

(No Model.)

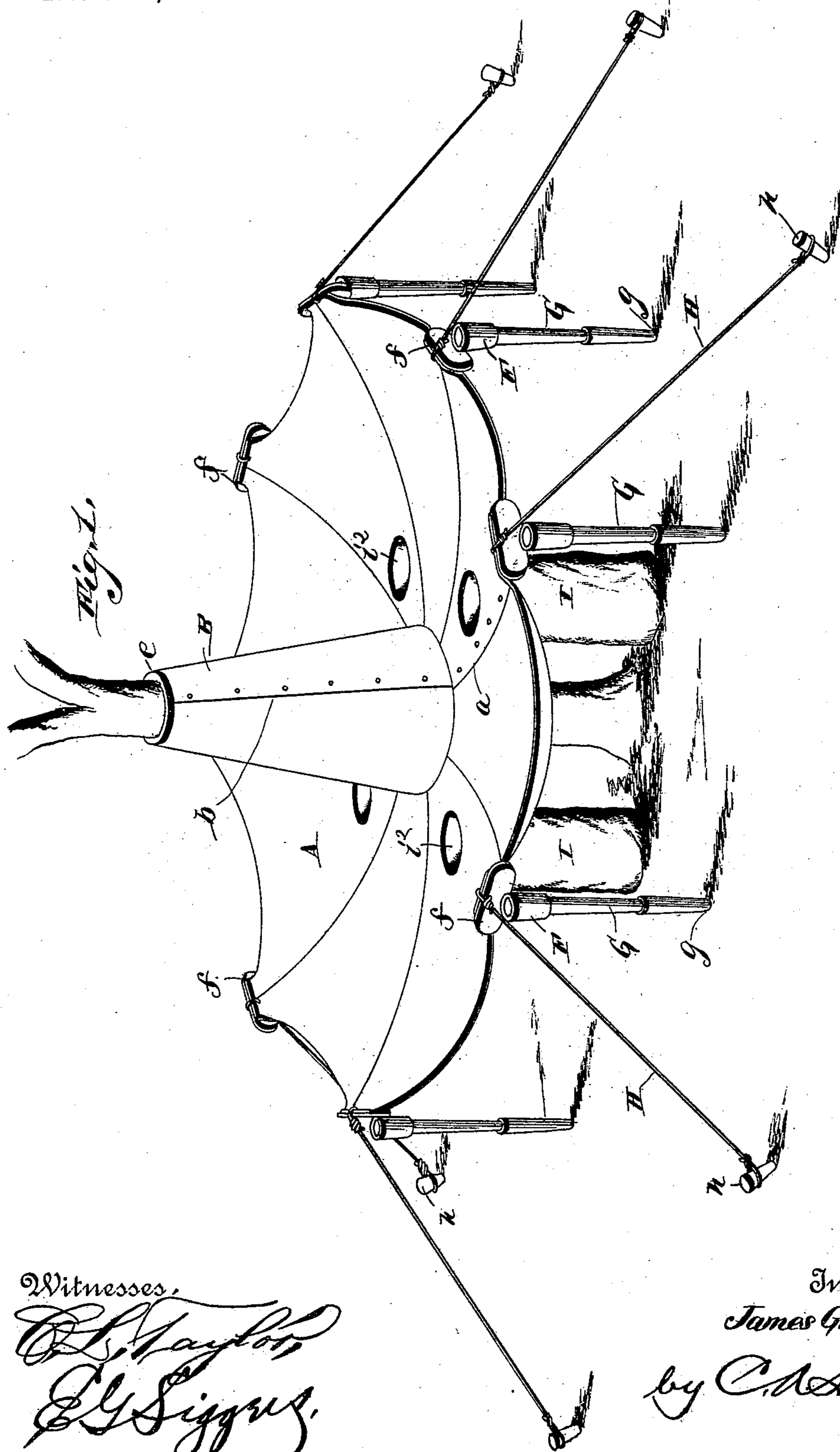
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. G. BRADLEY.

FRUIT GATHERER.

No. 395,947.

Patented Jan. 8, 1889.



Witnesses,

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*E. G. Siggers,*

Inventor,

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(No Model.)

