

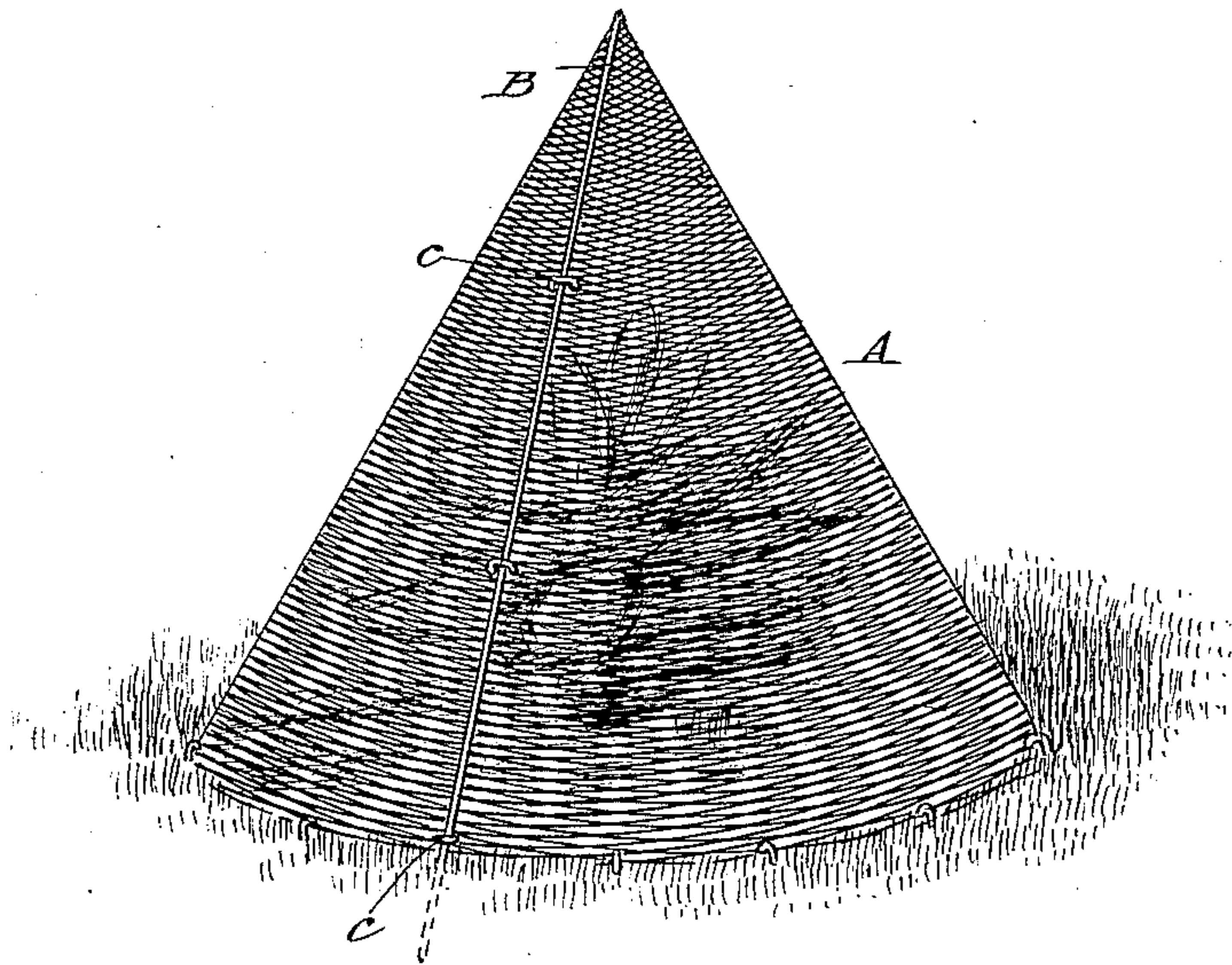
(No Model.)

