F. WITTE.

BASKET CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 2, 1914.

1,123,453.

Patented Jan. 5, 1915.

Fig. 1.

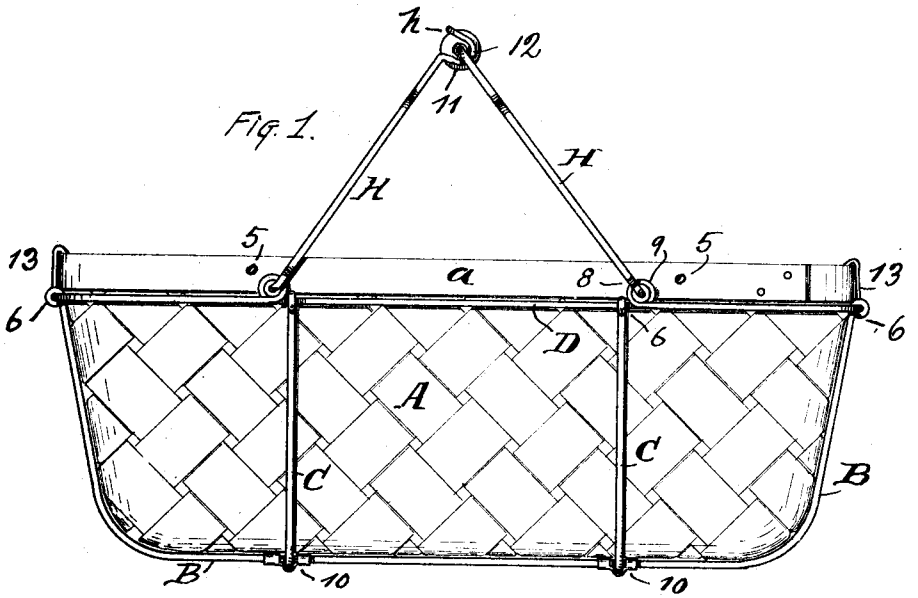
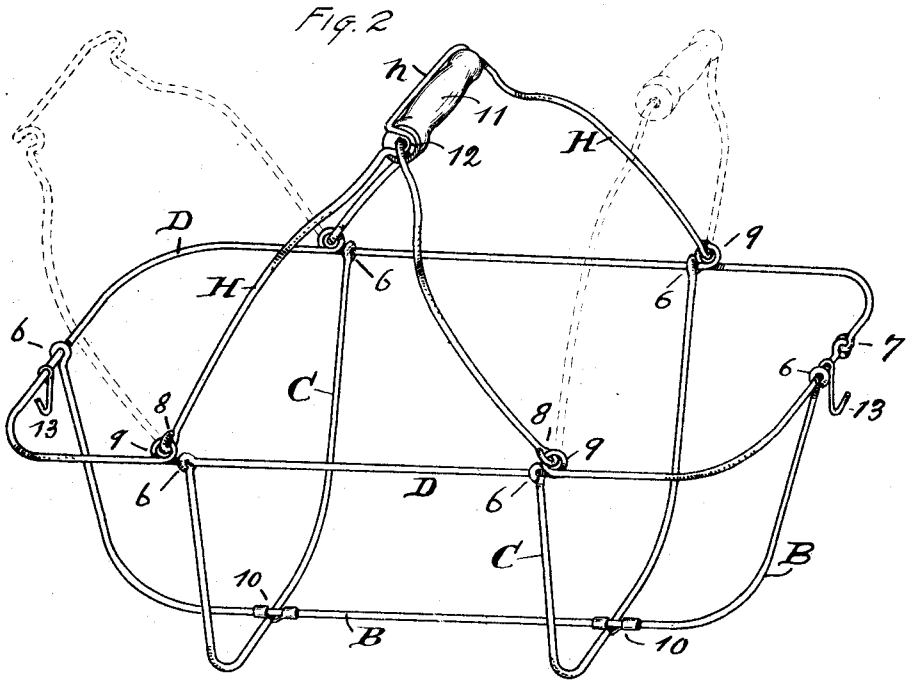


Fig. 2



WITNESSES

J. B. Scott

A. Johnson

INVENTOR.

Frank Witte

by C. Spengel atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK WITTE, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

BASKET-CARRIER.

