No. 684,361. Patented Oct. 8, 1901.

W. H. ETTER.

COMBINED TWINE HOLDER AND LIFTER.

(Application filed May 3, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

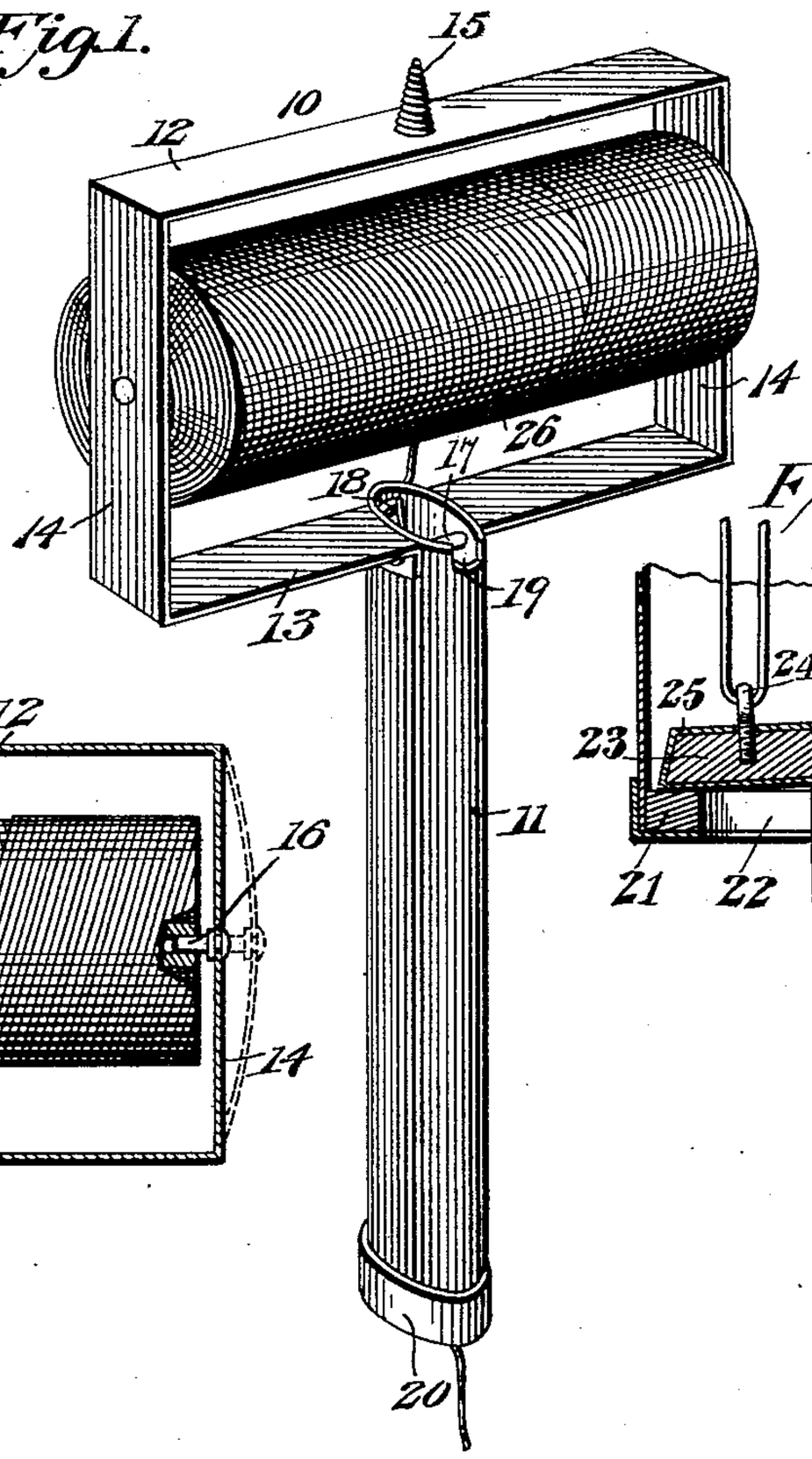


Fig. 2.

