

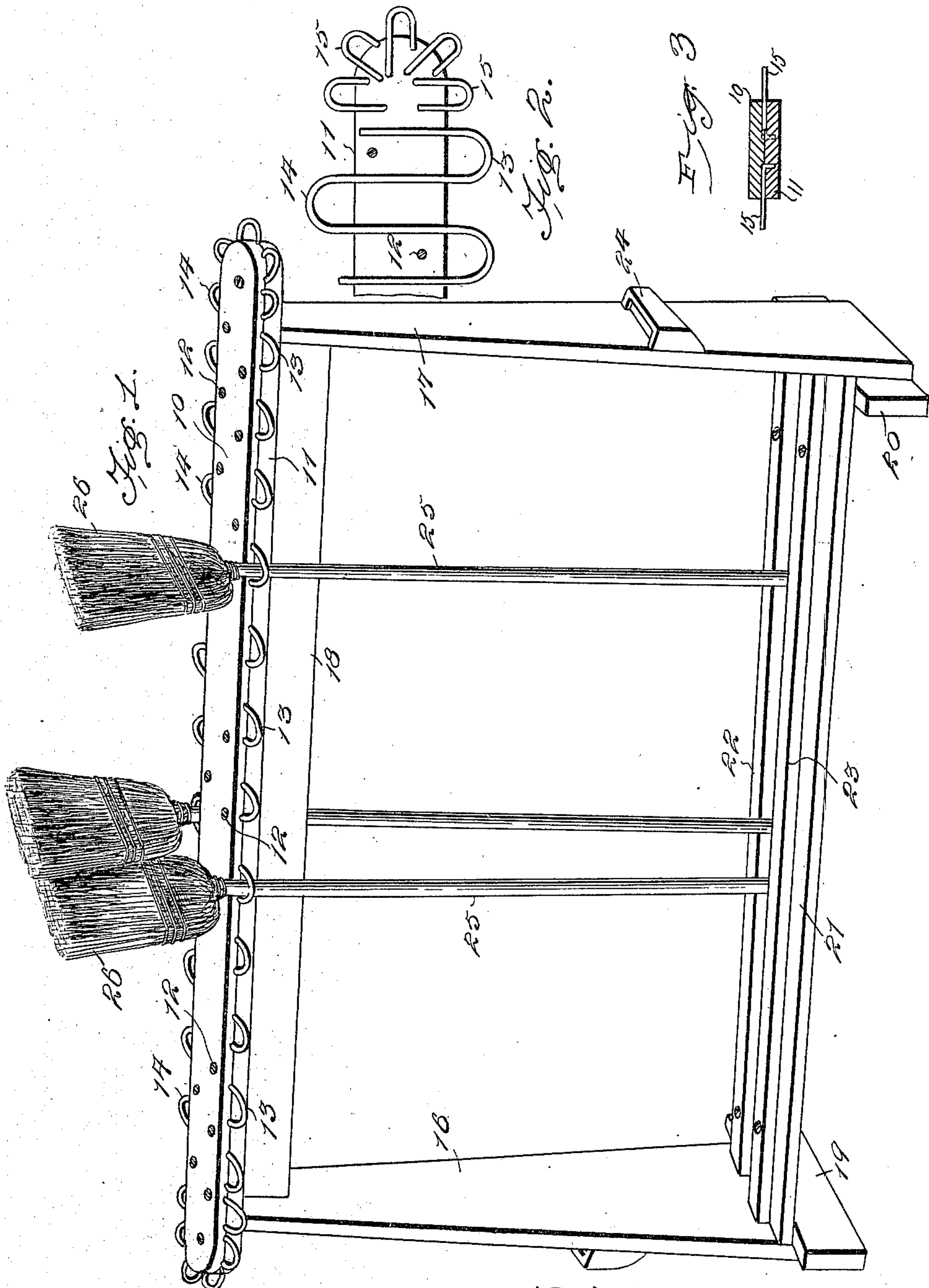
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PATENTED JUNE 23, 1903.

R. E. WILDER.
BROOM RACK.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 27, 1902.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BROOM-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 731,642, dated June 23, 1903.

Application filed June 27, 1902. Serial No. 113,438. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT EUGENE WILDER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sumter, in the county of Sumter and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and useful Broom-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices employed for the purpose of supporting and displaying brooms and similar articles in a convenient position for exhibition in stores, and has for its object the production of a simple, easily-constructed, and convenient display stand or rack, wherein the brooms and other articles are supported independently, so that each individual article is independently removable and in a position to be displayed in its entirety.

Another object of the invention is the construction of a device wherein brooms or other articles of different sizes may be independently displayed.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction, as hereinafter shown and described, and specified in the claims.

In the drawings illustrative of the invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device with a number of brooms supported therein. Fig. 2 is a plan view in detail of a portion of the broom-supporting head, illustrating the manner of forming and securing the holding-loops. Fig. 3 represents an enlarged sectional view in detail through one end of the rack, showing the disposition of the end staples therein.

In this device is comprised a head member supporting a series of reversely-disposed spaced loops, alternately extended from its opposite edges and adapted to support the handles of the brooms, a base member having a longitudinal recess for the reception of the ends of the broom-handles connected to the head member by vertical standards.

In this invention is further comprised specially-formed loops adapted to support broom-handles or other similar articles of smaller size than ordinary broom-handles and with independent receptacles for the ends of the handles of these smaller articles.

The device may be made of any desired size and adapted to support any required number

of the brooms or other articles and will generally be formed of wood, with the supporting-loops of wire of sufficient strength to support the brooms or other articles, although the device may be formed entirely of metal, or partially of wood and partially of metal, as may be preferred.

