

(No Model.)

J. E. GAUSE.

WATCH RACK.

No. 358,193.

Patented Feb. 22, 1887.

Fig. 1.

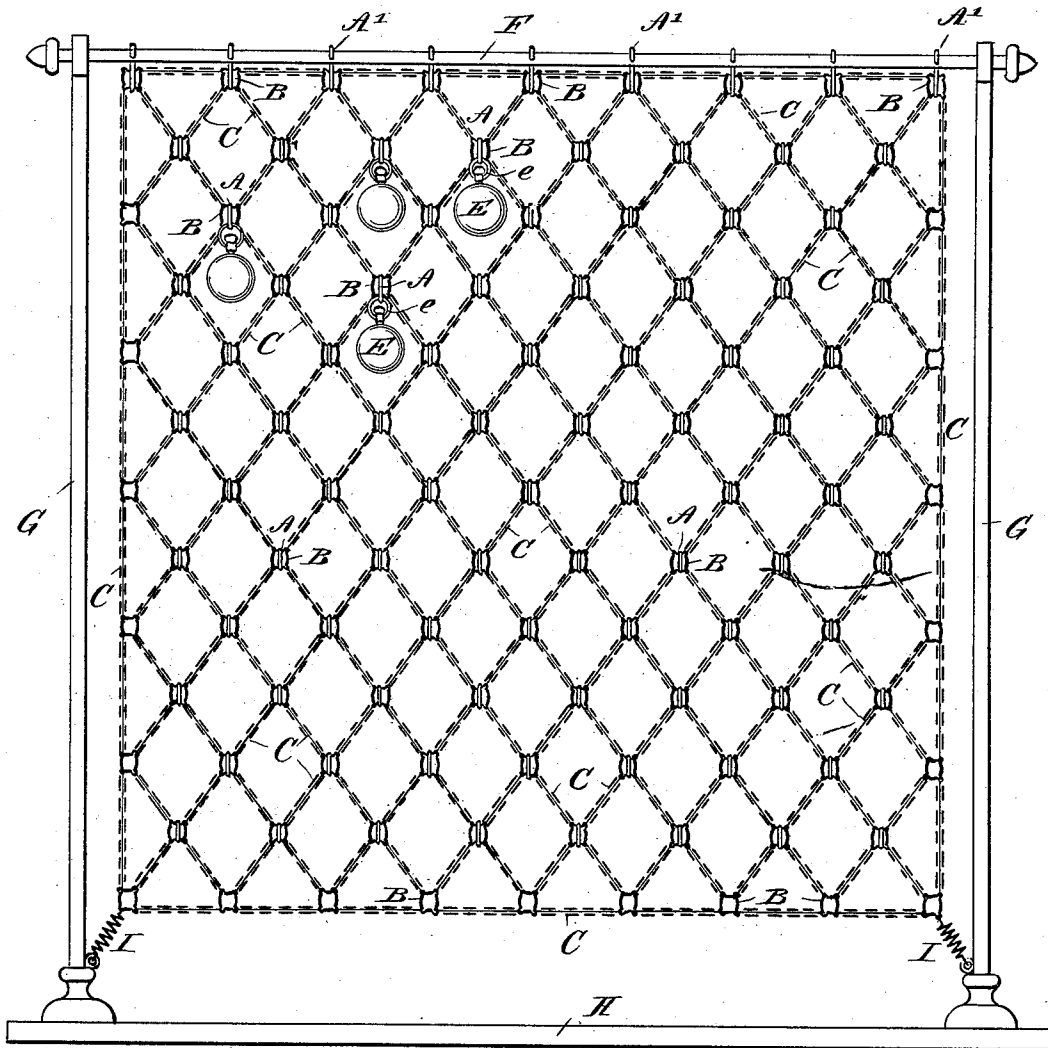
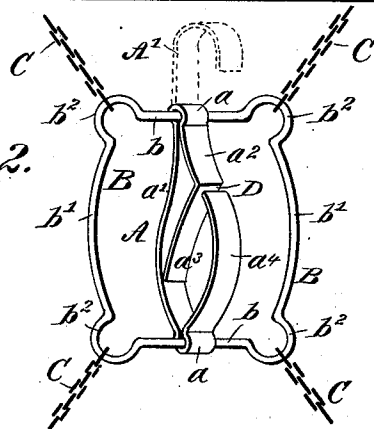


Fig. 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## WATCH-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 358,193, dated February 22, 1887.

Application filed March 3, 1886. Serial No. 193,870. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES E. GAUSE, of  
Brownsville, in the county of Haywood and  
State of Tennessee, have invented a new and  
5 Improved Watch-Rack, of which the follow-  
ing is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to racks adapted espe-  
cially for the use of watch-makers and jew-  
elers for hanging watches and jewelry upon,  
10 and has for its object to provide an inexpen-  
sive and neat rack, which may readily be  
folded or rolled up, with the articles held by  
it, for placing the goods with the rack in a  
safe over night, and may be as readily un-  
15 folded and hung up to display the articles,  
whereby time and labor will be saved in hand-  
ling the goods. The rack may also be used as  
a fixed or stationary rack for displaying a va-  
riety of merchandise.

20 The invention consists in certain novel fea-  
tures of construction and combinations of  
parts of the rack, all as hereinafter described  
and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying  
25 drawings, forming a part of this specification,  
in which similar letters of reference indicate  
corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a front view of the watch-rack  
as supported from a frame of metal rods, and  
30 Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of one  
of the rack-hooks and parts of the chains by  
which it is held drawn to a larger scale.

