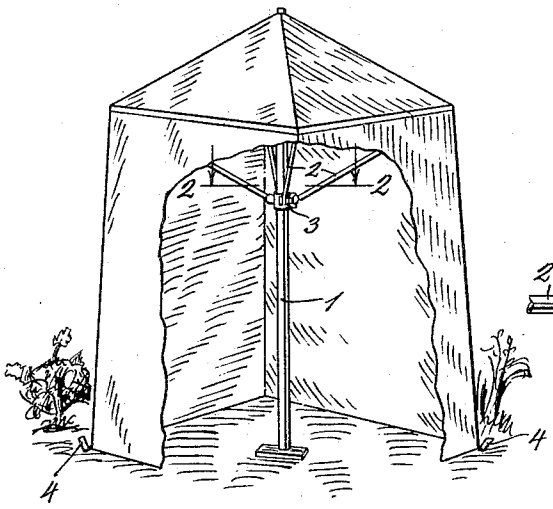


Fig. 1.

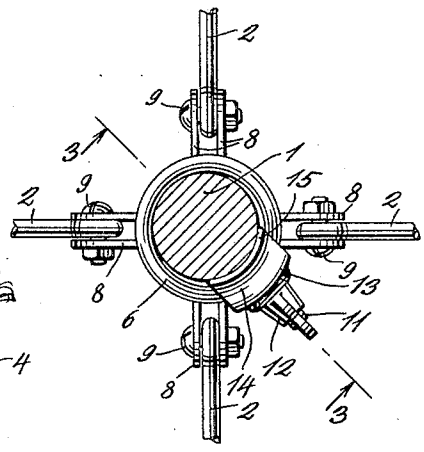


Fig. 2.

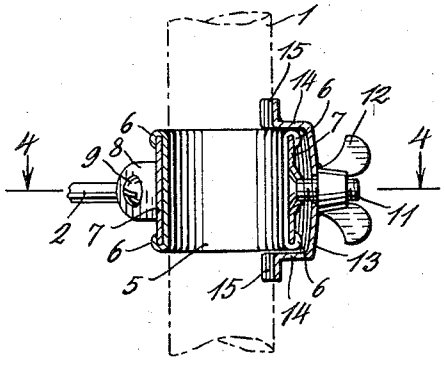


Fig. 3.

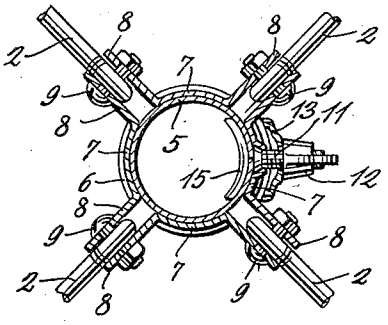


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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UMBRELLA-TENT CLAMP.

Application filed March 3, 1927. Serial No. 172,304.

This invention relates to improvements in clamps for umbrella tents.

The great number of automobile tourists has created a great demand for tents that can be readily erected and taken down and which will occupy but a small space during transportation. One type of tent which has met with quite general approval is known as the umbrella tent. This tent is usually square and has a roof composed of three triangular sections. A pole 1 supports the center of the roof and ribs 2 extend from the clamp 3 to the corners of the tent. The lower edges of the sides of the tent are secured to tent pins 4. By moving the clamp 3 upwardly, the sides of the tent and the roof can be stretched so as to hold the tent in the desired shape.

It is quite essential for the successful operation of a tent of this type that the clamp 3 shall be of a strong and substantial construction and provided with means by which it can be conveniently clamped to the center pole at any desired position. This clamping means must be so made that it will prevent the clamp from sliding downwardly on the pole if it is subjected to excessive strains as, for example, if the tent is exposed to a strong wind.

It is the object of this invention to produce a clamp of a simple construction that can be cheaply made, readily assembled, and which shall be provided with a clamping means which will positively anchor it to the center poles and hold it in adjusted position.

