(No Model.)

J. G. RUSH.

PORTABLE TRESTLE.

No. 381,510. Patented Apr. 17, 1888.

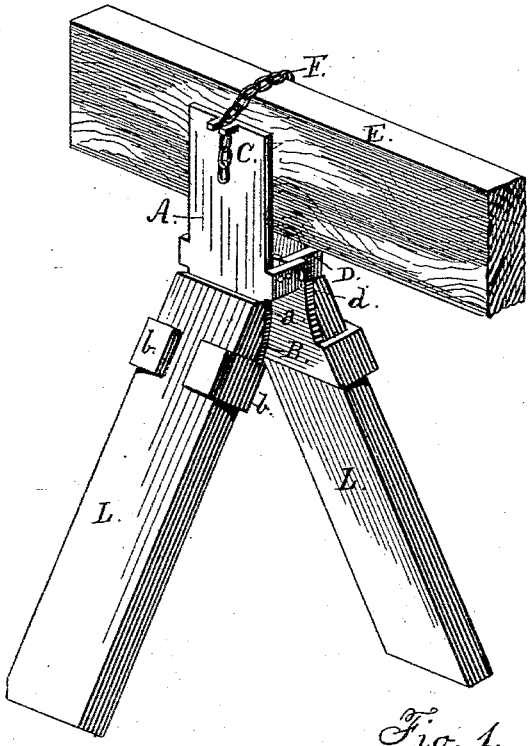
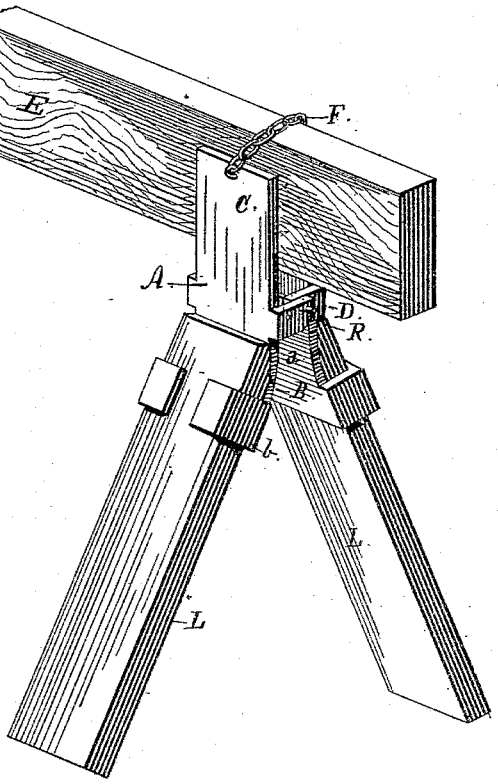


Fig. 1.



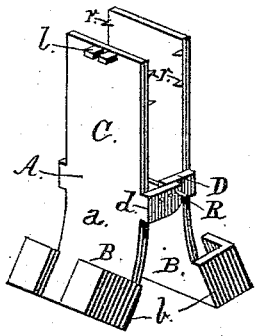


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

Dan'l A. Herr.

Geo. A. Lane

INVENTOR.

John G. Rush.

BY Wm. R. Gerhard

ATTORNEY.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN G. RUSH, OF WEST WILLOW, PENNSYLVANIA.

PORTABLE TRESTLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 381,510, dated April 17, 1888.

Application filed January 24, 1887. Serial No. 225,413. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. RUSH, a citizen of the United States, residing at West Willow, in the county of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Portable Trestles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of trestles which can be moved from place to place and are made to be detachably connected with the members they are to support; and the object of my improvement is to produce a light portable trestle for use by tobacco-growers for supporting the rails upon which tobacco-plants are held while drying in the field, or by painters or plasterers for supporting the platforms upon which they stand while at work. This object I accomplish by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a pair of my trestles, shown as they appear when in use; and Fig. 2, a perspective view of a pair of trestle-plates.

Similar letters indicate like parts throughout the several views.

The trestle is composed of two upright plates, A, facing and connected with each other. Each plate has an angle, *a*, formed about and across the center, that part, B, below extending outward from the angle to the leg L, and that, G, above being approximately perpendicular. The lower end of the part B is provided with two arms, *b*, one extending outward from each vertical edge of the trestle-plate and there bending inward, so as to form a channel for the reception of the legs L. These legs L simply pass through the channels, being prevented from extending too far upward by the angle *a*.

The trestle-plates are connected by inwardly-projecting arms D, formed integral therewith and located just above the angle *a*. Each plate has two of these arms D, those of one plate lapping those of the other, all being supplied with holes *d*, through which passes a rod, R, connecting the four arms. The holes in each plate are formed in a regular horizontal series, that the distance between the trestle-plates may be varied to accommodate the beam E of different thicknesses, which rests upon the connecting-arms. The inner edge of each trestle-plate above the arms D is also provided with sharp inward projections or teeth *r*, which penetrate the beam E and prevent longitudinal motion of the same. The top of one of each pair of plates has a chain, F, fastened to it, which passes over the top of the beam to be supported and is caught in an angular notch in a lug, *l*, projecting outward and downward from the top of the other plate. By reason of the shape of this notch the link of a chain can rest edgewise in it and the chain be prevented from drawing through by turning the next lower link sidewise.

As will be readily understood from the foregoing description of my trestle, the two plates are hinged together, as it were, by the connecting-rod. The chain F draws the tops of the plates together to close upon the beam supported between them, while the downward pressure of the weight and the reaction of the legs L in the angles of the plates serve to keep the teeth *r* of the plates in engagement with the beam to prevent longitudinal movement of the same. The removal of the weight supported by the beam will at once permit the latter to be lifted from the trestle and the separation of the plates from each other and their supporting-legs.

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

1. The combination, in a trestle, with the beam to be supported, of pairs of plates having upright portions which bear against said beam and lower portions spreading outward and having channels formed on their exterior faces to receive the legs, arms extending inward from said upright portions and each provided with a series of perforations, and a rod for engaging the corresponding perforations in each pair of arms, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination, in a trestle, with the beam, of plates pivoted together in pairs below said beam by arms each having a series of perforations, and a rod for engaging said perforations, the plates extending upward to embrace said beam, and legs removably connected

with the lower part of the plates, for the purpose specified.

3. The combination, in a trestle, with the beam, of pairs of plates composed of upright portions bearing against said beam, lower portions spreading outward and having channels formed on their exterior faces to receive the legs, arms extending inward from said upright portions and pivoted together, and detachable connections between the tops of said plates, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

JOHN G. RUSH.

Witnesses:
J. K. BARR,
WM. R. GERHART.