

H. C. RICE.  
Filter and Clarifier for Tea, Coffee, &c.  
No. 201,947. Patented April 2, 1878.

Fig. 1.

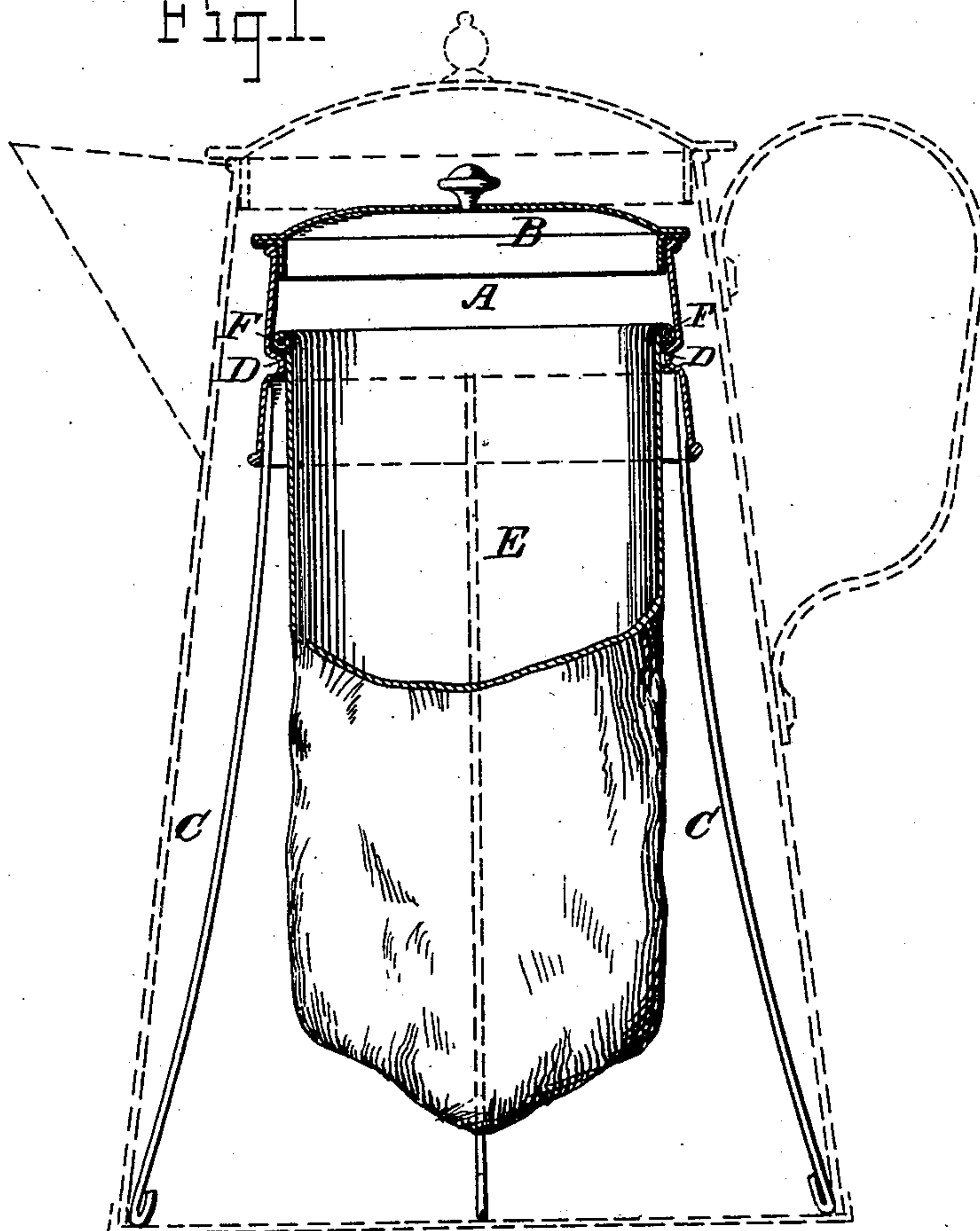
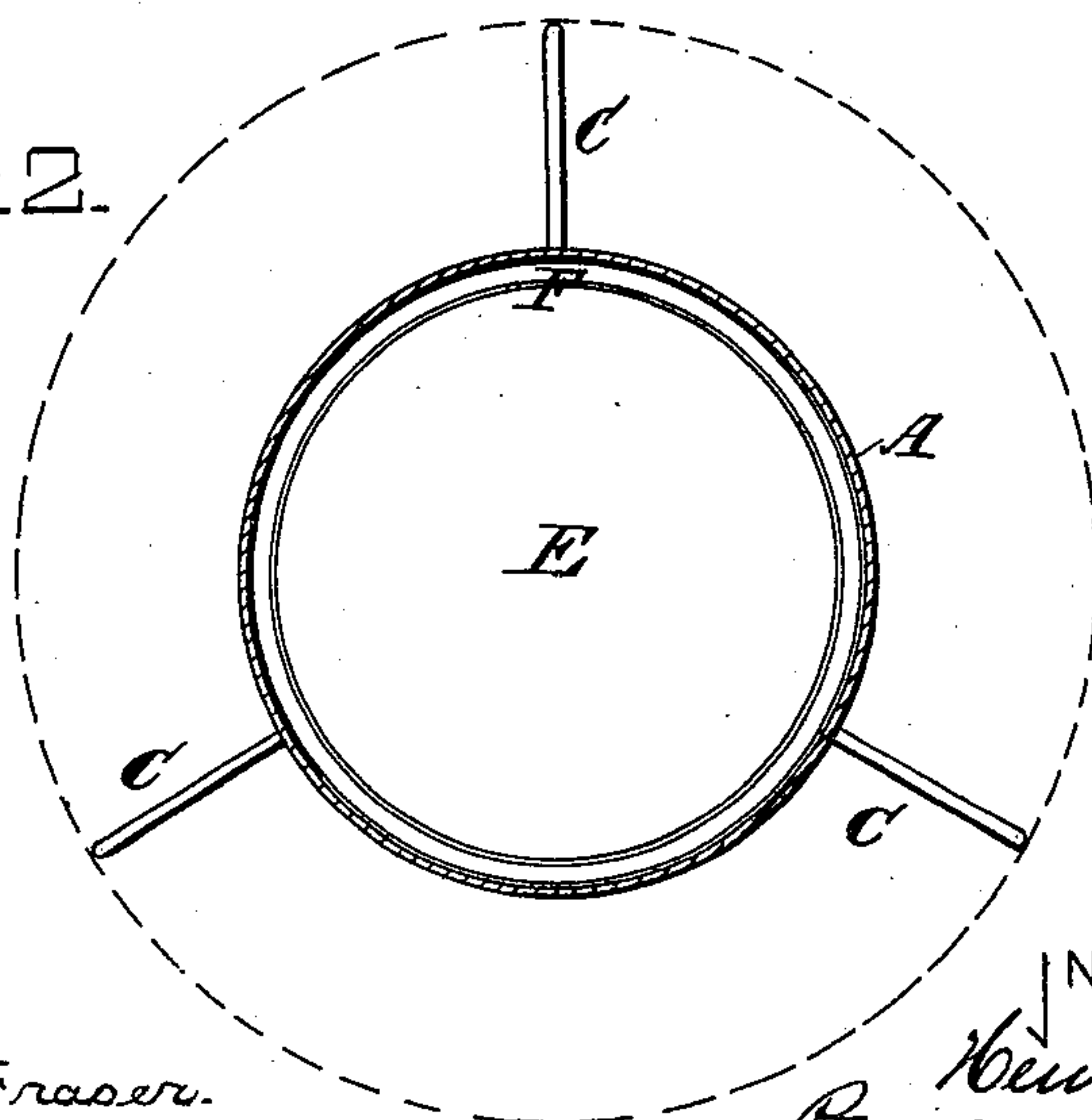


