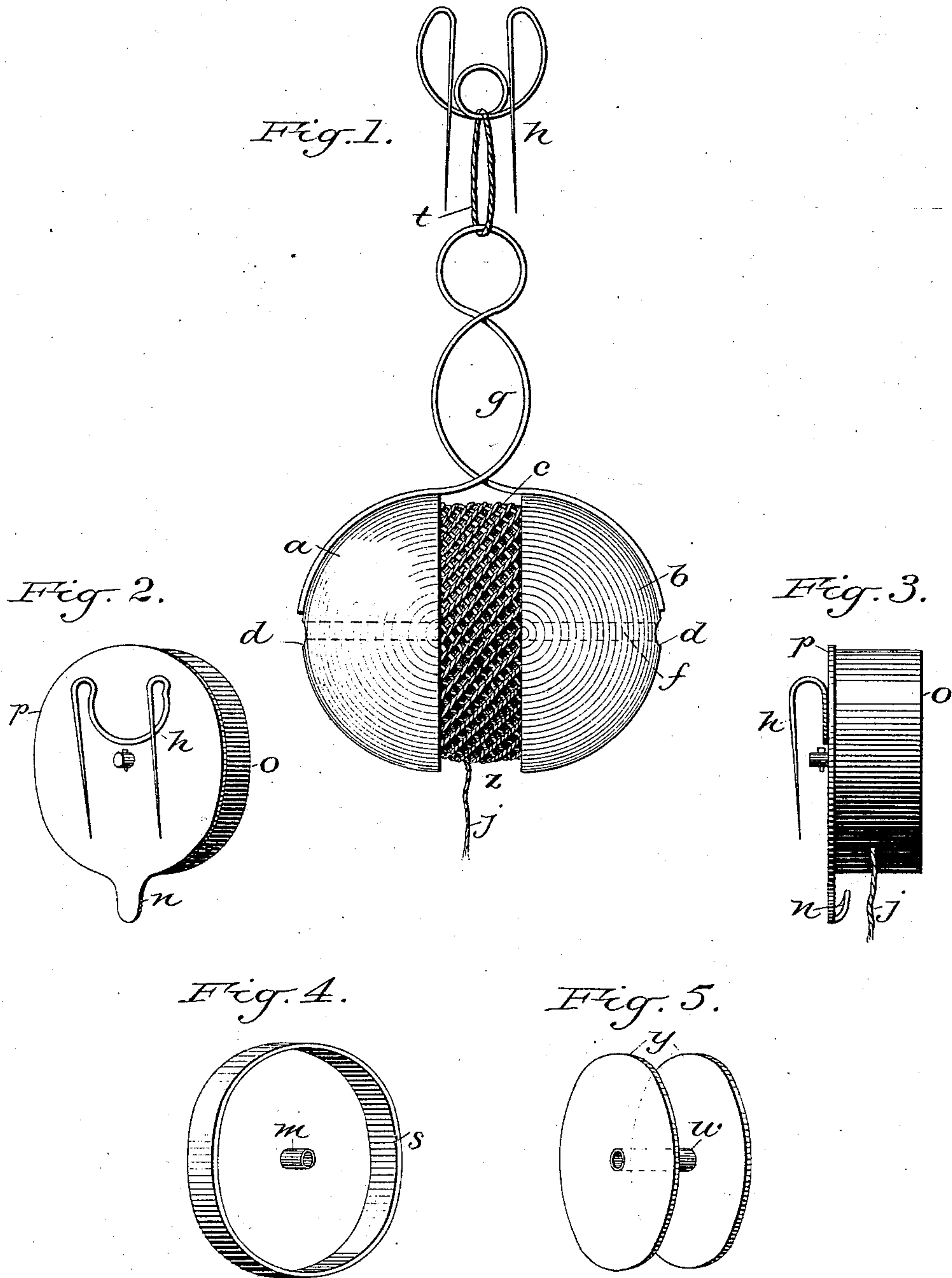


(No Model.)

R. W. HOWARD.  
TWINE OR CORD HOLDER.

No. 303,641.

Patented Aug. 19, 1884.



Witnesses:

M B Hatch,  
Galen Coffin

Inventor:

Robert W Howard



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT W. HOWARD, OF CHELSEA, MASSACHUSETTS.

## TWINE OR CORD HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 303,641, dated August 19, 1884.

Application filed April 7, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT W. HOWARD, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Chelsea, county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Twine or Cord Holders, fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same.

In said drawings, Figure 1 represents a front view of my invention. Fig. 2 represents in perspective a rear view of my invention in modified form. Fig. 3 represents a side elevation of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 represents in perspective an inside view of the front or cover of the invention shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Fig. 5 represents in perspective a view of the reel or spool on which the twine or string is wound.

