

No. 843,826.

PATENTED FEB. 12, 1907.

M. C. KLOEPPINGER.
HOLDING AND DRAINING RACK.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 26, 1906.

Fig. 1.

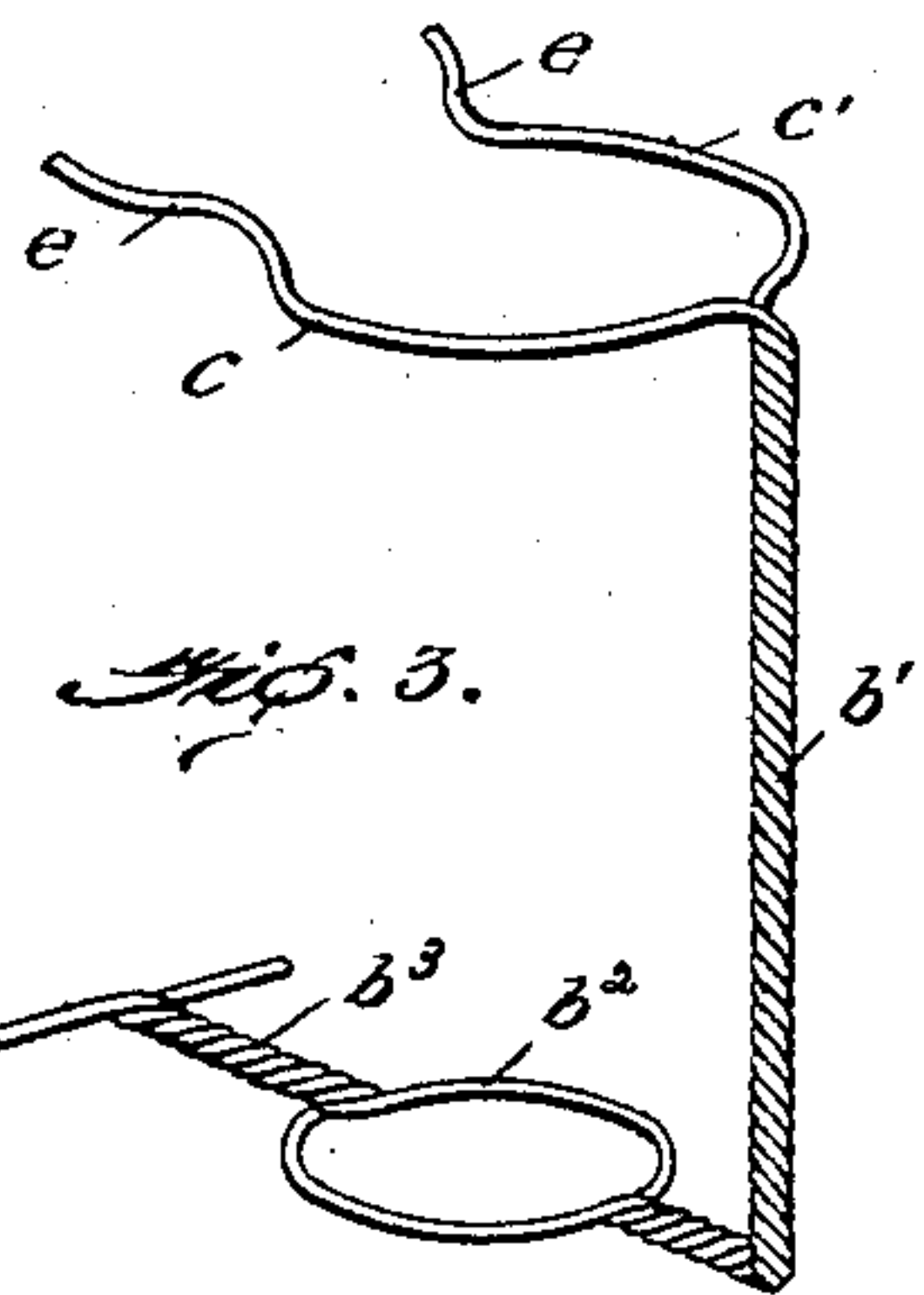
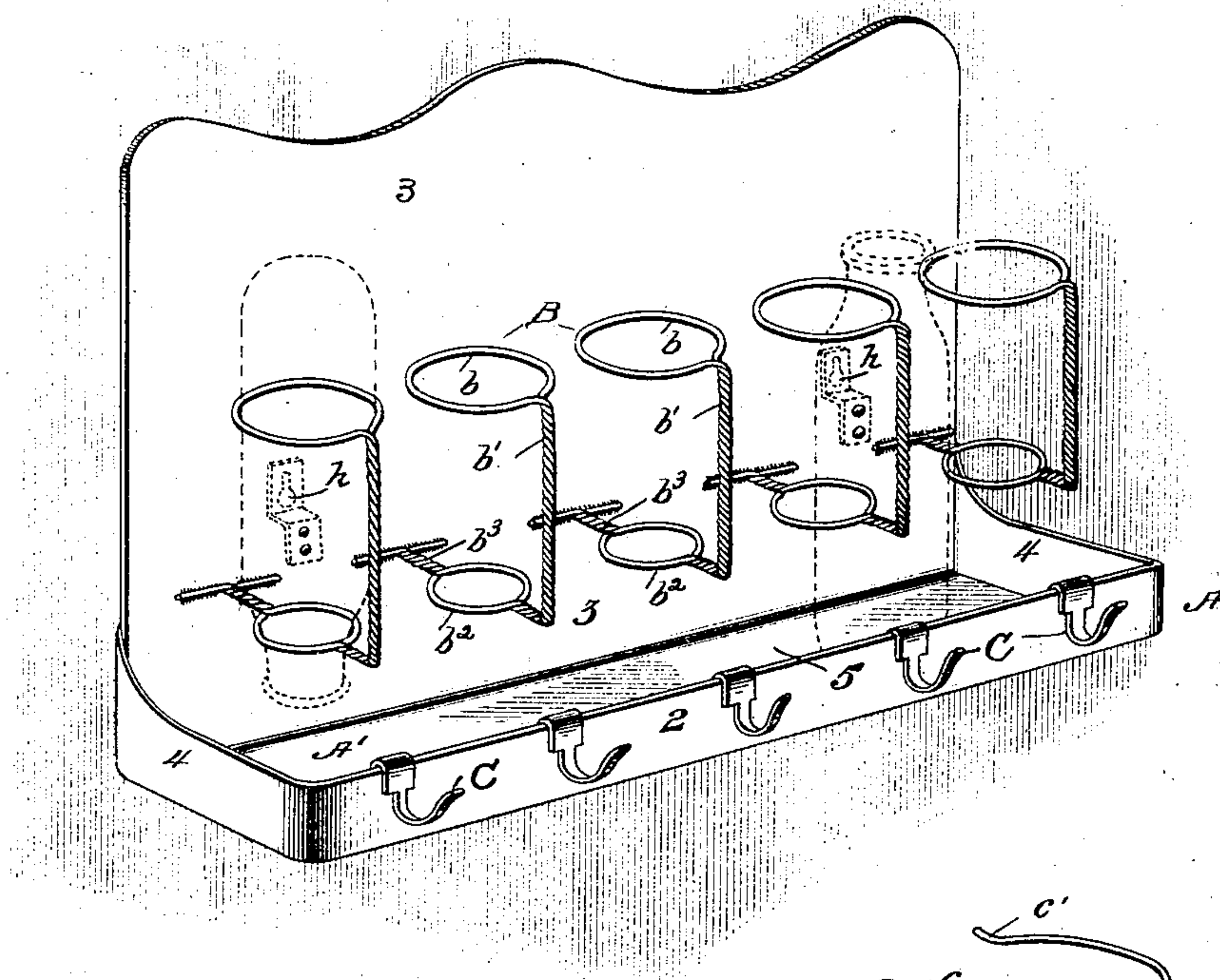


