(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. C. BYXBE & P. E. PETERSEN.

FOLDING SUPPORT FOR HAMMOCKS AND TENTS.

No. 594,598. Patented Nov. 30, 1897.

Fig. 1.

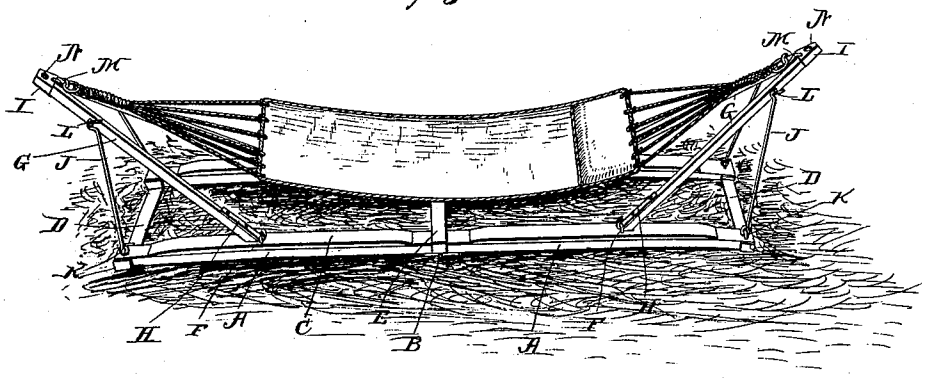
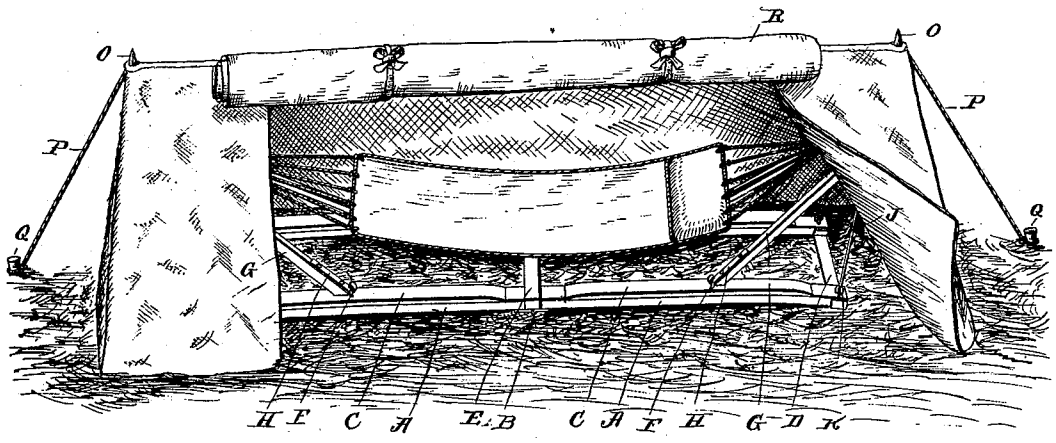


Fig. 2.



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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3.

