

PATENTS, MADISON COUNTY - 1884-1917

NOTE: Excerpts from these patents and information about the individuals were posted on the MCHC Facebook page, beginning November 1, 2022 – November 18, 2022.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 1,

✍️ AUTOMATIC RAILWAY SIGNAL, PATENT NO. 391,388, DATED October 16, 1888

Albert James Ross and John T. Darter, of Madisonville, Texas, assignors of one-third to A. O. Woodbury, of same place.

Be it known that we, Albert James Ross and John T. Darter, citizens of the United States of America, residing in Madisonville, in the county of Madison and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Railway-Signals, of which the following is specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention pertains to certain new and useful improvements in railroad-signals, and it comprises the detail construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

WITNESSES:

JNO. G. MCHENRY

ROBT. J. CAMP

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 2,

✍️ INSULATOR, PATENT NO. 725,044, DATED APR. 14, 1903

CHARLES CLAYDON

Be it known that I, CHARLES CLAYDON, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Searcy, in the county of Madison and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Insulator, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the insulators employed for suspending electric conductor wires for telegraph, telephone, and similar lines and has for its object the production of a cheaply-constructed and easily-installed device which not only securely supports the line-wires and perfectly insulates them, but also renders them secure in position and obviates any tendency of the line to fall if the insulator becomes broken or disarranged.

Witnesses:

TOM A. SEARCY

ALLEN SMITH

Charles W Claydon was born in Wood Ditton, England in 1849. The 1900 Census shows him in Madison County, Pct. 3, along with his wife Mary, three children and a grandson. Charles died June 10, 1931 and is buried in Bright Light Cemetery, Brazos County.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 3,

✍️ PLANTER, PATENT NO. 375,421, DATED Dec. 27, 1887

R. E. HYDE, OF MIDWAY, TEXAS

Be it known that I, RICHARD EDMUND HYDE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Midway, in the county of Madison and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Planters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in planters; and it consists in the peculiar construction and combination of devices, that will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The object of my invention is to provide a planter which is adapted to be connected to the frame of a sulky-cultivator and operated by one of the wheels thereof.

Witnesses:

J. E. ALLEN

W. F. WAKEFIELD

Richard Edmund Hyde was born November 14, 1829 in Marion, Missouri. He died June 4, 1906. Prior to 1852, he married Isabelle H Boatwright. Richard established the Hyde's Ferry on the Trinity River, with his brother Robert Henry Hyde. It was operated by the family until about 1912. Richard is buried in Midway Cemetery.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 4,

✍ CULTIVATOR, PATENT NO. 442,876, DATED Dec. 16, 1890

JOHN OWEN FORD, OF HOLLIS, TEXAS

Be it known that I, JOHN OWEN FORD, of Hollis, in the county of Madison and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cultivator; 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to produce an agricultural implement in which the cultivators can be adjusted laterally in relation to each other and turned at any desired angle, and in which the frame and beam can be made to stand at any desired angle to each other.

Witnesses:

JAMES R. HORN

JOSHUA FORD.

SECOND PATENT:

✍ CULTIVATOR, PATENT NO. 535,690, DATED March 12, 1895

JOHN O. FORD, OF HOLLIS, TEXAS

My invention relates to an improved cultivator; and the object of the same is to provide an implement of simple construction and one easily and readily adjustable to the positions in which it may be used.

WITNESSES:

O. FORD

J. C. IRGITT

John Owen Ford was born on March 17, 1837. He died on July 1, 1913.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 5,

✍ CLOTHES PIN, PATENT NO. 813,589, DATED FEB. 27, 1906

H. I. RUMFIELD & J. R. DONAHO, OF WILLOWHOLE, TEXAS

Be it known that we, HENRY I. RUMFILED and JAMES R. DONAHO, citizens of the United States, residing at Willowhole, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented a new and useful Clothes-Pin of which the following is a specification.

It is well known that the customary way of securing articles upon a clothes-line is to lap one article over another and secure both edges with one pin. Such method causes a double thickness of fabric at the lap which does not dry as quickly as the remainder of the article and in cold weather the two articles become frozen together, making it difficult to remove them without tearing. It is an object of this invention to provide a clothes-pin which secures two articles adjacent each other without lapping.

It is further well known that a clothes-pin which will hold a garment with sufficient force in still weather will not hold it in windy weather.

