

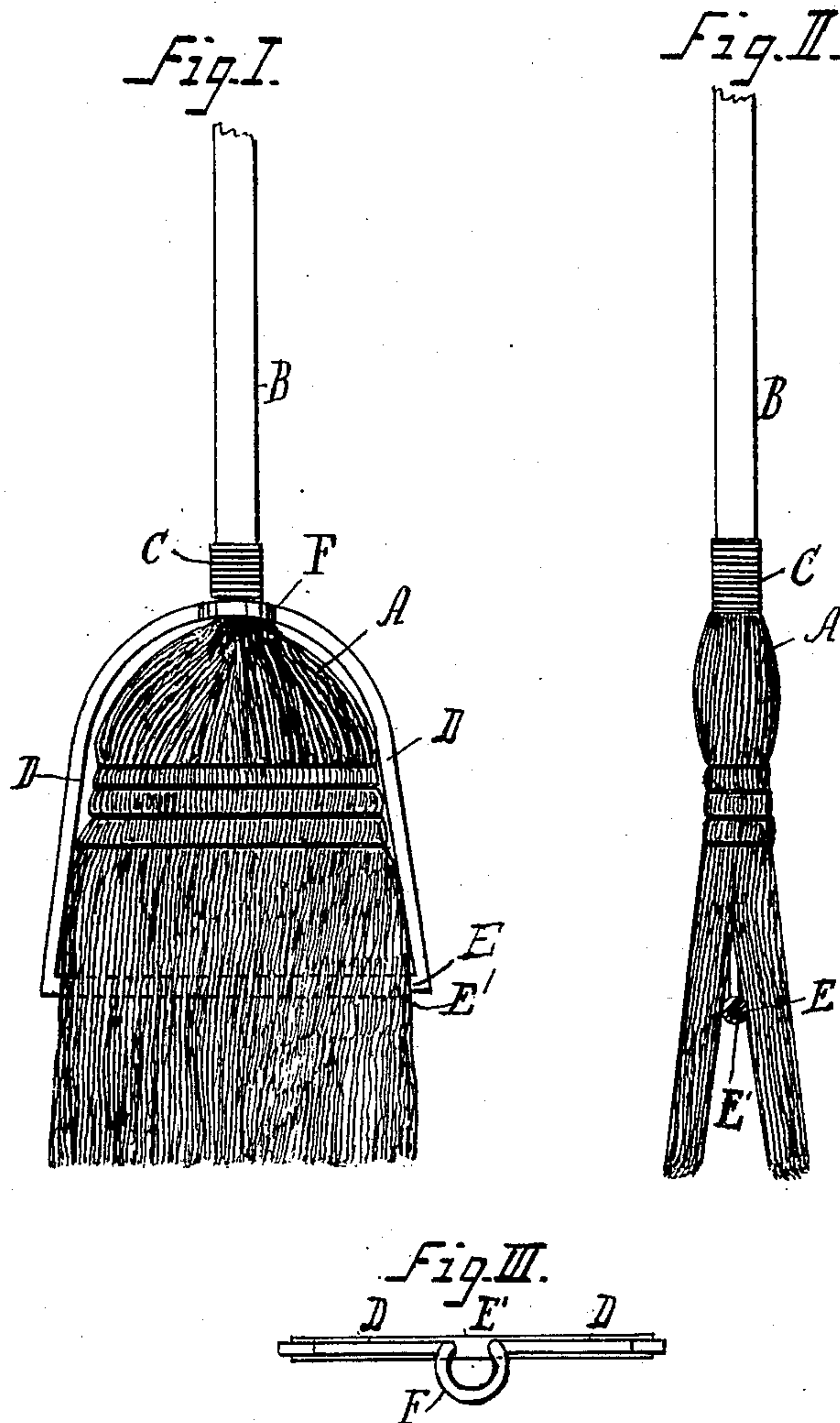
No. 617,556.

Patented Jan. 10, 1899.

F. C. BOWEN.
BROOM SPREADER.

(Application filed Oct. 4, 1898.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
Chas. Wahlers
Edw. V. B. Kessan.

Inventor
Francis Clare Bowen

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS C. BOWEN, OF MADISON, NEW JERSEY.

BROOM-SPREADER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 617,556, dated January 10, 1899.

Application filed October 4, 1898. Serial No. 692,627. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS C. BOWEN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Madison, in the county of Morris and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Broom-Spreaders, of which the following is a specification.

The general object of my invention is to provide a device in the nature of a spreader whereby a household or other broom may be separated as to the broom-head into two parts or sections each of which is adapted to perform the office of the article independently of the other, while affording superior elasticity to the broom-head in its application to use. I have employed a wire frame, preferably of spring metal, of a shape to engage the broom at a point about the junction of the broom-handle and broom-head, and which is adapted to be inserted between the aggregation of broom-straw by means of a transverse member of the wire frame above the free impinging and contact ends of the broom-head in the application of the broom to actual use.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side view thereof as it appears when applied to a broom. Fig. 2 represents an edge view of the broom with the transverse member of the frame in cross-section and in position to spread the broom. Fig. 3 represents a plan view of the frame detached.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The letter A indicates the broom-head, and B the broom-handle, these parts being constructed in substantially the usual way, with the usual band C at the junction of the broom-head and the handle.

The letter D indicates the side members, and E the transverse member, of the wire frame. As shown in the drawings, the side members D of this frame conform approximately to the shape of the broom-head A and embrace the same on its upper part, while the transverse member E of the wire frame is fitted into a space created by a division longitudinally of the broom-head in the straw or other material of which it may be composed, as more clearly shown in Fig. 2.

It will be apparent that the wire frame D E has the effect of rendering the broom of what might be termed a "duplex" character, since the two divisions of the broom-head are in a

measure independent of each other, while the frame is not liable to interfere with the free use of the broom for its intended purpose.

For the purpose of attaching the wire frame to the broom it may be bent in the form of a loop F, as more fully shown in Fig. 3, adapted to embrace the handle B or the band C, or, if desirable, the frame may be made adjustable on the handle or band in relation to the broom-head. The loop F being integral with the remainder of the wire frame is of an elastic condition and may thus be readily sprung onto the part intended to receive and support the frame.

With a view to increase the effect of the transverse member E of the wire frame as to its spreading capacity the same may be fitted with a sleeve E', of wood or other suitable material, the said transverse member being thus rendered of greater diameter than the remainder of the wire of which the frame is composed. The sleeve E' extends substantially the length of said transverse member E of the frame and is thus held endwise in position thereon.

It may be remarked that the term "broom" is meant to include any article of a similar nature, such as a brush intended to be used for scrubbing, painting, and other like purposes, although my invention is primarily intended to be applied to a broom for sweeping purposes.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A broom-spreader constructed of spring-wire with side members adapted for attachment to the broom-handle, and a transverse member adapted to be introduced in a division of the broom-head for separating the broom-head into independent and distinct parts, substantially as shown and described.

2. A broom-spreader consisting of spring-wire with side members adapted for attachment to the broom-handle and a transverse member adapted to be introduced in a division of the broom-head, and of a sleeve fitted on said transverse member and extending substantially the length thereof for increasing the effect of said transverse member, as shown and described.

FRANCIS C. BOWEN.

Witnesses:

EDWD. V. B. KISSAM.

CHAS. WAHLERS.