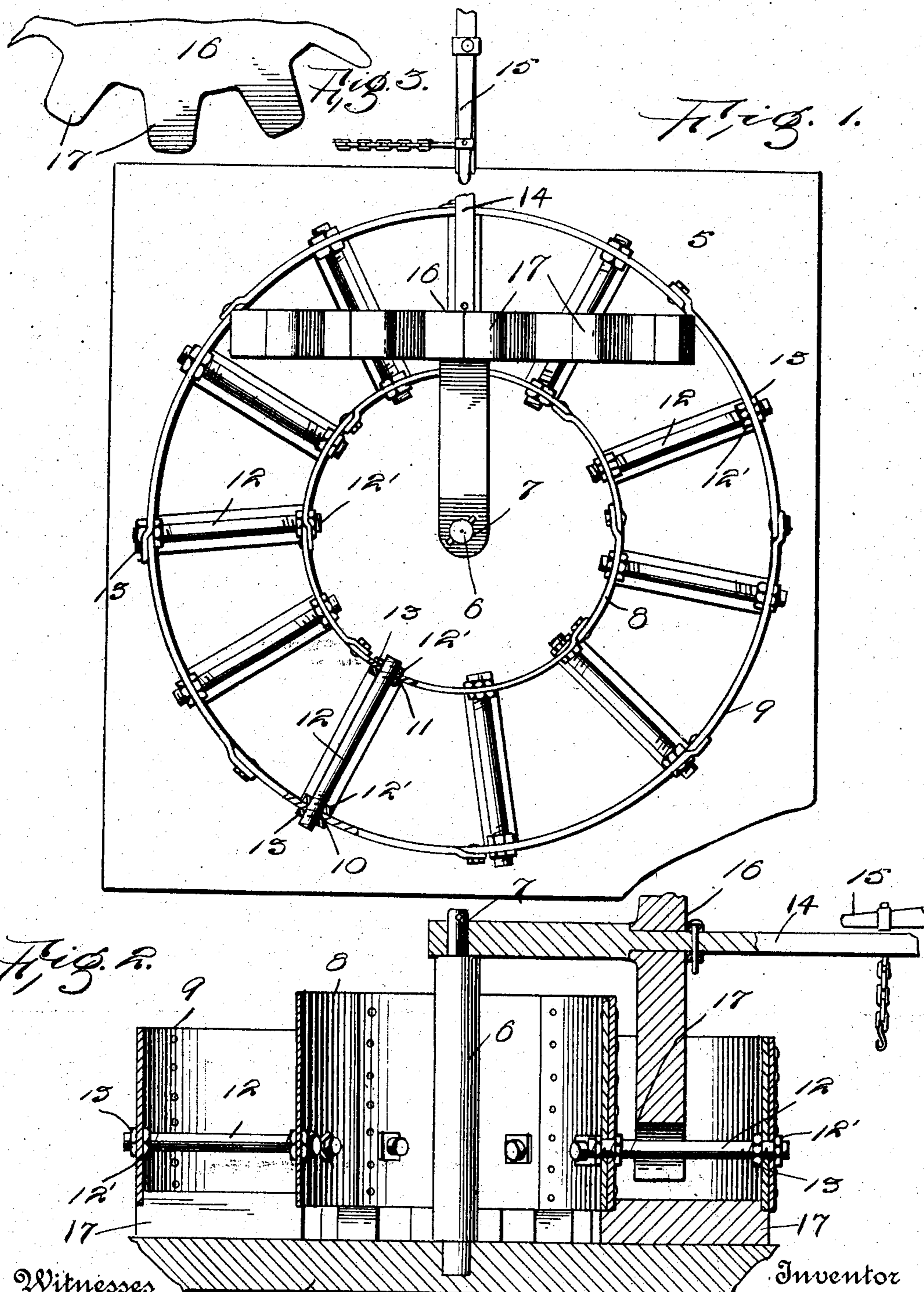


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J. BURNAM.  
HEMP BRAKE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 25, 1904.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES BURNAM, OF PEYTONTOWN, KENTUCKY.

