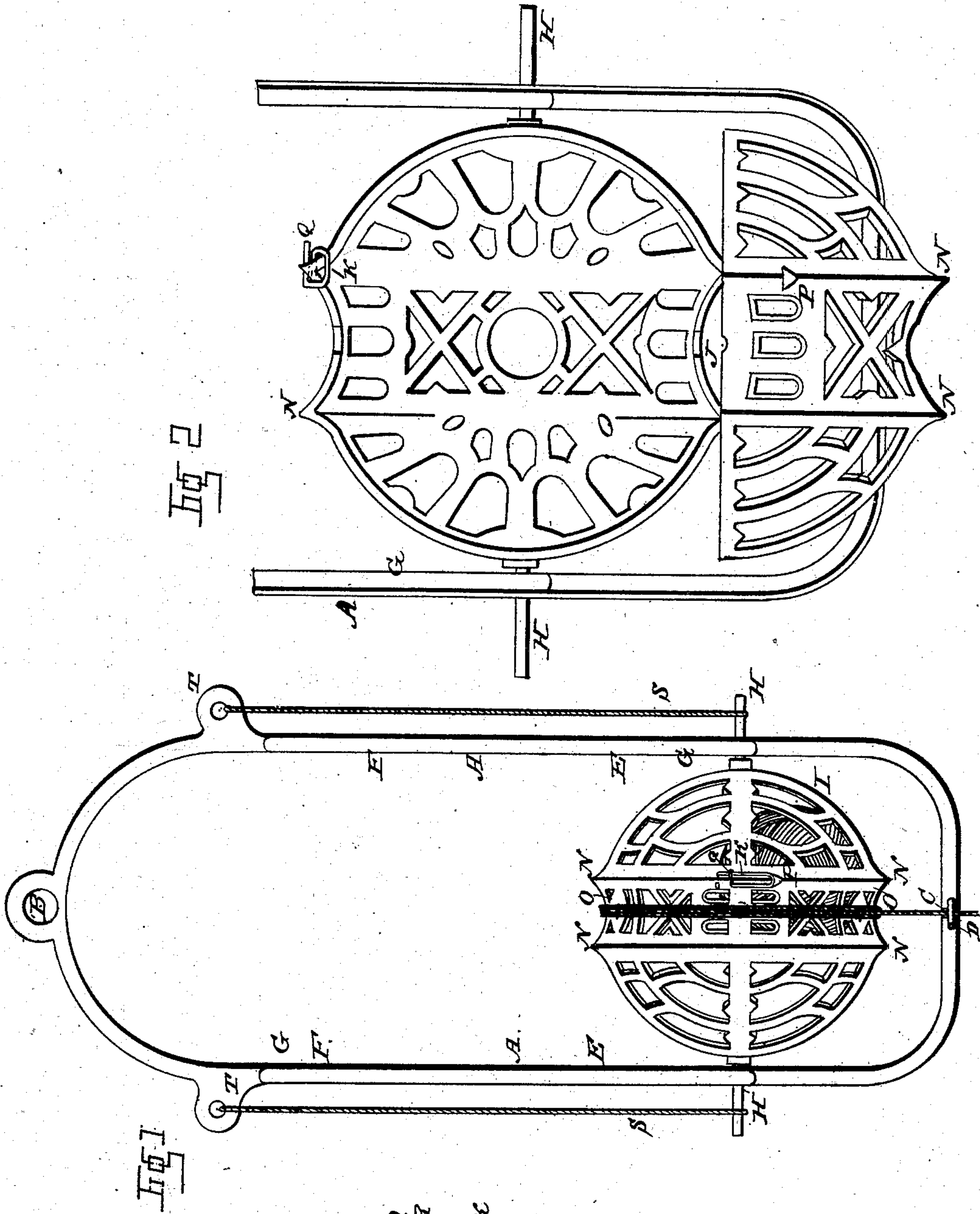


(No Model.)

