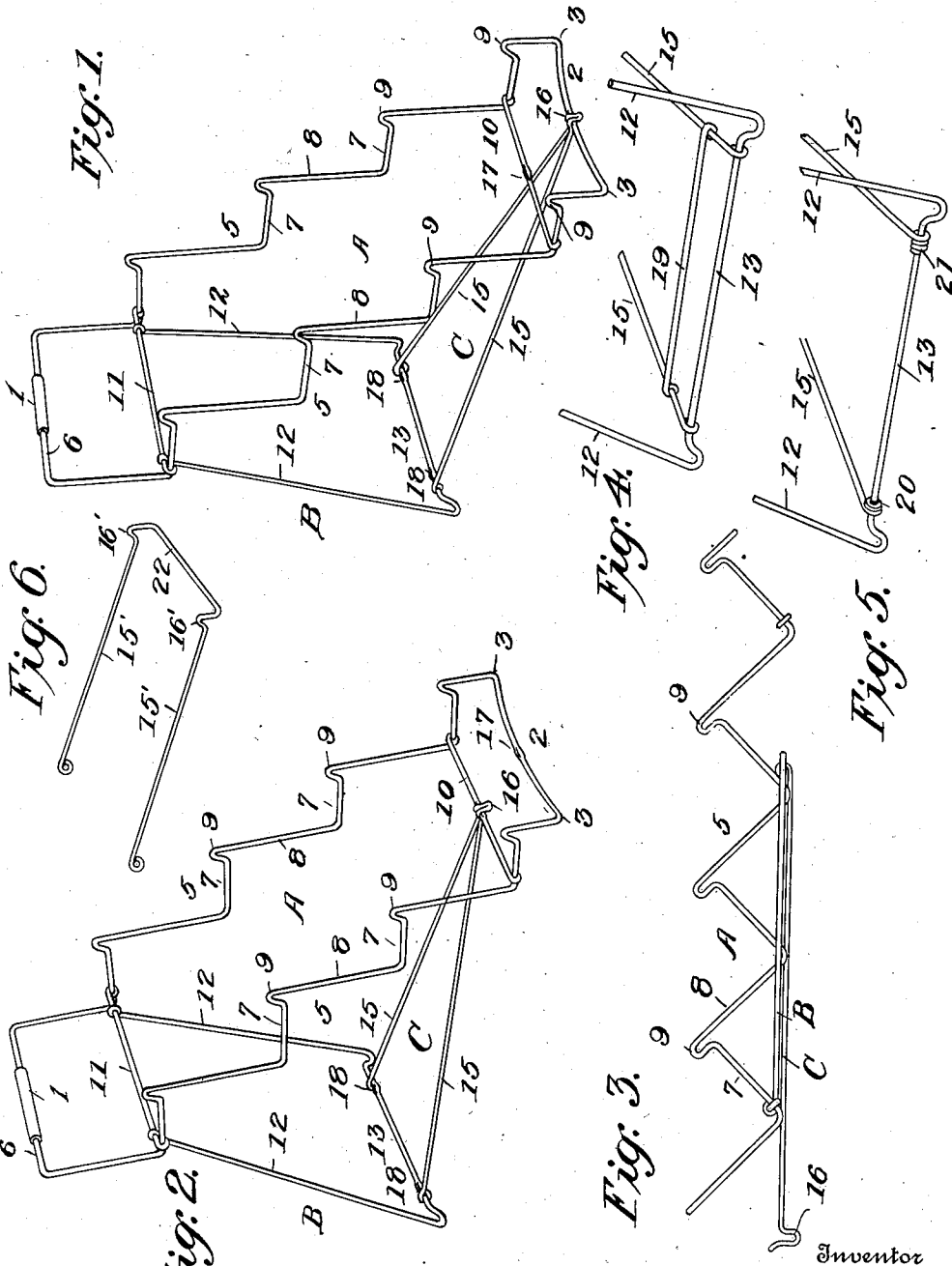


J. B. TIMBERLAKE.
FOLDING DISPLAY RACK.
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Patented Apr. 28, 1914.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. TIMBERLAKE, OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN.

FOLDING DISPLAY-RACK.

1,095,045.

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 Folding Display-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to racks or stands such as are employed for the display of articles, such as china and glassware, leather goods, and the like; and has for its object to produce a wire rack or stand of this type, simple in construction, of attractive appearance, that is strong and may be readily manufactured at a low cost.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the rack or stand embodying my present invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view taken from another point of vision and illustrating the rack set up at a different adjustment. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the rack when folded. Figs. 4 and 5 are detail views illustrating alternate features of construction to be described. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a form of brace differing from that illustrated in the other views.

The rack as a whole consists of a stepped stand A, a rear leg or support B, and a brace C. Each of these parts is preferably formed from a single piece of wire of appropriate size and bent to the desired configuration. The stand A consists of a front lower cross-bar 2 preferably bowed upward at its center and having its ends arranged to constitute the feet or supports 3 at the front of the rack. The two side pieces 5, 5, of the stand extend upward and backward from the front cross-bar which unites them, in a parallel stepped series of bends arranged to constitute the horizontal supports 7, the risers 8, and the rests 9, preferably formed by producing U-bends in the wire where the parts 7, 8, join at the front. The two side pieces are united at the upper rear portion of the stand by the cross-bar 6. The ends of the single piece of wire which is preferably employed in making the stand A may be united in any suitable way, as by a ferrule or tube 1, into which the ends of the wire are inserted, the ferrule being represented as carried by the upper cross-bar 6.

