

M. ROOVAART.  
DRIVING CAP FOR POSTS.  
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994,538.

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Fig. 1.

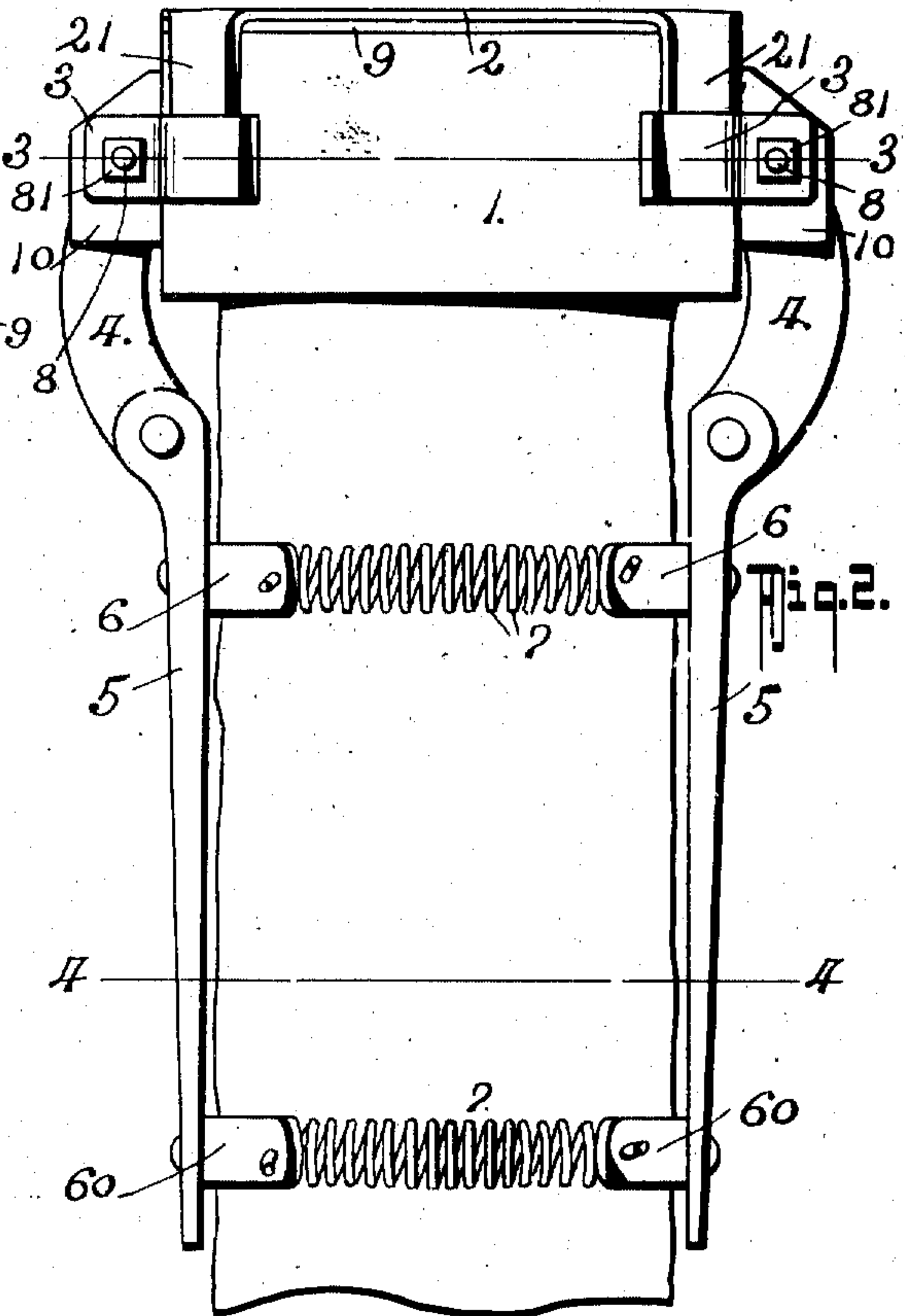
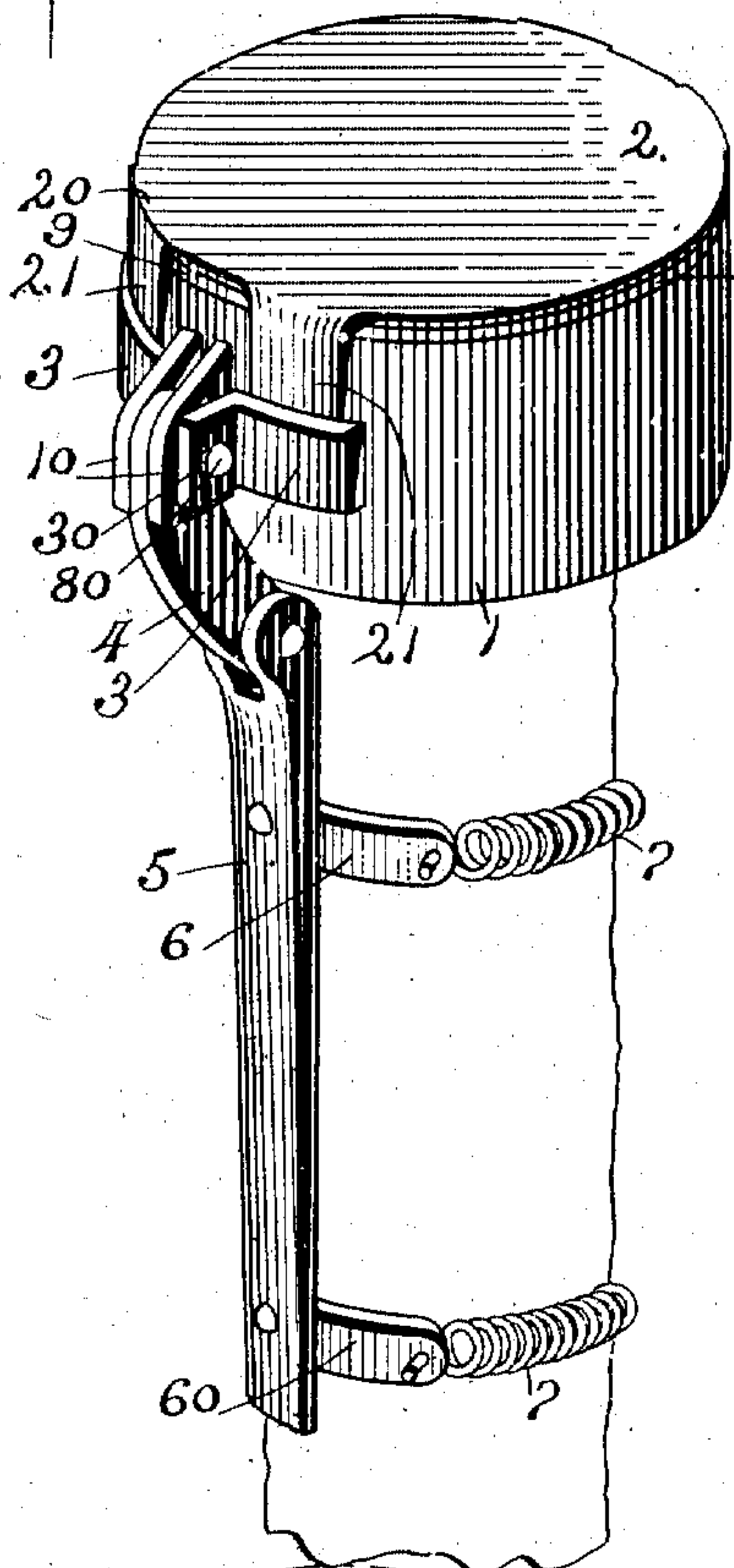


