

No. 814,573.

PATENTED MAR. 6, 1906.

J. B. TIMBERLAKE.
DISPLAY EASEL.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 18, 1905.

Fig. 1

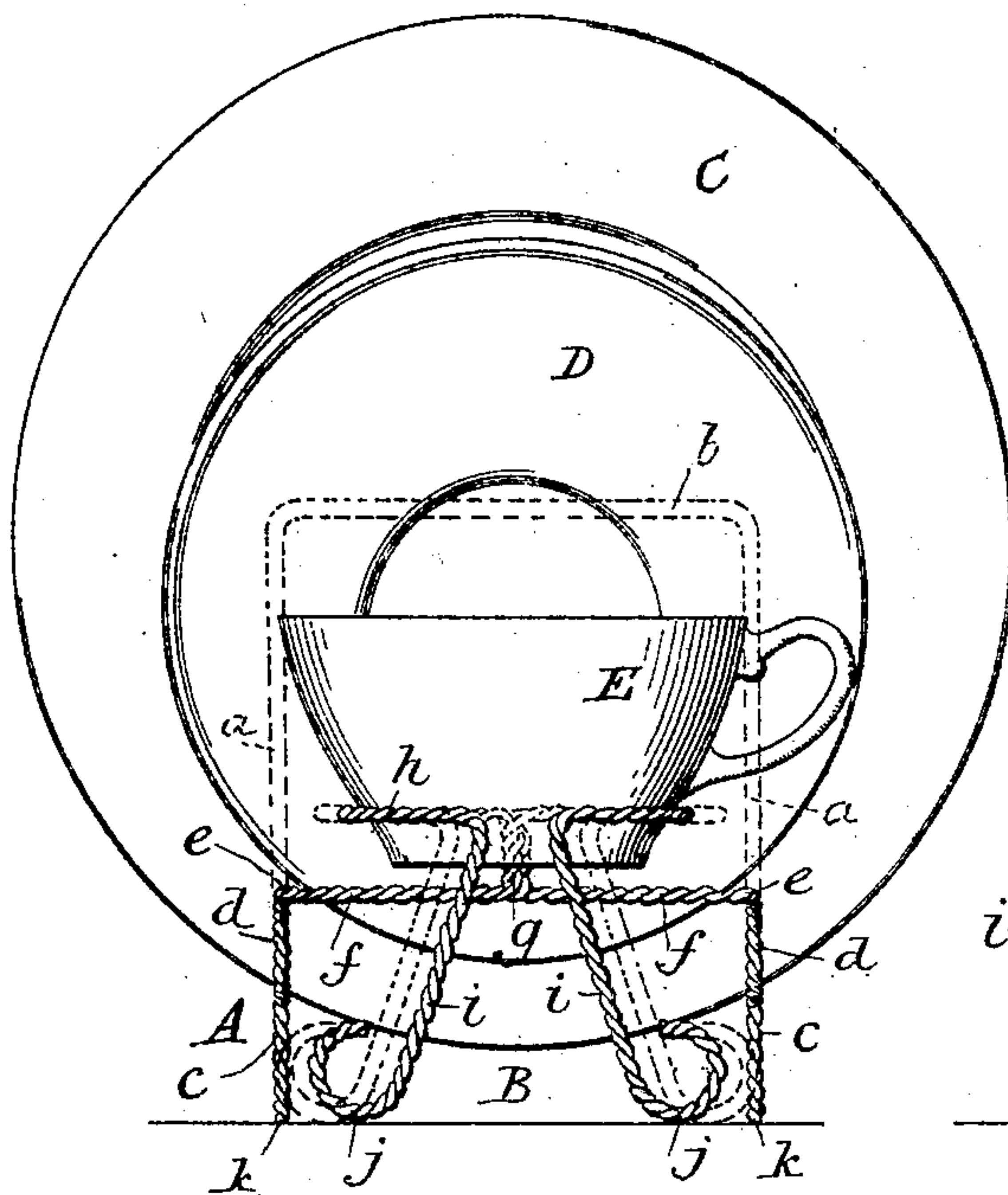


Fig. 2.