In order to stiffen the stand and to serve other purposes that will be described, I preferably connect the side pieces 5, 5, by cross-

bars 10 and 11. The former is located at the rear of the lower horizontal support 7, and the latter at the rear of the upper horizontal support. The cross-bars preferably consist of pieces of wire, the ends of which are coiled about or otherwise united to the side pieces 5 at the desired points.

The leg or support B is preferably hinged to the upper cross-bar 11 and consists of a pair of uprights 12, 12, and a cross-bar 13 uniting them at their lower ends. The wire of which the leg or support B is formed is preferably bent into U-shape between the uprights 12 and the cross-bar 13, constituting feet adapted to rest upon the surface on which the rack may be supported and serving to raise the cross-bar 13 sufficiently above the level of said surface.

The brace C is hinged upon the cross-bar 13 of the adjustable leg B. In that form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, it comprises a pair of bars 15, 15, converging toward the front where they are brought together and formed into a hook 16 that is adapted to engage with either one of the lower cross-bars 2 or 10, as may be desired. These two cross-bars are preferably flattened at their middle portions, as indicated at 17, 17, in order to permit the hook 16 to have firm engagement therewith. The two cross bars 2 and 10 lie close to the support upon which the rack rests, being respectively one near the front of the lowermost horizontal section of the stand and the other near the rear thereof. This disposition of these parts insures that the brace C shall lie substantially horizontal under all working conditions and close to the supporting surface; with the advantages that it is not so liable to become accidentally detached as would be the case were its point of connection with the cross bars more elevated, and that the appearance of the stand is more pleasing than would be the case were the brace upwardly inclined and having one inclination at one time and a different one at another when the inclination of the rack is changed. The two ends of the brace C, which, as stated, encircle the cross-bar 13, are held apart, preferably close to the bends 14, which constitute the rests or feet of the adjustable leg B, in any suitable manner. A convenient means for securing this result is to flatten and expand the cross-bar 13 just inside of the portions thereof which the bars 15 of the brace encircle, as indicated at

18. However, other means may be employed for this purpose, as for instance, a spacing rod 19, secured to and extending between the bars 15—see Fig. 4. Or a ring or collar 5 20, or a coil of wire 21, may be placed upon and secured to the cross-bar 14, as indicated in Fig. 5.

In Fig. 6 there is illustrated a form of hooked brace, adapted to be hinged to the cross-bar 13 of the adjustable leg, in which the two bars 15', 15' are parallel and are connected at their front ends by a cross bar 22. There are hooks 16', 16' at the forward ends of the bars 15' adapted to engage with 15 either of the lower cross bars 2 or 10, accordingly as the parts of the stand may be adjusted.

The use of the invention will be apparent from an examination of the drawings. 20 The articles to be supported are placed in a rising and backward extending series upon the horizontal supports of the stand, the rests 9 at the forward portions of the supports serving to prevent them from sliding 25 off, even though they are held considerably inclined.

The inclination of the stand can be changed by adjusting the leg or support B. It is found that some articles, especially 30 those of shallow nature, like plates, are best displayed when the parts are adjusted as indicated in Fig. 1, the leg or support B being nearly vertical and the supports 7 substantially horizontal. This is secured 35 by causing the hook 16 of the brace C to engage with the front cross-bar 2. In displaying other articles, as for instance bowls or dishes that are relatively deep, it is found more desirable to adjust the rack to the position indicated in Fig. 2, that is, with the 40 leg B inclining backward, which causes the supports 7 to incline downward toward the rear. This adjustment is secured by causing the hook to engage with the rear lower cross- 45 bar 10. Ordinarily, two adjustments such

as described are sufficient for all purposes of display.

Fig. 3 illustrates the method of folding the parts of the rack when not in use, or for shipment.

What I claim is:

1. In a display rack, the combination of a stand having approximately horizontal article-supports arranged in an upward and rearward extending stepped series, the front end of the stand being arranged to rest upon the surface on which the rack is supported, a pair of cross-bars at the front of the stand disposed close to the said supporting surface and arranged respectively one near the front and the other near the rear of the lowermost horizontal support of the stand, an adjustable leg support hinged to the upper rear portion of the stand, a hooked brace pivotally connected with the leg support at its lower portion and provided at its forward end with a hook device adapted to engage with one or the other of the said cross-bars, substantially as set forth.

2. In a display rack, the combination of a stand formed of wire bent to constitute supports arranged in an upward and rearward extending stepped series, the side bars of the stand being connected at the lowermost support thereof by a plurality of cross-bars, a leg support hinged to the upper rear portion of the stand, a hooked brace formed of a pair of bars hinged to the leg support near its lower end and converging toward the front where they are united by a hook arranged to engage with one or another of the said cross-bars of the stand, and means for holding apart the ends of the bars of the brace which are pivotally connected with the leg support, substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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