Witnesses:

I. P. CHEATUM

J. E. KEEFER

Henry Israel Rumfield was born on April 2, 1869 in Madison County. He married to Martha Alice Robinson in 1893. After heavy drinking and assaulting his wife, Henry was shot by his 17-year-old son, Emmett, and died on April 11, 1924. Henry is buried in an unmarked grave in Coleman County, TX.

James Ransom Donaho was the first child of Henry Burton Donaho and Sarah C. Bell Benfield. James was born on April 14, 1877 and died on June 29, 1943. He is buried in LaSalle County, TX, next to his second wife, Minnie Dallas Evans.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 6,

🐾 HORSE-DETACHER, PATENT NO. 1,057,619, PATENTED Apr. 1, 1913

WILLIAM OTIS CARTER, OF MADISONVILLE, TEXAS

Be it known that I, WILLIAM O. CARTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Madisonville, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse-Detachers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in horse detachers and has particular relation to such devices as are adapted to unhitch a horse from a wagon or other carriage.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of the character described, whereby a horse may be easily and completely released from the carriage to which it is hitched. This may be accomplished by the driver, without the necessity of getting out of the carriage and is consequently a great convenience when it is desired to unhitch the horse during a rain, or when the ground is wet or muddy, and the device is equally effective for unhitching a horse when it attempts to run away.

Witnesses:

D. C. BROWN

R. J. RANDOLPH

William Otis Carter was born June 17, 1880 in Alabama. He married Callie Victoria Dean on December 24, 1908 in Madison County, TX. William Otis died September 3, 1932. Callie died January 30, 1967. They are both buried in Madisonville Cemetery.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 7,

🔪 GASOLENE-SUPPLY TANK ATTACHMENT, PATENT NO. 1,233,094, PATENTED July 10, 1917
THOMAS W. MALONE, OF MADISONVILLE, TEXAS

Be it known that I, THOMAS W. MALONE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Madisonville, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gasolene-Supply Tank Attachments, of which the following is a specification.

In well know gasolene stations, now located at various points along the highways, mechanical measuring means are employed for supplying motorists with a given amount of gasolene, the mechanism being in charge of an attendant, and is operated by a crank. In this form of apparatus, the amount of gasolene is gaged by the number of turns of the crank.

The purpose of my invention is to provide means adapted to control the usual gasolene stations in such manner that by depositing a check or coin in the machine, only a predetermined amount of gasoline will be delivered, and then the machine is automatically locked and cannot be operated until another coin is deposited.

A further object of the inventio is to provide means for regulating the quantity of gasolene delivered, according to the value of the coin deposited.

A still further object of the invention is to provide means for automatically locking a gasolene station, the unlock being effected by depositing a coin, hence dispensing with the service of an attendant, the mechanism being so arranged that the customer once a coin is deposited can operated the pump, and only supply equal in value to the coin deposited.

Witnesses:

J. M. BROWNLEE

F. T. DEAN

Thomas William Malone was born November 27, 1888 in Willis, TX. He married Fannie Begnia Parten on June 15, 1913 in Madison County. Thomas died June 4, 1955 and is buried alongside his wife, Fannie in the Midway Cemetery.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 8,

🔪 PLOW, PATENT NO. 357,100, PATENTED February 1, 1887
ALBERT J. ROSS, OF HOLLIS, TEXAS

Be it known that I, ALBERT J. ROSS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Hollis, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Plows; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is

1. The combination, with the plow-beam, of the plow-standard hinged to a crank-rod journaled in the plow-beam, the tension-spring connected to the plow-standard and provided with the adjusting-plate, and the key or rod for securing the adjusting-plate in place, substantially as specified.
2. The combination, with the recessed plow-beam, of the double-crank rod, the plow-standard thereon, the tension-spring, the adjusting-plate, and its securing rod or key, substantially as specified.

Witnesses:

M. Y. RANDOLPH

F. S. WILCOX

Albert James Ross was born April 19, 1848 in Mississippi. He married Carolina "Carrie" Winn on January 27, 1884 in Robertson County, TX. Albert died January 27, 1929. He is buried in Sunset, TX.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 9,

🔪 WHITEWASH, PATENT NO. 401,122 dated April 9, 1889
DAVIS BRIZZOLARI, OF MADISONVILLE, TEXAS

Be it known that I, DAVID BRIZZOLARI, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Madisonville, in the county of Madison and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Whitewash; of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My improvement in whitewash-paint consists in the use of certain ingredients whereby the same is rendered more permanent or durable and beautiful in color than any other article of the kind hither to produced, substantially as hereinafter more fully described.