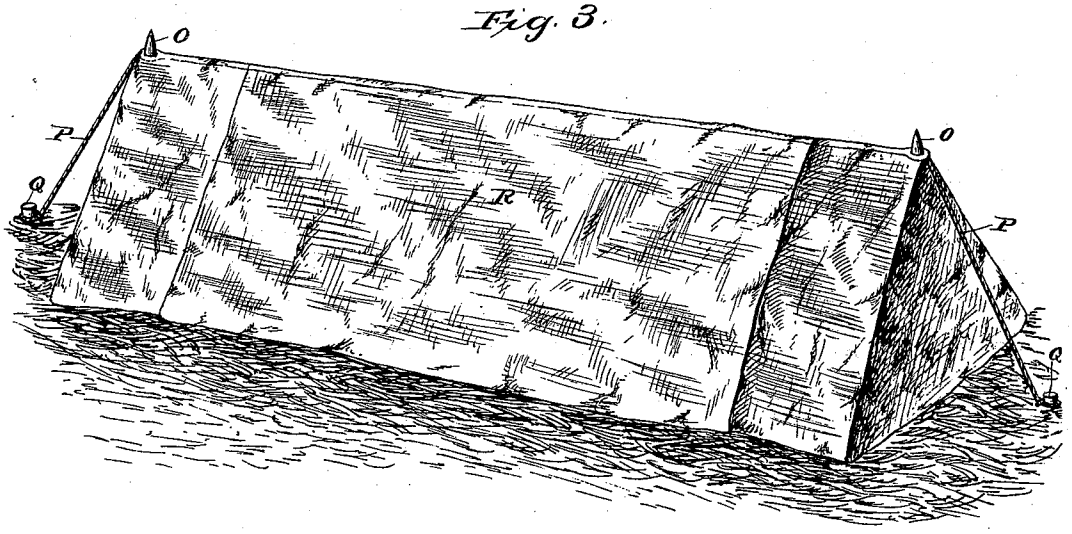
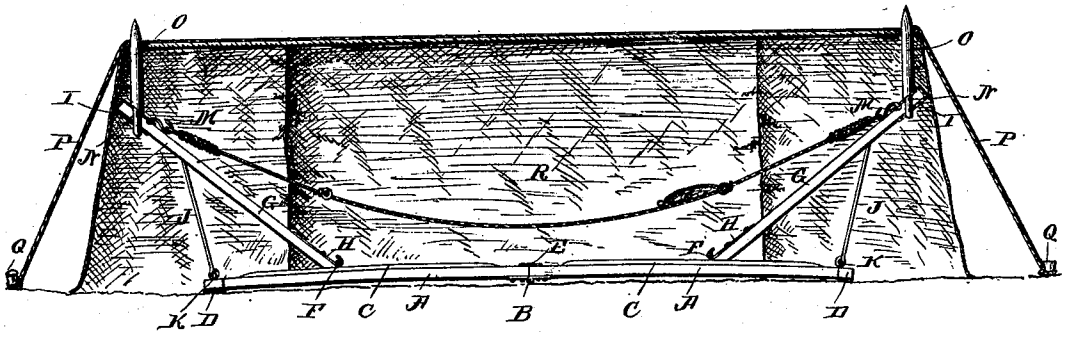


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. BYXBE AND PETER E. PETERSEN, OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA.

FOLDING SUPPORT FOR HAMMOCKS AND TENTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 594,598, dated November 30, 1897.

Application filed February 23, 1897. Serial No. 624,657. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN C. BYXBE and PETER E. PETERSEN, citizens of the United States, residing at Pensacola, in the county of Escambia and State of Florida, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Folding Supports for Hammocks and Tents, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to a new and useful improvement in folding hammock and tent supports, and has for its object to so construct a device of this description as to facilitate its folding into a small compass and also to permit it to be quickly adjusted, so as to support a hammock or a hammock and tent, thereby providing a desirable equipment for domestic or camp use.

With these ends in view this invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth, and then specifically designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains may understand how to make and use the same, its construction and operation will now be described in detail, referring to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective of our improvement, illustrating the method of supporting a hammock thereon; Fig. 2, a similar view showing our device utilized for the support of a hammock and tent; Fig. 3, a perspective of a tent supported by our improvement when closed, and Fig. 4 a longitudinal section of such a tent.

In carrying out our invention we provide the base-strips A, which are composed of two sections hinged together at B, and upon the upper surface of each of the sections are secured by screws or otherwise the strengthening-strips C, and in practice these last-named strips are curved inwardly upon their under surfaces, so that in securing the same to the base-strips A the last-named strips will be drawn upward out of a straight line, as clearly shown in Fig. 4, which will cause the outer ends of the base-strips to first come in contact with the ground, for the purpose hereinafter set forth.

The base-strips are held parallel and at the proper distance apart by the spreaders D and E, the former being two in number and having clips upon their ends for engagement with the ends of the base-strips, as clearly shown, and in practice they are applied to the under side of these strips, while the spreader E, having like clips, is applied to the upper side of the base-strips immediately over the hinges B.