H. T. SHEPHERD.  
PLANT PROTECTOR.

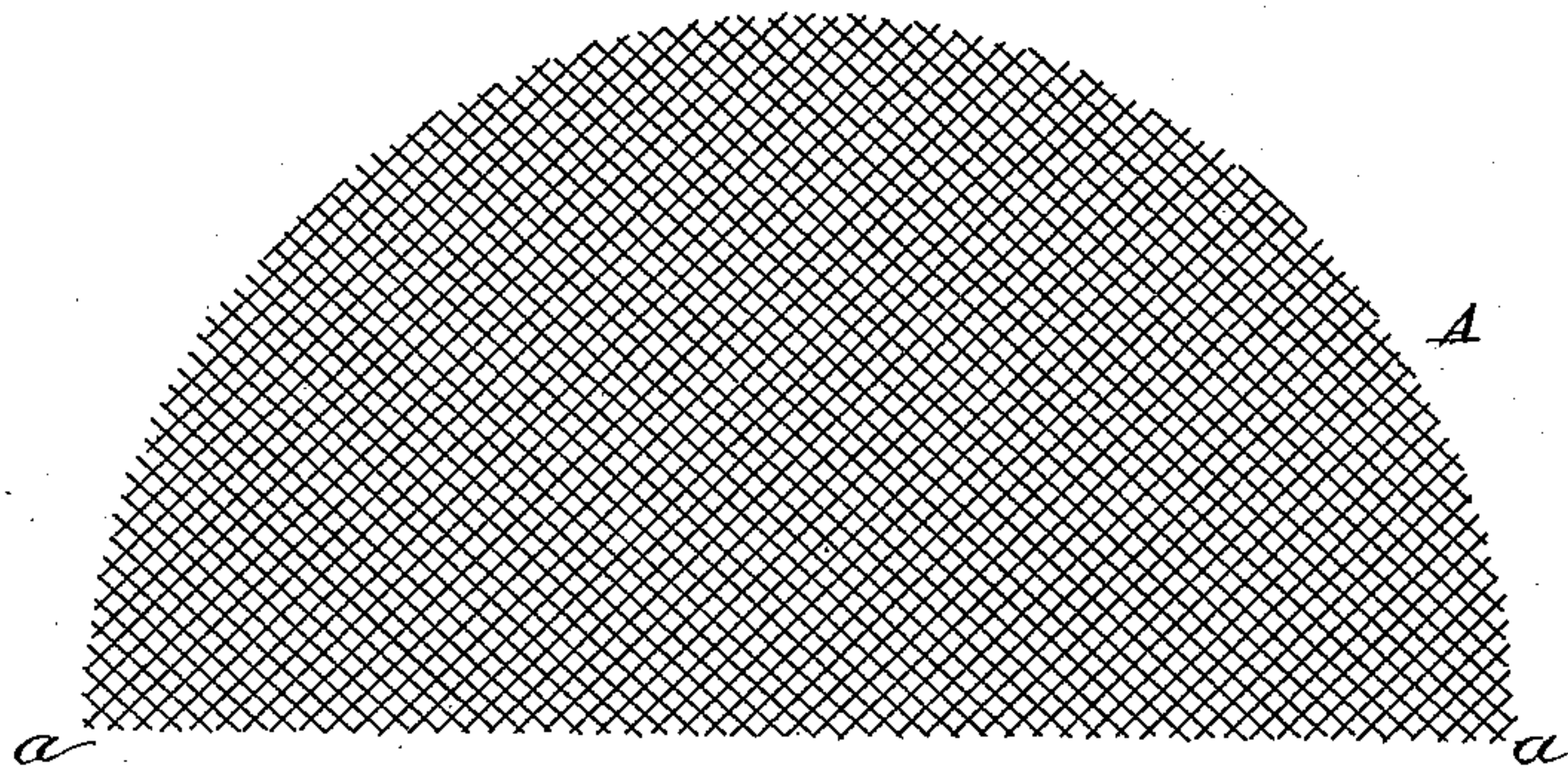
No. 427,921.

Patented May 13, 1890.

