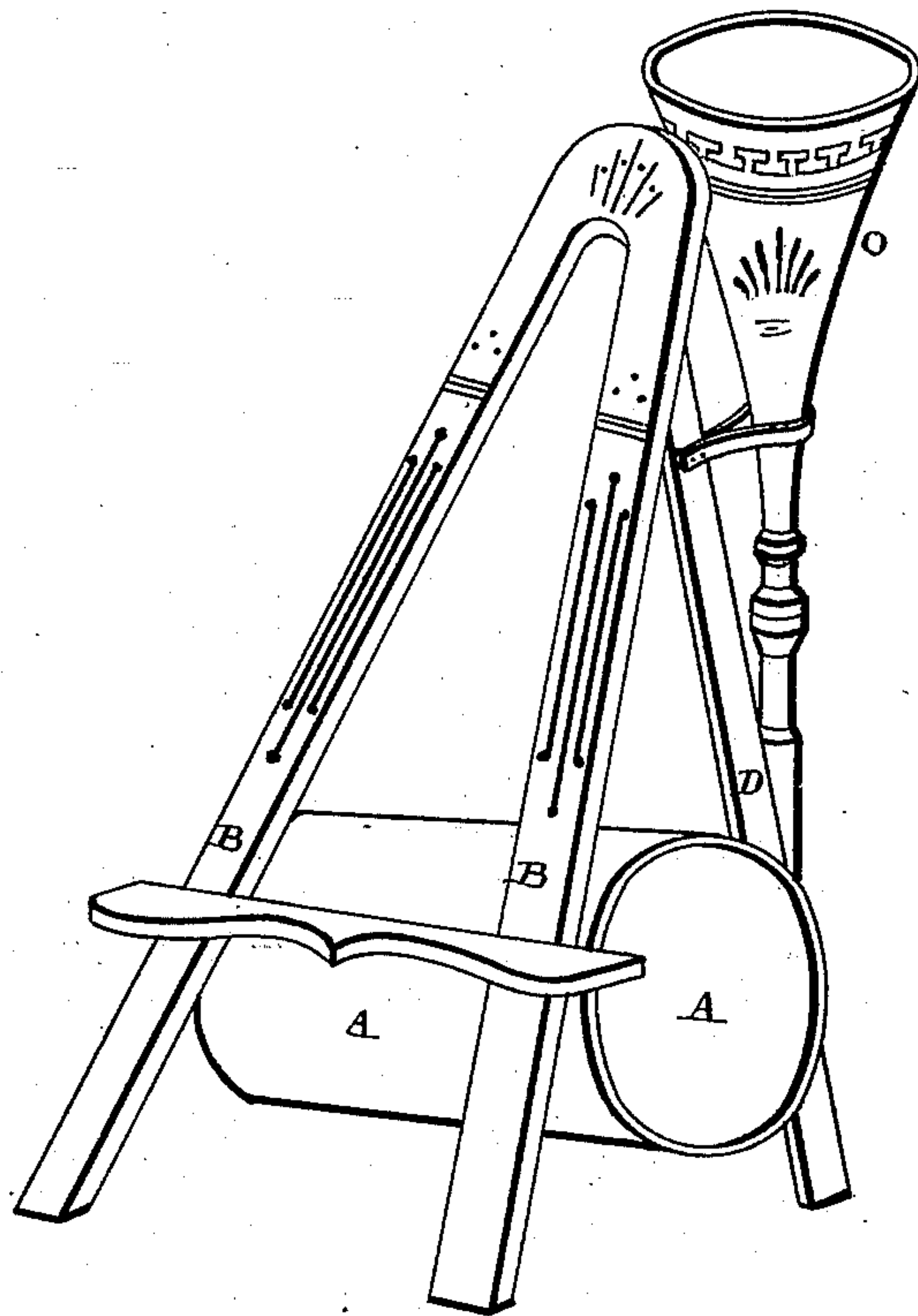


(No Model.)

F. RATCLIFF.
NAPKIN RING AND MENU HOLDER.

No. 279,805.

Patented June 19, 1883.



— *Witnesses.* —

Louis F. Gardner

J. W. Garner

— *Inventor.* —

Fred. Ratcliff
per

J. A. Lehmann, atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK RATCLIFF, OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

NAPKIN-RING AND MENU-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 279,805, dated June 19, 1883.

Application filed February 26, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK RATCLIFF, of New Bedford, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Napkin-Ring and Menu-Holder; 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 drawing, which forms a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a combined napkin-ring and menu-holder; and it consists in the combination of a napkin-ring with a suitable holder, either in the shape of an easel or any other form that may be preferred, and upon which the menu will be placed, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

The object of my invention is to provide a support upon which the menu can be placed, so that persons while dining can have it in a convenient position before them, instead of having to take it up at each course.

The accompanying drawing represents a perspective of my invention.

A represents a napkin-ring of any desired shape or design that may be preferred, and B is the menu-holder, preferably made in the shape of an easel. These two parts will be secured together so as to form practically one, and the napkin-ring will then come between the lower ends of the easel and its support D, or form part of support. An easel is here shown, as it is most preferable; but I do not limit myself to this exact shape, for a great

many other forms and figures may be substituted for it at will. The menu, being placed upon the easel, will be held in a convenient position in front of the diner, so that it can be ready without the person having to stop eating to pick it up.

Attached either to the ring or to the rear support of the easel is a vase or flower-holder, O, of any desired shape, size, or ornamentation that may be preferred, and which forms a part of the easel. This bouquet-holder may be made removable from the other two parts while they are being cleaned. The three parts together, with the flower-vase projecting above the easel, make a beautiful table ornament.

If desired, the ring may be dispensed with, and the easel and the flower-vase used alone.

Having thus described my invention, I claim —

1. The combination of a napkin-ring with a menu-holder, substantially as shown.
2. The combination of a menu-holder with a flower-vase, substantially as described.
3. The combination of a napkin-ring, a menu-holder, and a flower-vase, substantially as set forth.
4. A stand or support formed of an artist's easel, in combination with a napkin ring or holder, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FREDERICK RATCLIFF.

Witnesses:

LILLIE SHIRLEY,
HENRY SHIRLEY.