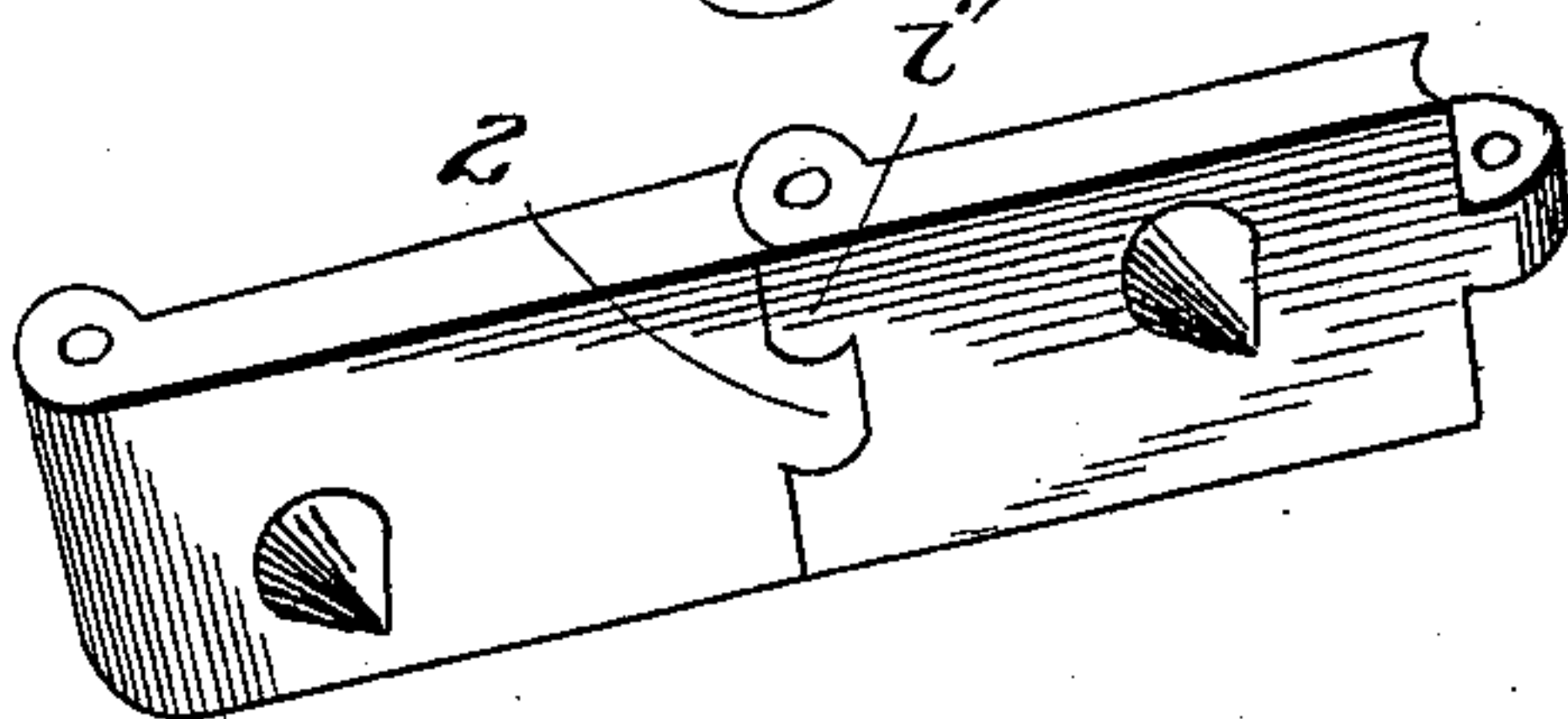


T. LACEY.
FIRE EXTINGUISHER.

Patented May 21, 1895.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS LACEY, OF FORT BENTON, MONTANA.

FIRE-EXTINGUISHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 539,482, dated May 21, 1895.

Application filed October 22, 1894. Serial No. 526,601. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS LACEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Benton, in the county of Choteau and State of Montana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Extinguishers; 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 prairie fire extinguishers, having for its object the provision of a device adapted for use on prairies which completely pack and smother a fire thereon.

The same consists of a pair of metallic rollers mounted for rotation on a common shaft with a guide and slicing bar, located between the same and adjustable means for attaching the draft horses whereby the same may move outside the path of the fire, the said rollers having attached to and following in their rear a series of flat chains gradually tapering in width toward the rear and having upon their under surface a series of spikes or projections for scratching the earth and creating a dust to aid in extinguishing the fire.

