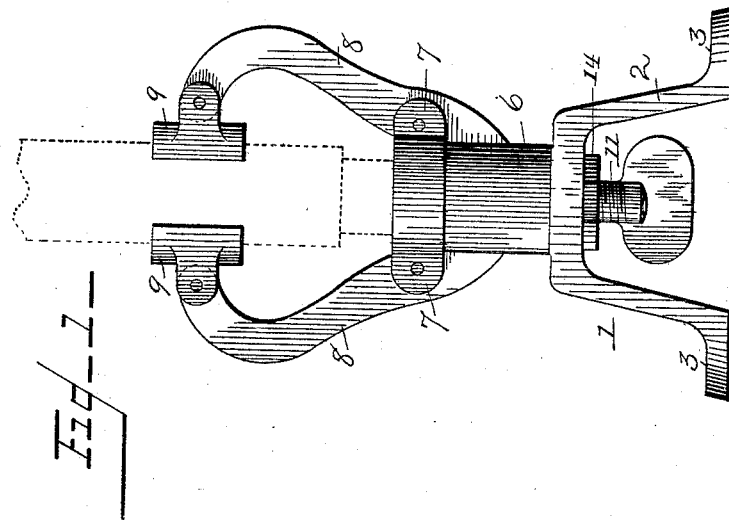
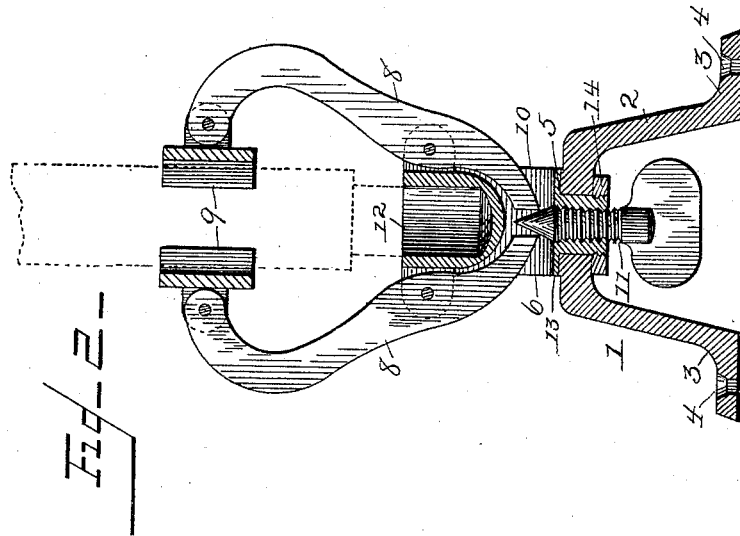


(No Model.)

M. MERK.
HOLDER FOR CHRISTMAS TREES, &c.

No. 458,756.

Patented Sept. 1, 1891.



Witnesses
Thos. S. Robertson.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTIN MERK, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

HOLDER FOR CHRISTMAS-TREES, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 458,756, dated September 1, 1891.

Application filed November 7, 1890. Serial No. 370,630. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN MERK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Holders for Christmas-Trees, &c., of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to that class of Christmas-tree holders in which the tree is clamped between pivoted jaws; and the invention consists in the peculiar construction, arrangement, and combinations of parts hereinafter more particularly described, and then definitely claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of a holder constructed according to my improvement, and Fig. 2 is a central vertical sectional view of the lower half of the same.

Referring now to the details of the drawings by figures, 1 represents a base having legs 2 and feet 3, the latter being perforated at 4 to receive screws or nails by which it may be fastened to the floor. Setting in a hole 5 in this base is a standard 6, having ears 7, in each of which is pivoted a lever 8, each carrying at its upper end a pivoted jaw 9, which embraces the Christmas-tree, flag-staff, or other similar article. (Shown in dotted lines.) The lower ends of these levers enter an opening 10, cast in the lower part of the standard 6, as shown in Fig. 2, into which opening also enters, through a threaded hole in the bottom of the standard, a pointed thumb-screw 11, the point of which passes between the lower ends of the levers, so as to force them apart, which, of course, causes the upper ends of the levers to approach each other, and thus makes the jaws press upon the tree or flag-staff, as the case may be. The upper end of the standard has a central hole 12, which forms a seat for the bottom of the tree or flag-staff, and its lower end has a shoulder 13, which prevents it passing through the base and leaves a reduced portion, the bottom part of which is threaded to receive

a nut 14, by which the standard and base are firmly secured together, yet in such a manner as to allow of the standard rotating in the base. From this it will be seen that by turning the screw backward the jaws 9 will open, when a tree, flag-staff, or similar article may be set between the jaws and in the hole 12, and by turning the screw in the opposite direction its point enters between the lower ends of the levers 8, and thus forces the jaws 9 in contact with the article to be held, and the latter is thus firmly secured in its place.

This holder, besides being useful for holding flag-staffs and similar articles, will be found extremely convenient as a Christmas-tree holder, as the tree can be rotated in the base, and thus all sides of the tree can be exhibited to the best advantage.

What I claim as new is—

1. The combination, with a suitable base, of a hollow vertical standard 6, constructed to revolve therein and carrying pivoted clamping-levers 8, and a screw 11, operating on the lower ends of the levers, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a suitable support, as the base 1, of a standard 6, supported in said base, having the levers 8 pivoted therein, provided with pivoted jaws 9 on their upper ends, and a taper-pointed screw 11, working between the lower ends of said levers, substantially as described.

3. The combination of a base 1, having legs 2 and feet 3, with the standard 6, having ears 7, the levers 8, pivoted in said ears 7, the jaws 9, pivoted to the upper ends of said levers, the thumb-screw 11, engaging the lower ends of the same, and the nut 14, fitting the threaded end of the standard 6, all substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses this 5th day of November, 1890.

MARTIN MERK.

Witnesses:

EDGAR J. NATHAN,
JAMES T. MALONE.