## HEMP-BRAKE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 781,398, dated January 31, 1905.

Application filed July 25, 1904. Serial No. 218,133.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES BURNAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peytontown, in the county of Madison, State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hemp-Brakes; 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.

This invention relates to hemp-brakes; and it has for its object to provide a cheap and simple construction in which the hemp will be treated in an efficient manner with expenditure of a minimum of energy.

In the drawings forming a portion of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a top plan view showing an apparatus embodying the present invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the apparatus. Fig. 3 is a detail elevation showing a portion of the braking-wheel.

Referring now to the drawings, the present apparatus is shown as embodying a platform or base 5, of wood or other suitable material, although from the following description it will be understood that the pivot-post may be anchored in the ground, while the trough may be supported from blocks resting directly upon the ground. The base 5 in the present instance is shown circular in form, and at the center thereof is mounted a pivot-post 6, having a reduced upper end 7, which forms the pivot of the apparatus. Concentric with the pivot-post are arranged the two metallic circular bands 8 and 9, one within the other and spaced apart the required distance, each of the hoops or bands consisting of a series of sections having their ends joined by riveting or otherwise, the inner hoop or band being preferably somewhat higher than the outer one to prevent falling of the hemp-stalks into the inclosure of the inner hoop or band. In the outer hoop or band is formed a series of equidistant perforations 10, and in the inner hoop or band is formed a corresponding series of equidistant perforations 11, the perforations 10 and 11 alining in pairs, and through each pair of alining perforations is

engaged a tie-bolt 12, both ends of which are threaded, as illustrated, and upon the threads of each end of each bolt are engaged two nuts 12' and 13, which clamp the corresponding hoop or band between them. These bolts serve to hold the hoops or bands rigidly in spaced relation and form also equidistant cross-bars or spokes between the hoops or bands.

In connection with the parts of the apparatus above described there is employed a sweep 14, which is pivotally engaged at one end with the reduced upper end of the pivot-post and which extends radially above the base and projects beyond the outer hoop or band, where it is provided with a swingle-tree 15 for hitching a draft-animal. Upon the sweep is rotatably mounted a braking-wheel 16, having a thickness somewhat less than the trough formed by the hoops or bands and having radiating spokes 17 so spaced that as the wheel is rotated in the trough the spokes will take between the tie-bolts.

In the use of the apparatus the hemp-stalks are thrown into the trough and the sweep is carried around to cause the wheel to rotate in the trough and upon the stalks, with the result that the spokes of the wheel or cogs engage and force the stalks between the tie-bolts, and thus brake them.

It will be noted that the hoops or bands are supported upon blocks 17', so that their lower edges are above the platform, which permits of ready removal of the broken stalks that drop down between the tie-bolts.

What is claimed is—

1. A hemp-brake comprising concentric hoops, tie-bolts engaged through the hoops and provided each with a pair of nuts impinging against the inner and outer faces respectively of each of the hoops, a pivot-post concentric with the hoops, a sweep pivotally engaged with the pivot-post, and a wheel rotatably mounted upon the sweep and disposed with its lower edge between the hoops, said wheel having cogs arranged to engage between the tie-bolts as the wheel is rotated.

2. A hemp-brake comprising a base, a pair of metallic hoops mounted concentrically above the base, the inner hoop having a greater

height than the outer hoop, tie-bolts engaged  
through the hoops, a pivot-post within and  
concentric with the inner hoop, a sweep piv-  
oted upon the pivot-post, and a wheel rota-  
5 tably mounted upon the sweep and disposed  
with its lower edge portion between the hoops,  
said wheel having cogs disposed to engage be-  
tween the tie-bolts.

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

JAMES <sup>his</sup> × BURNAM.  
mark

Witnesses:

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S. S. PARKES.