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

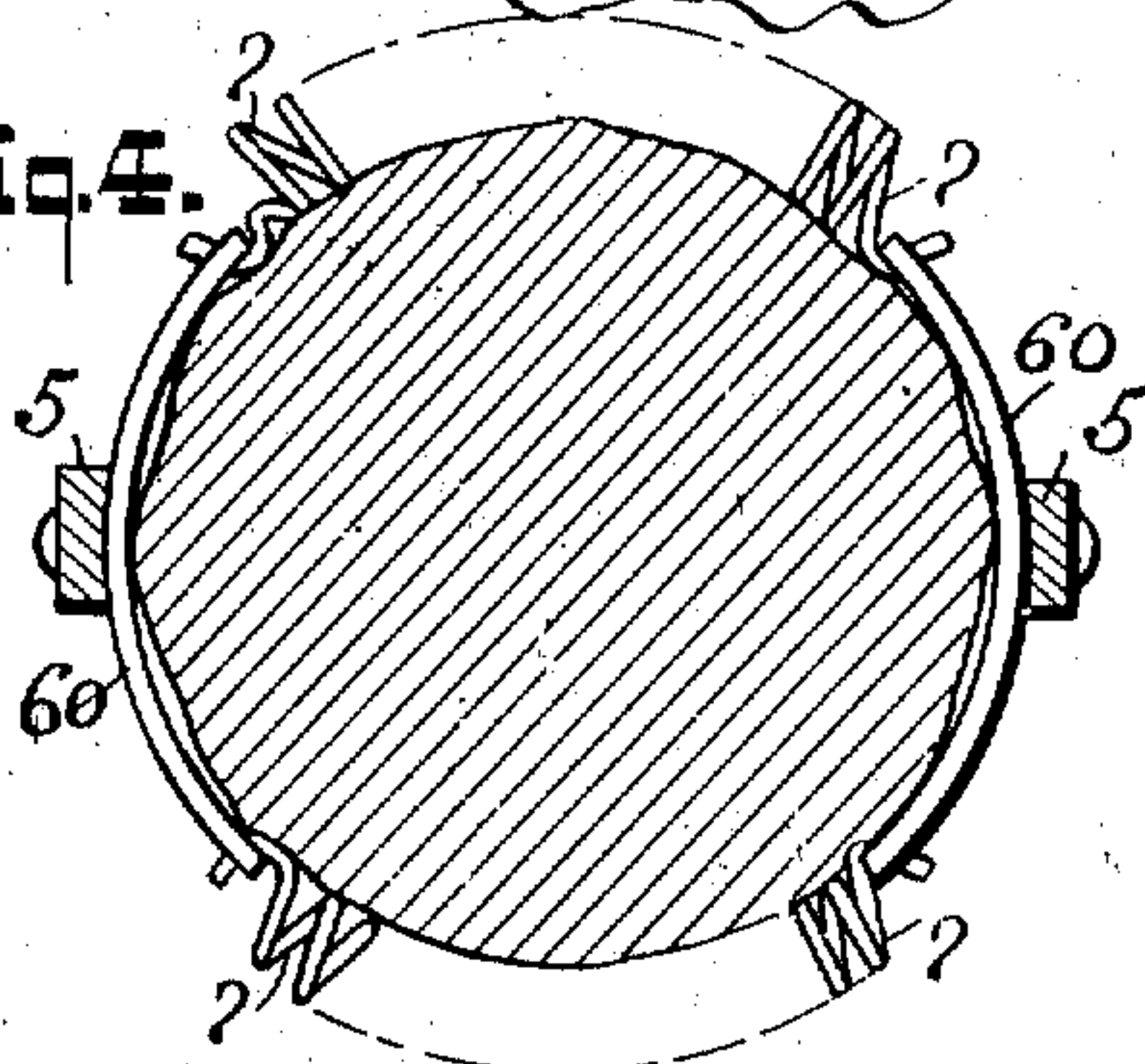
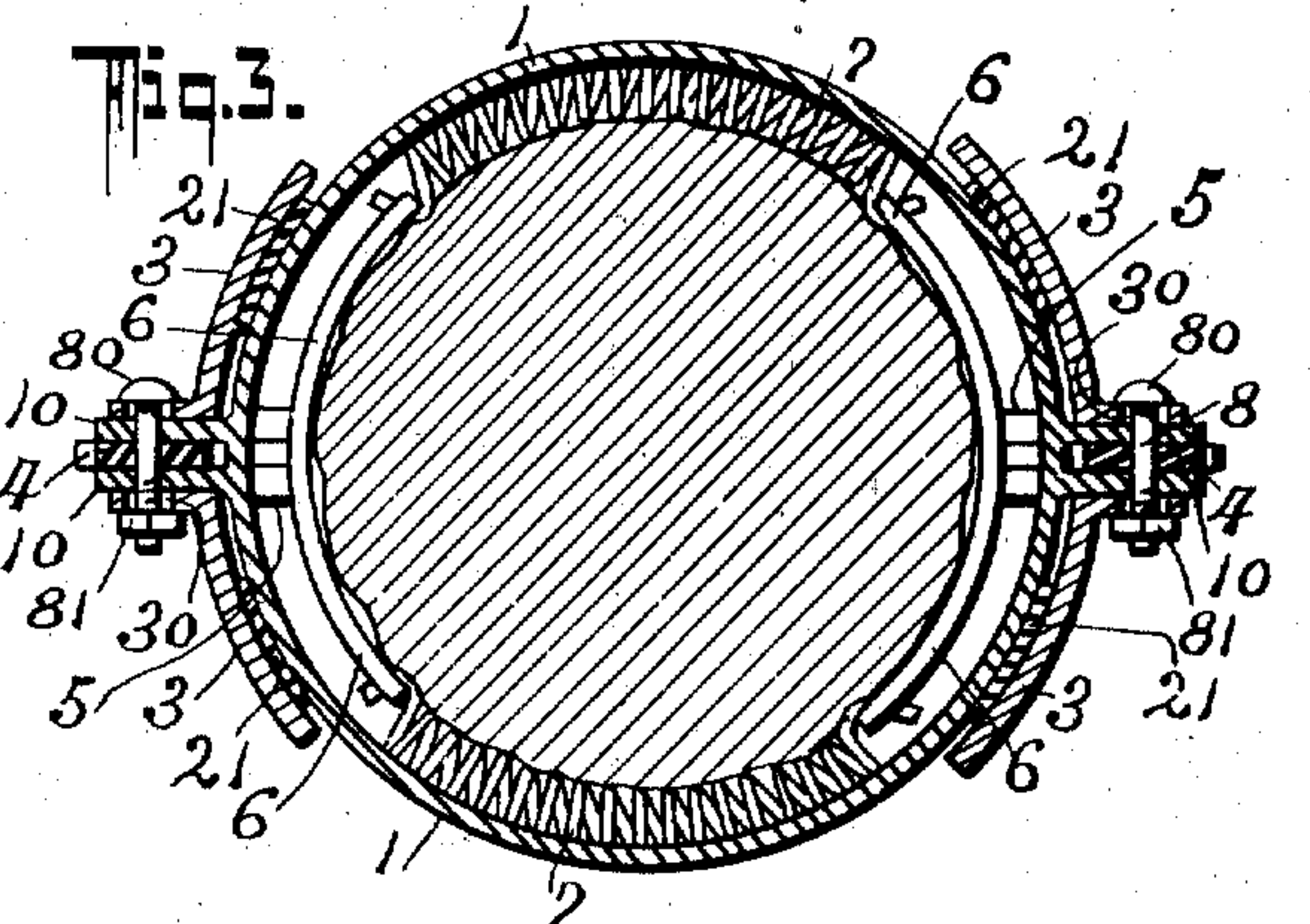


