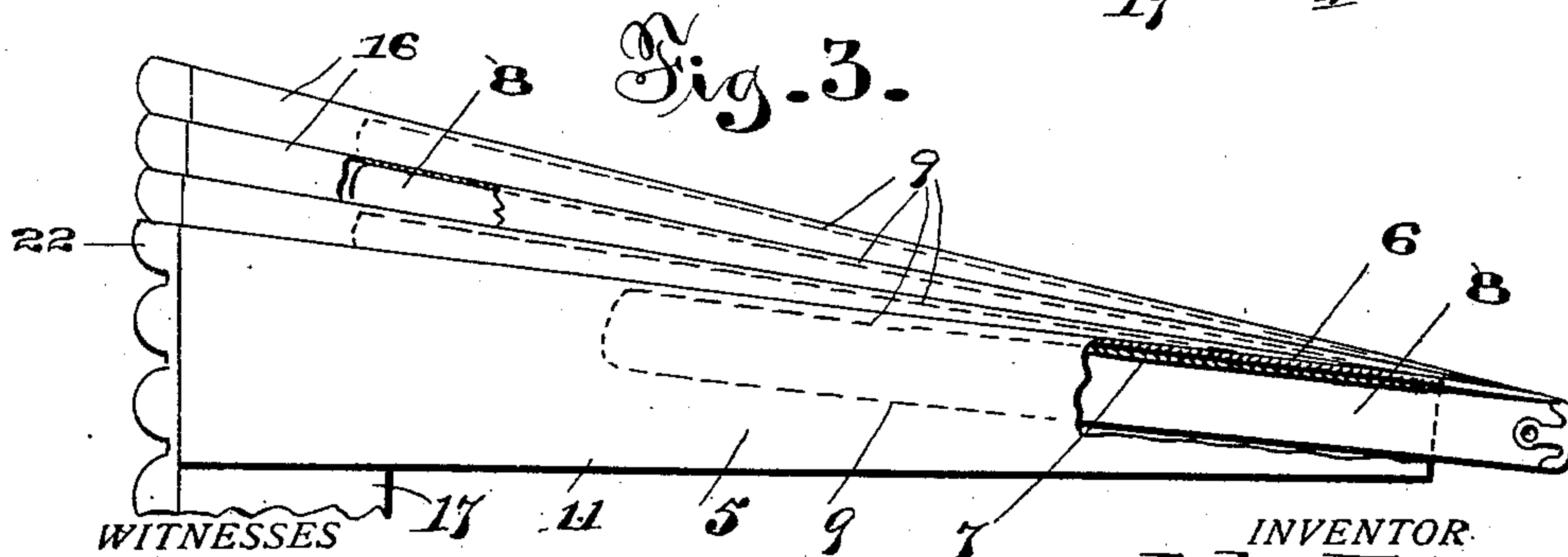