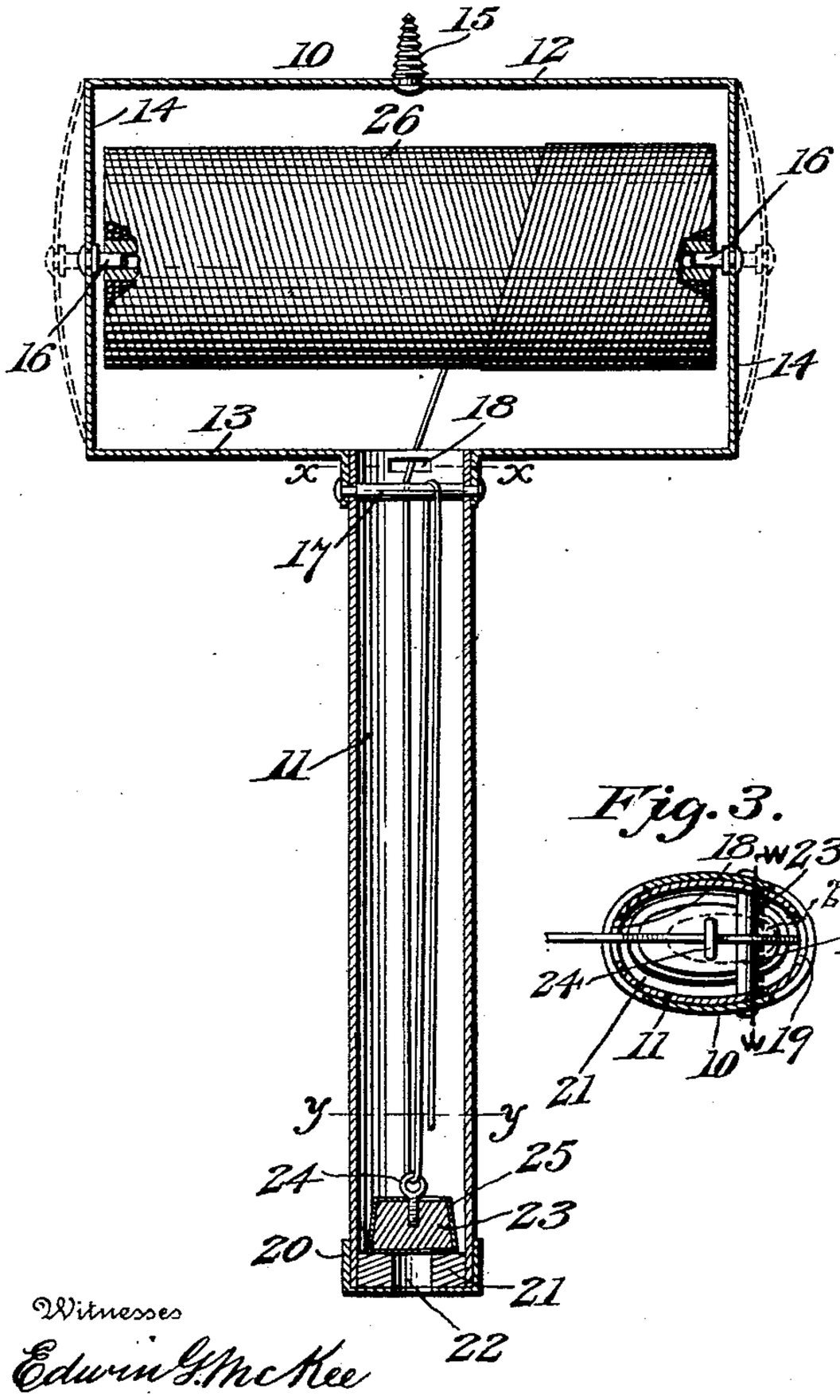
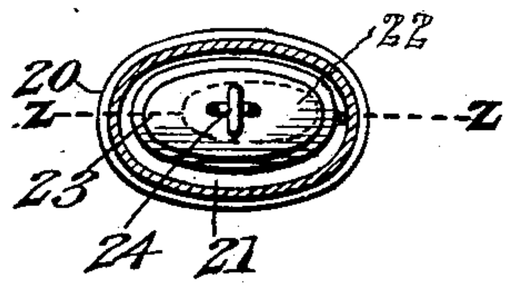


Fig. 5.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HENRY ETTER, OF CUTLER, OHIO.

COMBINED TWINE HOLDER AND LIFTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 684,361, dated October 8, 1901.

Application filed May 3, 1900. Serial No. 15,399. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HENRY ETTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cutler, in the county of Washington and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Combined Twine Holder and Lifter, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in twine-holders; and the object thereof is to provide a simple, efficient, and inexpensive device of this character that will hold a ball or spool of twine to permit the unwinding of the same and that will remove the free end thereof from the counter and out of the way when not in use.

A further object of the invention is to so construct the device that the twine will not become twisted or snarled or caught in the mechanism.

For a complete understanding of the invention the preferred form is described in the following specification and shown in the drawings which accompany and form a part of the same, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section on the line *w w* of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a cross-section on the line *x x* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on the line *y y* of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail vertical section taken on the line *z z* of Fig. 4.

