No. 709,913. Patented Sept. 30, 1902.

# B. T. LAMB & E. G. GOULD.

## AWNING.

(Application filed May 14, 1902.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

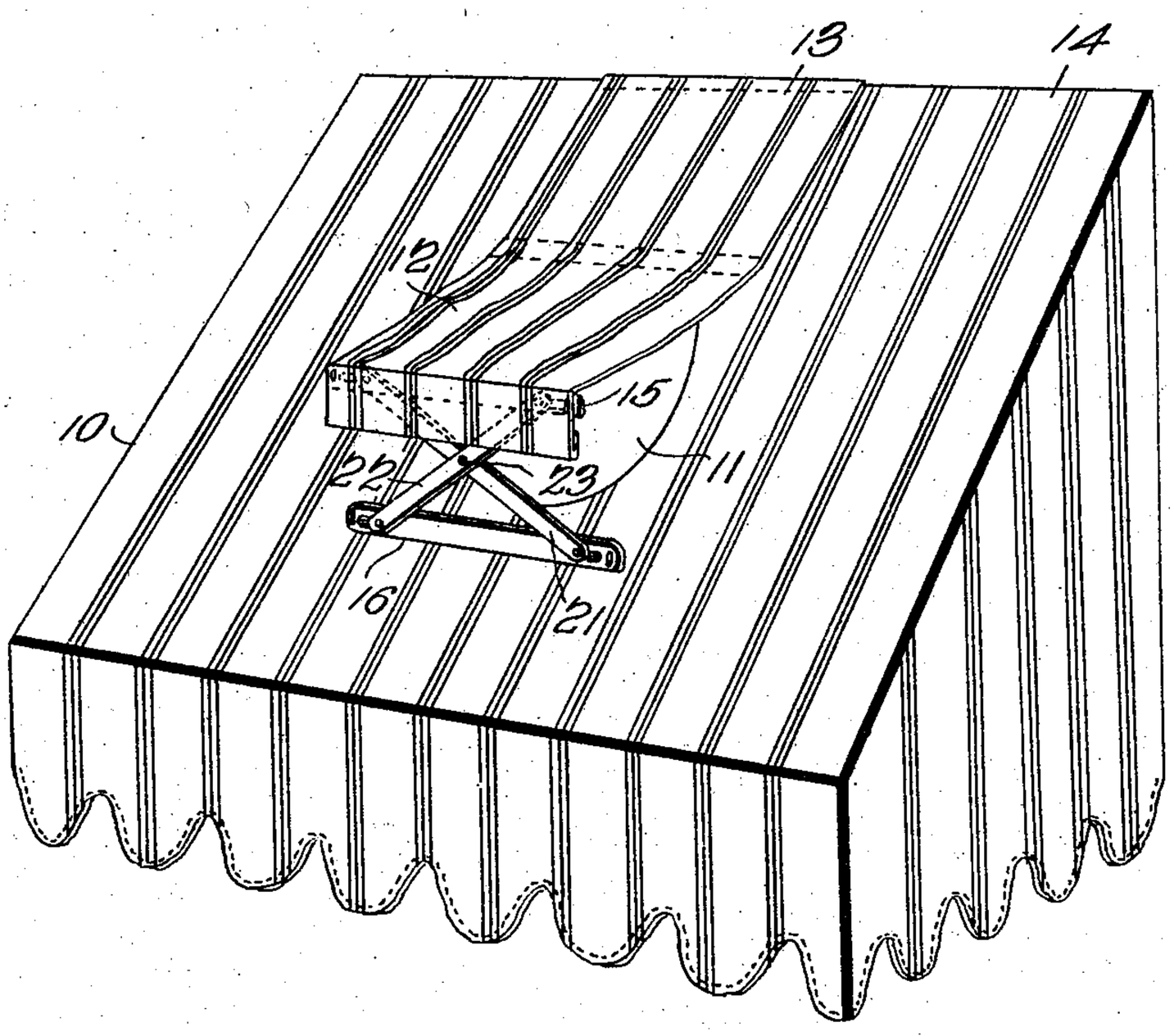
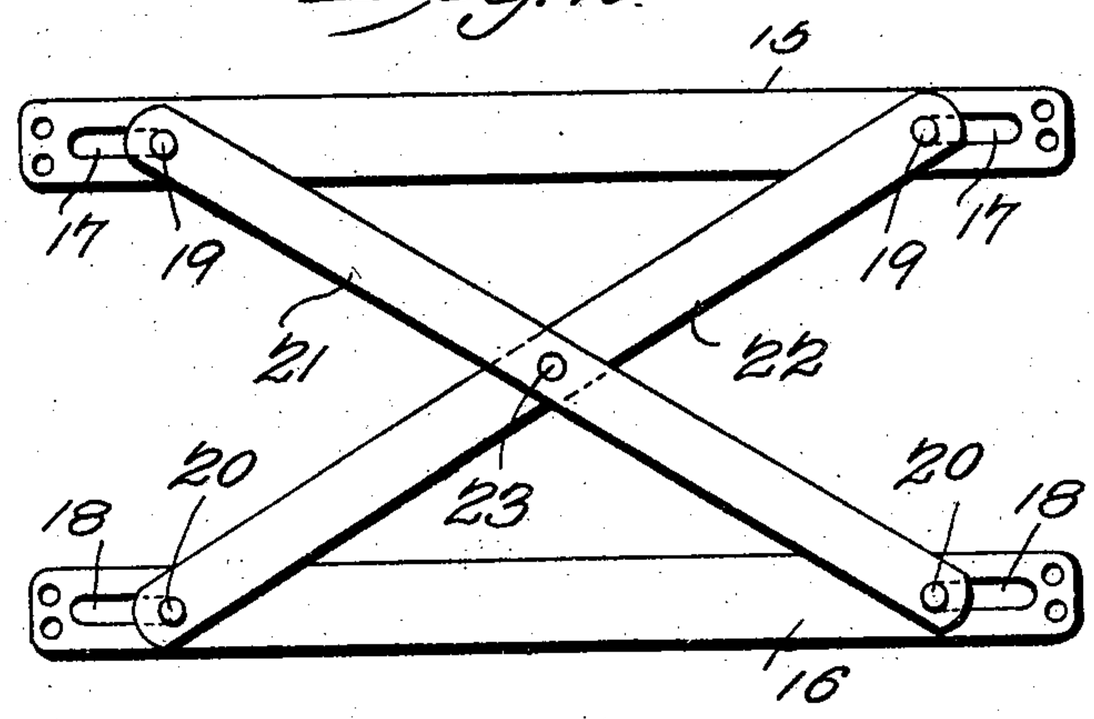