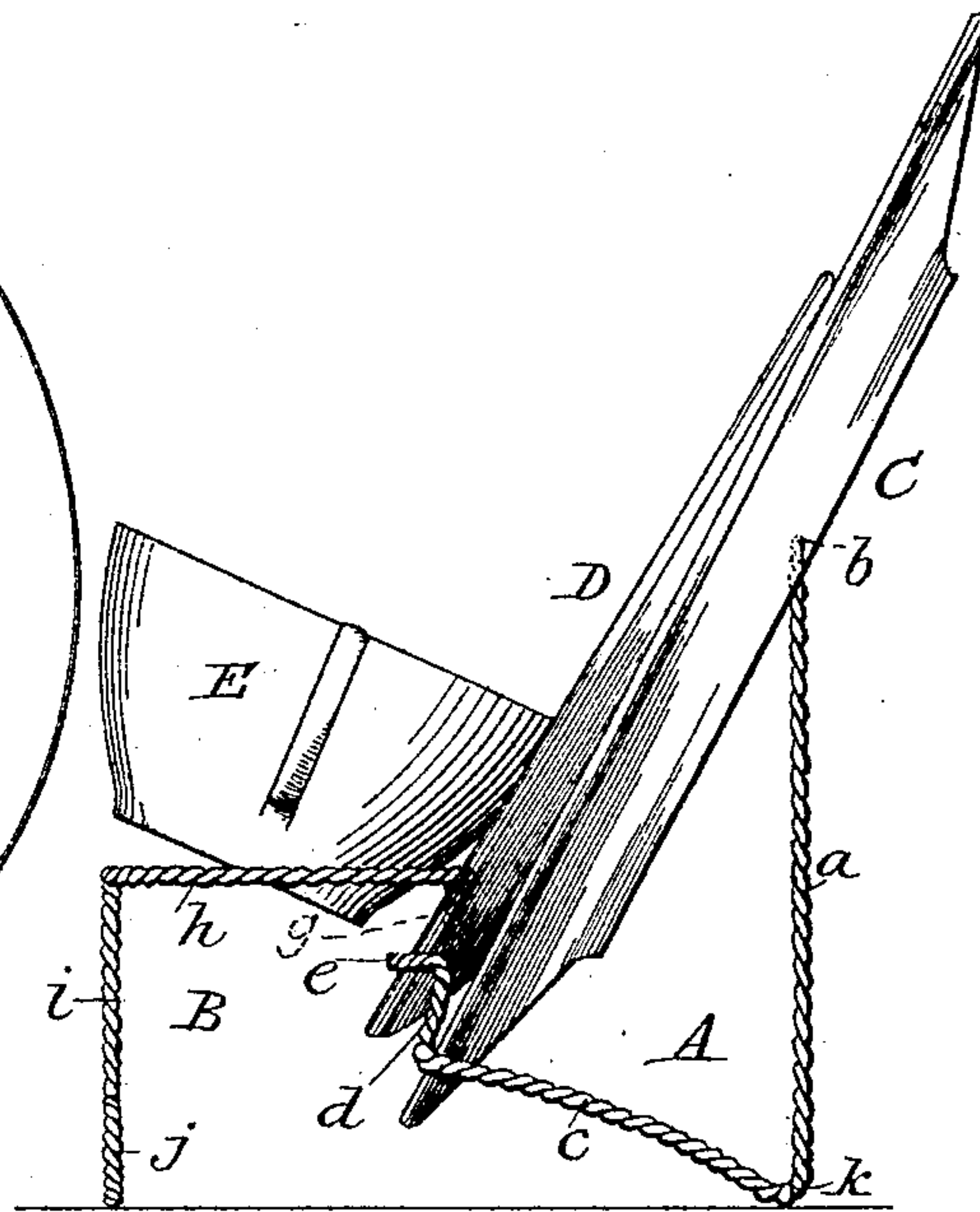


Fig. 3.