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DRIVING-CAP FOR POSTS.

994,538.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 6, 1911.

Application filed April 13, 1911. Serial No. 620,896.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARION ROOVAART, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ankeny, in the county of Polk and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Driving-Cap for Posts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide a simple and inexpensive means in the nature of a cap for being applied to the top of wooden posts to prevent them from splitting or other injury when struck by the driving sledge and in its generic nature the said invention comprises a cap portion and means for holding the same on the tops of different sizes of posts, and in which the said means automatically adjust themselves for sustaining the cap portion in the desired positions on the said different sizes of posts.

In its more subordinate features my invention consists in the details of construction and novel combination of parts, all of which will be hereinafter fully described, specifically pointed out in the appended claims and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1, is a perspective view of the upper end of a post with my improvements attached thereto, the post being of considerably less diameter than the cap device. Fig. 2, is a side elevation of the same and shows it applied to a wider post. Fig. 3, is a horizontal section on the line 3—3 on Fig. 2. Fig. 4, is a similar view on the line 4—4 on Fig. 2.

In the practical arrangement my invention comprises a band or ring 1, of a diameter sufficiently large to fit over different sizes of posts, and the said ring at diametrically opposite sides has pairs of lugs 10—10 having apertures to receive the bolts that form the pivots for the curved hammer arms 4—4 whose lower or pendent ends project inwardly and are pivotally joined to the upper ends of a pair of oppositely positioned clamping levers 5—5 that hang from the arms 4—4, as is shown best in Fig. 2. To each of the levers 5 is riveted an upper and a lower segmental and horizontally disposed plate 6—60 that extend around the post and whose free ends connect with coiled springs 7—7, the connection of the springs with the plates 6—60 being such that the said plates 6—60 and the levers 5—5 are held clamped against

the upper end of the post, as is clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2. It will be observed, by referring to Fig. 1, that the lower ends of the arms 4 project below the ring 1 and by reason thereof and the curvature of the members 4—4, when the post is of less diameter than the cap ring 1, the knuckle or joint of the levers 5 and the arms 4, is drawn in under the cap ring to bring the upper clamping plates 6, as also the lower plates 60 against the post, it being also clear that when fitted on thicker posts the levers 5—5 and plates 6—60 automatically adjust themselves to the size of the said posts.

By reason of constructing and arranging the several parts, as stated, it is obvious the cap ring or band can be readily held in position over the upper ends of different sizes of posts without rearranging or adjusting the parts since the levers with the spring connections can be easily slipped over the upper ends of the said different sizes of posts, the springs and levers and the clamping members 6—60 automatically seating on and clamping the said parts.