In preparing my whitewash-paint I take the leaves of the cactus-plant and macerate the same by any ordinary means into a pulp, and from thence filter half-pint of the liquid thus produced; but I do not confine myself to maceration in order to obtain the vegetable essence or salt of the cactus-plant, as it may also be macerated and then boiled down to the consistency of the juice of the plant without evaporation of the salt. The vegetable salt of the cactus has a wonderful effect, in combination with the other component parts of the compound, on application of the whitewash and evaporation of the fluid therefrom, not only of hardening the whitewash and rendering it impervious to water, but also of improving its color and luster. I then take five pounds of slaked lime and five quarts of water, which I thoroughly blend and permit to stand for twenty minutes. I then take four dozen eggs, which I beat up together thoroughly in a vessel apart, and these I then pour into the lime and water and mix them well together for about ten minutes. I then to this mixture add and stir therein not less than five pints of the liquid formed, as aforesaid, from leaves of the cactus.

This mixture, when applied as a paint or wash, after it has become thoroughly dried, is not brittle, as ordinary whitewash, and is impervious to moisture and becomes harder and more durable by the action of the elements thereon.

I claim—

A whitewash-paint composed of the cactus plat, lime, eggs and water thoroughly intermingled and in about the quantities substantially as described.

Witnesses:

W. M. IMBODEN

J. C. MORRIS

Obituary, Houston Post, March 2, 1902

Mr. Davis Brizzolari, one of Madisonville's best-known citizens, died last Tuesday evening, February 25 at 7:45 o'clock after a short illness. Up until Tuesday afternoon he was going about his business as well and as full of vigor as ever, when stepping out upon his hotel veranda he was seized with a fainting spell and fell to the ground. He was taken to his home by friends where, in a few moments, he revived, got up and walked about his home, but later grew worse and was seized with severe internal pains that stubbornly resisted the best efforts of physicians until 7:45 p.m. when his soul passed away. Deceased was a native of Chiavari, Italy and came to the United States when 16 years of age, and for the past twenty-three years has been a citizen of Madisonville. Besides his good wife, than whom no kindlier, nobler soul ever lived, he leaves six children, two stepchildren and eight grandchildren, he was 63 years, 3 months and 2 weeks old, and all his life had been a communicant of the Catholic church, a faithful and devoted member thereof. The children, some of whom were in Houston and one in Bryan, were summoned by wire and arrived in time for the funeral, which occurred at 5:30 Wednesday evening in the presence of a large number of friends. Mr. Brizzolari led a quiet and unobtrusive life, was tenderly devoted to his family and home. Kind and indulgent, charitable and neighborly, ever ready to assist a fellowman in sickness or distress, possessing a heart full of sympathy and love and a record bright with deeds of charity. To his widow and his children deepest sympathy is extended.

MCHC Note: Davis Brizzolari is buried in Madisonville Cemetery.

MCHC Note: If you would like a complete PDF version of this patent, drop us your email address and we will send it to you!

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 10,

🔪 FENCE, PATENT NO. 298,961 dated May 20, 1884
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN FORD, OF HOLLIS, TEXAS

Be it known that I, B. F. FORD, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Hollis, in the county of Madison and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fences; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The principal advantages claimed for this fence are its simplicity, cheapness, security, and durability. In resetting old fences of this construction, broken rails can be utilized as posts or cross-rails, and a good fence will result. Another advantage is that there are no fence-corners for the growth of weeds, and the plow can be used quite close to it. When a rail breaks or rots, it can be easily replaced by a new one.

The fence constructed substantially as described, having its rails arranged diagonally to the line of fencing, consisting of the double end posts, a a, bound together at their upper ends by means of the crown-wire, as shown, the intermediate single post, b, the horizontal rails having their ends alternately lapping the inner and outer sides of the said single posts, the transverse blocks d., interposed between the respective rails c, and the top rails bound to the single posts by means of the wire loops e, all substantially as and for the purposes specified.