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

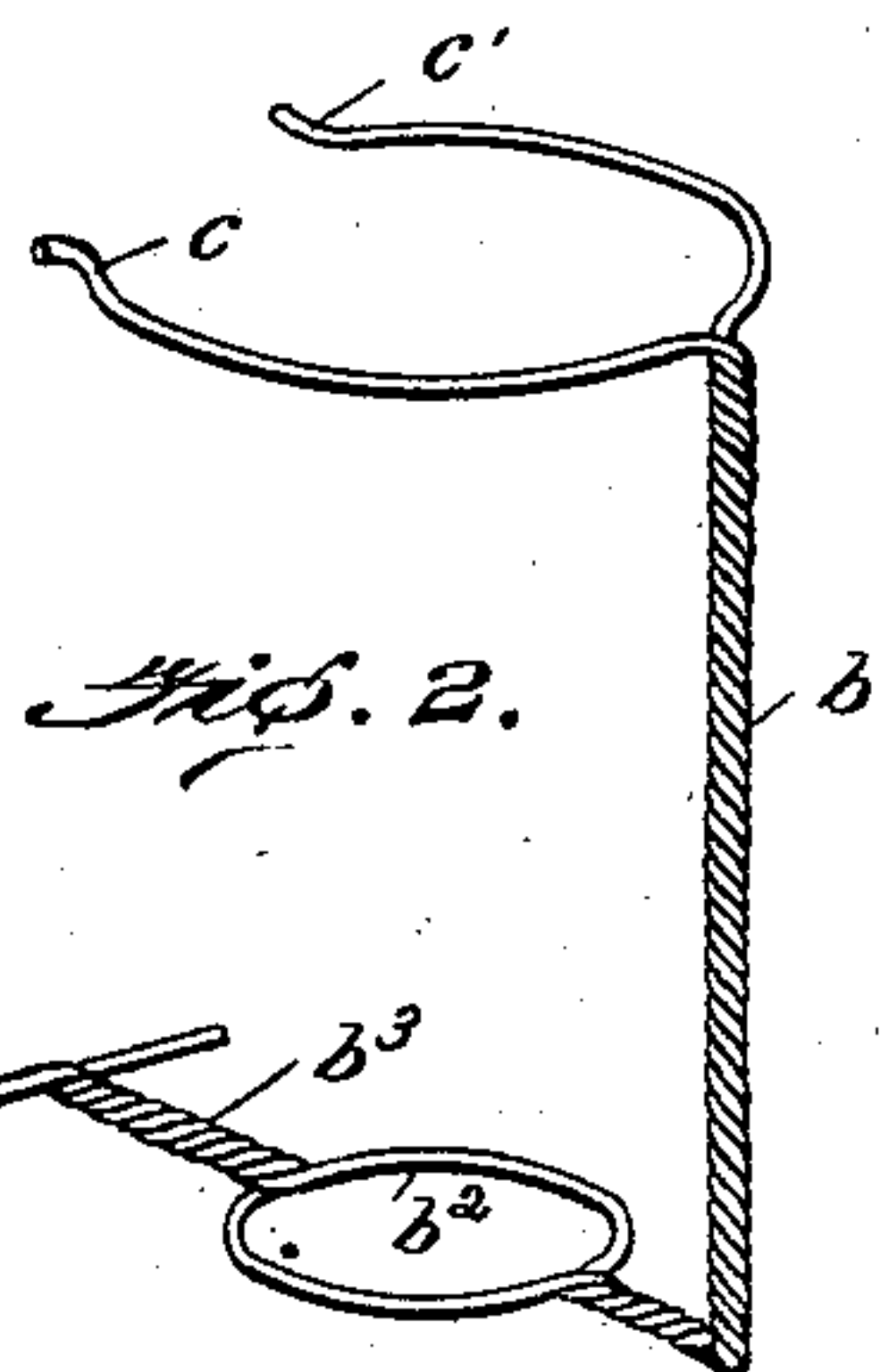
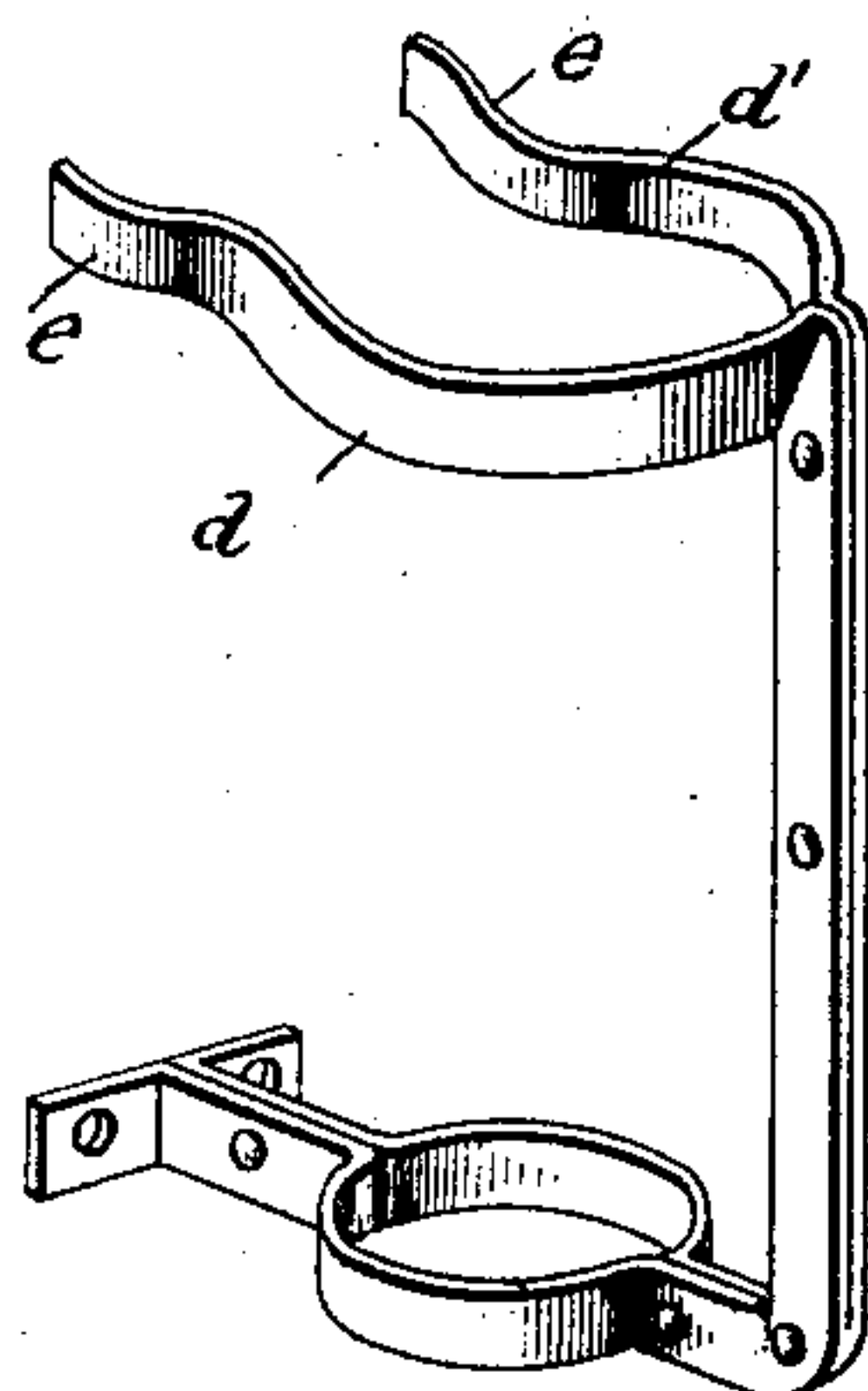


Fig. 2.

