No. 687,020. Patented Nov. 19, 1901.

E. K. HALLENBERG.

HOLDER FOR CUPS OR PLATES.

(Application filed Mar. 2, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

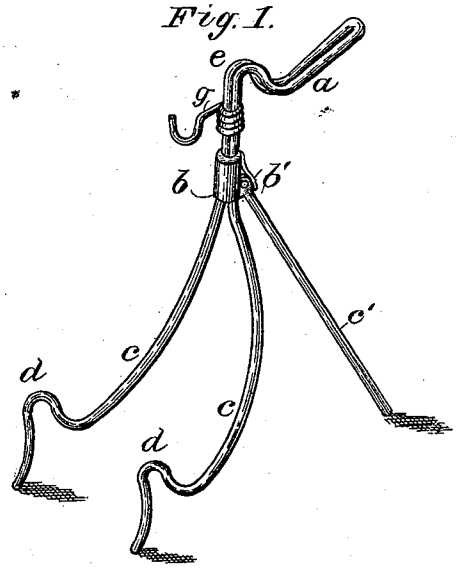


Fig. 2.

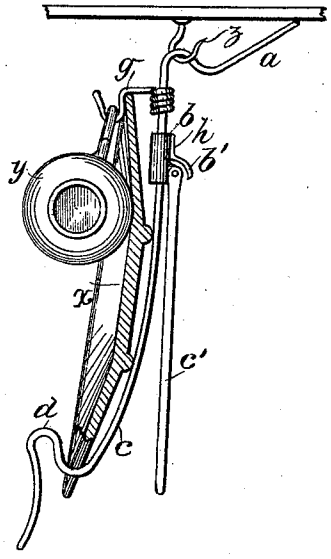
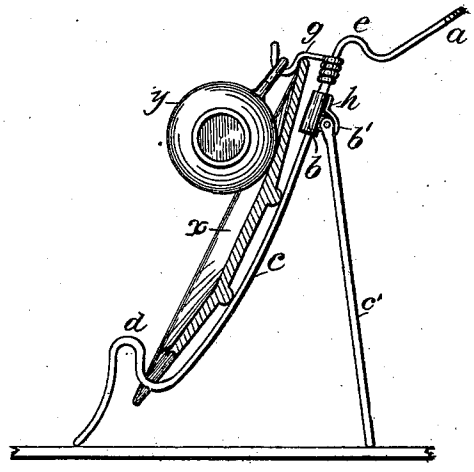


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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ELEONORE K. HALLENBERG, OF PEWEE VALLEY, KENTUCKY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD TO ADOLPH HALLENBERG, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

HOLDER FOR CUPS OR PLATES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 687,020, dated November 19, 1901.

Application filed March 2, 1901. Serial No. 49,601. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELEONORE K. HALLENBERG, residing at Pewee Valley, in the county of Oldham and State of Kentucky, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Holders for Cups or Plates, of which the following is a specification.

It is my object to provide an improved holder for cups, plates, or pictures which shall be particularly adapted for suspension from a shelf or other fixed object and to assume and maintain a position in which the cup and plate or other objects shall be held projected forward, so as to exhibit them to the best advantage.

The invention further includes a movable device adapted to engage plates or pictures of different diameters and also to serve as a support for cups or other articles that are to be exhibited along with the plates or pictures.

The invention is adapted for self-support upon a suitable base, it being constructed as a tripod and one of its legs being hinged so as to fold or lie between the others when not required for use.

The details of construction are as shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my device supported upon a horizontal surface as in use. Fig. 2 is a side view showing the device suspended from a shelf or other fixed support and supporting a cup and saucer in the required position. Fig. 3 is a side view showing the device self-supported on a horizontal surface and having a cup and saucer attached.

The body or main portion of the holder is formed of wire, preferably a single piece, the same being bent or doubled at the middle of its length. In the upper part of the holder the two portions of the wire forming the rigid prong or lever-arm *a* lie close together, but diverge at *b* to form the legs *c*, which are suitably curved and provided with shoulders *d* to adapt them to support a saucer, a picture, or card. The upper part *a* is bent rearwardly, downwardly, and then upwardly at its extremity, so that when in contact with a shelf, as in Fig. 2, it may serve as a lever to hold the body or main frame of the device in due position to exhibit a saucer or other article. The sharp bend produced at *e*, between *a* and *b*, serves as a sort of loop for use in suspending the holder from a hook *z*, as shown in Fig. 2, the said hook being secured to the under side of a shelf or other fixed object. A saucer *x* or a picture or card may be supported on the legs *c*, and its upper edge is engaged by the downward bend of a hook *g*, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The saucer is thus secured so that it cannot be detached without disengaging the said hook. For this purpose and also to accommodate saucers, &c., of different diameters or lengths the hook *g* is adapted to slide vertically on the part *a* of the holder. The hook is preferably formed of wire, which is coiled about the part *a* and projects forward, as shown. It is apparent that the hook may serve as a convenient support or attachment for a cup *y*, which will in that case hang in front of the top portion of the saucer *x*. When the holder is suspended from a hook *z*, the weight of the saucer and cup would cause it to swing backward, and thus the goods would not be exhibited to the best advantage, particularly if the shelf be placed high. In this case the rear projection or prong of the part *a* serves to hold the body or lower portion of the holder projected forward in due position, as shown in Fig. 2, by reason of contact of such prong with the shelf. In other words, the prong serves as a lever and the hook as a fulcrum for maintaining the said position of the goods. The holder being constructed of flexible wire, the aforesaid prong may be bent to assume different angles, as may be required to exhibit goods when suspended from shelves arranged at different heights. A sleeve *b* incloses the body of the holder at the point of divergence of the legs *c*, and a third leg *c'* is pivoted to such sleeve and adapted to hold or hang in vertical position, as in Fig. 2, or to be extended for supporting the holder, as in Figs. 1 and 3. In order to prevent the leg *c'* from projecting or sliding too far, a prong *b'* is provided as an attachment of the sleeve *b*, the same serving as a stop or shoulder with which the leg *c'* engages when in the extended position.

As thus constructed my improved holder

is adapted for use in the ordinary way upon a horizontal or inclined support and also for suspension at any desired angle from a shelf or other fixed object.

What I claim is—

1. The improved holder for the purpose specified comprising the body portion suitably constructed for supporting articles to be displayed, and having a top part consisting of a wire provided with a bend that adapts it for suspension as shown, and a prong *a*, extending rearwardly and to a greater height than said bend, to adapt it for contact with the support from which the holder is suspended and to hold the body or lower portion of the holder projected forward, substantially as shown and described.

2. The improved holder for cups and saucers, consisting of the body formed of two curved and divergent legs, having shoulders, and the straight upper part extending above the junction of said legs, and the hook *g* mounted and adapted to slide vertically on such upper part, and to engage the upper edges of saucers of different diameters, substantially as shown and described.

ELEONORE K. HALLENBERG.

Witnesses:

GUSTAV HALLENBERG,

ADOLPH HALLENBERG.