No. 737,157. PATENTED AUG. 25, 1903.

C. SCHROEDER.

CANDLE HOLDER FOR CHRISTMAS TREES.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 15, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

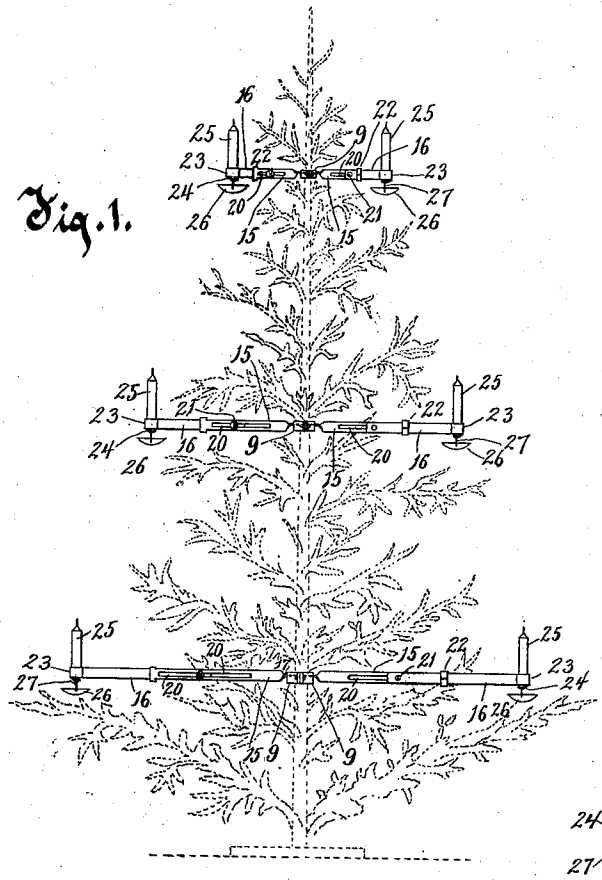


Fig. 2.

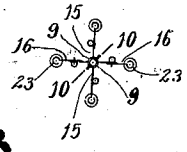


Fig. 3.

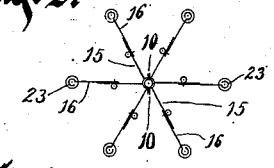


Fig. 4.

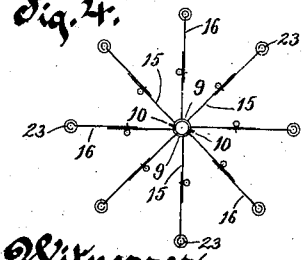


Fig. 5.

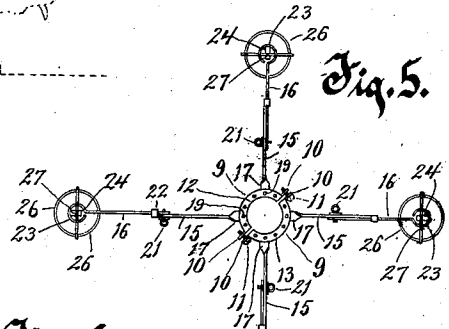


Fig. 6.

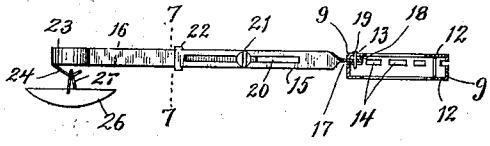


Fig. 7.

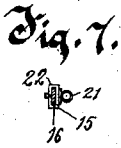
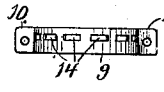


Fig. 8.



Witnesses.

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No. 737,157. Patented August 25, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CONRAD SCHROEDER, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

CANDLE-HOLDER FOR CHRISTMAS TREES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 737,157, dated August 25, 1903.

Application filed April 15, 1903. Serial No. 152,710. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CONRAD SCHROEDER, residing at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Candle-Holders for Christmas Trees, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are a part of this specification.