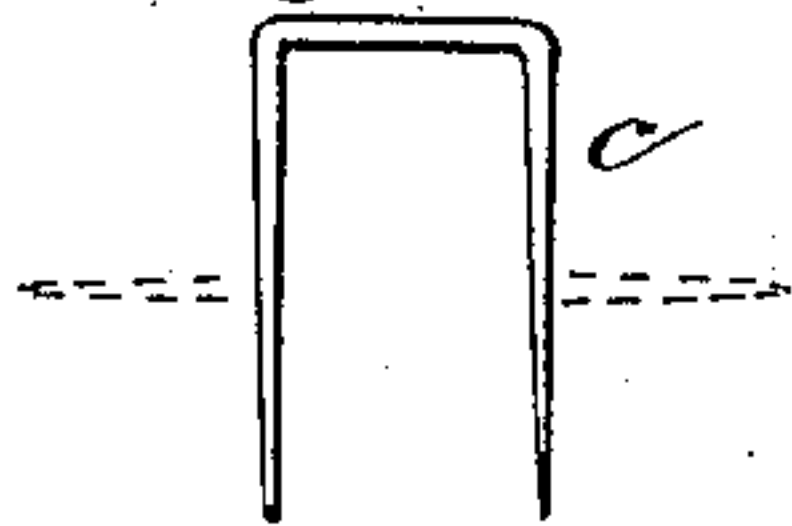
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



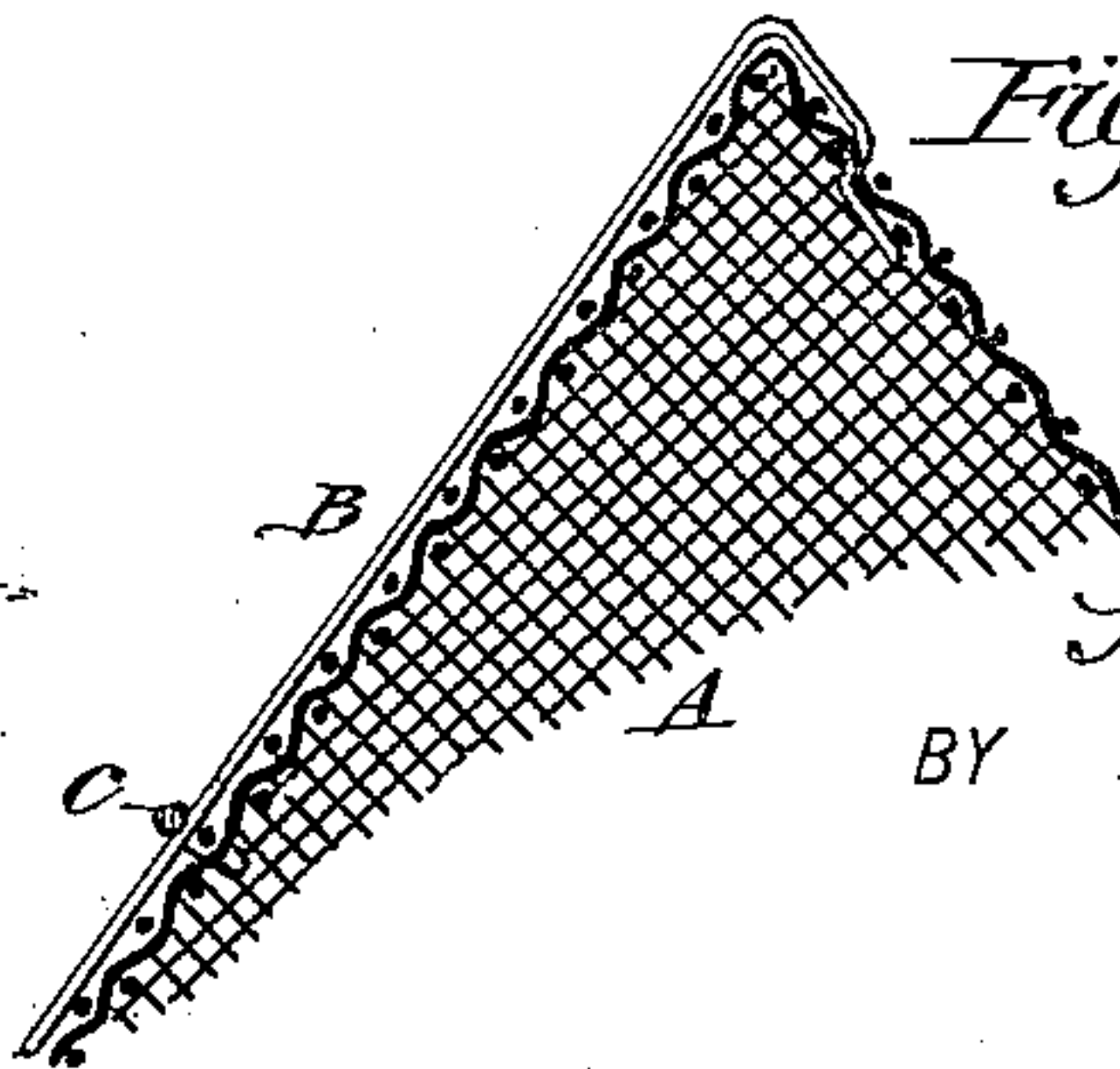
*Fig. 3.*



WITNESSES:

