

No. 854,084.

PATENTED MAY 21, 1907.

O. C. FLETCHER.
BROOM RACK.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 12, 1904. RENEWED NOV. 2, 1906.

Fig. 1.

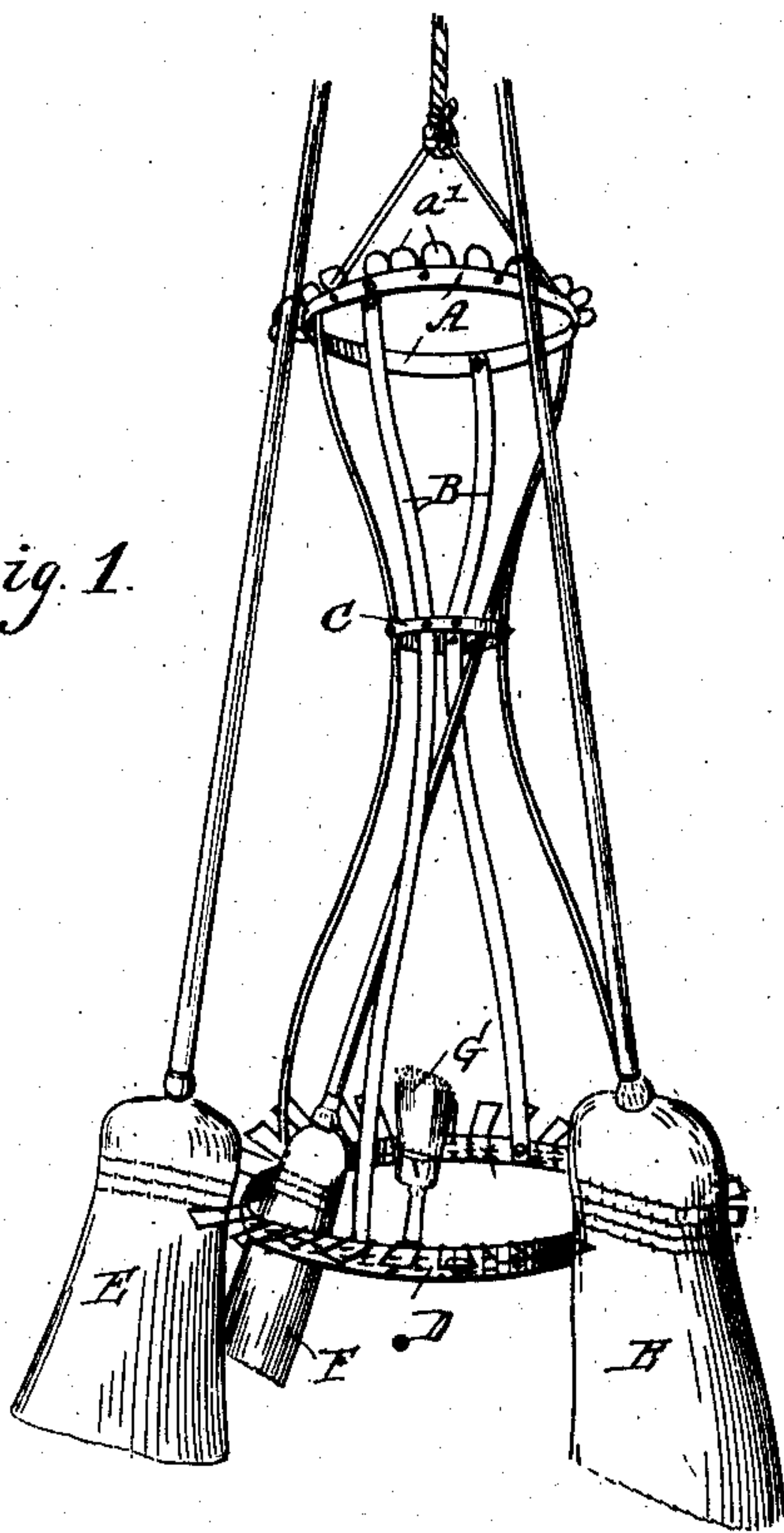


Fig. 2.