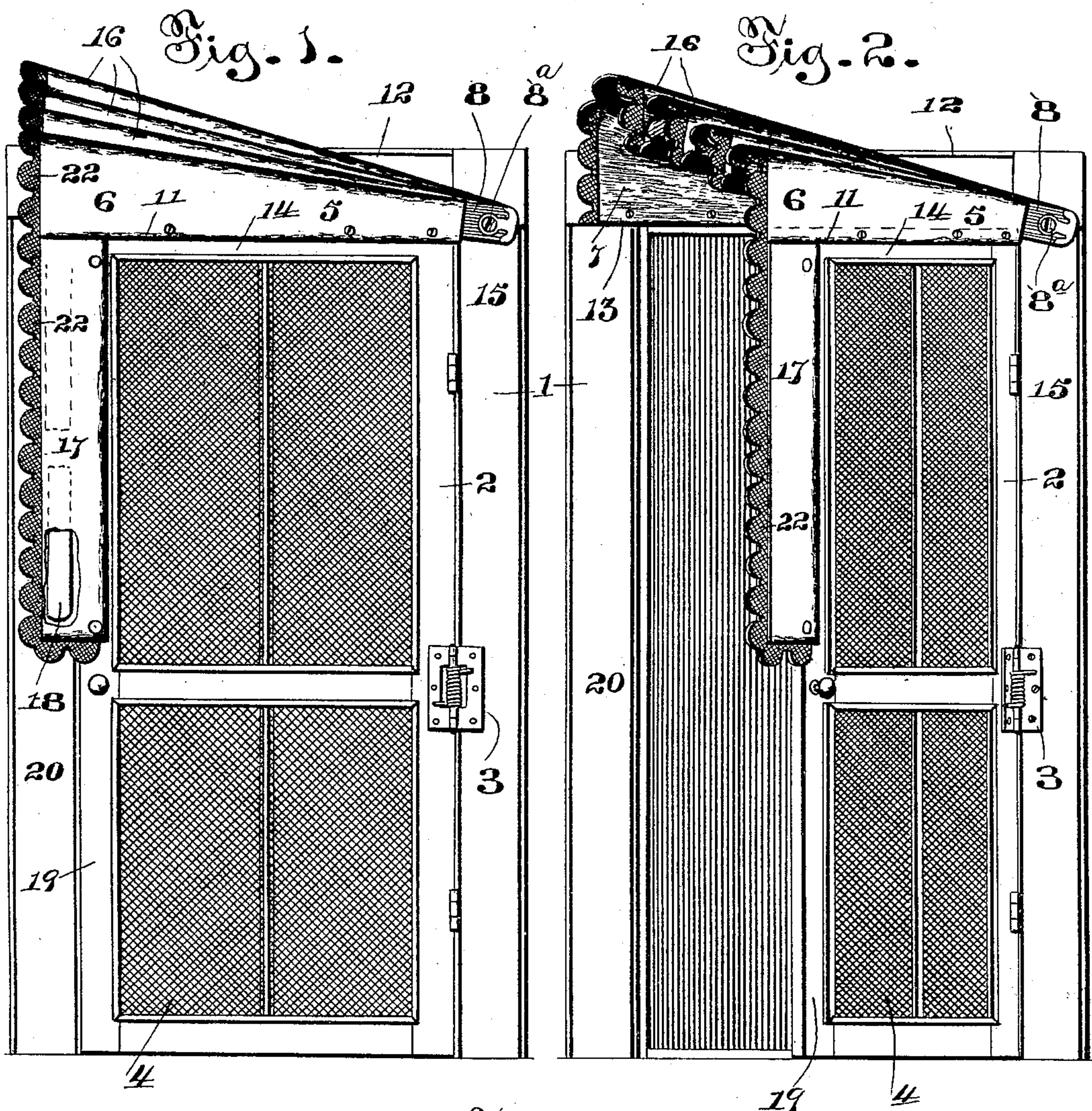