The watch-rack consists of a backing or  
groundwork of some suitable flexible mate-  
35 rial adapted to be readily folded or rolled up,  
and a series of hooks attached thereto to re-  
ceive the watches, locket, or other articles of  
jewelry.

The hooks A of the rack are connected by  
40 loops or eyes *a a*, formed at their opposite  
ends, with the cross-bars *b b* of wire frames B,  
which frames have a general rectangular form  
with side bars, *b' b'*, slightly curved outward,  
and provided, preferably, with corner bends  
45 or loops, *b''*, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, and  
to which loops the ends of short connecting  
chains or cords C are attached, to hold the  
hooks and frames A B by and between the  
50 chains in a net-like and flexible structure, as  
in Fig. 1.

One side, *a'*, of the rack-hook A is made  
continuous and concaved rearward, and the

front portion of the hook is formed in an up-  
per part, *a''*, curving downward and outward  
from the upper eye, *a*, of the hook, and at the  
55 end of part *a''* the elastic metal of the hook is  
bent downward and backward to form a part  
or lip, *a'''*, the lower end of which preferably  
rests against and is adapted to slide on the  
60 rear side, *a'*, of the hook. The lower part, *a''''*,  
of the front of the hook extends upward from  
the lower eye, *a*, in concavo-convex form about  
to the point of junction or the bend between  
the parts *a'' a'''*, thus providing a slit or space  
65 at D, through which the rings *e* of watches or  
lockets E may be passed to suspend them from  
the hooks, as shown in Fig. 1.

In placing the watches or locket E in the  
hooks A their rings *e* will be pressed against  
the parts *a''* of the hooks, which will yield  
backward as the ends of parts *a'''* slide on the  
70 rear sides, *a'*, of the hooks, and whereby the  
slit or slot at D will be opened sufficiently to  
allow the ring *e* to enter the hook, and when  
the watch is to be removed from the hook its  
75 ring *e* will be lifted up between the parts *a'' a'''*  
of the hook, and may be drawn through the  
slit at D as the lower front part, *a''''*, of the  
hook springs outward at its upper end. A slight  
twisting or turning movement of the watch  
80 or other article will facilitate its removal from  
the hook. After the watches E or other arti-  
cles are hung on the hooks they will not acci-  
dentally become disengaged therefrom. Conse-  
quently the entire rack, with the articles held  
85 by it, may be folded up and placed in a draw-  
er or safe over night, and may again be un-  
folded and hung up, without danger of losing the  
watches or other articles from it, and whereby  
time is economized over the method of hang-  
90 ing each article on a separate open hook and  
removing it therefrom for safety over night.  
The shape of the hooks A is such that the  
chains C or the articles held by the hooks can-  
95 not enter or catch on the hooks or become en-  
tangled; hence the rack will always unfold  
quickly and easily.

The rack may be hung from nails driven  
into a wall or counter, or into cross-bar of a  
sash or show-window or other support. 100

I show the rack hung from a frame of metal  
or other ornamental rods, consisting of a head-  
piece, F, supported by opposite side rods, G G,  
which may be attached directly to the floor of

a show-window, or to a base-piece, H. Open hooks A' are fixed to the top row of hooks A, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 2, said hooks A' being engaged with the head-piece F, to suspend the rack therefrom.

Spiral springs I, connected to the lower outside hook-frames, B B, of the rack, and to eyes *g g* on the posts G G, draw on the rack to hold it tightly stretched between the posts. Rubber bands or tie-chains may be used instead of the springs I, if preferred.

The chains C may be substituted by a flexible fabric of any kind—such as velvet, plush, silk, or other suitable material—which will fold readily, and to which the hook-frames may be attached.

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

1. A watch-rack made of a backing or network of flexible material, and hooks fixed thereto, adapted to receive and retain the watches or other articles hung thereon when the flexible backing is folded and unfolded, substantially as herein set forth.

2. The combination, in a watch-rack, of hooks adapted to receive watches or other articles, frames B, to which the hooks are connected, and chains C, connected to the hook-frames to form a flexible rack, substantially as herein set forth.

3. A rack hook and support comprising a hook, A, adapted to receive watches or other articles, and provided with end loops or eyes, *a a*, and a frame, B, consisting of opposite side bars, *b' b'*, connecting the bars *b b*, substantially as herein set forth.

4. In watch-racks, the hook A, formed with a rear side or part, *a'*, an outbent front part,

*a''*, an inbent part, *a''*, connected to part *a''*, and inclining downward and backward, and a lower front part, *a'*, providing a slit, as at D, in combination with a flexible webbing or backing, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

5. In watch-racks, the hook A, formed with opposite end loops, *a a*, a rear part, *a'*, and front part, *a''*, an inbent part, *a''*, connected to part *a''* and inclining downward and backward, and a lower front part, *a'*, providing a slit, as at D, in combination with a frame, B, made with end bars, *b b*, on which the hook-loops *a a* are fitted, opposite side bars, *b' b'*, and a flexible webbing or backing, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

6. In watch-racks, the combination of hooks A, adapted to receive watches or other articles, frames B, to which the hooks are connected, and a flexible backing supporting the frames or hooks, and said hooks A formed with upper hooks, A', adapting them for suspension from a rod or other suitable support, substantially as herein set forth.

7. The combination of a watch-rack consisting of hooks A, adapted to receive and retain watches or other articles, frames B, to which the hooks are attached, a flexible backing or netting to which series of the hooks and frames are attached, and the upper row of hooks having hooks A', and a rod-frame, F G G, and springs or ties, as at I I, connecting the opposite lower corners of the rack to the posts G G, substantially as herein set forth.

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Witnesses:

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