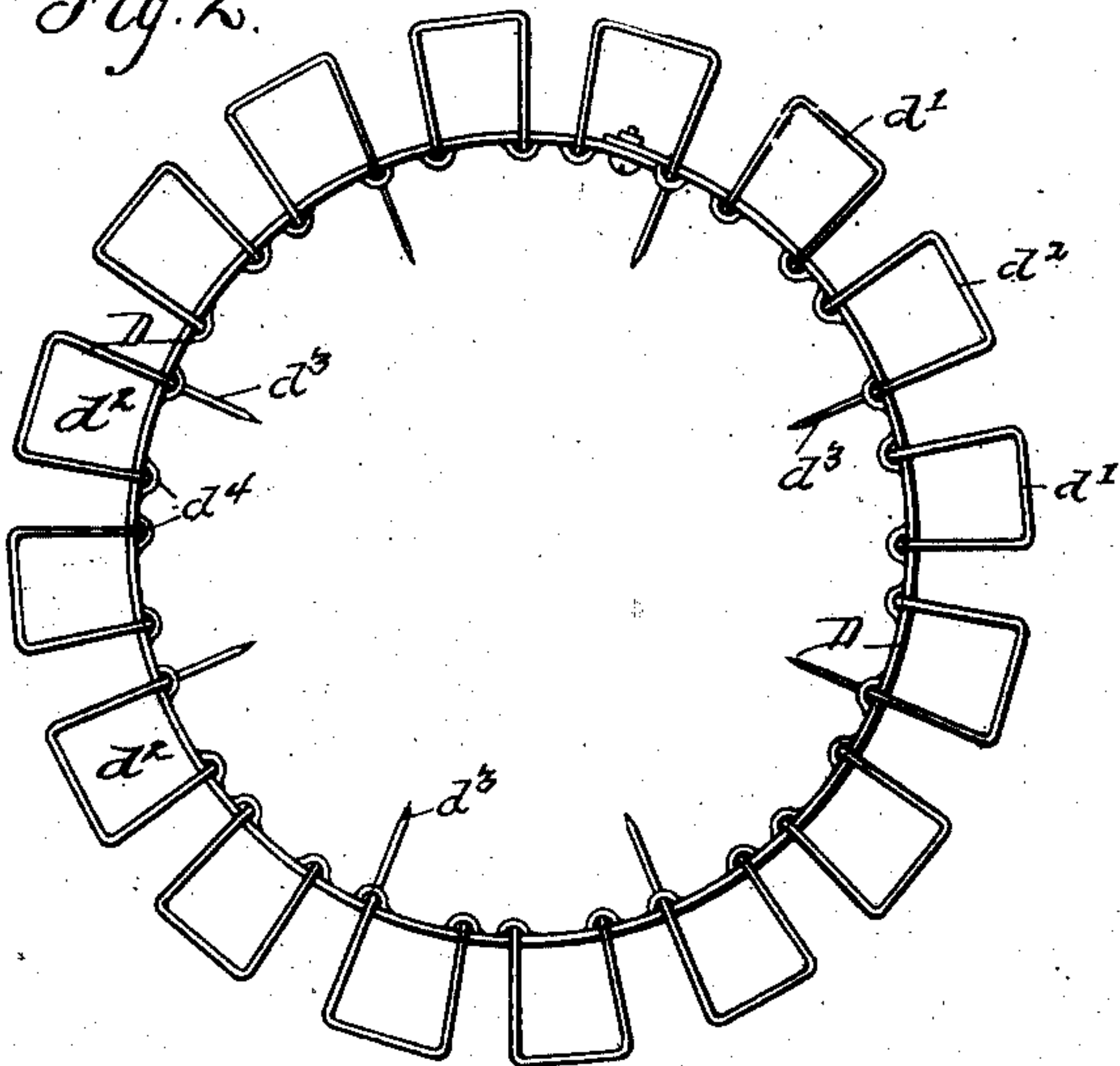


Fig. 3.

