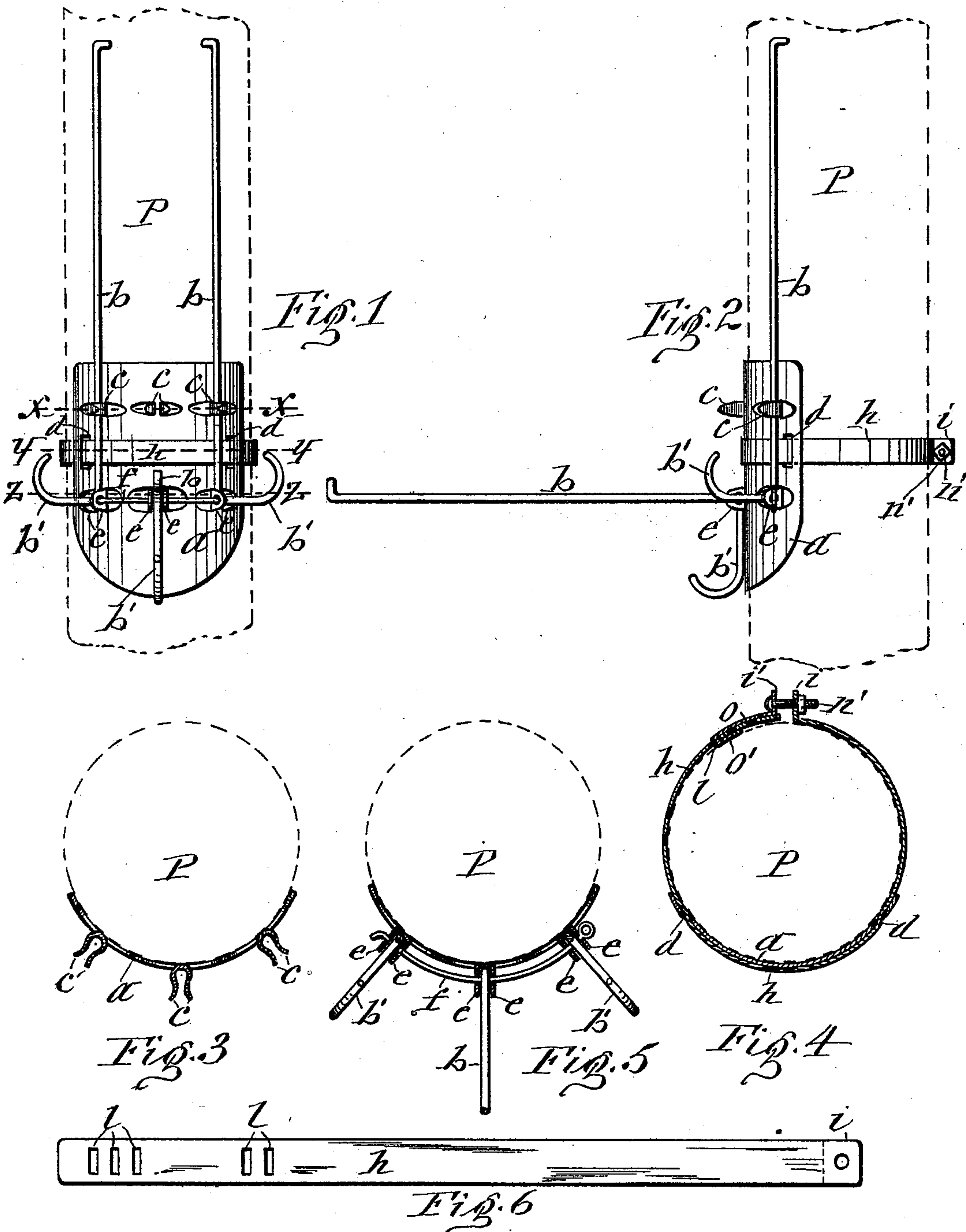


(No Model.)

S. T. AXTELL.  
TOWEL RACK.

No. 519,490.

Patented May 8, 1894.



WITNESSES:

C. L. Rindixon  
J. J. Ganss

Fig. 7

INVENTOR:

Spencer T. Axtell  
By E. Laess  
his ATTORNEY



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SPENCER T. AXTELL, OF OSWEGO, NEW YORK.