M. E. STEPHENSON.  
TWINE HOLDER.

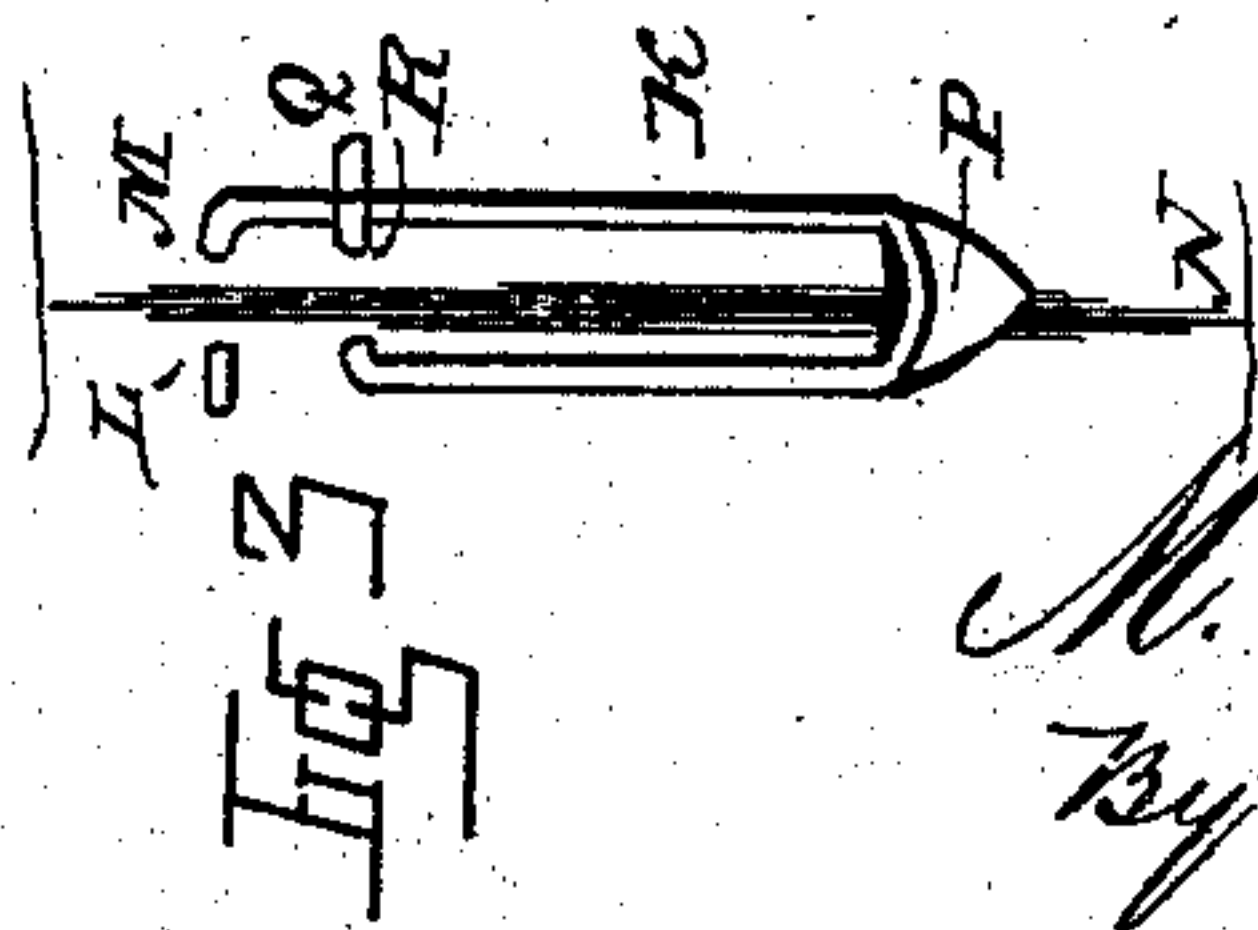
No. 274,047.