2 designates a striker plate which, when small sizes of posts are to be driven, may be heavy tin, it being understood that when it is to be used for very large posts, it may be of steel or other metal. Plate 2, is circular in plan view and has radial flanges 20 that are bent down to form pendent flanges 21 for fitting over the post top.

3—3 designate clamp brackets that have elongated slots 30 for fitting over the ends of the bolts 8—8 on which they are held by the heads 80 of the said bolts and the nuts 81 that engage the threaded ends of said bolts. The body portion of each of the clamps is curved to lie flatwise against the turned down flanges 21 of the cap plate 2.

9 designates a washer that lies under the plate 2 and over the upper edge of the band 1. Washer 9 is formed of a yielding material such for example, as heavy leather and its purpose is to act as a buffer and protection for the plate 2 and the said upper edge of the band 1.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the drawing the complete construction, the manner in which my improvements are used, together with the advantage thereof will be readily understood.

The band 1 keeps the upper end of the post from excessive spreading, while the plate 2 and the washer 9 serve to take up



the impact or blow of the sledge and thereby acts to prevent the post from splitting. The several parts are so connected that they can be readily used on posts of different sizes, and when the plate 2 and washer 9 become worn, they can be easily replaced by a plate and washer, all that is necessary to remove the old and substitute the new is to disconnect or loosen the bracket clamps 3 sufficiently to allow of lifting the worn plate and washer off the top of the post.

What I claim is:—

1. A post top protector comprising a cap portion to fit over the post and spring clamp devices connected therewith for gripping the side of the upper end of the post.

2. A driving cap for posts, comprising a band for surrounding the upper end of the post, a striking plate mounted on the band, and means for clamping the band on the post, said means being removably connected to the post.

3. A striking means for fitting on the top of posts, comprising a band for fitting around the post, a striking member on the band, and means holding the band on the post and striking member clamped against the band.

4. A striking means for fitting on the top of posts, comprising a band of larger diameter than the post, a striking member for resting on the band and the top of the post, and means for clamping the post, said means being automatically adjustable for engaging posts of different diameters, said means being connected to and adapted for holding the band and the striking plate in position on the post.

5. A striking attachment for wooden posts consisting of the following elements in combination; an annular band having apertured ears at opposite sides, and pivot bolts mounted on the ends, inwardly secured arms hung from the said pivot bolts and having their lower ends projected below the band, a yielding striking plate mounted on the top of the band and having a pendent portion for straddling the post and devices carried by the band for holding the striking plate in position.

6. A striking attachment for wooden posts consisting of the following elements in combination; an annular band having apertured ears at opposite sides, and pivot bolts mounted in the ears, inwardly projecting arms hung from the said pivot bolts and having their lower ends projected below the band, a yielding striking plate mounted on the top of the band, the striking plate having pendent flanges for straddling the up-

per end of the band, and clamp devices for gripping the said flanges against the band, said clamp devices being mounted on the band.

7. A striking attachment for wooden posts consisting of the following elements in combination; an annular band having apertured ears at opposite sides, and pivot bolts mounted in the ears, inwardly secured arms hung from the said pivot bolts and having their lower ends projected below the band, a yielding striking plate mounted on the top of the band, the striking plate having pendent flanges for straddling the upper end of the band, and clamp devices for gripping the said flanges against the band, said clamp devices being removably mounted on the band.

8. A striking cap for posts comprising the following elements in combination; an annular band for fitting over the upper end of the post, a striking plate for resting on the said band and the post, clamping levers hung from the band and springs for closing said levers against the post.

9. A striking cap for posts comprising the following elements in combination; an annular band for fitting over the upper end of the post, a striking plate for resting on the said band and the post, clamping levers hung from the band and springs for closing said levers against the post, other means carried on the band for clamping the striking plate to the band.

10. The combination with the annular band, inwardly curved hanger arms pendently hung from the band, clamping levers pivotally hung from the said arms, springs for drawing the levers together, and a striking plate mounted in the top of the annular band and the post.

11. The combination with the annular band, of inwardly curved hanger arms pendently hung from the band, clamping levers pivotally hung from the said arms, springs for drawing the levers together, a striking plate mounted in the top of the annular band and the post and clamping band, clamp members for holding the flanges against the band, said clamp members being mounted on the aforesaid pivot bolts, clamping levers pendently hung from the lower ends of the said arms, the said levers including upper and lower segmental portions for gripping against the post, and coiled springs that connect the ends of the said segmental portions.

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Witnesses:

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