## TOWEL-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 519,490, dated May 8, 1894.

Application filed December 26, 1893. Serial No. 494,687. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SPENCER T. AXTELL, of Oswego, in the county of Oswego, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful  
5 Improvements in Towel-Racks, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to the class of towel  
10 racks which have their arms mounted to their supports in such a manner as to allow said arms to be sustained either in a horizontal operative position for carrying towels or analogous articles, or to be placed in a vertical  
15 position to be out of the way when not in use. And the invention consists in an improved construction and combination of the component parts of a towel rack which is simple and inexpensive in its manufacture, adapted to be  
20 applied to stove-pipes of different diameters, and very convenient and efficient in its operation, all as hereinafter more fully described and specifically set forth in the claims.

In the annexed drawings Figures 1 and 2  
25 are respectively front and side views of my improved towel rack attached to a stove-pipe with the adjustable bars of the rack disposed in different positions. Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are enlarged transverse sections on lines —X—  
30 X—Y—Y— and —Z—Z— respectively. Fig. 6 is a plan view of the blank from which the attaching hoop is formed, and Fig. 7 is a plan view of the blank from which the adjustable coupling ear of the hoop is formed.

35 Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

—a— denotes the supporting plate of the rack which plate I form of Russia iron or other suitable sheet metal as may be desired.  
40 The front of this plate has projecting from it the perforated ears —e—e—e— and the tongues or clasps —c—c—c— above said ears, all of which I form integral with the plate by stamping and bending them out from the  
45 plane of the plate by means of suitable dies placed in a press, which dies also punch out of the plate near the vertical edges thereof the vertical slots —d—d—. The plate —a— may thus be completed at one operation of  
50 the press equipped with the aforesaid dies.

—b—b—b— are the main bars for supporting towels or other articles. Each of these

bars I form with a supplemental bar —b'— preferably shorter than the main bar —b— and extending at right angles therefrom and  
55 preferably bent hook-shaped. This main and supplemental bar I form in one piece of stout wire rod bent at right angles at the junction of the said two bars, at which point I perforate the wire rod transversely, and in-  
60 sert it between one of the pairs of ears —e— and pivot it thereto by a wire —f— passing through the ears and perforation of the rod.

To reduce the cost of manufacture and at the same time brace the ears —e—e—e—, I  
65 employ a single wire —f— of sufficient length to pass through all the ears, and bars inserted between them as aforesaid. The ends of said wire I bend so as to prevent its withdrawal. The bars are thus pivoted to swing with their  
70 free ends in vertical planes and adjustable to carry either the main bars —b— or the supplemental bars —b'— in horizontal positions as shown. The bearing of the supplemental bars —b'— on the lower portion of the plate  
75 —a— supports the main bars —b— in horizontal position for hanging towels or other articles thereon, and when the shorter or hook shaped supplemental bar —b'— is preferred for hanging articles thereon, the main  
80 bar —b— is swung up and inserted between one of the pairs of clasps —c—, which retains it in a vertical position and thus supports the supplemental bar —b'— in a horizontal position.  
85

—h— represents a metallic hoop by which the plate —a— is fastened to a stove-pipe designated by letter —P— in the drawings. This hoop extends across the front of the plate  
90 —a— and passes through the slots —d—d— and firmly embraces the stove-pipe to which it is fastened by a bolt —n— passing through ears —i—i'— on the ends of the hoop and provided with a nut —n'—. In order to  
95 adapt said hoop to be applied to stove-pipes of different diameters, I attach the ear —i'— to the hoop adjustably to different parts of the length thereof. For this purpose I prefer to form the ear —i'— with a base —o— by which it rides on the exterior of the hoop, and with  
100 a tongue —o'— which passes through one of a plurality of slots —l—l— in different parts of the length of the hoop, the free end portion of the tongue being bent back closely against



the inner side of the hoop to retain the ear in position.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In combination with the plate —*a*— provided with perforated ears —*e*—*e*— and clasps —*c*—*c*—, the main bars —*b*—*b*— formed with shorter hook-shaped supplemental bars —*b'*—*b'*— extending at right angles therefrom and perforated at the junction of the main bars and supplemental bars and inserted thereat between the ears, and the wire —*f*— passing through the perforations of the ears and bars, each of said main and supplemental bars forming two arms placed interchangeably in position for suspending articles therefrom as set forth.

2. In combination with the plate —*a*— and bars —*b*—*b'*— connected thereto, the adjustable attaching hoop —*h*— provided with the fixed ear —*i*— and a plurality of slots —*l*—*l*— and the ear —*i'*— provided with the tongue —*o'*— passing through one of said slots, the ears of said hoop being perforated for the reception of the bolt by which the hoop is fastened to the stove-pipe as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 4th day of December, 1893.

SPENCER T. AXTELL. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

GEORGE E. DAVIS,  
THOMAS MOORE.