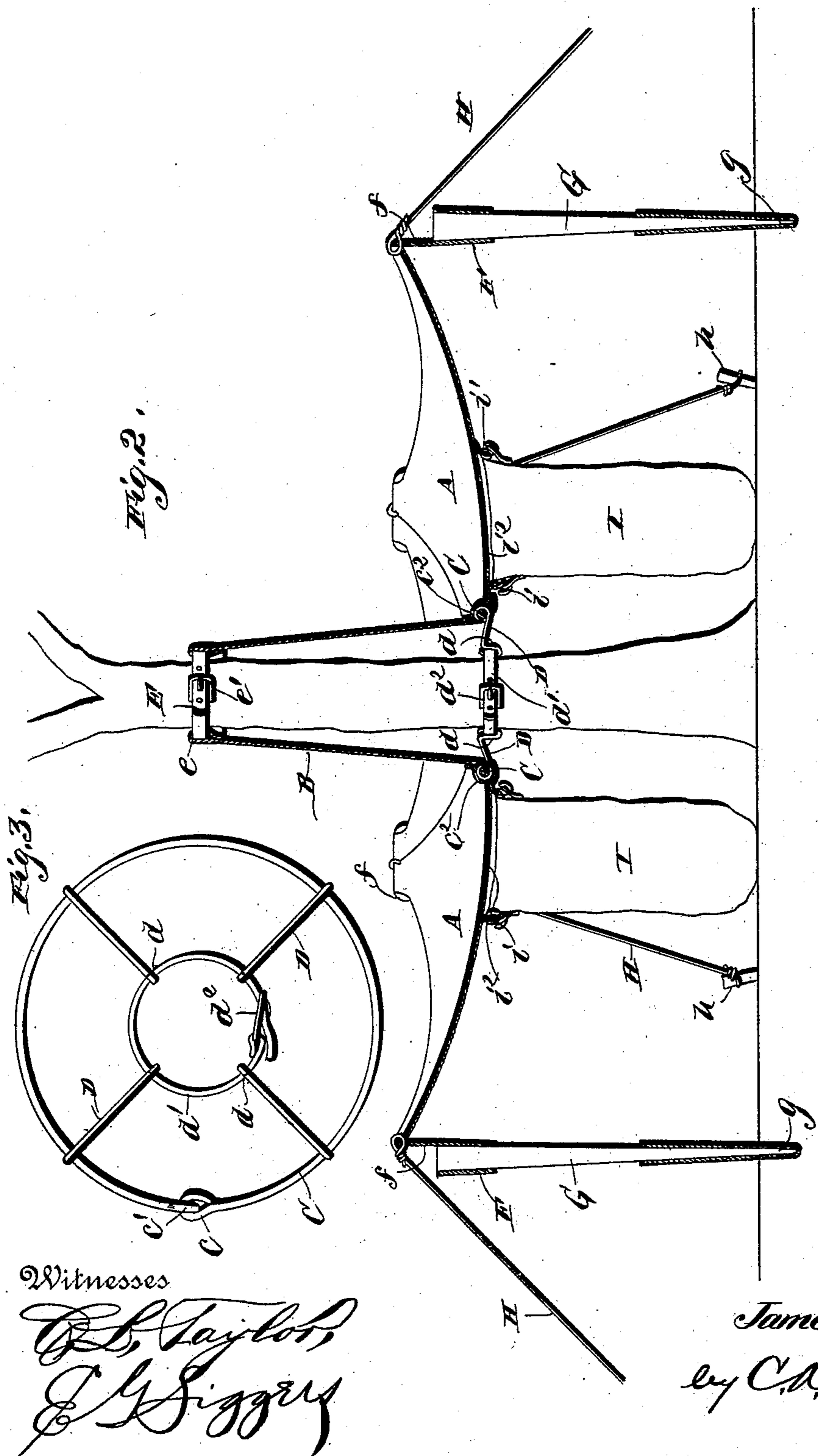
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES GEORGE BRADLEY, OF ALLEGHENY, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

## FRUIT-GATHERER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 395,947, dated January 8, 1889.

Application filed March 2, 1888. Serial No. 265,905. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES GEORGE BRADLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Allegheny township, in the county of Cambria and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Gatherers, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in fruit-gatherers; and it consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device attached to a fruit-tree. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the hoop C and attachments.

