

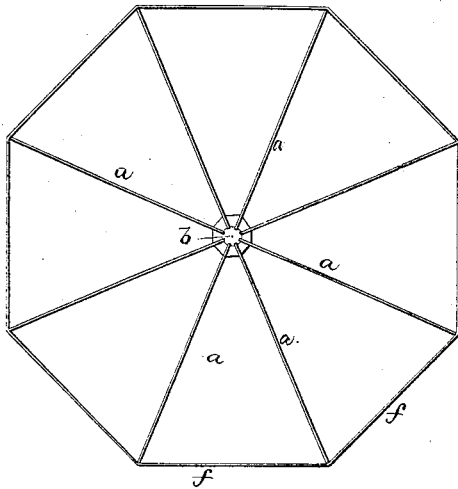
J. E. Dow,

Tent Frame,

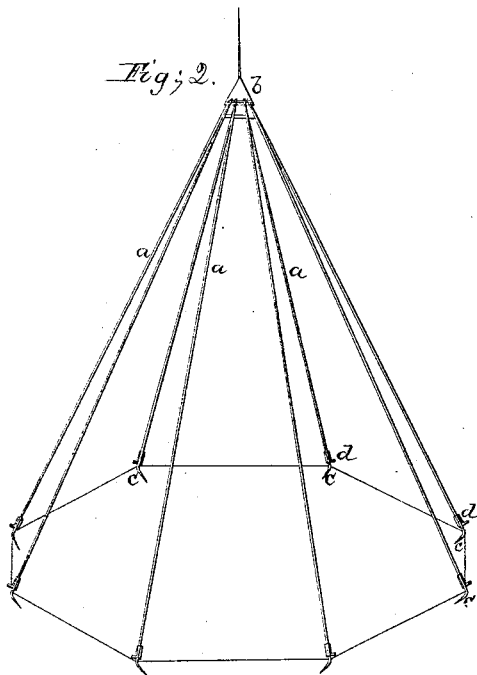
N^o 6,496,

Patented June 5, 1849.

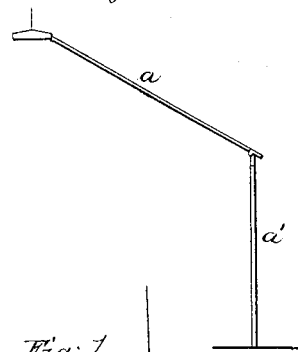
Fig; 3.



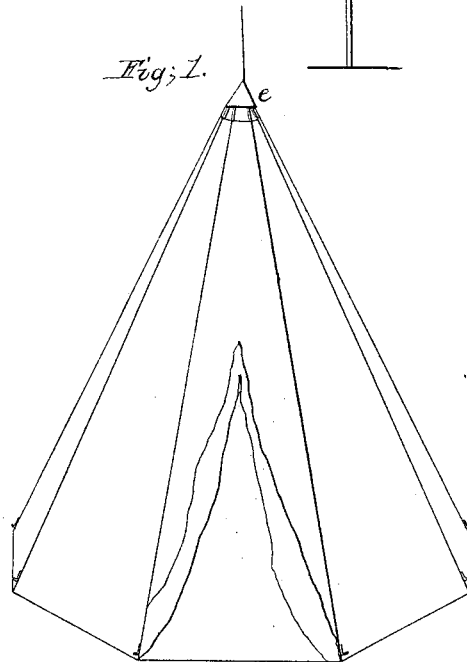
Fig; 2.



Fig; 4.



Fig; 1.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JESSE E. DOW, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

CONSTRUCTION OF TENT-FRAMES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 6,496, dated June 5, 1849.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JESSE E. Dow, of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented an Improved Tent, and that
5 the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the principle or character which distinguishes it from all other things before known and of the usual manner of making, modifying, and using the same, reference
10 being had to the accompanying drawing in which—

Figure 1 is an outside view of the tent. Fig. 2, is a section. Fig. 3, is a plan.

The same letters refer to like parts in all
15 the figures.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a tent without a center pole or guy ropes, pins, or other similar device, by which the whole interior of the tent is
20 free; and the tent can be pitched or struck in much less time than the ordinary one, while it is capable of standing in any soil with greater security, is impervious to water; and is perfectly ventilated.

25 The construction is as follows: A frame is constructed of eight, more or less, rods (*a*) of wood, iron, or other metal, the upper ends of which are jointed to a center-piece (*b*) so that they can all be closed up to-
30 gether like an umbrella, or opened to any angle, as shown in the figures; the lower ends (*c*) of the rods should in all cases be made of metal and spade shaped, the points inclining inward, so that when the lower
35 ends of the rods are extended to a proper distance, the spade shaped foot can be thrust into the ground, and then by binding the hem of the tent tight all around, they seize upon the soil with a tenacious grasp, like
40 can-hooks, bracing every way, and resisting any outer force to remove them; to aid in pushing home the spades in pitching this tent, I form on the outside of the rod a step (*d*) on which the weight can be borne for
45 that purpose.

The covering of the tent may be of india rubber (although I do not intend to confine myself to that material) in which case I do not carry it close up to the top, but leave a space for ventilation, over which a cap
50 (*e*) of india rubber is placed. The floor of my tent is formed of an india rubber cloth, covering nearly the whole interior part of the tent, and turning up six or eight inches at the edge (*f*) all around like a tub; this
55 is fastened at a proper height to each of the rods (*a*), and in case of a flood, may be trued up higher to keep out all dampness from the occupants, and it allows the admission of air all around to ventilate the tent,
60 so essential in warm climates.

A modification of this tent is shown at Fig. 4, in which each rod is double jointed, so as to form a wall tent, the rods (*a*) that are joined at the center being at a more
65 obtuse angle; and those (*a'*) which support them being nearly perpendicular. It is obvious that other modifications made—for instance—two sets of them, more or less poles similarly arranged, may be placed at
70 a proper distance apart, and a ridge pole extended from one to the other, but all these are but modifications of my general principle.

Having thus fully described my im-
75 proved tent, what I claim therein as new, and for which I desire to secure Letters Patent, is—

Constructing a tent substantially in the manner described, with a series of poles
80 jointed together at the center; and having spade-formed feet, by which it is anchored to the ground without pins or other fastening, as herein fully set forth.

JESSE E. DOW.

Witnesses:

J. J. GREENOUGH,
ELIJAH PRATT.