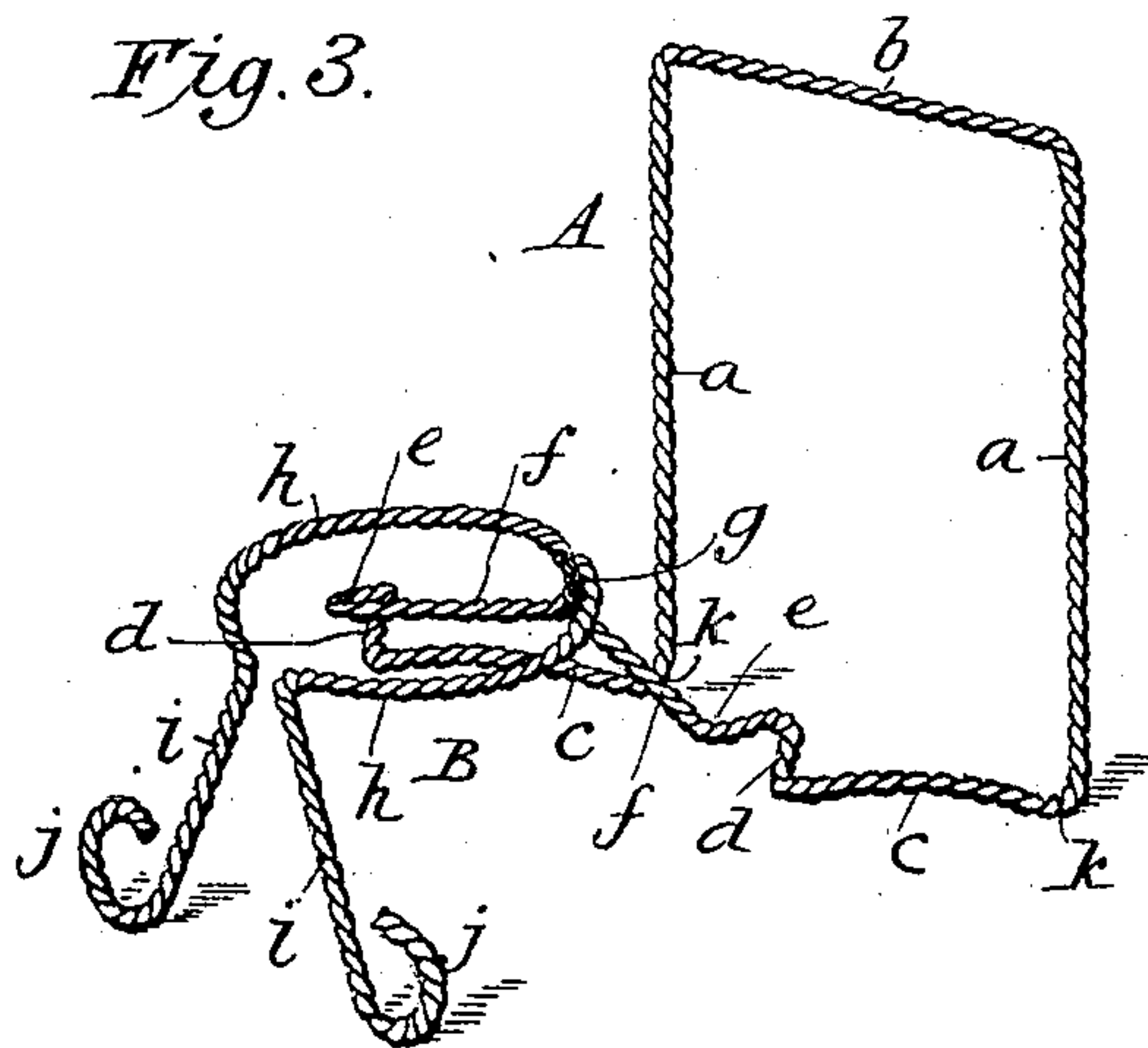
