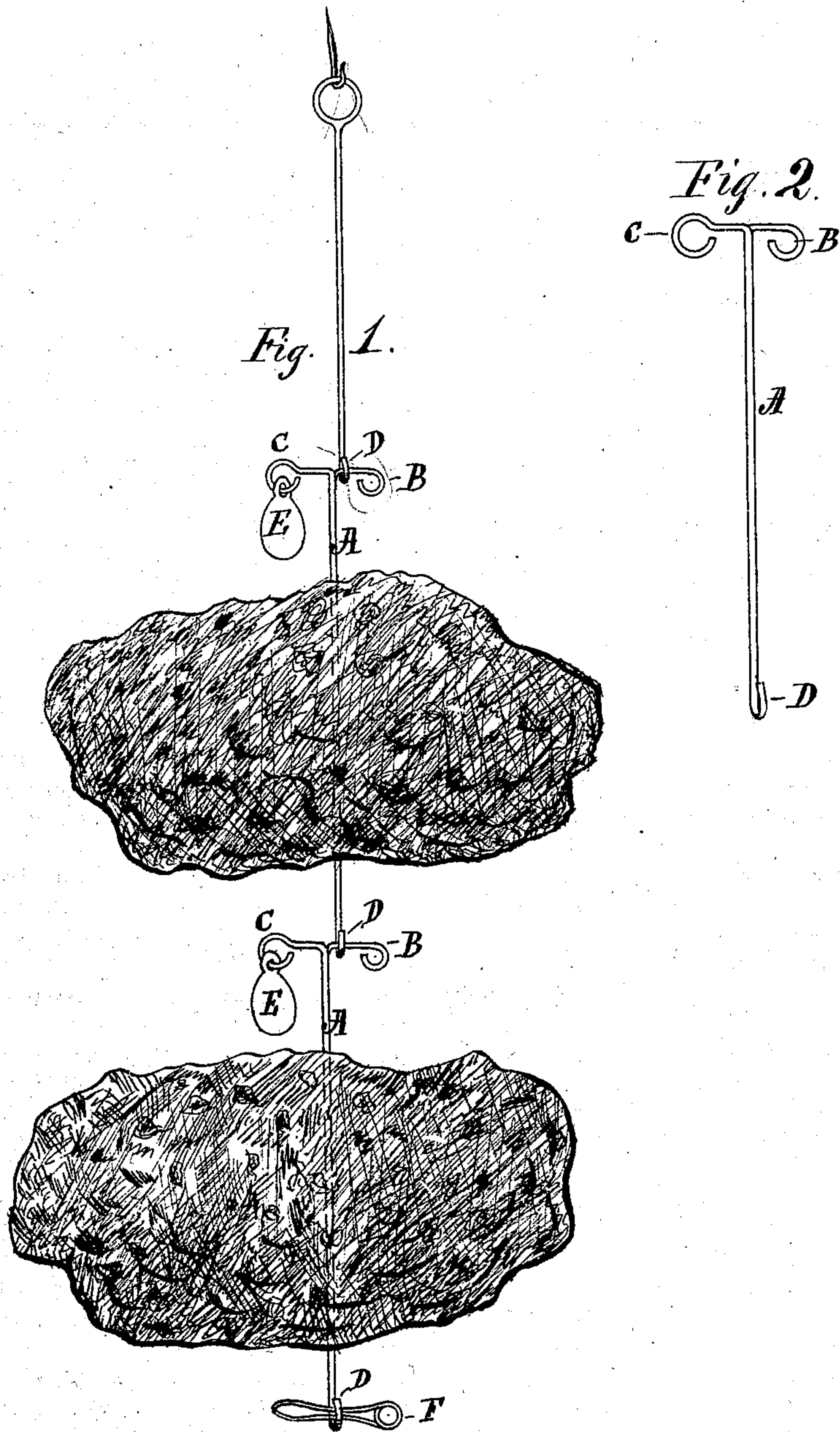


J. H. HUBBARD.

Hooks for Suspending and Exhibiting Sponges.

No. 149,863.

Patented April 21, 1874.



Witnesses:  
George C. Phelps.  
John H. Mills.

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by Eben Andren.  
attys.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. HUBBARD, OF STANSTEAD, CANADA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HOOKS FOR SUSPENDING AND EXHIBITING SPONGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **149,863**, dated April 21, 1874; application filed February 18, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, JOHN H. HUBBARD, of Stanstead, in the county of Stanstead and Province of Quebec, Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Needles or Hooks for Hanging Sponges or other Goods; 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.

My invention relates to improvements in hanging sponges and similar articles, and consists in the employment of peculiar-shaped hooked rods or wires, that are to be hooked together and suspended one below another, for the purpose of hanging or displaying sponges, or similar articles, through which each hook is inserted, as will herein be more fully shown and described.

On the drawing, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my invention, showing the sponges suspended on the rods. Fig. 2 represents a detail view of one of the hooked rods or wires.

Sponges that have heretofore been exhibited for sale have generally been hung on a cord that passed through them, and in such a case, if it was desired to remove any particular sponge, except the two at the extreme ends of the series, it would be necessary to cut the cord, or to remove all sponges between the end of the cord and the one which was required for use or sale. To replace the sponges removed from the cord would require a great waste of time, and to obviate this difficulty I have invented a new and useful device by which any desired sponge may be removed from a series of sponges, and be replaced, or the remaining ones joined together, in a quick and efficient manner, as will now be shown and described.

A represents a rod, that may be made of drawn or twisted wire, or may be pressed out of sheet metal, as may be desirable. The rod A is provided in one end with curved projec-

tions B and C, and in its opposite end with an eye, D, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The curved projection B is for the purpose of connecting one rod, A, to the eye, D, in the next following rod; the curved projection C is for the purpose of attaching thereto a suitable tag, E, on which the price of the sponge may be marked. The projections B and C form together a cross-bar on the end of the rod A, whereby the sponge on each rod is prevented from coming in contact with the next one. A key, F, may be inserted through the eye D of the lowest rod, A, as shown in Fig. 1, for the purpose of preventing the last sponge in the series so formed from falling off. The uppermost rod A in the series may be hung on any ordinary hook, nail, or ring, as may be most convenient.

Two or more sponges may be supported on one rod if the sponges are of a small size.

By the use of the curved projection C and its price-tag E on each rod A, I avoid the difficulty of sewing a separate tag to each sponge, as has heretofore been the practice among dealers in sponges. From the above will be seen that by inserting one of the rods A through a sponge and hooking it by means of the curved projection B thereon to the eye D on the rod above, and so on in continuation, I am able to hang sponges or similar articles, for exhibition or otherwise, in such a manner that any particular rod may be removed and the chain closed without disturbing the remaining sponges in the series.

I claim—

The device, as herein shown, for suspending and exhibiting sponges, consisting of a series of rods A A, with their eyes D D, hooks B B, and tag-supports C C, arranged in a manner and for the purpose substantially as herein shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of February, 1874.

Witnesses: JOHN H. HUBBARD.  
GEORGE E. PHELPS,  
BENJ. L. M. TOWER.