(No Model.)

J. FRITZ.  
SCREEN DOOR.

No. 591,550.

Patented Oct. 12, 1897.



WITNESSES  
Marcus L. Byng.  
[Signature]

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIA FRITZ, OF CONCORD, MICHIGAN.

## SCREEN-DOOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 591,550, dated October 12, 1897.

Application filed February 27, 1897. Serial No. 625,265. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JULIA FRITZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Concord, in the county of Jackson and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Screen-Doors; 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 certain new and useful improvements in screen-doors, the object being to provide a folding guard designed to be used in connection with the door to prevent the entrance of flies through the door when said door is opened.

To this end my invention consists in providing at the top of the door a guard constructed of flexible material and provided with stays and adapted to fold or collapse bellows fashion when the door is closed and to extend when the door is opened to readily permit freedom of movement of said door.

My invention also consists in certain details of construction, combinations, and arrangements of parts in a screen-door, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and specifically set forth in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of a door embodying my invention, the door being shown closed. Fig. 2 is a similar view to Fig. 1, but showing the door opened and the fly-guard extended. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the fly-guard removed from the door, parts being broken away to show the construction.

Like numerals designate like parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the door-frame, and 2 a screen-door connected therewith by a spring-hinge 3. The door is provided with wire screens 4.

I have observed by practical observation that flies usually swarm about the top of the door and that when the door is opened pass into the house or room through the door-frame opening adjoining the upper portion thereof, and accordingly I have provided a guard adapted to be secured to the upper cross-bar of the door-frame and to the upper edge of the door in order to guard or screen the door-open-

ing when the door is opened and to brush away the flies and prevent entrance of the same into the house or room through the doorway. The guard 5 is constructed of cloth or other suitable material which is flexible, so as to permit the guard to fold. The guard is formed of two thicknesses or plies 6 7 of the flexible material and is provided at intervals with stays 8, of whalebone, arranged between the plies and secured by stitching 9. The upper portion or body proper of the guard is approximately triangular in shape when folded out, as shown in Fig. 3, and the stays, which are arranged at suitable intervals apart, extend nearly along the entire length of the guard and have their ends at one side folded or laid upon each other and secured together by a rivet 8<sup>a</sup>, passed through the same. By this construction the guard has approximately the shape of a fan and is provided with folding sections 16, adapted to fold upon one another in order that the guard may be collapsed when the door is closed, as shown in Fig. 1. One edge, 11, of the guard is secured to the cross-bar 12 of the door-frame and the other edge, 13, thereof is secured to the upper cross-bar 14 of the door, while the riveted ends of the stays have position adjoining the jamb 15 of the door-frame to which the spring-hinge is secured. The guard is provided with a downwardly or laterally projecting extension 17, provided with stays 18, and is adapted to extend down alongside the vertical bar 19 at the free edge of the door and overlap upon the door-jamb 20. In practice this guard extension may extend down and cover the upper half of the said vertical bar of the door, being secured thereto by tacks, screws, or other fastening devices.

It will be observed that when the door is closed the guard folds together in bellows or fan fashion and readily extends when the door is opened to permit free movement of said door. When the door is opened, the flies swarming around the same will be brushed away by the guard and prevented from entering the doorway over the top of the open door, while the downward extension of the guard covers the entrance, opening half-way down the door, and thus effectually prevents entrance of the flies at that point.



The guard may be provided with a pinked, scallop, or other ornamental edge 22 to enhance the appearance of the same.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, a fly-guard constructed of flexible material provided with folding sections adapted to fold one upon the other and allow the guard to collapse, one edge of the said guard being adapted to be attached to the door-frame and the other edge to the door, substantially as described.

2. A fly-guard for doors, constructed of flexible material formed with folding portions adapted to fold upon each other to allow the guard to be collapsed, one edge of the guard being adapted to be attached to the door-frame and the other edge to the door, and said guard provided with an extension adapted to be secured to one side of the door and prevent entrance of the flies at that point, substantially as described.

3. A fly-guard for doors, constructed of flexible material having stays pivoted together and forming folding sections adapted to fold one upon the other, one edge of the guard being adapted to be secured to the door-

frame and the other edge to the door, substantially as described.

4. A fly-guard for doors, constructed of two layers or plies of flexible material provided with stays between said plies secured thereto by stitching, said stays having their ends at one side of the guard connected by rivets and forming folding sections adapted to fold together to permit the guard to collapse, substantially as described.

5. In a fly-guard for doors, the combination with a door-frame and a door, of a fly-guard constructed of flexible material provided with stays riveted together at one end and forming folding sections to permit the guard to collapse, one edge of the guard being secured to the horizontal bar of the door-frame and the other edge thereof to the horizontal top bar of the door, and said guard also provided with an extension secured to the vertical side of the bar of the door and projecting over upon the door-jamb, substantially as described.

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

JULIA FRITZ.

Witnesses:

FRED M. THOMPSON,  
JAMES W. BLAKELY.