It also consists of certain details of construction and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a plan view of the invention. Fig. 2 represents a section on the line $x x$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a detail perspective view of two of the links of which the chain is made up, showing the means of connecting the same together.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in the various views.

At the front of the device is a frame made up of two side bars A A, the upper legs thereof being toward the front of the machine and having thereon hooks $a a$ for the attachment of the draft-bar B. The side-bars A A are united by a front connecting bar C, a rear connecting bar D and a central horizontally disposed shaft E upon which the rollers F F, made of metal, are adapted to rotate. Secured to the front and rear connecting bars C and D and located between the rollers F F,

is a guide and slicing bar G having a curved cutting edge projecting downwardly beyond the surface of the rollers F and having an upper projecting hooked portion g at the front thereof for the attachment of the draft bar B. This bar G acts as a guide and also as a slicer of the ground to loosen the soil so that it may be converted into dust.

Upon the bar D at the lower rear part of the rollers F is connected a series of metallic chains H which unitedly make a flexible flat surface or sheathing. As shown, these chains are made up of flat links I and gradually taper toward their rear ends. These links are each formed with a projection or spike i upon its under surface for the purpose of scratching the earth and creating a dust to serve in extinguishing the fire and are also provided at their respective ends with a yoked portion i' and a tongue i'' . The tongue of one link fits the yoke of the next adjacent one and is secured therein by a pin i''' , thereby forming a flexible connection between the two. The extreme rear links are formed with loops i'''' for the attachment thereto of weights, or the two outside rear links may be connected by a heavy chain for the purpose of holding the flexible platform to the ground.

The draft bar B has formed in it three loops or eyes b for connection with one of the hooks a of the side-bars A, and the central hook g of the slicing bar G. The said draft-bar further has a lateral extension b' to which the horses are attached, and by means of the adjustability of the draft bar B the same may be reversed to throw the extension b' to one side or the other of the path of the machine and thereby enable the horses to keep out of the fire.

My device is operated by drawing the same over the surface of the ground on fire and the flexible metallic platform serves to pack and smother the fire,—being aided therein by the dust made by the slicing bar G and the spikes on the under sides of the link I.

It will be seen that my device is simple of construction, can be cheaply made, and is most effective in operation. The same has been shown and described in its preferred form, but it is obvious that many minor changes may be made therein, without departing from the nature or spirit of the invention or sacri-

ficing any of its advantages. All such minor changes are clearly within the scope of my invention and are intended to be covered by this patent.

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

10 1. A fire extinguisher consisting of a pair of metallic packing rollers mounted for rotation upon a common shaft and having between the same a guide and slicing bar for the purpose described, and having attached thereto, and traveling thereafter, a flexible metallic sheathing made up of a series of flat-linked chains, each link thereof having a spike
15 or projection upon its under side, substantially as and for the purpose described.

20 2. The combination of a frame having two side bars provided with forwardly projecting hooks for attachment of a draft bar, two packing rollers mounted for rotation upon a shaft in said frame, a guide and slicing bar mounted in said frame between said rollers and having a forwardly projecting hook thereon, a series
25 of flat chains attached to the rear of said frame, and made up of flat metallic links gradually tapering toward their rear ends, and each link provided with a projection or spike, substantially as and for the purpose
30 described.

3. The combination of a frame having two

side bars provided with forwardly projecting hooks, two packing rollers mounted for rotation upon a shaft in said frame, a guide and slicing bar mounted in said frame between
35 said rollers and having a forwardly projecting hook thereon, a detachable and reversible draft bar connecting with the hooks on said side bars and said guide bar, and a metallic sheathing attached to the rear of said frame,
40 made up of a series of flat chains composed of flat metallic links gradually tapering in width, toward their rear ends and each link being provided with a projection or spike upon its under surface, substantially as and
45 for the purpose described.

4. A chain for the purpose described, made up of flat links provided at their respective ends with a yoked portion and with a tongue, and provided with spikes or projections on
50 their under surfaces, the tongue of each link fitting the yoke of the next succeeding link, and secured thereto by pins, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this
55 specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS LACEY.

Witnesses:

THOMAS J. TODD,
GUS SENIEUR.