Witnesses:
C. B. HOLLIS
B. H. FORD

Benjamin Franklin Ford Jr was born in Madison County on August 23, 1863. He married Zerah Kimmey on December 7, 1890, also in Madison County. Benjamin died September 22, 1950. He is buried alongside Zerah in Rock Prairie Cemetery. Benjamin Franklin Ford was born in the state of Delaware on March 17, 1820. It is not known at what age he left Delaware; however, the records show his first wife, Mary Ragland Terrell, is buried in the Mansfield Cemetery, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana. One daughter, Mary Elizabeth Ford, was born on August 22, 1853 to this marriage. Mary Elizabeth first married John Hibbetts. After his death, she married Dr. Martin Burr. She died February 24, 1926. Mr. Ford married his second wife, Sarah Salena Best, in Mansfield Louisiana. They came to Madison County, Texas, prior to 1862. He lived out his life in Madison County. He died November 1, 1890 and was buried in the Rock Prairie Cemetery. His wife, Sarah, died in 1869 and is also buried in Rock Prairie Cemetery.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 11,

🔪 CORN AND COTTON SWEEP, PATENT NO. 349,725, DATED September 28, 1886
SAMUEL TIMOTHY LEWIS AND JOHN HENDRICK BABB, OF MIDWAY, TEXAS

Be it known that we, SAMUEL TIMOTHY LEWIS and JOHN HENDRICK BABB, citizens of the United States, residing at Midway, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented a new and useful Improvement in Corn and Cotton Sweeps, of which the following is a specification.

The object of our invention is to provide an improved sweep for the cultivation of corn, cane, and cotton plants while they are young, which shall be capable of adjustment to the plow-stocks of any class; to provide removable wings which can be

applied or detached when it is desired to throw the dirt or soil to either the right or left; and to provide a removable point which can be replaced when it is worn out with another point of similar construction, and thus render the sweep as good as new and save the farmer the cost of a new sweep.

Witnesses:

C. M. FORD

P. K. GORLL

Samuel Timothy Lewis was born on April 6, 1845 in Georgia. He married Sarah Elizabeth “Mary” Jackson on July 25, 1872. Samuel died February 22, 1923. He is buried in Washington Cemetery, Harris County, TX. Mary is buried in Forest Park Cemetery, also in Harris County.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 12,

✍️ PRESS-SWEEP, PATENT NO. 956,746, DATED May 3, 1910
RICHARD A. WAKEFIELD, OF MIDWAY, TEXAS

Be it known that I, RICHARD A. WAKEFIELD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Midway, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented a new and useful Press-Sweep, of which the following is a specification.

The object of the invention is to provide a sweep adapted to be used in conjunction with two bailing presses and in which the parts are so arranged as to move the plungers of the presses alternately in their active strokes. The parts of the sweep structure are so assembled that the presses are located at its opposite sides.

Witnesses:

J. M. ROBERTS

J. T. PAYNE

Richard Arthur “Babe” Wakefield was born June 9, 1884 in Midway, TX. He married Ella Vivian Parten on January 28, 1911 in Madison County. Richard died on September 16, 1967. Ella died January 6, 1973. They are both buried in Section 2 at the Madisonville Cemetery.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 13,

✍️ FOLDING CHICKEN-COOP, PATENT NO. 1,199,079, DATED Sept. 26, 1916
CECIL A JONES, OF NORTH ZULCH, TEXAS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO THEODORE M. SHANNON, OF NORTH ZULCH, TEXAS

Be it known that I, CECIL A. JONES, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Zulch, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented a new and useful Improvements in Folding Chicken-Coops, of which the following is a specification.

The invention contemplates the provision of a crate of this character wherein the side and end walls, together with the top may be folded in compact form for shipment, combined with a novel construction of means for locking the parts in either folded or set up position.

Witnesses:

WM. Rice

C. A. Griffin

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 14,

✍️ AIR-PROPELLER, PATENT NO. 1,023,065, Patented Apr. 9, 1912

JESEY H. BUCHANAN, OF MIDWAY, TEXAS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO CHALLEY H. BUCHANAN, OF MIDWAY, TEXAS

Be it known that I, JESEY H. BUCHANAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Midway, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented a new and useful Improvements in Air Propellers; 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.

