F. B. TURNER.

SAP COLLECTING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 3, 1908.

923,386. Patented June 1, 1909.

Fig. 3.

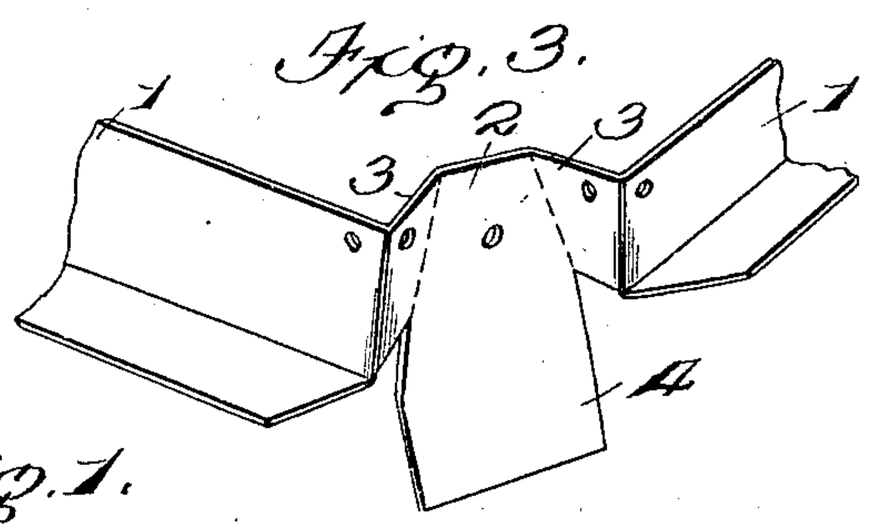
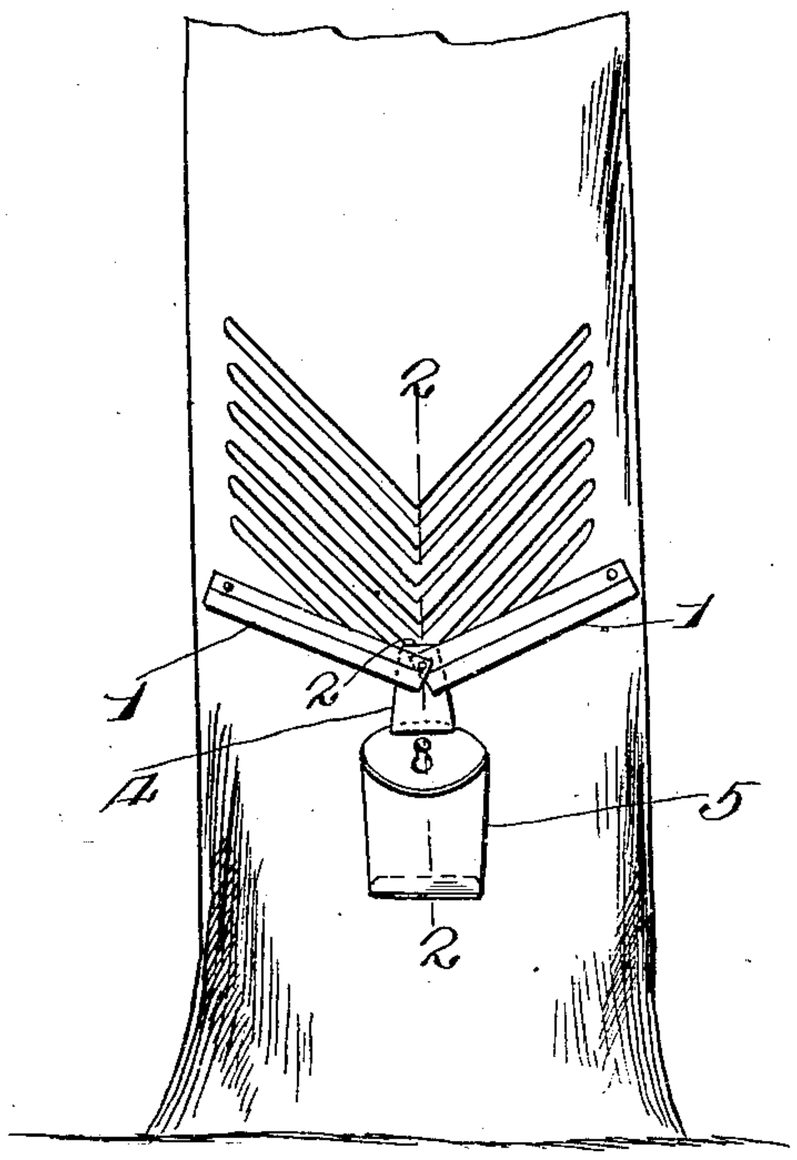