Referring particularly to the drawings by letter, B designates a central conical portion of the fruit-gatherer, made of canvas, buttoned at its meeting edges *b*, and A designates an outer flaring portion extending from the base of the conical portion and buttoned on its meeting edges *a*, which are aligned with the edges *b* of the conical portion.

C is a wire hoop having its ends *c c'* hooked together and lying in a stitched fold, *c<sup>2</sup>*, of the canvas, which fold is circular and at the base of the central cone-shaped portion, B.

D D are wires, preferably four in number, which extend radially inward from the hoop C, to which they are swung, and have their inner ends, *d*, bent downward and looped to receive the strap *d'*, which surrounds the trunk of the tree below the canvas, and is secured thereon by a buckle, *d<sup>2</sup>*. The said strap holds the lower edge of the conical part B of the canvas down, as seen in Fig. 2.

E is a strap stitched in a fold, *e*, at the central portion of the canvas and at the apex of the conical portion B. The said strap is provided with a buckle, *e'*, by which it is secured on the tree as high up as convenient, so that the conical portion hangs taut and vertical around the tree-trunk.

The lower surface of the canvas has secured to it adjacent to the edge of the outer flaring portion, at proper intervals apart, the plates *f* of the socket-pieces F, in which fit tightly the tops of the stakes G, the lower points, *g*, of which are shod with iron and thrust in the

ground at suitable distances apart to keep the canvas tight. The said stakes form the supports for the outer flaring portions and are from eight to ten feet long, so that the canvas inclines downward from its edge to the lower edge of the conical part B.

H H are brace-cords attached at their upper ends to the plates of the socket-pieces F, and having the pins *h h* attached to their free ends, which pins are driven into the ground.

The stakes may be set at any angle in the ground so as to keep the canvas in a horizontal position, even when the trees are situated on a hillside, and the pins *h* and brace-cords H will stay the stakes at whatever angle they may be placed.

I I are fruit-sacks secured by the hooks *i* or otherwise to depending folds *i'* of the canvas, which folds surround the openings *i<sup>2</sup>*, adjacent to the base of the central cone-shaped portion of the canvas. The sacks hence depend from the lowest part of the canvas, to which all the fruit falling will roll. By the use of the described device hand-picking, which is very tedious and laborious, is done away with.

The fruit, upon the trees being shaken, drops upon the canvas at various points and rolls down to the circular hollow around the base of the cone-shaped portion, whence it falls into the sacks or bags. When one sack is filled, it can be unhooked and replaced by an empty one.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. In a fruit-gatherer, the combination of the canvas having the central conical portion and the outer flaring portion extending from the base of the conical portion, the wire hoop at the base of the conical portion with its ends hooked together, the radial wires swung to said hoop and having their inner ends looped, the strap *d'*, held in the loops, buckle *d<sup>2</sup>*, the strap E, stitched in a fold at the upper end of the central conical portion, and supports for the outer edge of the flaring portion, as set forth.

2. In a fruit-gatherer, the combination of the canvas having the central conical portion and the outer flaring portion extending from the base of the conical portion, the wire hoop at the base of the conical portion with its ends hooked together, the radial wires swung to said hoop and having the inner ends looped,

the strap  $d'$ , held in the loops, the strap E, stitched in a fold at the upper end of the central conical portion, the socket-pieces at the outer edge of the flaring portion, and the  
5 pointed iron-shod stakes secured in said socket-pieces, as set forth.

3. The combination of the canvas having the central conical portion and an outer flaring portion extending from the base of the  
10 conical portion and provided with the openings  $i^2$  and depending folds  $i'$ , the wire hoop C at the base of the conical portion, the radial wires D, swung to said hoop, the straps  $d'$  E at the inner ends of the wires and upper end

of the cone, respectively, having buckles  $d^2$  15  $e'$ , respectively, the socket-pieces F at the edges of the flaring portion, the iron-shod stakes G, secured in said socket-pieces, the brace-cords H, secured to the socket-pieces, pins  $h$ , and the sacks I, suspended by the 20 hooks  $i$  below the openings  $i^2$ , as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES GEORGE BRADLEY.

Witnesses:

DENNIS T. BRADLEY,

C. J. BLAIR.