Patented Mar. 13, 1883.



WITNESSES:

*Wm. L. Dietrich,*  
*Geo. L. Dunkel*



INVENTOR,  
*M. Elmer Stephenson,*  
By *Louis Bagger & Co.*  
ATTORNEYS



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

M. ELMER STEPHENSON, OF LA PORTE, COLORADO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CAMERON W. GARBUTT, OF SAME PLACE.

## TWINE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 274,047, dated March 13, 1883.

Application filed January 20, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, M. ELMER STEPHENSON, of La Porte, in the county of Larimer and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Twine-Holders; 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, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of my improved twine-holder; Fig. 2, a rear view of the same opened; and Fig. 3 is a view of the spring-catch.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

My invention has relation to twine-holders; and it consists in the improved construction and combination of parts of a twine-holder adapted to be suspended above the place where it is to be used, and to retract part of the twine after as much as desired has been used and severed, out of the way of the person using it, as hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A indicates an oblong frame, having an eye, B, in its upper end for suspension, and a groove, C, in its lower end, over which a flat spring, D, bears, which is free at one end, so as to allow the twine to be slipped in under it in the groove.

The side pieces, E, of the frame are straight and parallel, and two parallel rods, F, are fastened at their upper and lower ends to the side pieces, forming ways G, in which the trunnions H of the twine-receptacle I travel. This receptacle, which may be spherical, cylindrical, or oval, as desired, and may be made in any ornamental style, is divided in two halves in the plane of its axle, the two halves being hinged together at J, and held closed by a spring-catch, K. This catch consists of a spring-wire, the bent end L of which is passed through a hole, M, in one of two ribs, N, which pass around the receptacle in a plane at right angles to the axle, forming a gutter, O, around the receptacle. From the hole M the wire is passed down along the rib, over the edge of

the one half, and is bent double over a projection or edge of a notch, P, upon the rib of the other half, from whence it is carried back and its other bent end, Q, inserted into a hole, R, below hole M, the end Q passing over and holding down the straight part of the wire passing from hole M.

To the trunnions H are fastened two cords, S, the upper ends of which are fastened to two projections, T, at the upper ends of ways G, so that when the receptacle is turned upon its trunnions it will wind the cords upon them and rise in the frame, and when allowed to fall will rotate in the opposite direction.

When the holder is to be used, the twine is placed in the receptacle and the end of it carried out through two notches, U, in the edges of the two halves at the center of the gutter, and at the side where the catch is, whereupon it is wound several times around the receptacle in the gutter and passed out in groove C at the lower end.

It will now be seen that when the device is suspended above the place where it is to be used and the end of the twine is drawn down it will rotate the receptacle, winding cords S, and lifting it up in the frame, when as much twine as is necessary may be drawn out. When the end now is released, the receptacle will descend in its ways, rotating upon its axle, and wind part of the twine around itself between the ribs, which will draw the end of the twine sufficiently above the counter or other place where it is used to be out of the way, and yet within easy reach.

I claim—

1. The twine-holder consisting of a frame in which the twine-receptacle is journaled, having means for rotating it in the opposite direction to the one in which it is revolved by unwinding the twine, as and for the purpose shown and set forth.

2. The spring-catch consisting of the wire, the bent upper end, L, of which is fastened in a hole M, bent down and back to form a loop, and having its other bent end, Q, passing through a lower hole, R, and overlapping the straight portion of it, substantially as and for the purpose shown and set forth.

3. The combination of the oblong frame A, having notch or groove C in its lower end, and

flat spring D, and the twine-receptacle having means for revolving it, as and for the purpose shown and set forth.

4. The combination of the frame A, having  
5 ways G, and twine-receptacle I, turning upon  
trunnions H, having cords S, and having gutter O, as and for the purpose shown and set forth.

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

M. ELMER STEPHENSON.

Witnesses:

T. J. MONTGOMERY,  
JAMES BUCHANAN.