

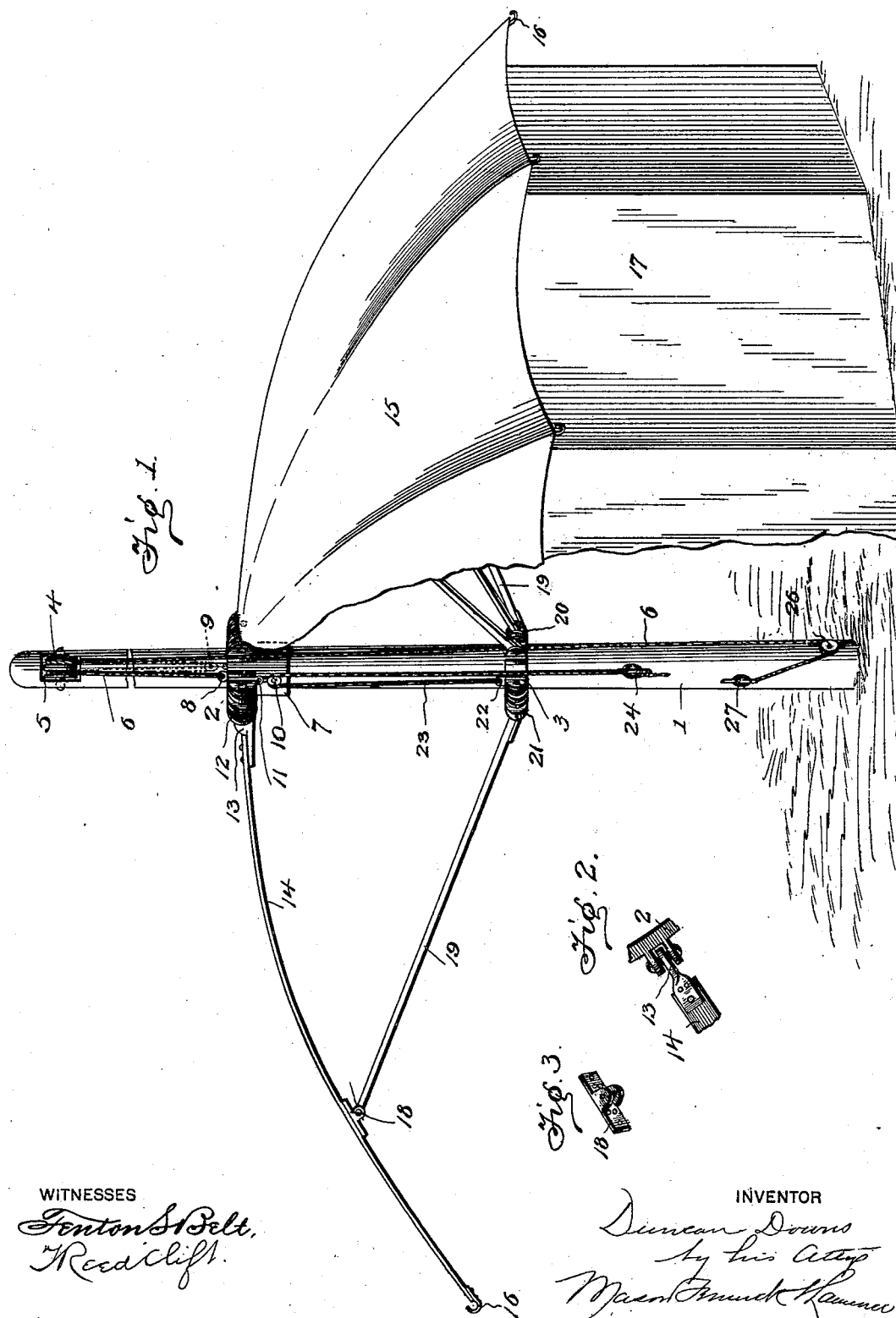
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Patented Mar. 20, 1900.

D. DOWNS.
UMBRELLA TENT.

(Application filed May 25, 1899.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES

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UMBRELLA TENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 645,704, dated March 20, 1900.

Application filed May 25, 1899. Serial No. 718,173. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DUNCAN DOWNS, a citizen of the United States, residing at West Superior, in the county of Douglas and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Umbrella Tents; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains, to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in tents, and particularly to that class of tents which are called "umbrella tents."

It consists in a tent-pole provided with a sliding collar and a fixed collar, said sliding collar carrying ribs for supporting the canvas or canopy of the tent, brace-rods connected to the fixed collar for supporting the ribs in place, and means for raising or lowering the said sliding collar.

It also consists in a tent-pole provided with a double pulley near its top, a sliding collar formed with radiating ears or lugs, ribs connected to the said ears for supporting the canvas of the tent, a fixed collar mounted on the said tent-pole, and brace-rods supporting the said ribs in place, the construction being such that the tent can be easily raised or lowered, as desired.

It also consists in certain other novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a tent constructed in accordance with my invention, the canvas being broken away and some of the ribs removed. Fig. 2 represents a top plan view of one of the eyes employed on the sliding collar, and Fig. 3 represents a detail perspective view of one of the brace-brackets used on the ribs.

In using tents of this character it is desirable to have one which can be easily set up and which will cover a large amount of space with a low canopy. My device presents these advantages and can be easily carried from place to place.