Staples F are secured to the upper side of the strengthening-strips and are for the purpose of securing the stanchions G at their lower ends, and said stanchions are provided with the hook-irons H for engagement with the staples and have their lower ends so beveled that when they are in proper contact with the strengthening-strips the stanchions will stand at a considerable angle to the base-strips. Stanchions are also set at an angle to each other, so that the two upon each end of the supporter converge toward each other and are united at their upper ends by the caps I, said caps being so arranged as to slip over the upper ends of the stanchions, and in practice we prefer to have these caps permanently secured by a screw or otherwise to one of the stanchions in order that it may not become displaced. The stanchions are held in their normal position against strain by the brace-rods J, which latter are pivoted by the staples K to the base-strips and engage with the staples L, secured in the side of the stanchions, as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

The caps I are provided with hooks M, which are for the engagement of the rings of the hammock, as clearly shown, so that when the frame has been adjusted to its normal position a hammock can be supported thereby, and when any considerable weight is placed within the hammock the strain therefrom will be first exerted upon the outer ends of the stanchions and transmitted therefrom through said stanchions and brace-rods J, so as to have a tendency to force the base-strips downward at their centers, which on account of the upward curve of said strips will bring them into firm contact with the ground without elevating the outer ends thereof, as will be readily understood.

The caps I have formed therethrough holes N for the insertion of the tent-poles O, which latter are reduced at their lower ends for this purpose and are preferably pointed at their

upper ends for insertion within the loops in the ridge-rope of the tent, and, as will be seen, the tent is readily supported by the frame and is preferably made more rigid and stationary by the guide-ropes P being staked to the ground, as indicated at Q. The tent is here shown as having a side flap R, which may be rolled up and secured, as shown in Fig. 2, and, when desired, such a tent may have both of its sides provided with flaps, in order that the occupant of the tent may gain access thereto or egress therefrom upon either side thereof.

From this description it will be seen that a supporter made in accordance with our improvement may be quickly adjusted for the support of a hammock and tent, and when it is desired to store the same in a small compass for shipment or otherwise this is quickly accomplished by unhooking the brace-rods J and detaching the several sections and folding them together, thus rendering our improvement especially advantageous for use by persons camping out, since it may be easily transported from place to place and quickly adjusted for use.

Our improvement is also well adapted for use upon lawns or porches when the tent is not needed for a hammock-support alone, as it may be utilized for this purpose without the necessity of driving stakes in the ground or permanently securing hooks to the woodwork of the porch.

The cost of our improvement is exceedingly small, thereby rendering it valuable for all uses to which any design of hammock and tent support is now applicable.

When our improvement is to be used for a gunning tent and hammock, suitable racks and hooks may be arranged thereon for the support of guns and other camping outfit, as well as the clothes of the occupant.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new and useful is—

1. In combination, base-strips, staples thereon, stanchions having hooked ends engaging the staples, caps for securing the upper ends of the stanchions together, brace-rods connecting the stanchions to the base-strips, tent-poles inserted in the holes in the caps and a tent or the like supported by the tent-poles, as and for the purpose described.

2. In combination, the base-strips A having strengthening-strips secured upon their upper sides and adapted to draw them out of line, spreaders for holding the base-strips in position, stanchions adapted to be hooked to the base-strips, caps for securing the upper ends of the stanchions in position relative to each other, and brace-rods for holding said stanchions in position relative to the base-strips, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A hammock-support, consisting of base-strips formed in two sections and hinged together, said strips having strengthening-strips secured to their upper sides in such manner as to draw the base-strips out of line, staples secured to the strengthening-strips, stanchions having hooked ends for engagement with said staples, caps for securing the upper ends of the stanchions together, brace-rods stapled to the base-strips and arranged to engage staples in the stanchions, and spreaders for holding the base-strips parallel, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The herein-described combination of the base-strips A made in sections and hinged together, spreaders D and E for holding said strips parallel, strengthening-strips secured to the upper sides of the base-strips and arranged to draw the latter out of line, stanchions adapted to be hooked to the strengthening-strips, caps for securing the upper ends of the stanchions together, brace-rods for securing the stanchions in their relative positions to the base-strips, hooks carried by said caps for the support of a hammock, tent-poles O arranged to be supported by the caps by insertion within suitable holes in said caps, and a suitable tent supported by said poles, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto affixed our signatures in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN C. BYXBE.
PETER E. PETERSEN.

Witnesses:
S. S. WILLIAMSON,
R. M. PIERCE.