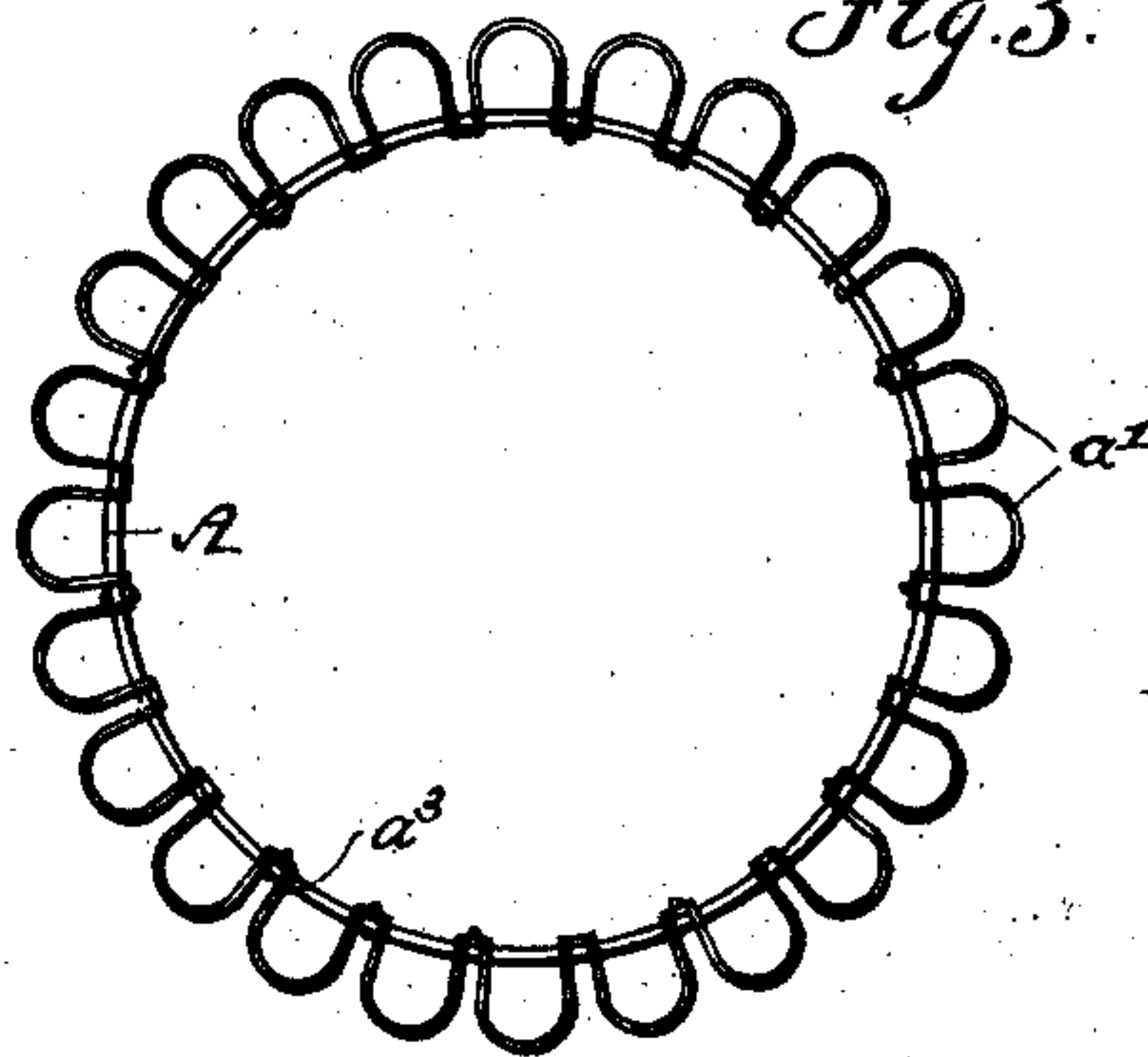


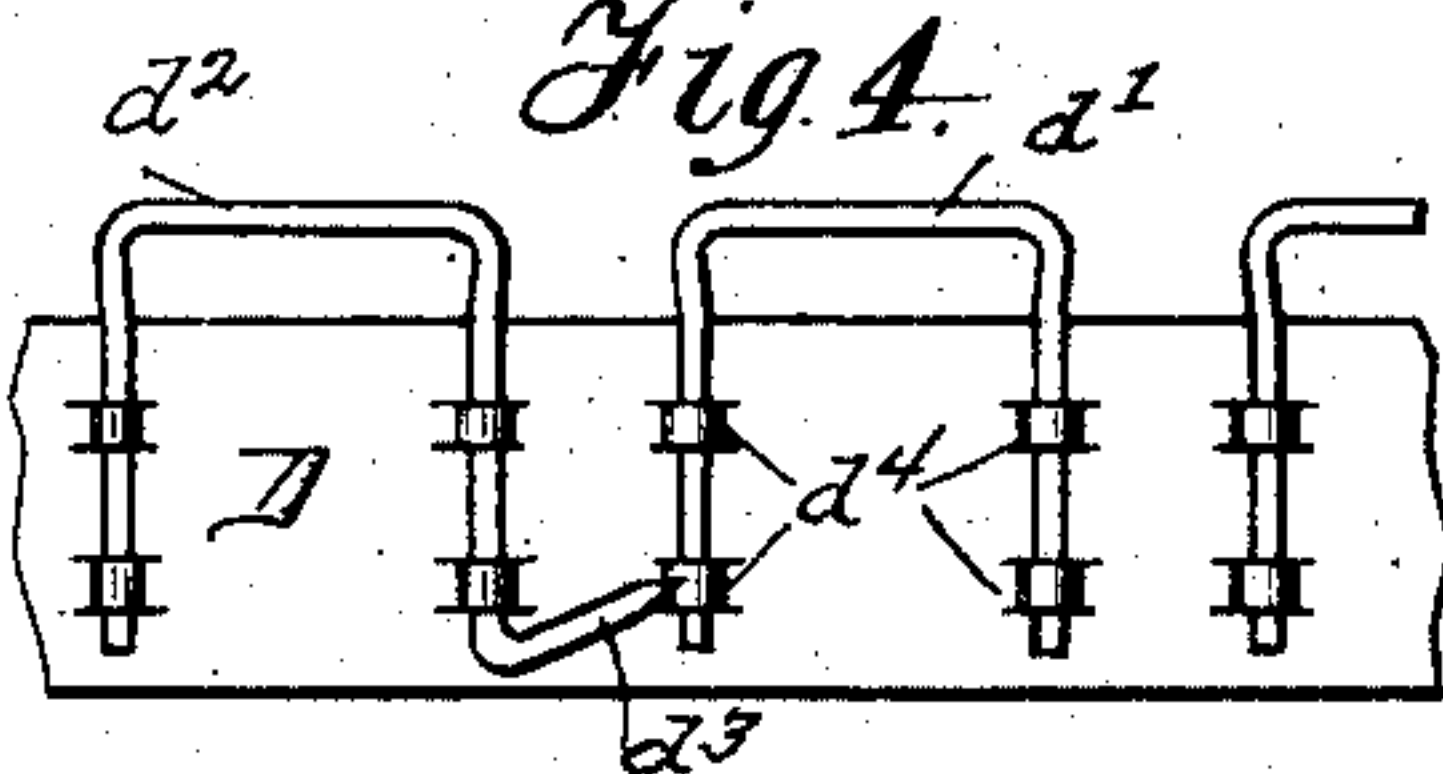
Fig. 5.



Witnesses.

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Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BROOM-RACK.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 21, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ORLAND C. FLETCHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Broom-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in racks for displaying brooms and brushes or similar articles of that type that is designed to be suspended from the ceiling of stores and to clasp or hold the brooms so that they may be removed singly without disarranging the other brooms.

