

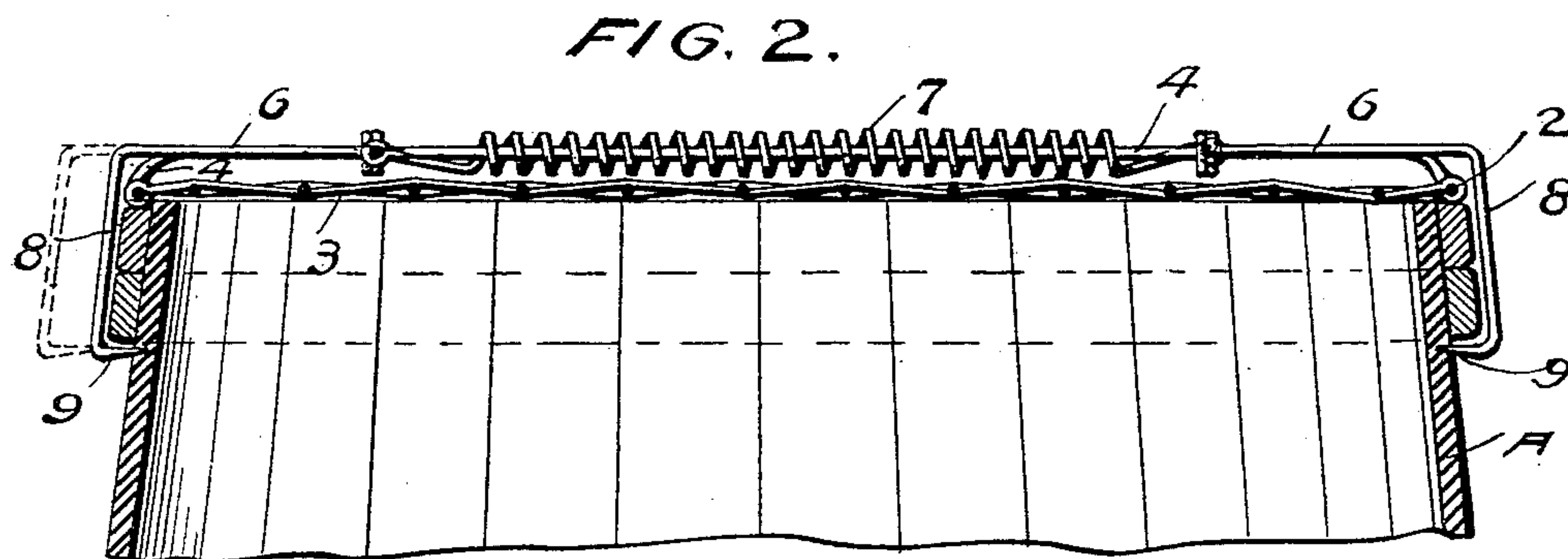
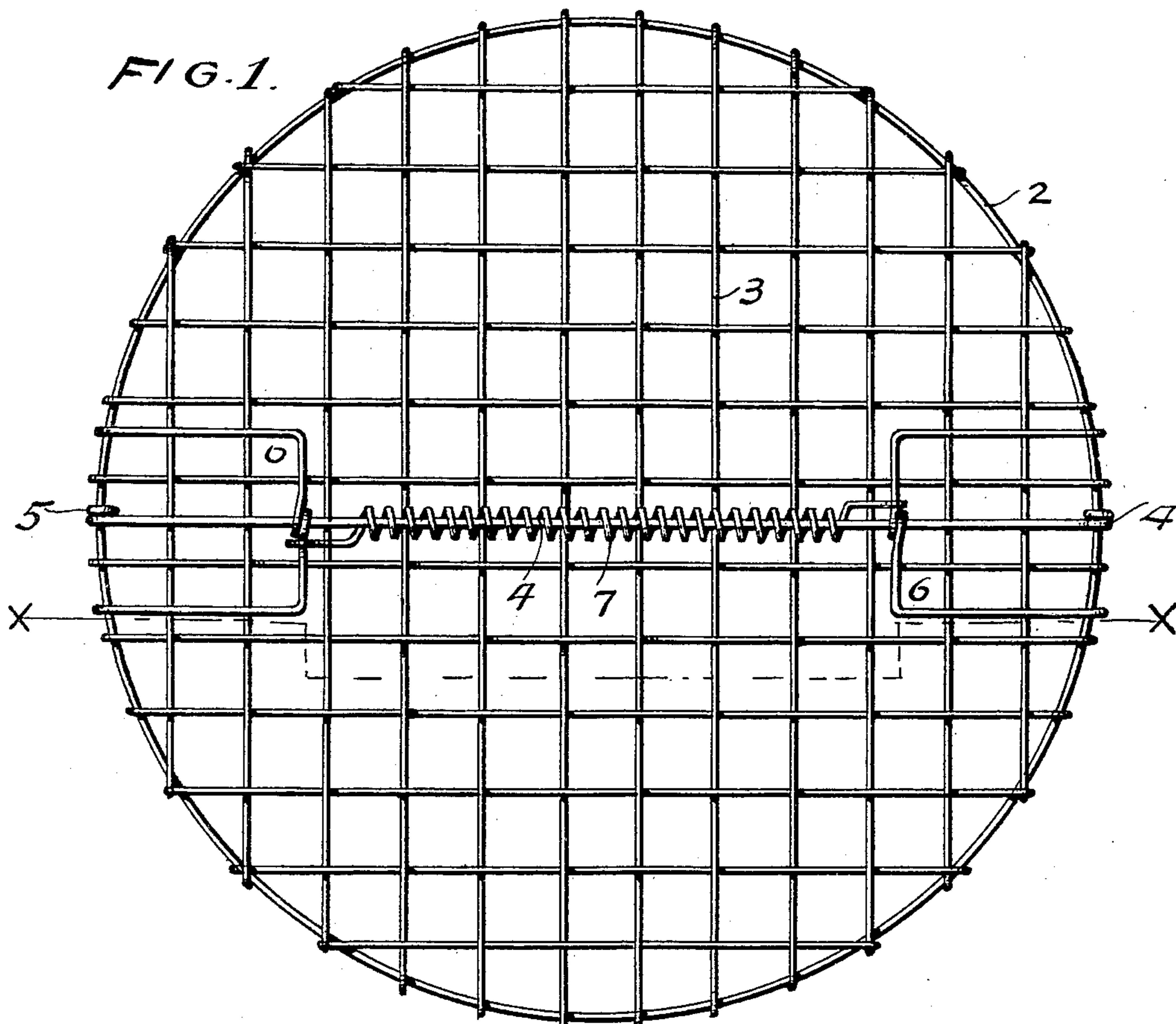
No. 616,447.