Similar reference-numerals designate like and corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

The device essentially comprises a spool-holding frame 10 and a weight-casing 11. The spool-holding frame 10 is preferably rectangular in form, having upper and lower sides 12 and 13 and end pieces 14. At the central portion of the upper side 12 is provided a rigid fastening-screw 15, by means of which the device may be securely and rigidly suspended from a ceiling. The end pieces 14 are preferably of spring metal and are each provided on the inner sides of their central portions with a projecting nipple or journal-stud 16. Suspended vertically from the lower side 13 of the frame is the weight-casing 11, which is securely fastened to the spool-frame in any manner desired. This case preferably comprises a tube elliptical in cross-section and having its upper end open. Across the upper end of the casing is arranged a horizontal bar 17, and the wall at this end is also provided with the opening 18 and the oppositely-arranged notch or slot 19. The lower end of the casing is closed by means of a cap 20, which supports a cushion 21, of wood or similar material, the whole end being provided with an opening or perforation 22 for the passage of the twine. Slidably arranged within this casing is the weight 23, which conforms, substantially, to the interior contour of the casing, so that it cannot turn therein. This weight is provided at its upper end with an eye 24 and is also preferably covered with felt 25 or other sound-deadening material, forming practically a buffer.

In inserting the spool of twine 26 into the frame it is only necessary to bow the spring ends enough to allow the spool to be slipped into place, whereupon the lugs 16 will enter the openings in the spool and securely hold it in place, but allow it to freely revolve as the twine is drawn therefrom. The free end of the twine is then threaded through the slot 18 and eye 24 of the weight, then over the bar 17, and, if the device is to be hung directly over the counter, through the opening 22. If, however, the twine is to be used some distance from the holder, it is not run through the opening 22, but is passed through the notch 19. It will be evident that when the free end of the twine is drawn downwardly the weight will be raised to the top of the casing and the twine will then unwind from the spool. Upon releasing the free end of the twine the weight will drop to the bottom, carrying the free end of the twine upward a distance equal to twice the length of the casing, which latter may be of any length desired.

Because of the relative construction of the weight and casing it is impossible for the weight to turn, so that there is no chance of the twine becoming twisted, and at the same time the necessity for guiding rods, pins, and the like is obviated and there is nothing for the twine to become entangled with. Furthermore, when the weight drops to the bottom of the tube the twine is gripped between the sound-deadening material of the weight and the upper surface of the cushion 21, which thus prevents any slack being jerked up into

the casing. A further advantage lies in the simple manner of mounting the spool, whereby the necessity of a core-rod, which is liable to become accidentally loosened, is done away with. Furthermore, because of the covered weight and the filling at the bottom of the casing the device is almost noiseless in operation.

From the foregoing it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein-described invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without further description, and it is to be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

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

1. A take-up frame provided with an aperture at its lower end through which the free end of the cord passes, a weight slidably mounted in the frame, said weight when at rest being arranged to engage the frame at said lower aperture to clamp the free portion of the cord that passes therethrough, and means for connecting said cord and weight, whereby when the cord is drawn through the frame the weight will be moved from the lower aperture and out of clamping engagement with the cord.

2. A take-up frame provided with cord-apertures at its upper and lower ends, the free end of the cord leaving the take-up frame through the lower aperture, a vertically-sliding weight arranged between said apertures and having an eye or aperture through which the cord is to be threaded, said weight, when at rest, being arranged to clasp the free end of the cord at the lower aperture of the take-up frame.

3. A twine-holder comprising a ball or spool holding frame, a tubular casing suspended from the holding-frame and having an upper cord-inlet and a lower cord-outlet from which the free portion of the cord extends, and a weight slidably mounted in the casing and arranged to be moved upwardly when the free portion of the cord is drawn through the casing, said weight, when at rest, being arranged to cover the lower cord-outlet to clamp the portion of the cord passing therethrough.

4. A take-up frame provided with cord-apertures at its upper and lower ends, the free end of the cord leaving the take-up frame through the lower aperture, a vertically-sliding weight between said eyes or apertures and having an eye or aperture through which the cord is to be threaded, and a buffer between the lower end of the weight and the lower cord eye or aperture to clamp the free end of the cord to the lower end of the take-up frame when the weight drops to its lowest position, substantially as described.

5. A take-up frame provided with upper and lower eyes or apertures for the cord, a vertically-sliding weight between said eyes having a cord eye or opening at its upper end and provided at its lower end with a buffer in line with the lower frame-eye to engage the free end of the cord where it passes through said eye and clamp it against rising when the weight drops to its lowest position, substantially as described.

6. The combination with a holder for the cord, of a depending take-up frame having upper and lower eyes, a vertically-sliding weight between said eyes and also having an eye through which the cord passes; the lower end of the weight in its lowest position engaging the lower end of the take-up frame at its cord-eye to clamp the free end of the cord thereto against rising when the weight suddenly falls, substantially as described.

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

WILLIAM HENRY ETTER.

Witnesses:
THOS. G. FRANCE,
L. W. SAWYER.