It is well known that grocers, dry-goods dealers, and, in fact, all retailers of goods, in supplying their customers, secure such goods in packages by wrapping with twine, cord, or string. It is customary with such dealers to have the ball of twine or cord in a receptacle secured to the ceiling, or to the counter in the most convenient place; but in view of the fact that a retail store requires considerable space in which to place a variety of goods, it will be seen that to go from place to place when wishing to bind a parcel is at times very inconvenient and interferes with doing business as rapidly and conveniently as may be done by the use of my invention.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and application, reference being had to the drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Considered broadly, the invention consists in providing a receptacle for holding twine or wrapping-cord, which can be readily secured or attached to some convenient garment worn by the dealer—as, for instance, the breast or front part of the coat or vest—so that the dealer may wrap and complete a package in any part of the store where the goods with which he may desire to supply his customer may be located. To this end I provide a suitable receptacle for a ball of twine or cord, having devices by which it may be secured to

any part of the garment, as shown at Fig. 1, in which two semi-spheroidal devices are represented by *a b*. These are held in proper relation to each other by the connecting bent wire *g*, the respective ends of which are secured each to a corresponding semi-sphere, as *a b*. This holder may be constructed of wire or of thin sheet metal, and should be preferably provided with an orifice or opening, as *d d*, for the reception of a rod upon which the ball of twine may be impaled.

*c* represents the ball of cord or twine, which, as will be seen, is held within the semi-spheroidal holders *a b*. *j* represents the end of the cord as it depends from its ball or source of supply *c*.

*h* represents a hook or appliance which, as shown in the drawings, is connected with the holder *a b* by means of a cord, *t*, which passes through the upper loop of the spring-wire *g*.

To use the invention as thus described, the hook *h* should be inserted in the garment at the most desirable point. The ball of twine should then be placed between the holders *a b*, the spring of the wire *g* permitting the insertion of the same.

Fig. 2 represents a modification whereby the spring *g* is dispensed with. In this case the twine is wound upon a spool or reel, as shown in Fig. 5, and may consist of two metallic disks, as *y y*, connected together by the tube *w*. This reel or spool filled with twine or cord is then placed upon the stem *m*, which is secured to the back *o* of the cylindrical box shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4.

It is obvious that the stem *m* may be secured to the plate *p* of the cylindrical box, if desired.

Each of the plates *o p* is provided with cylindrical sides, as *s*, Fig. 4, one of which is of slightly less diameter than the other, so that when the reel of cord is placed upon the stem *m* the cover *o* or *p*, as the case may be, is placed one upon the other, the friction of the sides *s s* being sufficient to retain the parts in place. One end of the spring should be passed through the opening *z* before placing the cover in position.

A cutting device, as *n*, (shown in Figs. 2 and 3 as a curved knife, the inner edge of which is sharpened,) is attached to the lower part of



the receptacle, for use in severing the string when desired.

By means of the hook *h* my invention may be attached to any part of the garment where it will be most convenient for use.

One end of the cord, as *j*, may be passed through the opening *z* before the cover is placed in position.

A small cutting blade or hook may be attached to the cylindrical box, as *n*, which may in some cases be found useful in cutting the cord or twine. The hook *h* may then be attached to any desired part of the garment worn by the user, so that the cord will always be handy and convenient for use when required.

It is obvious that my invention may be used by seamstresses for the purpose of holding spools of thread, in which case the invention shown in Fig. 1 would be slightly modified, so as to hold the spool of thread, in which case all of the semi-spheroidal holders *ab* might be removed, excepting only a sufficient part thereof to hold the pin *b* upon which the spool would revolve; or the semi-spheroidal holders *ab* may be removed altogether, and the ends of the spring-wire, which are shown as secured to the holders, could be extended downward and their ends bent inwardly at a right angle, so as to project within the hole at each end of the spool, thereby holding it so as to revolve as the cord or thread is drawn off.

It will also be understood that I do not confine myself to the precise form of fastening shown, as any other known form of catch or pin may be used instead.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A twine or string holder provided with means, substantially as described, for holding a ball or supply of cord or string, and means, substantially as described, of securing the same to the garment, when constructed in the manner and for the purpose shown and described.

2. The combination of the elastically-supported semi-spheroidal holders *ab*, elastic connection *g*, and hook *h*, when constructed in the manner substantially as described, and for the purpose herein described.

3. The combination of a reel for holding a quantity of cord, with a box provided with an outlet, *z*, a stem, *m*, for holding said reel in position, and means, substantially as described, as *hh*, for securing the same to the person, substantially as described.

4. The combination of a cord or string receptacle or holder provided with means for securing the same to the person, and a cutting device, as *n*, all constructed substantially in the manner and for the purpose shown and described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT W. HOWARD.

Witnesses:

M. B. HATCH,  
GALEN COFFIN.