Fig. 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BURTON T. LAMB AND ELIJAH G. GOULD, OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

## AWNING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 709,913, dated September 30, 1902.

Application filed May 14, 1902. Serial No. 107,360. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, BURTON T. LAMB and ELIJAH G. GOULD, citizens of the United States, residing at Portland, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Awning, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to awnings, and has for its object the production of an awning having one or more apertures covered by overlapping movable flaps suitably supported by foldable frames, the overlapping flaps lying normally closed over the apertures and completely shedding rain and snow, but adapted to be automatically opened by any abnormal pressure from below—as, for instance, a heavy wind—thereby relieving the heavy pressure and preventing the tearing of the awning or loosening it from its fastenings.

The invention further consists in certain novel features of the construction, which will be hereinafter described, and specifically defined in the claims.

In the drawings illustrative of the invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an awning with the improvement attached thereto. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view of the means for connecting the free end of the flap with the awning.

The awning is represented at 10 of the ordinary form and provided with a ventilating-aperture at 11. Covering this aperture is a flap 12, extending to the top of the awning, as at 13, and secured to the awning-support, together with the upper edge 14 of the awning, to properly shed the rain, so that when closed the aperture 10 will be completely covered and the entrance of rain or snow prevented.

The flap 12 will be considerably larger than the aperture 10, so as to amply provide for shedding the rain when closed and also forming an ample shield to the aperture when open.

Attached to the flap 12 near its lower edge is a bar 15, and attached to the awning below the aperture 10 is a similar or companion bar 16, the two bars being so located that when the flap 12 is closed the two bars will engage and lie side by side between the flap and awning, so that the flap will lie close to the awning when closed.

Each of the bars 15 16 is slotted at its ends, as shown at 17 18, these slots affording means for supporting-pivots 19 20 of diagonally-disposed or cross bars 21 22, as shown, the bars 21 22 being united at their crossing points by a pivot 23. These bars, as will be seen in Fig. 1, form an expansible frame to support the flap 12 and which are also foldable with the flap when the latter is closed. When closed, the bars all lie in close proximity and do not, therefore, prevent the flap when closed from lying close to the awning and completely closing the aperture.

While we have shown the bars 15 16 both slotted, the device would operate equally as well if one bar only were slotted, with the slots made somewhat longer; but this would be merely a colorable modification and would not affect the invention or sacrifice any of its advantages.

The device may be made of any size or applied to any part of the awning and any desired number of the foldable flaps may be employed.

The flap 12, when the atmosphere is quiescent or when only a light breeze is blowing, will lie close over the aperture and completely close it. If, however, the wind rises to an abnormal degree or with a force sufficient to create a pressure that would endanger the awning, the flap 12 will yield to this pressure and permit the air to pass through, and thus relieve the awning and prevent breakage of the supports and fastenings or the tearing of the awning. When the pressure ceases, the flap will automatically return to its normal position and completely close the aperture. Thus a complete self-acting or automatic device is produced which will be ready at all times to relieve the pressure and prevent breakage or tearing of the awning, while at the same time forming a complete closure to the aperture under normal conditions.

Having thus described our invention, [illegible] we claim is—

1. An awning having an aperture, a [illegible] covering said aperture, and means connecting the free edge of said flap with the body of the awning, said means serving to permit the upward movement of the free edge of said flap and to limit the movement of the same in an upward direction.

2. The combination with an awning having an aperture therethrough, of a flap covering said aperture, a bar secured near the free edge of said flap, a corresponding bar secured to the body of the awning, and connecting means, so connecting the said bars as to permit them to separate when the flap is raised by the impact of the wind and to lie closely together upon the cessation of such pressure.

3. An awning having an aperture, a flap covering said aperture and connected by one edge to the awning, oppositely-disposed bars connected respectively to the outer edge of said flap and to said awning, and crossed, pivotally-connected bars connected movably to said oppositely-disposed bars.

4. An awning having an aperture, a flap covering said aperture and connected at one edge to the awning, oppositely-disposed bars connected respectively to the free edge of said flap and to said awning, said bars having longitudinal slots, and reversely-disposed diagonal bars connected movably to said slots.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

BURTON T. LAMB.
ELIJAH G. GOULD.

Witnesses:
B. C. STONE,
E. F. THOMPSON.