The especial objects of my improvements is to produce a device of this character that will be cheap to construct and durable and that will possess sufficient rigidity to retain its form and without liability of becoming twisted in use thus throwing the brooms out of their original alinement in the rack.

In the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this application:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a rack made according to my invention showing some brooms and a whisk-brush in position; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the base ring of my improved rack; Fig. 3 is a similar view of the top ring; Fig. 4 is a fragmentary detail of the base ring on an enlarged scale, and Fig. 5 is a similar detail of the top ring.

Referring to the drawings in detail, A represents the top ring of my improved rack, and same consists of an annular band of strap iron of suitable thickness and width, to which is secured, by rivets a^2 which pass through suitable holes in the band, a wire bent to form a plurality of wide loops a^1 and narrow loops a^3 . The rivets pass through some of the loops a^3 so that their heads overlap the wire on each side thus securing the latter to the band. The handles of the large brooms E pass through the loops a^1 and are loosely held between the wires composing such loops. The narrow loops a^3 are bent downwardly so as to overlie the inner face of the band A, thus stiffening the loops.

To the inner side of ring A I bolt the upper ends of four flat metal straps B, the lower ends of which are similarly connected with the ring D, so that by removing said bolts the said rings can be disconnected for convenience in packing and shipping. At a convenient point below the ring A, I arrange a smaller ring C through which the straps B

pass and to which they are bolted as with the other rings. This ring C serves as a receiver for the handles of smaller brooms as F, and is also useful in stiffening the connecting frame formed by the straps B as will be apparent. The base ring D is also of flat strap metal with its ends connected in any suitable manner and sets vertically in the rack. The sides of the ring are cut and bent to form a plurality of retaining loops d^4 , which are suitably spaced apart and same are adapted to receive, and when somewhat flattened, to frictionally grip the vertical wires of the loops d^1 , d^2 . These loops are formed by bending a section of wire to the form of an inverted U and then bending the resultant form at right angles, so that when the legs of the loop are inserted through the retaining loops d^4 , the connecting portion of the loop will extend at right angles to the sides of the band D, and project beyond the outer face of the latter.

Each alternate loop, as d^2 , has one of its legs longer than the other and the extra portion is bent inwardly and slightly upward to form a spur as d^3 on which may be stuck small brushes or whisk-brooms as G as shown, or which may serve as hooks for the suspension of any article. The wire from which the loops a^1 , d^1 , d^2 , are made has some "spring" to it, thus giving the loops the requisite resiliency to enable them to frictionally grasp the articles placed therebetween.

The bending of the loops d^1 , d^2 , has the same stiffening effect as in the loops a^2 , hence I am able to use lighter (and hence cheaper) wire than would otherwise be possible, and at the same time produce an article that is more rigid than similar articles not possessing this feature of construction.

It will be apparent that the manner of attaching the legs of the loops d^1 , d^2 , to the band D, by using portions of the metal of the latter to embrace these legs, avoids the necessity of rivets, and that the same method may be used on the loops a^1 in which case the loops d^4 would embrace or inclose the narrow loops a^3 .

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

1. In a rack, an upper ring having embracing loops secured thereto, a base ring having embracing loops secured thereto, an intermediate ring without loops and metal straps

detachably connected with said upper and base rings and passing through said intermediate ring.

2. In a rack, a base ring having a plurality of loops secured thereto, each of said loops consisting of a wire bent to form a broom embracing portion, and legs adapted to be secured to the ring and some of said loops having portions of their legs bent and arranged to form hooks or spurs, and means for securing said loops to said rings.

3. In a rack, one or more rings having eyes formed therein by cutting and punching the metal, a plurality of loops composed of

wire bent to form embracing portions extending at right angles from said ring, and having their legs extending through and secured in said eyes.

4. In a rack, a ring, embracing loops secured thereto, said loops having portions projecting into said ring and forming spurs or hooks for the purpose described.

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

ORLAND C. FLETCHER.

Witnesses:

F. BENJAMIN,

H. DE LOS HIGMAN.