The invention relates to improvements in air propellers and the leading object in view is to provide a simple propeller of high efficiency which can be cheaply constructed and carries on its supporting arms rectangular vanes or blades braced by cords to the arms.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in certain constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts, clearly described in the following specification and clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

Witnesses:

R. L. STEELE

J. C. FLOYD

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 15,

✍️ BALING-PRESS, PATENT NO. 383,033, dated May 15, 1888

JOHN NELSON BARTLE, OF MIDWAY, TEXAS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JAMES WRIGHT GILLESPIE, OF SAME PLACE.

Be it known that I, JOHN NELSON BARTLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Midway, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented a new and useful Improvement in Baling-Presses, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to baling-presses; and it consists in a certain novel construction and arrangement of parts for service, fully set forth hereinafter, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

Heretofore presses have been made for the purpose named with a plunger or platen operated by toggle-levers acting in conjunction with a capstan or drum and ropes to be wound thereon; but they have been objectionable for certain reasons.

In the following description of my device for baling purposes I will show an improved method of operating the plunger of the press by steam or other power, in such a manner as to obviate all of said inconveniences, and introduce certain improvements in the details of construction of presses which will be found efficient and valuable items, and enable the baling of cotton and hay to be very rapidly and satisfactorily accomplished.

Witnesses:

A. J. MCCARTY

L. B. MCGARY

John Nelson Bartle was born on July 4, 1846 in Pennsylvania. He married Mildred Alice (Milly) Shadwick on July 16, 1868 in Alton, Illinois. They were in Madisonville by 1887 when their eighth child, Ella Florence Bartle was born on September 26, 1887. John died September 2, 1925 and is buried alongside his wife in Riverside Cemetery, Wichita Falls, TX.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 16,

✍ AUTOMATIC BOILER-FEEDER, PATENT NO. 607,286, dated July 12, 1898
JOSHUA H. SHARP, OF MADISONVILLE, TEXAS

Be it known that I, JOSHUA H. SHARP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Madisonville, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Automatic Boiler-Feeders; 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 automatic boiler-feeders, and has for its object to provide simple, novel, and efficient means whereby the flow of the feed-water to the boiler may be automatically regulated, at the same time providing for the maintenance of the water level in the boiler at two or more gages.

The invention also contemplates the employment of a steam-whistle, by means of which, in the event of the failure of the pump to work, the lowering of the water in the boiler beyond the safety-point may be audibly indicated.

Witnesses:
W. W. SHARP
A. C. BRADFORD

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 17,

✍ CORN OR COTTON PLANTER, PATENT NO. 530,256, dated December 4, 1894
MATHIAS BROWN, OF MADISONVILLE, TEXAS

Be it known that I, MATHIAS BROWN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Madisonville, in the county of Madison and State of Texas have invented a new and useful Corn or Cotton Planter, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in planters, and has for its object to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient combined corn and cotton planter, which may be adjusted for use in either capacity with facility.

From the above description the operation of the device will be readily understood without further explanation, and it will be seen that the construction thereof is simple, and that by the change of attachment of the rear end of the pitman it may be changed from a corn to a cotton planter. It will be understood, furthermore, that various changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Witnesses:
R. C. Burtis
T. J. Ford

Mathias H. B. Brown was born on August 2, 1813 in North Carolina. He died on November 1, 1904 and is buried in Greenbriar Cemetery.

PATENTS & PROBLEM SOLVERS, PART 18,

✍ IMPROVEMENT IN PLOWS, PATENT NO. 198,002, dated December 11, 1877
WILLIAM W. DAWSON, OF MADISONVILLE, TEXAS

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WYATT DAWSON, of Madisonville, in the county of Madison and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Plows, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved plow, which shall be simple in construction, inexpensive in manufacture, readily adjusted for use as a large or breaking plow, or as a small or cultivating plow, which may be made of cast iron or steel, or partly of iron and partly of steel, and may be kept in repair at small expense.

This invention consists in the point made with a land-side, fitting into a rabbet in the land-side of the standard, and made thicker and deeper than said rabbet, so as to project beyond and below said land-side to receive the wear.

Witnesses:

WM. W. VISER

JOHN D. IMBODEN

William Wyatt Dawson was born on March 26, 1828 in Campbell County, Virginia. He married his third wife, Mary Frances Sanders in Madisonville in December 1876. He died November 15, 1906 and is buried alongside his wife in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Trinity County, TX.