

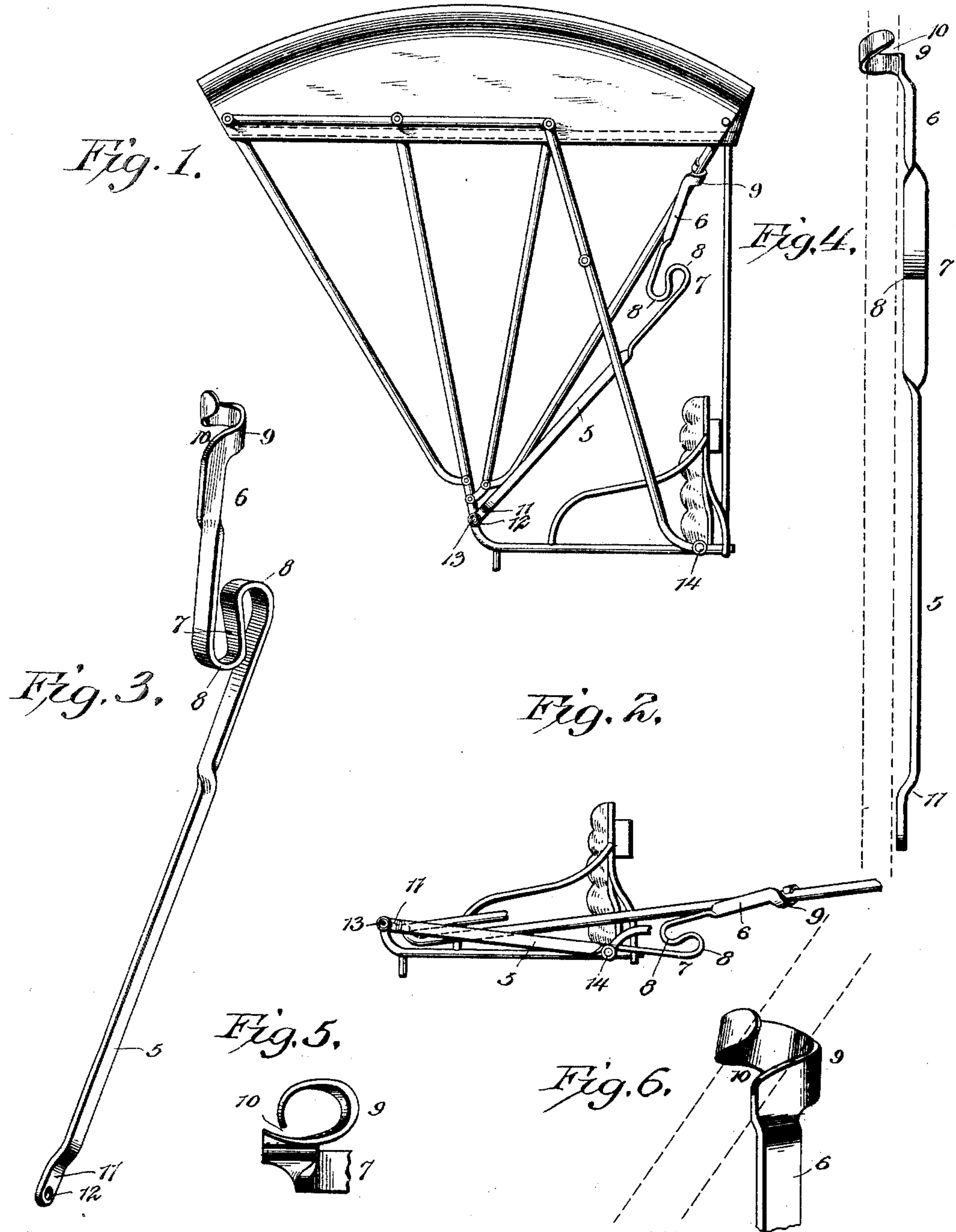
No. 675,549.

Patented June 4, 1901.

E. H. MASON.  
BUGGY TOP SUPPORT.

(Application filed Mar. 21, 1901.)

(No Model.)



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By

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EVERETT H. MASON, OF CLARKSVILLE, TEXAS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, OF ONE-HALF TO EDWARD EDWARDS, OF SAME PLACE.

## BUGGY-TOP SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 675,549, dated June 4, 1901.

Application filed March 21, 1901. Serial No. 52,224. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EVERETT H. MASON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Clarksville, in the county of Red River and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Buggy-Top Support, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to vehicle-top-bow protectors; and one of the objects thereof is to provide an article of this character that may be secured to the folding top of any vehicle and will protect the bows of the same from strain and breakage when in lowered position and will also prevent all rattling of and shocks to said top.