My invention has relation to improvements in candle-holders for Christmas trees.

In many forms of candle-holders for Christmas trees the holders are provided with a pin or other device for securing them to the limb of the tree. These holders present many disadvantages, among which being the difficulty of securing them in place and in retaining them in fixed positions after being secured, the danger of fire, and the inability to arrange them at the outer or thin ends of the limbs.

It is the primary object of my invention to provide an improved construction which shall overcome the above-pointed-out disadvantages in a simple and inexpensive construction.

With the above and other incidental objects in view the invention consists of the devices and parts or their equivalents, as hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation in dotted lines of a Christmas tree to which a plurality of variable sizes of my improved devices are connected. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 are detail views of candle-holders of my improved construction and of varying sizes. Fig. 5 is a detail plan view of one of the holders on an enlarged scale. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of one of the adjustable arms shown in Fig. 5 in connection with the clamping ring, said ring being in section. Fig. 7 is a cross-section on the line 7 7 of Fig. 6, and Fig. 8 is a detail of one of the sections of the clamp.

My improved device consists mainly of a central clamping device and a series of radiating arms carrying at their outer ends the sockets or holders for the candles. The central clamping device consists, preferably, of two sections 9 9, each advisably of half-circular form. At their ends each half-section is provided with outwardly-extending ears 10 10, which when the two half-sections are adjusted together register. Screw-bolts 11 11 are passed through registering openings in these ears to thereby hold the sections of the clamp together. Each half-section of the clamp is provided at its top and bottom edges with inwardly-extending flanges 12 12, and the top flange is provided with a series of apertures 13, spaced a suitable distance apart. The curved side of each half-section is provided with a series of elongated slots 14. The radiating arms are preferably adjustable, and the inner section of each arm is indicated by the numeral 15 and the outer section by the numeral 16. The inner end of each inner section of arm is formed with a flat horizontal extremity 17, which is provided with an upturned lip 18 at its end. The inner section of each arm is removably secured to the central clamp by passing the flat extremity 17 through one of the slots 14, and the lip 18 at the end thereof will bear against the under side of the upper flange 12 of the clamp to thereby maintain the arm in a horizontal plane or prevent it from tilting. A pin 19 is passed through one of the apertures 13 of the top flange and through a registering aperture in the flat extremity in order to removably secure the arm to the clamp. The two sections of each arm, as stated, are preferably adjustably secured together, so as to regulate the length thereof. This may be accomplished in a variety of different ways. I provide, however, each inner section of arm with an elongated slot 20, through which a screw 21 passes and enters the outer section. The outer end of each inner section of each arm is preferably provided with a guide 22 for guiding the outer section in its movement. At the outer extremity of each outer section of arm is formed a socket 23 for receiving and retaining the candle. This socket is advisably formed by bending the metal of the section around and leaving the end edge of said bent portion free, so that the socket may be readily enlarged or contracted to accommodate different sizes of candles. I also prefer to provide a projecting tongue 24 from the under edge of the bent-around metal forming the socket, said tongue serving as a support for the lower end of the candle 25 and also serving, particularly when bent down-

wardly slightly, as shown in Fig. 6, as a means for suspending a cup 26, adapted to catch the drippings of candle-grease. The cup is provided with a bail or handle 27, which engages over the tongue 24, and consequently removably suspends the cup therefrom.

The stem of a tree, as is well known, is larger at its lower end and gradually tapers upwardly to its upper end. The branches of a tree are also longer and extend outwardly farther at the lower portion or base of the tree and gradually become smaller toward and to the upper end of the tree. It is for this reason that I provide variable sizes of the devices. The device nearest the lower end or base of the tree will be of the larger size—that is to say, the circumference of the central clamp will be large enough to embrace and clamp the enlarged stem portion of the tree and the radiating arms will be long enough to extend out toward the outer ends of the branches of the tree. The devices arranged above the lower holder will be successively smaller in size, both as regards the circumference of the clamps and the length of the radiating arms. In adjusting one of the devices the two sections of the clamp are placed around the stem of the tree and clamped thereto by means of the screws 11. The radiating arms are then adjusted to place in the manner hereinbefore pointed out and the pins 19 then inserted in order to prevent the arms from being disengaged by an outward pull thereon. By loosening the set-screws 21 the length of the arms can then be regulated in accordance with the position it is desired the candles at the outer ends thereof should occupy.