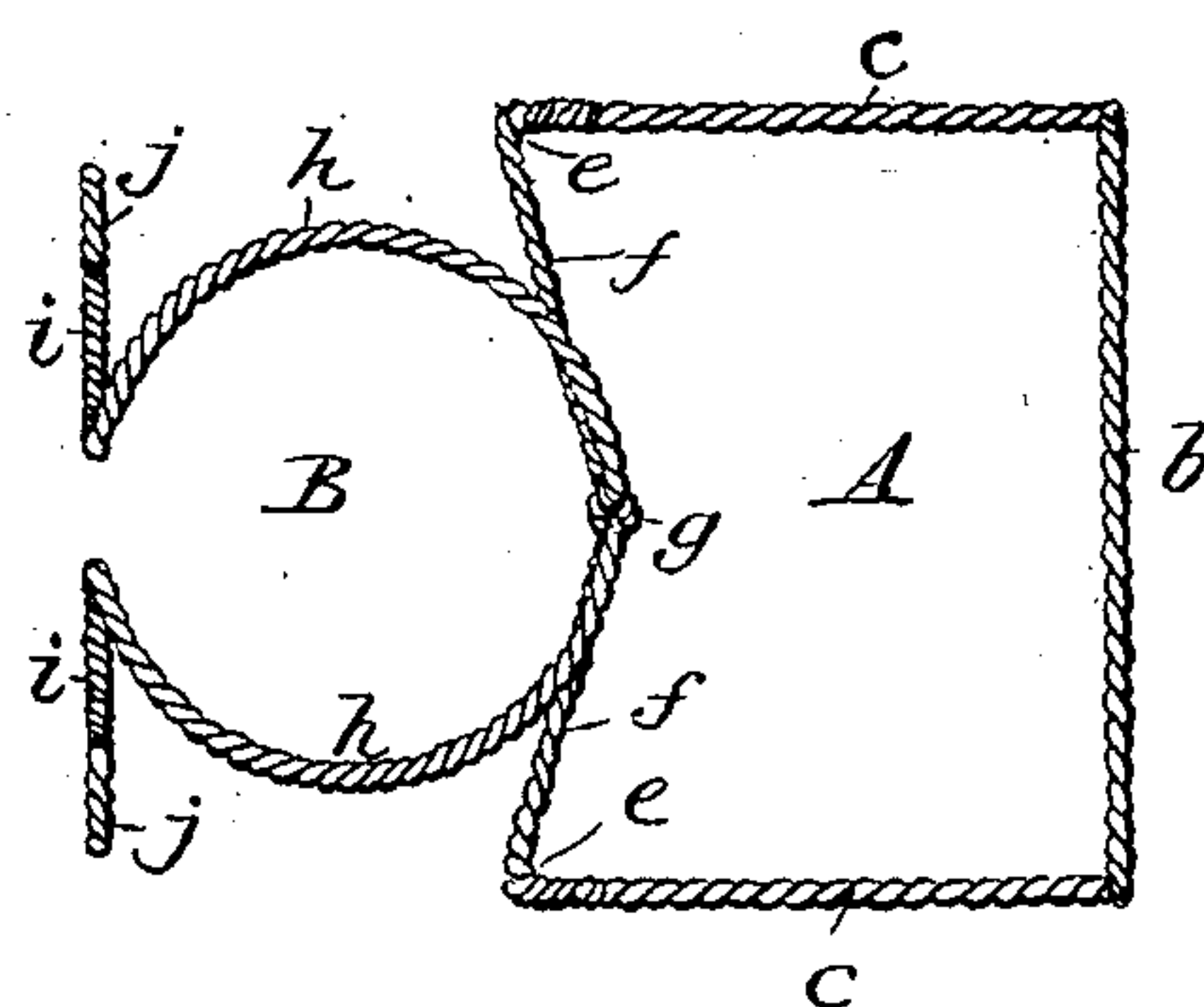


