

D. HITCHCOCK. Tree-Protectors.

No. 149,399.

Patented April 7, 1874.

Fig. 3

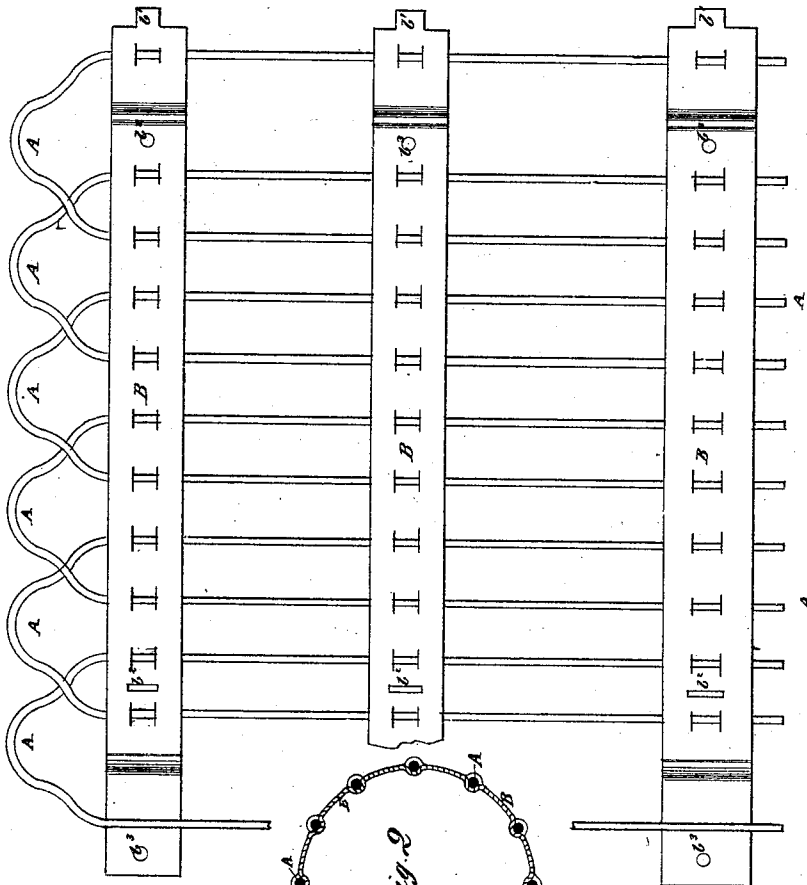
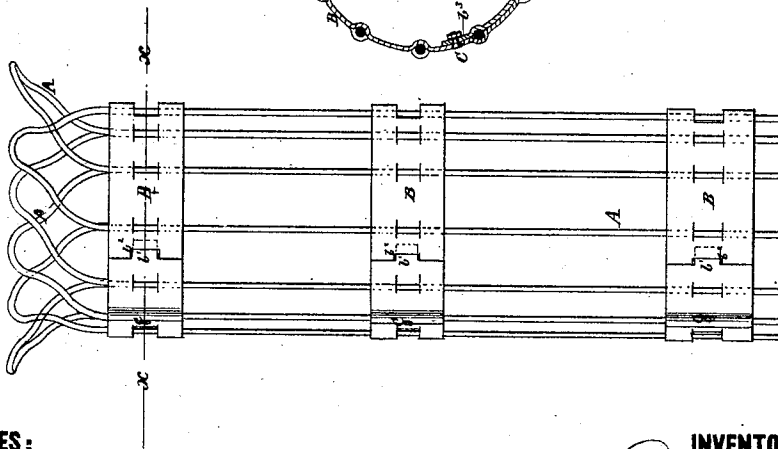


Fig. 1



WITNESSES:

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IMPROVEMENT IN TREE-PROTECTORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **149,399**, dated April 7, 1874; application filed February 21, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DWIGHT HITCHCOCK, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tree-Protector, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved tree-protector arranged for use. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the same, taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side view of the same opened out for storage and transportation.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention will first be fully described, and then pointed out in the claim.

A are U-shaped wires, the bends of which are inclined outward, and may be otherwise bent to give an ornamental appearance to the top of the protector. B are straps of light sheet metal, three or more of which are used, according to the required height of the protector. In the straps B, at a suitable distance apart, are cut pairs of short parallel slits. The metal between the slits is bent outward to form a half-round transverse groove, and the metal at the sides of said pairs of slits is bent inward to form a half-round transverse groove. In this way are formed sockets to receive the wires A. The arms of the loops or bends of the wires A overlap or interweave with each other—that is to say, one arm of each loop is placed beneath the arm of the adjacent loop upon one side, and its other arm is placed above the arm of the adjacent loop upon the other side, which arrangement greatly increases the strength of the top of the protector. Upon one end of each strap B is formed a small

tongue, *b*¹, which fits into a short transverse slot, *b*², formed in said straps B near their other ends, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. In the straps B, at their square ends, and at a little distance from their tongued ends, are formed holes *b*³, in such positions as to coincide with each other when the said ends are overlapped, to receive a short bolt, C, which is secured in place by a nut screwed upon it. The outer arm of the last wire loop at each end of the straps B overlaps the last arm of the loop at the other ends of the said straps. This renders it necessary that the next to the last socket at each end of each strap B should be only a half-round transverse groove, as shown in Fig. 3. The ends of the wires A project eight inches, more or less, below the lower strap B, so that they may enter the ground a sufficient distance to support the protector securely.

This construction enables the protectors to be opened out flat for convenience in packing for storage or transportation, and to be conveniently placed around the trees when required.

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

In a tree-protector, the combination, with U-shaped wires A, of the straps B, provided with sockets, tongues *b*¹, slots *b*², and holes *b*³, all formed and constructed substantially as and for the purpose described.

DWIGHT HITCHCOCK.

Witnesses:

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