While I have herein shown and described a candle-holder in which the central clamp is composed of two separate sections and the radiating arms adjustable longitudinally, yet I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself specifically thereto, inasmuch as the central clamp need not necessarily be of two separate sections, nor need it be necessarily of circular form, nor need the radiating arms be necessarily adjustable longitudinally, inasmuch as I would deem any other form of clamp and any desired form of arms, whether of a fixed length or adjustable in length, to be within the spirit and scope of my invention.

From the above description of my improved devices it will be seen that they can be readily adjusted to a tree and the position of the candles readily adjusted, so that there is no danger of the flame from the candle igniting the branches of the tree.

Another important feature of my invention resides in the fact that by the arrangement of the apertures 13 and the elongated slots 14 the position of the candle-holding arms may be changed in a simple and convenient manner, so as to extend out from the clamp at different angles.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In a candle-holder for Christmas trees, the combination of a member adapted to surround the stem of a tree, and said member provided with an upright portion having a series of openings therethrough, and said member further provided with an inwardly-extending flange, the edge of the flange adapted to bear against the stem of the tree to hold the member to said stem, and to also space the upright portion of the member a short distance from the stem of the tree, an arm provided with candle-holding means, and having its inner end extending through one of the openings into the space between the upright portion of the member and the stem of the tree and bearing upwardly on the flange, and means engaging the inner end of the arm to prevent the withdrawal of said arm outwardly from engagement with the opening.

2. In a candle-holder for Christmas trees, the combination of a member adapted to surround the stem of a tree, and said member provided with an upright portion having a series of openings therethrough, and said member further provided at the top and bottom edges of its upright portion with inwardly-extending flanges, the edges of said flanges engaging the stem of the tree, and thereby holding the member in engagement with said stem, and also spacing the upright portion of the member a short distance from said stem, an arm provided with candle-holding means, and having its inner end extending through one of the openings and into the space between the upright portion of the member and the stem of the tree and bearing upwardly on the top flange, and means engaging the inner end of the arm to prevent the withdrawal of said arm outwardly from engagement with the opening.

3. In a candle-holder for Christmas trees, the combination with a member adapted to be secured to a tree, and said member having its outer end provided with a socket for a candle, the lower edge of said socket at one point provided with a projecting tongue which is bent beneath and across the lower open end of the socket to form a seat for the lower end of the candle, the extremity of said tongue being free, of a grease-receptacle provided with a handle engaging over the tongue.

4. In a candle-holder for Christmas trees, the combination of a member adapted to surround the stem of a tree, and said member provided with an upright portion having a series of openings therethrough, and said member further provided with an inwardly-extending flange having a series of perforations therethrough, the edge of said flange engaging the stem of the tree and thereby holding the member in engagement with said stem; an arm provided with candle-holding means, and having its inner end extending through one of the openings and a pin extend-

ing through any of the perforations of the flange and through a registering perforation in the inner end of the arm.

5. In a candle-holder for Christmas trees, the combination of a member adapted to surround the stem of a tree, and said member provided with an upright portion having a series of openings therethrough, and said member further provided with an inwardly-extending flange having a series of perforations therethrough, the edge of said flange engaging the stem of the tree and thereby holding the member in engagement with said stem, an arm provided with candle-holding means, and having its inner end extending through one of the openings, the extremity of said inner end provided with an upturned lip bearing against the under side of the flange, and a pin extending through any of the perforations of the flange and through a registering perforation in the inner end of the arm.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CONRAD SCHROEDER.

Witnesses:
C. T. BENEDICT,
A. L. MORSELL.