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. TIMBERLAKE, OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN.

DISPLAY-EASEL.

No. 814,573.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. TIMBERLAKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jackson, in the county of Jackson and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display - Easels, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to holders for dishes of the class of easels or racks which are used for supporting them in such way that they can be displayed tastily and can be supported safely.

The object of the invention is to provide an article of this class which can be readily and cheaply made of wire, each comprising several supports, so that two, three, or more dishes differing from each other in shape and size can be readily supported and displayed without interfering one with the other.

Figure 1 is a front view of a display rack or easel embodying my improvements and showing also a set of articles (cup, saucer, and plate) in place thereon. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the easel or rack and showing in edge view the articles, the cup being here shown in the second of the two positions in which it can be supported. Fig. 3 is a perspective of the easel or rack detached. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the same.

One of the principal objects of the invention is to provide an easel rack or holder capable of supporting three dishes which are typical of a large set—such as a cup, saucer, and plate—and adapted to hold them in such positions as to most effectively display their characteristic features. Heretofore use has been made of articles for this purpose; but all that have come within my observation have been cumbersome and expensive and have not had the tasty appearance which is desirable and have not been capable of displaying the dish goods as effectively as wanted.

The easel or rack which I have succeeded in providing is made of wire throughout and preferably of a single piece or of a single length of twist.

As shown in the drawings, the easel may be regarded as comprising two principal parts or elements, one indicated as an entirety by A and the other by B. That at A has its parts so shaped and related as to provide a firm

support for the approximately flat dishes, such as saucers and plates, while that at B consists of an extension or forward projection adapted to support a cup.

The wire of the element A is bent to have the approximately vertical back part *a a b*, the leg parts being indicated at *a a* and the top connecting and supporting bar at *b*. Just forward of the legs *a* the wire is bent upward somewhat, as shown at *c*, and extended forward a suitable distance. It is then turned somewhat sharply upward to form a stop at *d*. At the top of this stop part the wire is carried forward a short distance and then bent inward to form an angle at *e*. It will be understood that there are parts similar to those mentioned provided on each side of the easel. At *f* the strands of the wire are carried inward from the sides until they meet at *g*, where they are secured together, preferably by twisting them together two or three times, and, as shown, these parts *f f* of the wire strands are carried not only inward, but backward slightly.

From the interlocking twist at *g* the strands are shaped, as shown at *h h*, following curved lines approximating semicircles; but any of several curvatures can be followed. The end parts of the strands at the extremities of the curves *h h* are turned downward, as shown at *i i*, to form legs or supports, and at the extremities loops *j* are provided, preferably, these furnishing smooth foot-like terminals.

Four points of support for the easel are thus furnished, two at the feet *j j* and two at the bends *k k*, where the inclined arms *c* and the back legs *a* join.

By examining Figs. 1 and 2 the mode of using the easel or rack will be readily understood. A plate C or article of long diameter can be fitted to the rear part of the support, the front portion of its edge resting against the stops at *d d*, which prevent it from slipping forward and its upper part bearing backward against the upright or vertical part of the back element A. A saucer or flat article of shorter diameter can be also rested upon the easel in such way as to avoid any serious bearing upon or contact with the plate C and yet in such manner that neither will interfere with effectively displaying the ornamentation or characteristics of the other. The

forward portion of the edge of the saucer D rests upon the wire in the bends or angles at *e*, which hold its lower part away from the plate.

5 The front element B of the easel is utilized to support the cup E. These cups approximate the shape and outline shown in the drawings. When desired—for instance, when the easel is in a relatively elevated position—the cup can be seated in the way
10 shown in Fig. 1—that is, have its bottom portion fitted snugly within the ring-like holder at *h h*, the vertical axis of the cup being then perpendicular to the plane of the
15 ring. Under other circumstances—for instance, when the easel is in a relatively low position—the cup can be tilted or placed with its axis inclined to the plane of the ring, so that the line of sight of the observer shall
20 be approximately at right angles to its axis, as shown in Fig. 2. Consequently the full visual effect of the ornamentation on the cup can be obtained, not only as considered by
25 itself, but also in conjunction with the visual effects resulting from the ornamentation of the other articles.