Fig. 2.



ATTEST-

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY C. RICE, OF LOUISIANA, MISSOURI.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FILTER AND CLARIFIER FOR TEA, COFFEE, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **201,947**, dated April 2, 1878; application filed October 17, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY C. RICE, of Louisiana, in the county of Pike and State of Missouri, have invented certain Improvements in Filter and Clarifier for Tea, Coffee, &c., of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to a removable attachment to tea or coffee pots for filtering and clarifying the decoction, the same not being part of the pot, nor affixed in any way thereto.

It consists, essentially, in a sheet-metal ring or hoop provided with elastic legs, whereby it is supported and held in place in the pot, a cap or cover, and a removable bag made of some textile material, for the reception of the tea, coffee, or other substance, all as will be more particularly hereinafter described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical mid-section of my invention, and Fig. 2 is a plan of the same.

In both figures a containing vessel or pot is indicated by dotted lines, the same forming no part of my invention.

A is a cylindrical (or it may be conical) hoop or ring, of sheet metal, provided with a lid or cover, B. This hoop is provided with elastic wire legs C C, which press against the walls of the containing-vessel, and serve to keep the clarifier in place. The hoop A is bottomless, and has a projection, D, formed on its inner face. This may be a bead spun in the material itself, or it may be a projecting part secured to the hoop, or any equivalent device.

E is a bag, of some suitable textile material, as cheap muslin or flannel, provided with a ring, F, sewed into or otherwise attached to its upper edge around the mouth. This ring fits snugly inside of the hoop A, when the bag is put down through and rests upon the projecting ledge D. Thus the bag becomes, in some sense, a bottom to the hoop A.

In use, the substance from which a decoc-

tion is to be made is put into the bag E. The cover B is put on, and the device is put into the containing vessel or pot by slightly compressing the legs so that they will enter. After it is in place the legs expand and hold it with sufficient firmness to permit the liquid to be poured out without disarranging it.

After some usage it will be found desirable to remove the bag E and renew it. This is readily accomplished by disengaging the ring F from the hoop A, cutting the old bag loose from it, and sewing or otherwise attaching a new one in its place.

I desire to state that I am well aware of the practice of sewing or tying up coffee in bags of flannel or other textile material for the purpose of making a decoction, and make no claim thereto.

I claim—

1. An improved article of manufacture, consisting of, first, a metal hoop having a cover and elastic or spring legs, whereby it is retained in a vessel; and, second, a bag of some textile material, provided with a distending-ring at its mouth, said ring being arranged to fit into the hoop and rest upon projections therefrom, the two parts being readily separable, and the whole readily removable from the vessel, all substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination of the hoop A, provided with a ledge, D, or its equivalent, the lid or cover B, the spring-legs C C, attached to the hoop, and the bag E, all substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY C. RICE.

Witnesses:

J. H. RHEA,  
D. A. BALL.