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



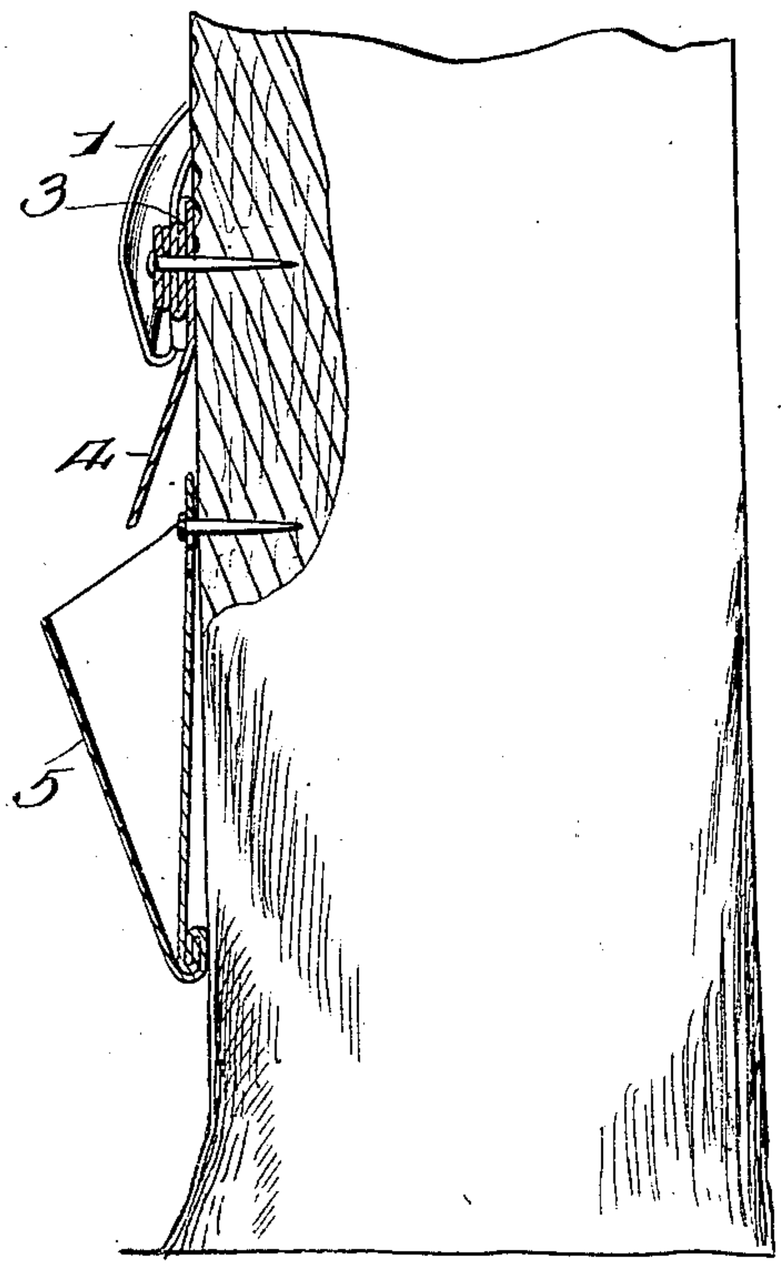
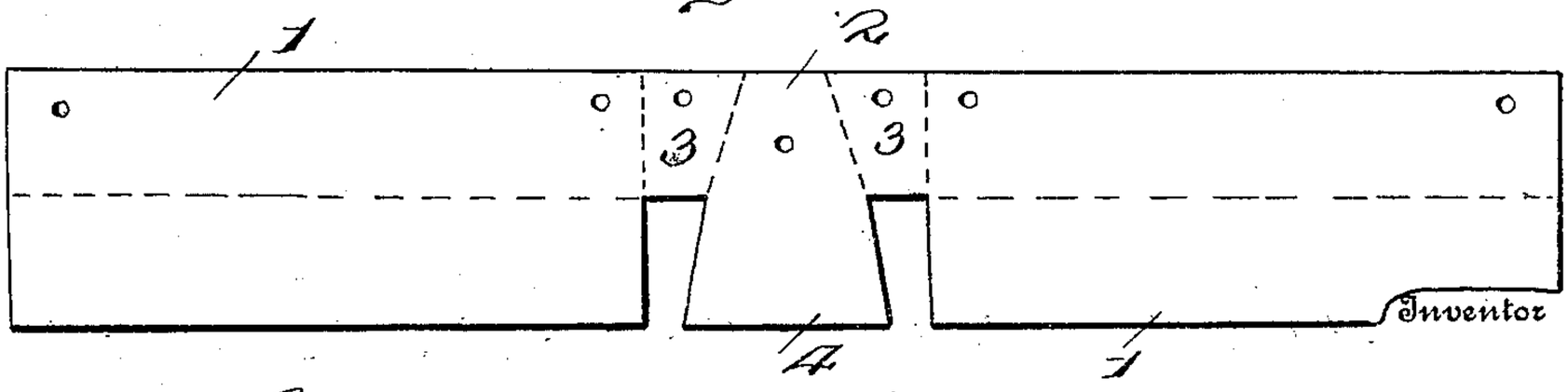


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK B. TURNER, OF OCALA, FLORIDA.