It will be noticed that in the embodiment of my invention illustrated herein I have so utilized the wire as to bring the two end parts
30 to the front to serve as legs *i i* and will also be seen that in the construction shown these are not rigidly connected together. Consequently the two halves of the holder - ring *h h* can yield more or less to permit the insertion of
35 articles of different sizes or shapes.

What I claim is—

1. A display rack or easel for dishes having two elements A and B, the element A having an upward-extending support for the back of
40 a flat article and having stops in front of the lower edge of the article, and the element B having a ring-like holder with downwardly-extending legs arranged in front of said stops on the element A, said ring-like holder being
45 adapted to support a cup independently of the flat article in the rear, said rack or easel being made of wire bent to provide the aforesaid elements, substantially as set forth.

2. A display rack or easel for dishes having
50 a rear element A formed with an upwardly-extending support *a, b*, and with an upper stop *e* for a dish of small diameter and a lower stop *d* for a dish of larger diameter, the aforesaid parts of the easel being formed of a
55 single wire, and a front element B extending forward from the element A and having a wire ring-like support *h* for a cup, substantially as set forth.

3. A display rack or easel for dishes having
60 a front cup-support formed of the two-part wire ring with the downwardly - extending leg or legs and a rear support for saucers or plates having the upwardly-extending back support and stops or rests for the front edges

of the dishes, said stops being below the
65 aforesaid ring and between the said downwardly - extending leg or legs and the said upwardly-extending back support, and all formed of a continuous wire, substantially as set forth. 70

4. A display rack or easel of the class described having an upwardly-extending support for the back of a flat article and a support inclined thereto for the lower front edge of the flat article, a cup-holder secured at one
75 side to the upper end of said inclined support and having at its other side legs with table rests or feet.

5. A display rack or easel of the class described, comprising an elevated cup - holder
80 having legs with table-engaging feet or rests at one side, and a support for a flat article having an upwardly-extending element adapted to support the back of the article and an inclined element adapted both to sup-
85 port the front edge of the article to be displayed and to assist in supporting the said cup-holder.

6. A display-easel of the class described formed of a single piece of wire having up-
90 wardly-extending supports for the back of a flat article, an inclined support for the front lower edge of said flat article, and a cup-holder at the upper end of said inclined support having supports with table-engaging
95 rests or feet.

7. A display-easel formed of a single piece of wire comprising an upwardly-extending support for the back of a flat article, an inclined support for the lower front edge of
100 said flat article, a horizontally-disposed cup-holder at the top of said inclined support and projecting forward therefrom, and having legs with table-engaging feet or rests.

8. A display-easel of the class described
105 comprising an upwardly-extending support for the back of a flat article, an inclined support having a plurality of stops adapted to engage with the lower front edge of flat articles to be displayed, and a cup-holder extend-
110 ing forward from the upper end of said inclined support and having a horizontally-disposed cup-engaging portion and legs with table-engaging rests or feet.

9. A display-easel comprising an upright
115 portion adapted to support the back of a flat article, a support for the lower front edge of said flat article inclined to the back support and secured thereto at its lower end, and a horizontally-disposed cup-holder secured to
120 the upper end of said inclined portion extending forward therefrom, and having upright supporting-legs independent of said inclined support.

10. A display-easel of the class described,
125 formed of a single piece of wire bent to comprise an upright part adapted to support the back of a flat article and having parallel legs

connected by an elevated cross-bar, and an inclined part having stops for the article to be displayed extending forward and upward from the legs at lower ends of the legs of said upright part, the strands at the upper end of said inclined part being intertwisted and then bent away from each other to form a horizontally-disposed ring-like cup-holder and

then bent downwardly to form supports with table-engaging rests or feet.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN B. TIMBERLAKE.

Witnesses:

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