A further object is to make this construction in the simplest form possible, so that it may be applied without the necessity of employing extra bolts, screws, or the like and without cutting or disfiguring the top or bows thereof. At the same time the device is to be so constructed that it will have abundant resiliency to take up all the jolts and strains between the body and the top.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is clearly shown in the accompanying drawings and described in the following specification, although it is to be distinctly understood that this construction, as shown and described, is open to change and modification within the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a vehicle-top, showing the bow-protector applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same lowered, unnecessary parts being omitted for the purpose of more clearly illustrating the operation of the invention. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view, on an enlarged scale, of the protector detached. Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the same, the position of the bow being indicated in dotted lines. Fig. 5 is top plan view of the same. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective of the securing-loop and the portion of the bow passing therethrough.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

In carrying out the invention, as shown, the protector comprises an arm having rigid terminal portions 5 and 6, connected by an

intermediate resilient portion 7. This arm is preferably formed of a single piece of flat metal oblong in cross-section, the intermediate resilient portion being formed by twisting said portion so that its side faces, and consequently its major axis, will be substantially at right angles to the terminal portions, or, in other words, when the arm is in a substantially horizontal position the side faces of the terminal portions will be vertical, while those of the spring or resilient portions will be horizontal. To further increase the resiliency of the intermediate portion, it is bent longitudinally upon itself to form the reversely-disposed loops 8, constituting a serpentine or S-shaped spring. The two terminal portions 5 and 6 are disposed at an angle to each other, and the upper one is provided at its outer end with a bow-engaging loop 9. This loop is offset from the rigid portion and is integral, being formed by bending the end to proper form, the extremity passing over but spaced from the end of the rigid portion proper. This forms an entrance-throat 10, that is at an angle to the walls of said loop, for the purpose hereinafter set forth. The outer end of the lower rigid portion 5 is provided with an offset portion 11, having a pivot-eye 12.

In applying the device the loop is engaged about the rear side bow of a vehicle-top, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. This is accomplished, as clearly indicated in Fig. 6, by arranging the arm at an angle to the bow, so that said bow will pass through the entrance-throat. The arm is then swung around and is thus securely locked in place upon the bow. The nut of the pivot-bolt 13 is removed and the bolt is passed through the eye 12, after which the nut is replaced, whereupon the device will be secured to the vehicle, and the spring portion will be at the rear of the bow.

The operation of the device will be obvious. When the top is lowered, the device will be tipped backwardly and will rest upon the pin-support 14, which was designed to form a rest for the rear bow of the top. Said bow will therefore be yieldingly supported, and all shocks, jars, and strains will be absorbed by the spring. By this construction, therefore, all the before-mentioned objects are accomplished. The device is simple, prac-



licable, and inexpensive and can be applied to any of the ordinary and well-known types of folding vehicle-tops.

From the foregoing it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein-described invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

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

1. A protector of the class described, comprising an arm oblong in cross-section and having rigid terminal portions formed by arranging the major axis of the arm in an upright position, and a resilient portion connecting said rigid terminals and formed by arranging the major axis of the intermediate portion at substantially right angles to that of the terminals.

2. A protector of the class described, comprising an arm having rigid terminal portions, one of which has a pivot-eye at its outer end, the other being provided at its outer end with a bow-engaging loop, and an intermediate resilient substantially S-shaped portion formed by bending the same into reversely-curved loops, said resilient portion connecting said terminal portions.

3. A protector of the class described, comprising an arm having rigid terminal portions disposed at an angle to each other, and a serpentine resilient portion formed of reversely-curved loops connecting the inner ends of said terminal portions.

4. A protector of the class described, formed

of a single piece of metal and comprising rigid terminal portions which are adapted to be secured respectively to the vehicle and bow of the top thereof, and an intermediate spring portion formed by twisting an intermediate part so that the faces thereof will be substantially at right angles to the faces of the terminal portions.

5. A protector of the class described, formed of a single piece of metal and comprising rigid terminal portions, one of which has a pivot-eye, the other being provided with a bow-engaging loop, and an intermediate serpentine spring portion formed by twisting an intermediate part so that the faces thereof are substantially at right angles to the rigid terminals and doubling said twisted portion longitudinally upon itself.

6. A protector of the class described, comprising an arm having a resilient portion, means for securing one end of the arm to a vehicle, and a bow-engaging loop located at the opposite end of the arm, said loop being provided with an entrance-throat disposed at an angle to the walls thereof.

7. A protector of the class described, comprising an arm having a pivot-eye at one end and an intermediate resilient portion, and an integral loop formed at the opposite end of said arm, said loop having its extremity arranged over but spaced from the end of the arm whereby an entrance-throat is formed which is disposed at an angle to the walls of the loop.

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

EVERETT H. MASON.

Witnesses:

W. P. CORNELIUS,  
C. Q. SWANN.