SAP-COLLECTING DEVICE.

No. 923,386. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 1, 1909.

Application filed August 3, 1908. Serial No. 446,749.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK B. TURNER, citizen of the United States, residing at Ocala, in the county of Marion and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sap-Collecting Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention comprehends certain new and useful improvements in sap collecting devices of that type which are particularly adapted for use in the collection of crude turpentine or other oleoresinous liquids exuding from coniferous trees, and the object of the invention is an improved device of this character which is susceptible of application to trees of different sizes, which embodies means for directing the turpentine into the desired vessel and preventing any possible waste thereof, and which is simple and durable in construction and may be easily and cheaply manufactured, so as to warrant its adoption upon plantations where thousands of such devices could be advantageously employed.

With this and other objects in view that will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in certain constructions and arrangements of the parts that I shall hereinafter fully describe, and then point out the novel features thereof in the appended claims.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof, and to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a view illustrating the application of my improved sap collecting device; Fig. 2 is a vertical section thereof; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the gutter detached; and Fig. 4 illustrates a blank from which the gutter may be formed.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawing, by the same reference characters.

My improved sap collecting device is designed to be applied to a tree which is blazed in any approved manner to form an incision that extends through the bark of the tree to afford an escape for the turpentine and permit it to exude therefrom. In order to collect the turpentine, I provide a gutter that embodies two upwardly disposed oppositely inclined troughs 1 which are substantially V-shaped in cross section and which are secured to the tree at their rear sides by means of nails or other suitable fastening means passing therethrough. These troughs terminate at their lower ends in spaced relation to each other, and a spout is interposed therebetween and comprises a strip 2 that connects and is formed integral with the rear sides of the troughs, and that is overlapped thereby, by being partially doubled upon itself, as indicated at 3. In the preferred construction of the spout, the strip 2 is extended downwardly below the lower ends of the troughs to form a lip 4 which is disposed outwardly from the tree, as shown and upon which the liquid flowing down the troughs is deposited, said lip then directing the flow of the turpentine outwardly from the tree and into the desired cup or other collecting vessel 5 so as to prevent the possibility of the turpentine becoming accidentally spilled. In the present instance, this collecting vessel 5 is constructed of an integral strip of suitable sheet metal that is bent to form a cup which is seamed at its lower end and up the back, as shown, and which is removably secured below the lip and upon a nail or other fastening device by means of an inverted keyhole-shaped slot formed in its back near the upper end thereof. The front of the cup is convex and is thus adapted to be grasped to effect the convenient removal of the cup, while the back is substantially flat so as to fit snugly against the trunk of the tree to hold the device against any possible accidental detachment such as being blown down.

From the above description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, it will be evident that I have provided an improved sap collecting device which is simple and durable in construction and may be applied to trees of different sizes, and which consists of comparatively few parts that may be easily and cheaply manufactured so as to permit plantations to be equipped with such improved devices at a comparatively reasonable cost.

It is to be particularly observed that the gutter consisting of the two troughs and the spout interposed therebetween, may be conveniently formed from an integral piece of sheet metal by stamping therefrom a blank, as illustrated in Fig. 4, and then bending such blank as indicated by the dotted lines to form the respective parts before described.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

1. In a sap collecting device, a gutter con-

structed of an integral piece of sheet metal and comprising oppositely inclined troughs having their lower ends in spaced relation, and a spout interposed between said ends of the trough and embodying an outwardly disposed lip that extends downwardly below the same and is designed to direct the sap into a collecting vessel.

2. In a sap collecting device, a gutter constructed of an integral piece of sheet metal and comprising oppositely inclined troughs that are V-shaped in cross section and have their lower ends in spaced relation, and a spout interposed between said ends of the trough and consisting of a strip connecting the lower ends of corresponding sides of the troughs and extended downwardly below the same and outwardly disposed to constitute a lip designed to direct the sap into a collecting vessel.

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

FRANK B. TURNER. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

WM. L. COLBERT,

E. L. CARNEY.