Patented Dec. 27, 1898.

W. P. BURKE.
BARREL COVER.

(Application filed Sept. 24, 1897.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES

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WALTER P. BURKE, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

BARREL-COVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 616,447, dated December 27, 1898.

Application filed September 24, 1897. Serial No. 852,843. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER P. BURKE, of St. Paul, Ramsey county, Minnesota, have invented certain Improvements in Barrel-Covers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in covers, made of lattice or net work, for barrels containing apples or other articles, its object being in particular to provide an improved automatically-actuated attachment therefor for securing the same to the barrel.

To this end my invention consists in securing above the cover a transverse rod and arranging on the opposite ends of said rod slidable clamps connected by a retracting-spring. Said clamps are formed with prongs or teeth adapted to be embedded in the outside of the barrel as the clamps are drawn toward each other by the effect of their actuating-spring.

My invention further consists in the construction and combination hereinafter particularly described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved invention; and Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the same, on line $x x$ of Fig. 1, shown applied to a barrel.

The top or cover is of the ordinary construction, consisting of the ring 2, provided with wire network 3. My improvement consists of the rod 4, extending centrally across the top of the cover and secured at 5 to the opposite sides of the metal ring 2. Upon opposite ends of the rod 4 slide similar clamps 6, these clamps being connected by a coil-spring 7. The ends 8 of the clamps are curved downwardly and inwardly to form the prongs or teeth 9, and which when the cover is in place, as shown in Fig. 2, are embedded in the side of the barrel, and thus securely hold the cover in place.

In use the cover is placed in position upon the top of the barrel, with the clamp upon one side in engaging position, the opposite clamp being then pulled outward, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2, and the prongs on the clamps placed against the side of the barrel, when the tension of the spring will cause the teeth of the clamp to be embedded in the side of the barrel.

An important advantage of my improved construction is that it may be used whether

the top retaining-hoops are upon the barrel or not. In use these top hoops of the barrels frequently come off, causing the barrel to bulge. If my improved construction of barrel-cover is used with a barrel in this condition, the annular ring 2 of the cover engaging, as it does, the outer end of the barrel, as shown in Fig. 2, and the prongs 9 of the clamps being embedded in the staves of the barrel will cause the staves to be held in position and the cover to be as firmly secured as though the hoops were secured around the barrel in the ordinary manner. Those barrel-covers now provided with securing means cannot satisfactorily be used upon barrels which have lost their top retaining-hoops, thereby causing spreading of the staves.

I claim—

1. In combination with a barrel or similar receptacle, and the removable top or cover for the same, of the transverse bar or rod secured to said cover, the clamps slidably arranged upon said rod, and provided with inwardly-projecting prongs, and the means for automatically drawing said clamps inward to force said prongs into the sides of the receptacle.

2. In combination with a barrel and its removable cover, the pair of clamps for engaging the exterior of the barrel, their interconnecting rod and their common actuating-spring.

3. In combination with a barrel and its removable cover, the pair of similar clamps having prongs for engaging the exterior of the barrel, their diametric interconnecting rod, and the spring carried by said rod for actuating both said clamps.

4. In combination with a barrel and its removable, wire-screen cover, the diametric rod upon said cover, the pair of U-shaped clamps working on said rod and having prongs to engage the periphery of the barrel, and the common actuating-spring for said clamps carried by said rod.

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

WALTER P. BURKE.

Witnesses:

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