Witnesses

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HOLDING AND DRAINING RACK.

No. 843,826.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 12, 1907.

Application filed May 26, 1906. Serial No. 318,943.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MATHILDA C. KLOEPPINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Holding and Draining Racks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a means which is primarily intended for holding and draining the accessories of a nursery, which the law of sanitation and the healthfulness of an infant child require should be preserved with the utmost cleanliness.

My present invention is an improvement on my former patent, No. 776,332, dated November 29, 1904; and it has for its essential object the provision of means for better protecting the interior of the nursing-bottle from possible contamination after it has been washed and is being drained and put in condition for subsequent use.

Another object is to afford a more positive means for retaining the bottles upright while being filled and to appropriately hold them inverted for draining purposes without any part of the bottle-supporting means entering the interior of the bottle, and thereby transferring to said interior the possible germs which may be carried by the bottle-holding devices.

With these objects in view my invention consists of the parts and the constructions and combinations of parts which I will hereinafter describe and claim.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a holding and draining rack embodying my invention. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 illustrate modified forms of racks.

The proper washing and subsequent draining of the bottles, nipples, and other accessories of the nursery are recognized by the medical world and bacteriologists as of the utmost importance to the health of very young children, especially those who must depend upon artificial foods for preserving life. Accordingly I have devised an improved means which is primarily intended as a holder and draining rack for the articles named and which will serve not only to drain the bottles, nipples, &c., but will furnish a

convenient holder where bottles and nipples and other nursery accessories may be conveniently found ready for instant use and where the implements for cleaning and filling the bottles may also be assembled.

In constructing my improved holder and drain-rack I prefer to make the body portion A of any suitable material—say sheet metal—enameled or otherwise coated to avoid oxidation and to facilitate cleaning and to impart an attractive appearance. The body portion A is preferably of shallow pan-like form of any desired design to provide a relatively wide trough A' bound by the front and rear walls 2 and 3 and end walls 4, the bottom of the trough being substantially horizontal and of sufficient width between the walls 2 and 3 to form a flat tabular surface upon which the bottles may be supported in an upright position while being filled.

The back wall 3 of the body portion extends upwardly for a considerable distance, so as to protect the wall of the apartment in which the device is used and to afford ample means for supporting the racks in which the bottles are suspended in an inverted position. On the back of the rear wall may be placed suitable lugs with holes *h* for the reception of the heads of nails, screws, or other holding means on the wall of the apartment, said openings having reduced portions into which are passed the shanks of the nails, screws, &c.; to securely detachably connect the device to the said wall. Along the front of the rear wall 3 and sufficiently removed above the bottom to give a good working space below is a row of holding-racks in which the bottles may be placed in an inverted position and allowed to drain. These racks may be of different designs, and several forms I illustrate in my drawings.

Referring to Fig. 1, the racks B are made of wire of sufficient gage to appropriately sustain the weight of the bottles. They may be formed of a single piece of wire bent at its middle to provide an upper holder *b*, having the general form of a ring or loop, which is disposed at the top of and horizontal to the vertical shank *b'* which is formed by the two parts of the wire being bent at about right angles with the loop or ring and thence brought together and twisted, the lower portion of said shank being in turn bent at right

angles and the members of the wire separated and bent in reverse curves to form a second holder b^2 of loop or ring form, which is positioned below and substantially in line with the upper holder and is of smaller diameter than the latter, the said members of the wire beyond said second or lower holder being again brought together and twisted, as at b^3 , and the terminals finally secured to the rear wall of the body A in some well-known and appropriate method, as by brazing, soldering, &c. The rack is thus positioned on the back wall of the body A with the two holders substantially in line, and when wishing to drain a bottle which has been washed the said bottle is passed mouth end first through the upper holder and the smaller or mouth end permitted to enter the lower or smaller holder, while the enlarged portion of the bottle at the base of the neck is suitably supported on the lower holder. By this means the bottle is embraced on the outside by the two holders and is securely held in an inverted position and allowed to drain its contents, and no portion of the rack is permitted to enter the neck or other interior part of the bottle to convey thereto any bacteria which may have found lodgment on the rack.