In the drawings illustrative of the invention the top of the rack is shown formed of two plates 10 11 of the same size and preferably with rounded ends and secured together rigidly, as by screws 12. Secured between these two plates 10 11 is a wire bent into spaced alternating loops 13 14, the loops 13 extending from one side or edge of the plates 10 11 and the loops 14 extending from the other edge of the plates, the loops 13 coming opposite the spaces between the loops 14 and the loops 14 coming opposite the spaces between the loops 13, as indicated. The loops 13 14, as before stated, will be formed of one single piece of wire and will be firmly clamped between the plates 10 11, the material of which the plates are formed being preferably of soft wood, so that when clamped together the wire will be partially embedded in the wood, and thereby prevented from being displaced. This makes a very simple, complete, and efficient support for the loops, which will hold them with sufficient grip to withstand the pressures or strains to which they will be subjected. At their ends the plates 10 11 are preferably rounded, as shown, and provided with spaced loops 15, preferably of smaller size than the loops 13 14. These smaller loops are shown formed like staples, with one leg of each longer than the other and bent at right angles to the staple and adapted to enter a cavity in the plate 11, so that when the plates are clamped together the loops 15 will be firmly held and their withdrawal prevented. Near their ends the plates 10 11 will be provided with vertical supporting-standards 16 17 and further supported by a longitudinal vertical web 18, connected centrally to the under side of the plate 11 and by its ends to the interior of the standards 16 17. At their lower ends the standards 16 17 are provided, respectively, with transverse bars 19 20, which form laterally-extended supports to

the standards and extend their base-supports to increase the stability of the device.

Connected to the tops of the transverse bars 19 20 between the standards 16 17 is a base-plate 21, as shown. The standards 16 17 are preferably wider than the plates 10 11, and the base-plate 21 will preferably be of the same width as the lower part of the standards, as shown. Longitudinally-disposed centrally upon the upper side of the plate 21 are spaced ribs 22 23, affording a lateral support to the ends of the broom-handles, which are inserted from above through the loops 13 14, as indicated.

Attached to the standards 16 17 intermediately of their lengths are transverse sockets 24, adapted to receive the ends of the smaller brooms or other articles, which are inserted downward through the smaller loops 15.

When employed to support ordinary brooms, the distance between the plates 10 11 and the base-plate 21 will be just sufficient to receive a broom-handle and permit the heads of the brooms to extend over the upper plate 10 and with the end of the handle resting in the cavity between the ribs 22 23, as indicated in Fig. 1, wherein a number of the brooms are shown positioned in the rack, the handles being indicated at 25 and the heads at 26. When employed for the display of brooms also, the sockets 24 will be disposed upon the standards 16 17 at the requisite height to receive the ends of the handles of the ordinary toy or hearth brooms, which are usually sold in connection with the ordinary domestic brooms. By this means both sizes of brooms, which are usually handled together, may be displayed upon one rack, which is a very convenient arrangement and adds materially to the utility of the device. By arranging the loops on one side opposite the spaces on the other side the broom-heads, when placed in position transversely of the rack, will interlap above the plate 10, so that each broom is supported entirely independently of all the others and every side of every broom open to inspection, and each individual broom may be inserted into the rack or removed therefrom without interference with any other broom. This is a very great advantage, as the brooms may be inspected and inserted and removed without interference with the other brooms or injury thereto by friction or otherwise.

The device may be very easily adapted to the display of other articles than brooms, such as rakes, hoes, pitchforks, long-handled spades, long-handled brushes, fishpoles, crabbing-nets, and other articles of a similar form.

It is obvious that the device is adapted by slight modifications as to the sizes of the loops and the distance between the plates 10 11 and the base 21 to support all the different kinds of articles having long symmetrical handles and may be formed with as many of the loops as required and the loops corresponding to the articles to be supported.

If required, the loops 13 14 may be made in

different sizes to provide for supporting different kinds of articles in the same rack.

By this device the goods are displayed in a very conspicuous and at the same time neat and tasteful manner and attractively presented to the purchaser.

The rack may be ornamented in any desired manner and the parts formed in any fanciful ornamental style desired.

The plates 10 11 may be formed of any size transversely, but generally they will be formed in about the proportion indicated.

The device may be modified in minor particulars without departing from the principle of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A broom-rack comprising superimposed plates, spaced broom-holding loops extending alternately from the opposite edges of said plates, spaced standards supporting said plates near their ends, spaced holding-loops extending from the portions of said plates beyond the standards, and sockets carried by said standards intermediately of their lengths and adapted to support the ends of the handles of the brooms held by said end loops, substantially as described.

2. A broom-rack comprising superimposed plates, U-shaped broom-holding loops spaced apart and supported by their legs between said plates and having their looped ends extended beyond the edges thereof, one leg of each loop being longer than the other and arranged at right angles to the loop to engage a cavity in one of said plates, standards supporting said plates, and sockets carried by said standards and adapted to support the ends of the converging handles of the brooms held by said loops.

3. A broom-rack comprising superimposed plates having rounded ends, spaced broom-holding loops supported between said plates and extending radially from said rounded ends, standards supporting said plates, and sockets carried by said standards intermediately of their lengths and adapted to support the converging ends of the handles of the brooms held by said loops, substantially as described.

4. A rack comprising superimposed plates, holding means extending from the opposite edges of said plates for engaging an article to be supported, spaced holding-loops supported between said plates and extending radially from the ends thereof, and means disposed below said spaced loops for supporting the ends of the handles of the articles held by said loops.

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

ROBERT EUGENE WILDER.

Witnesses:

P. P. GAILLARD.

W. S. JAMES.