G. F. FOLSOM.

SNOW-GUARDS FOR ROOFS.

No. 186,996 Patented Feb. 6, 1877.

Fig. 4.

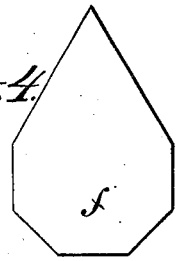


Fig. 1.

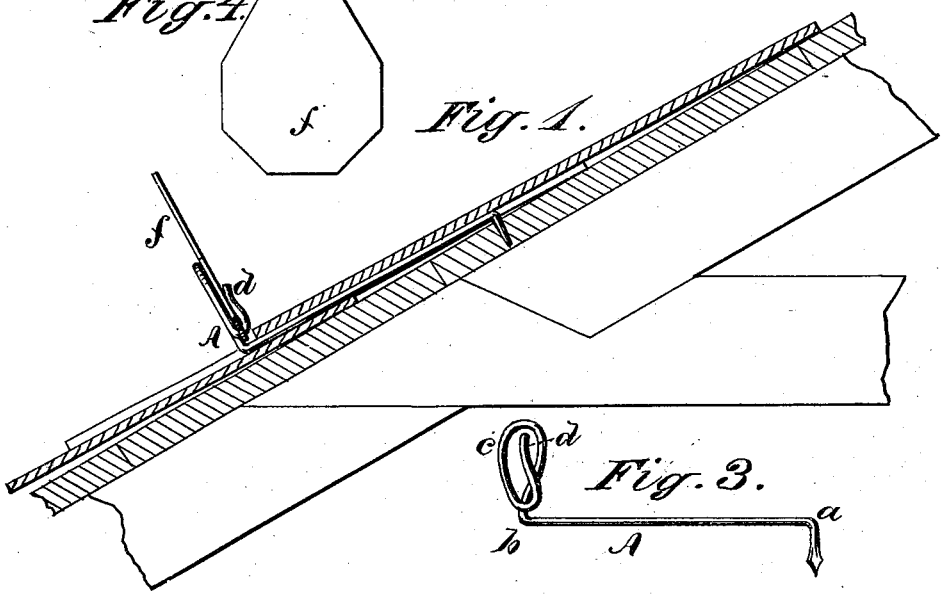
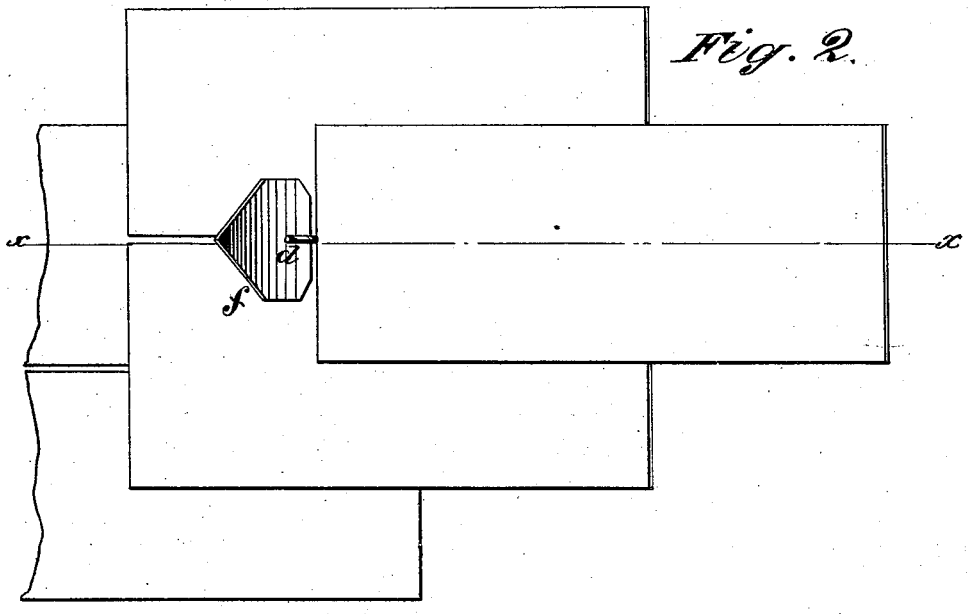


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.



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GEORGE F. FOLSOM, OF BOSTON HIGHLANDS, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SNOW-GUARDS FOR ROOFS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **186,996**, dated February 6, 1877; application filed January 13, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. FOLSOM, of Boston Highlands, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Snow-Guard for Roofs, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a section of a roof having my improved snow-guard attached, taken on line *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a plan view. Figs. 3 and 4 are detail views of parts of the snow-guard.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention relates to an improvement in snow-guards for roofs; and it consists of a wire bent at right angles at one end and sharpened, so as to be readily driven into the roof-boards, and at the other end it is bent in the opposite direction, and formed into a loop of peculiar shape, which projects upward from the roof, and is provided with a tongue, which is capable of retaining a plate of metal, or an ornamental metallic leaf.

The object of the invention is to provide a guard for roofs that will retain the snow until it melts, thereby preventing the sliding of large quantities of snow in a mass from the roof.

Referring to the drawing, A is a guard formed of wire of a suitable size by bending it at right angles at *a*, and flattening and sharpening it at the end thus bent, so that it may be readily driven into the boards of the roof. The wire is also bent at right angles at *b*, in a direction opposite to that just mentioned, and is formed into a loop, *c*, and is still further bent to form a tongue, *d*, which extends upward across the loop *c*, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

The guard thus formed is secured to the roof by driving the end *a* into the roof-boards in the joint between the shingles or slate, so that the body or straight portion *e* of the guard lies in the said joint, and the loop *c* projects upward at the lower end of the shingle or slate that covers the joint, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

In some cases a plate, *f*, may be placed between the tongue *d* and the loop *c*, where it is retained by the spring of the said tongue. The plate *f* may be angular, as shown in the drawing; or it may consist of an ornamental metallic leaf.

The number of guards used on a roof is governed by its pitch or inclination, a steep roof requiring a greater number than one of less inclination.

The guards not only answer the purpose of retaining the snow, but they also serve as "holds" for the staging used in applying the slate. They also afford a means of climbing over roofs in case of fire.

On a very steep roof the guards should be connected by a wire, which affords an additional means of holding the snow, and, when suitably connected with the earth, the guards and connecting-wires might answer the purpose of lightning-conductors.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A snow-guard for roofs, consisting of a wire bent oppositely at right angles at its ends, having one of its ends flattened and sharpened, and having its other end formed into a loop and tongue, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The combination of the guard A and plate *f*, substantially as herein shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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