Instead of making the rack of a single piece of wire I may otherwise construct it. For instance, I may use two pieces of wire twisted together, substantially as before described, with one end of the wires fixed to the back wall of the body, as before described, and the other ends reversely curved to form a holder in the nature of a pair of spring-jaws $c c'$, between which the body portion of the bottle is held in the manner substantially as before described. If desired, I may dispense with the wire construction entirely and use flat metal strips $d d'$, as in Fig. 4, riveted or otherwise secured together and fashioned to form the upper and lower holders in which the bottle is held inverted, in the manner before described.

It will be observed in the constructions shown in Figs. 3 and 4 that the jaws which form the upper holder are provided with reverse curves at e , the purpose of which construction is to allow the neck of a bottle standing upright on the floor or bottom of the trough A', as when filling said bottle, to be pressed between and substantially embraced by the adjacent jaw members of a pair of racks, as shown in Fig. 1, the distance between the jaw members of adjacent racks being such that when the bottle is supported on the bottom of the trough and is being filled its neck portion will be so confined between said members as to prevent the bottle being tipped over sidewise or forward and spill the contents.

In whichever form of rack used the space be-

tween adjacent racks is such that the neck of the bottle will extend said space and be substantially embraced by the sides of the upper holder to restrict or prevent the tilting movement of the bottle when upright and being filled.

On the front wall of the trough I dispose hooks C or equivalent means, upon which may be hung such devices as a brush for cleaning the bottles, nipples, &c., and a cup, funnel, &c., for use in filling the bottle, also a sterilized or other receiver for the nursing-nipples.

By the means described no part of the holding and draining rack enters the interior of the bottle to contaminate the same or to transfer thereto any germs which may have lodged on the rack. At the same time, the bottle is secured against tipping and accidental spilling of the contents while being filled and is safely held while inverted and being drained.

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

1. In a holder and rack for nursery accessories, the combination with a support which comprises a horizontal shallow trough upon which a bottle may be supported in an upright position, and a vertical back, of a series of racks fixed to said back and disposed vertically over said trough, said racks including a shank having one end connected to said back said shank being disposed vertically in front of and substantially parallel with the back and having holders at the upper and lower ends, said upper holder adapted to embrace the body of the bottle and said lower holder adapted to support the bottle and to receive and inclose the exterior of the bottle-neck.

2. In a holder and rack for nursery accessories the combination with a support which comprises a horizontal trough and a vertical back, of a pair of holding-racks placed side by side and relatively close together to form an intermediate space to allow the neck of an upright bottle to be entered therebetween, and to be substantially embraced thereby, each of said racks comprising a vertical shank spaced from and arranged in parallelism with the back and having one end bent horizontally and connected to said back, said shank being provided with upper and lower horizontally-disposed holders for the reception of a bottle when inverted.

3. In a holder and rack for nursery accessories, the combination with a support which includes a horizontal trough and a vertical back, of a pair of holding-racks arranged in close relation to each other, each of said racks comprising a vertically-disposed shank spaced from and arranged parallel with the back and having one end fixed to said back,

5 and having horizontally-disposed upper and lower holders whose sides are compressible to allow the neck of an upright bottle supported on the trough to be pressed laterally between the sides of adjacent racks whereby said bottle is allowed but a limited side movement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MATHILDA C. KLOEPPINGER.

Witnesses:

T. W. FOWLER,
C. W. FOWLER.