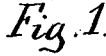


Conductor.

**Patented May 6, 1879.**



Witnesses:  
F. Allen.  
C. N. Moller.

Albert J. Stearns  
by Alban Andrews  
his atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ALBERT T. STEARNS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CONDUCTORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **215,177**, dated May 6, 1879; application filed January 22, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALBERT T. STEARNS, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Conductors; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a new article of manufacture, the same being a new and useful improvement on wooden conductors for conveying rain-water from roofs, &c.; and this my invention consists of a conductor composed of three equal parts, each of which parts is provided with a longitudinal tongue on one edge and a groove on the other, the tongue fitting in the groove on the adjoining piece when the three pieces are united together; and in this manner I am able to produce a conductor with less waste of stock than what is the case with the ordinary ones now in use.

Further, to strengthen the conductor, as well as to prevent its parts from twisting or warping, I provide each of the three pieces with external corrugations, by which also the appearance of the conductor is improved, as well as by which a line is formed for the nailing of the parts together, and when so nailed the heads of the nails are hidden in the bottom of the said corrugations.

Where two pieces abut each other to form a joint, I make a small curved groove in each of the pieces butting together, and in said grooves I insert a curved piece of sheet metal, or other suitable strip, by which I obtain a tight joint.

Each of the three parts of which the con-

ductor is formed are nailed together, or otherwise secured together in the ordinary manner.

The external corrugations form a seat for the reception of the nail-head, and prevent the splitting of the wood.

On the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents an end view of my improved conductor; and Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal section on the line A B, shown in Fig. 1.

Similar letters refer to similar parts wherever they occur on the different parts of the drawings.

*a a a* represent the three equal and component parts of which the conductor is composed. Each of these parts is provided with a tongue, *b b b*, and with a groove, *c c c*, as and for the purpose set forth.

*d d d* represent the external longitudinal corrugations, as and for the purpose described.

In Fig. 2, *e* represents a lateral joint between a pair of pieces in the same row, and at such joint I insert a strip of metal, *f*, into the receiving-grooves *g g*, in a manner and for the purpose described. The curved metal strip *f* is also shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1.

*h* in Fig. 1 represents a nail for securing two adjoining parts together.

What I wish to secure by Letters Patent, and claim, is—

As a new article of manufacture, the herein-described conductor, consisting of the three uniform parts *a a a*, having the tongues *b b b*, and grooves *c c c*, and corrugations *d d d*, in a manner and for the purpose set forth.

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

ALBERT T. STEARNS.

Witnesses:

ALBEN ANDRÈN,  
FRANCIS ALLEN.