*J. H. Clark.*  
*C. Sedgwick*

*Fig. 4.*



INVENTOR:

*H. T. Shepherd*

BY

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY T. SHEPHERD, OF BENTONSPORT, IOWA.

## PLANT-PROTECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 427,921, dated May 13, 1890.

Application filed September 27, 1889. Serial No. 325,264. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY T. SHEPHERD, of Bentonport, in the county of Van Buren and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Plant-Protectors, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to that description of plant-protectors which are mainly composed of a wire-screen cover adapted to wholly inclose the plant to protect the latter from the ravages of insects without excluding the sun, air, and moisture from it, so as not to interfere with the growth of the plant.

The object of the invention is to produce a cheap, simple, and efficient plant-protector of this kind, and which I more especially design to use over melons to protect them from bugs and cut-worms, but which may also be used as a protector for other plants.

The invention consists in a novel construction of the device, including a wire used for anchoring the same, and in the means used for fastening the anchoring-wire and for closing the protector and securing the anchoring-wire and protector together, substantially as hereinafter described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of a plant-protector embodying my invention as applied or when in use. Fig. 2 is a face view of the piece of wire cloth or netting of which the protector or body part is made before said piece is bent to form the protector. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal view of one of a series of staples used to close the wire-cloth when bent into shape and to secure the body of the protector and an anchoring-wire together and in place; and Fig. 4 is a vertical section in part of the upper portion of the protector, mainly in illustration of the application of the anchoring-wire and staples thereto.

A indicates the body of the protector, made of wire-cloth of a suitable mesh, first cut into approximately semicircular form, as shown in Fig. 2, and then bent by drawing its two corners

a a at the base of the piece together, thereby making the body of the protector of a cone shape, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4. After the protector-body has been thus formed it is held in shape at its top and side by means of an anchoring-wire B and staples c, as follows: The anchoring-wire B is arranged to extend up the side and over the top of the protector-body, and some few inches below the latter to stick into and anchor the protector to the ground after the latter has been placed over the plant, said wire running up the side of the protector along or over its seam or joint in the body, and being secured in position by the staples c, the prongs of which are passed through the wire-cloth on opposite sides of the joint in the body, and then clinched or bent, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 3, up against the other surface of the cloth. The upper end of this wire B is of crooked shape to fit over and down the top of the protector, and such bent or crooked top end of said wire is afterward passed through the opposite side of the protector and bent or clinched up against it, as shown in Fig. 4, thereby holding the top of the protector closed and in shape.

From this description it will be seen that the anchoring-wire B has several functions. Thus it not only serves to anchor the protector to the ground, but to hold its top closed and in shape, and, in connection with the staples c, to secure the edges of the protector together and hold the protector generally in shape. This construction, too, of the protector not only admits of a number of them being packed together in a contracted space for storage or transportation, but, unlike other plant-protectors made of wire-cloth, either with vertical sides and a flat top or with vertical sides and a short conical top, a more extended exposure of the inclosed plant to the sun is obtained by making the whole structure conical—that is, both sides and top—which will permit of a ready access of the sun's rays at all periods of the day, whether the rays be vertical or slanting. This result is not attained with a non-reticulated plant-protector of conical form.

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

1. A plant-protector comprising a conical wire-cloth body and an anchoring-wire secured to the outside of the body, and having its upper end bent down over the top and secured thereto and its lower end projecting below the said body, substantially as described.

2. In a plant-protector, the combination of the wire-cloth body A, of conical construction, the anchoring-wire B, applied to or up the seam or joint in said body and crooked at its

top, with its crooked end passing over the top thereof and bent to project through the wire-cloth and clinched against the same, and the clinched staples c, uniting the anchoring-wire with the reticulated body of the protector, essentially as shown and described.

HENRY T. SHEPHERD.

Witnesses:

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S. C. FRANKS.