The above and other objects which may become apparent as the description proceeds are attained by means of a construction and an arrangement of parts which will now be described in detail, reference for this purpose being had to the accompanying drawing in which the preferred embodiment has been illustrated and in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a tent of the type to which this invention relates, portions being broken away to better disclose the construction;

Fig. 2 is a section taken on line 2—2, Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3—3, Fig. 2; and

Fig. 4 is a section taken on line 4—4, Fig. 3.

The clamp consists of a tubular metal sleeve which has been indicated by numeral 5 and four separate members which are so constructed that they can be secured to the outside of sleeve 5 and held in place by the rolled edges 6. These members to which reference has been made, are each provided with a central curved portion 7, which terminates in radially extending arms 8. These arms are perforated for the reception of a bolt or rivet 9. The curved portion 7 is adapted to fit snugly against the outer surface of the sleeve 5 and is held in place by means of the ends of the sleeve which are turned outwardly and pressed downwardly against the ends of the curved parts 7. The arms 8 are spaced apart in the manner shown in Figure 4 so as to provide room for the reception of the ends of the ribs 2. The free ends of these ribs are secured to the corners of the tent in a well known way and function in the same manner as the corresponding ribs of an umbrella. The sleeve 5 surrounds the center pole 1 in a manner clearly apparent from the drawing.

For the purpose of clamping the sleeve 5 to the post at any desired position, we have provided a bolt 11 whose head is located between the outer surface of the sleeve 5 and the inner surface of one of the curved members 7 in the manner shown in Figures 2, 3 and 4. A wing nut 12 is secured to bolt 11 and this is adapted to engage the outer surface of the clamping member 13. This clamping member is formed from a piece of sheet metal having inwardly bent sides 14 that are spaced apart a distance somewhat greater than the length of the sleeve 5 and which terminate in curved end portions 15 which are adapted to engage the outer surface of the center pole. When the clamp has been raised to the position desired, the nut 12 is rotated so as to force the clamping member 13 towards the center pole and to thereby produce sufficient friction to hold the sleeve 5 from moving longitudinally on the pole. It will be observed from the drawings that the clamping member 13 engages the pole 1 at each end of the sleeve and that it is anchored at a point half way between the end portions 14, in this manner a balanced pressure is applied to the pole at each end of the sleeve in such a way as to produce a maximum amount of friction. By the simple expedient of rotating the nut 12, the clamp may be loosened or fastened to the center pole and in this way the tent

can be easily held in the desired position. When the tent is to be taken down, the clamp is released and permitted to slide downwardly until the ribs 2 lie parallel with the center pole 1. The pole and the attached clamp and ribs can therefore be packed into a very small space. The canvas portion of the tent can be removed from the support and folded so as to occupy the minimum amount of space.

From the above description it will be seen that we have produced a clamp of a very simple and rugged construction that can be easily applied and which will positively hold the parts in adjusted position.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new is:

1. A clamp adapted to be adjustably secured to a pole, said clamp comprising, in combination, a cylindrical sleeve adapted to enclose a portion of the pole, a plurality of pairs of fingers secured to the sleeve and extending outwardly therefrom, a clamping member adjustably connected with the sleeve, said clamping member having a central substantially straight part and offset end portions adapted to engage the pole at opposite ends of the sleeve and means comprising a bolt and a nut for adjustably securing the clamping member to the sleeve.

2. A clamp for umbrella tents, comprising, in combination, a cylindrical sleeve adapted to be applied to a pole, a plurality of arcuate members applied to the outside of said sleeve and held in place thereon by downwardly rolled end flanges, said arcuate members having their ends bent outwardly so as to lie parallel to a radial line, a bolt anchored to the sleeve and an elongated clamping member secured to the sleeve by means of said bolt, said clamping member having its ends offset and adapted to engage the pole at opposite ends of the sleeve.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

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