1 in the drawings represents a tent-pole, 2 a sliding collar, and 3 a fixed collar, both mounted on the tent-pole.

The pole or mast 1 is made of any suitable

material, set into the ground to such a depth as to enable it to be easily removed when desired, and is of such a height as to project a considerable distance above the canopy when spread. The pole 1 is provided near its top with a squared aperture, in which is mounted a double pulley, as 4, said pulley being preferably mortised or otherwise secured in the said pole, as at 5. Each member of the double pulley 4 is preferably grooved for the reception of a rope, as 6, which is used for a purpose as will be hereinafter described.

The collar 2 may be constructed of any suitable material, preferably metal, and is adapted to slide upon the tent-pole 1, said collar being provided on its under side with a downwardly-extending thimble portion, as 7, and on one side of its upper edge with an eye, as 8, and on the opposite side with a single block 9 and on its under side with a single block 10, pivoted to an eye 11. Radiating ears, as 12, arranged in pairs, are formed on the said sliding collar 2, an attaching piece or eye 13 being journaled between each pair of ears. Each eye 13 is securely bolted or riveted to a canopy-rib, as 14, said ribs being curved and radiating in all directions from the tent-pole in order to support the canvas or canopy 15. A preferable way of forming the attaching-pieces is by making the same from a piece of flat metal twisted so that its free end will be arranged vertical, as clearly seen in Fig. 2 of the drawings, said vertical portion being formed with an aperture to receive a bolt or rivet when it is placed between the ears on the sliding collar. On the outer ends of the said ribs 14 are bolted or otherwise secured hooks 16 for the purpose of securing guy-ropes thereto or hanging decorations thereon, as may be required. The side walls of the tent 17 may be hooked to the ribs 14 in any suitable manner at suitable distances from the edges of the canopy to allow liberal eaves. Secured to the ribs 14 at a point a little beyond the center thereof are brace-brackets, as 18, to which are journaled brace-rods, as 19, which support the ribs 14 when the canopy is spread. The said brace-rods are provided at their inner ends with eyes 20, which are journaled to radiating ears 21 on the fixed collar 3, the construction being similar to that employed upon the sliding

collar. The fixed collar 3 is mounted on the tent-pole 1 and is provided with radiating ears 21 and on its upper edge with an eye 22. The location of the blocks or eyes on the collars may, if desired, be reversed or they may be diminished or increased in number, as found desirable, without departing from the spirit of my invention.

A rope, as 23, is secured at one end to the said eye 22 and led through the single block 10 on the under side of the sliding collar. Then it passes down the tent-pole and is secured to a cleat, as 24, secured to the lower part of the pole or mast 1. Another rope, as 6, is secured at one end to the eye 8 on the sliding collar 2 and then passes over one member of the double pulley 4 to the single block 9 on the opposite side of the collar 2 and then back over the other member of the double pulley 4 down to a single block 26 near the bottom of the pole or mast 1. The end of the rope can be secured in place by winding it about a cleat, as 27.

In order to spread the canvas after the tent-pole has been set into the ground, it is only necessary to loosen the ropes 23 and 25 from the cleats and pull the rope 23, which brings the sliding collar down into position and spreads the ribs on which the canvas is secured. The ropes are then secured to the cleats again.

In order to fold or "strike" the tent, the ropes are loosened and the rope 6 is pulled, thereby drawing the sliding collar to its uppermost position, and the fixed collar remaining in its position the ribs will be folded to occupy a position similar to the ribs of a folded umbrella. The canvas may then be rolled around the pole to make a neat bundle and secured. In this operation the side walls may or may not be removed, as found desirable.

Partitions may be, if desired, hooked in any convenient manner to the canopy-ribs and to the brace-rods or hooked over them, the angle preventing sliding and keeping them spread.

It will be apparent from the above description that my device is of a simple yet strong and durable construction and that a large

spread of canvas can be obtained with a low canopy and side walls, thereby saving material and affording room. It will also be observed that the apparatus will not be injured by the canopy-ribs striking the ground, as is the case with other devices of this kind, and that high walls and a lofty canopy are not necessary, which reduces the cost of production. It will be further observed that the operation of folding and unfolding is just the reverse of that employed in any ordinary umbrella, the upper collar being moved in this instance instead of the lower one.

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

A tent comprising in its construction a tent-pole provided with a double pulley near its top, an aperture in the said pole for the reception of the double pulley, an upper sliding collar mounted on the said pole and provided with radiating ears or lugs, ribs connected to the said ears for supporting the canvas of the tent, hooks on the ends of the said ribs, a lower fixed collar mounted on the said tent-pole and provided with radiating ears, brace-rods connected to the said ears for supporting the ribs in place when the canvas is spread, brackets on the said ribs to which the brace-rods are pivotally secured, ropes secured to the upper sliding collar on opposite sides of the tent-pole, for raising and lowering the said collar, and a pulley near the ground end of the tent-pole, whereby an upward pull may be exerted upon the ropes to raise the sliding collar, the construction being such that when the upper sliding collar is raised to its uppermost position and secured in such position by means of the cleats, the tent will be folded or closed and when the sliding collar is in its lowermost position, the tent will be spread, substantially as described.

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

DUNCAN DOWNS.

Witnesses:

JAMES T. WATSON,
D. D. MCINNIS.