1,123,453. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 5, 1915.

Application filed March 2, 1914. Serial No. 821,937.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK WITTE, residing at Cincinnati, Hamilton county, State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Basket-Carrier, of which the following is a clear, full, and exact description, attention being called to the drawing which accompanies this application and forms a part thereof.

Handles of the customary chip-baskets generally used for carrying articles for various purposes, also for marketing and for delivery purposes by grocers and butchers, break sooner or later and this may occur while the basket is in use. In order to guard against this possibility as well as to render such baskets still serviceable after the handles have become useless or are absent, I have provided a carrier or frame fitted to this type of baskets, which latter come in standard sizes and may therefore be readily received by such a frame. Handles are provided on this frame so that the same with a basket inserted may readily be carried about irrespective of whether there are any handles on the basket and without risking the possibility of a handle becoming detached or of breaking in case the contents of the basket should be heavy.

The invention consists of such a device and of the construction thereof as the same is hereinafter described and claimed and as illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1. shows a side elevation of the device with a basket placed into it. Fig. 2. shows the device in perspective view.

Reference character A, indicates a so-called chip-basket of customary type. They are usually provided with a marginal hoop *a* around their upper edge to which the bail-shaped handles, there may be one or two, are secured by tacks or staples. If a handle breaks or becomes partly detached, whatever remains of it is of course entirely removed. As shown in the drawing such a condition is presumed, and 5 may indicate the tackholes where the handles had been connected to the basket.

My frame is made of wire bent to shape and consists substantially of members which serve to support the body of the basket, of handles for carrying the frame and of an intermediate member whereby these handles are connected to the parts first mentioned. These parts consist of ribs provided in suitable number, there being shown a longitudinal rib B and two transverse ribs C. These ribs are bent to fit around the body of the basket, that is against the bottom and the sides thereof, and the upright parts of these members terminate all at even height as shown. The free ends of these members are connected to an annular member or hoop D which is fitted to encompass the basket at or near its edge as best shown in Fig. 1. The connection of the ribs to this hoop is made in any suitable manner, which may be as shown at 6, that is by closely bending it around the wire of the hoop and by clenching the same. The hoop is made of one piece of wire shaped to the form of the basket that is substantially rectangular, the ends of this wire being connected to each other in suitable manner as shown at 7. Two bail-shaped handles H are connected to the structure so formed. The connection is to hoop D and it should be such as to permit the handles to swivel at the point of their connection. This permits them to swing outwardly and out of the way to facilitate free access to the basket (observe dotted lines in Fig. 2) also to permit insertion or removal of it. For such purposes the connection is by interengaging eyelets, there being eyelets 8, at the ends of the handles which are received by eyelets 9 on the body of the frame. The eyelets on this latter are provided on hoop D and are formed integral therewith and by bending the wire out of which the hoop is made accordingly between its ends and at the proper points.

In order to preserve the shape of the frame and to cause ribs B and C to maintain their relative positions, they are connected to each other at the point where they cross. This is done by clips which are shown at 10. The apex portions of the handles are straight as shown at *h* and parallel to each other so that they may be closely juxtaposed and simultaneously grasped for carrying. A wooden grip 11 is mounted upon one of these straight portions to form a convenient handhold it being axially bored to permit such mounting. In order to relieve the hand from holding the two handle portions to each other, one of them is engaged by the other one so that the two, when so engaged, form practically one grip. This is done by forming hooks 12 at the ends of one of these straight handle-

portions which are adapted to receive the ends of the other straight handle portion where these ends project beyond grip 11. The distance between the deepest part of hooks 12 and between the handle portion *h* between them is spaced so close and scant that when said portion *h* is forced over the highest part of grip 11, said handle portion and said grip will become firmly locked together and will not become separated unless positively forced apart. The frame may be held to the basket by means of catches 13. As will be seen the basket is always supported no matter how defective it may be, since all weight is on the wire frame and its handles.

Having described my invention, I claim as new:

1. A carrier frame for baskets which is made of wire and adapted to receive a basket, bail-shaped handles connected to this frame each of which is provided with a straight portion, which portions are parallel to each other, a wooden, axially bored, grip mounted upon one of these straight portions and means to detachably lock the other straight portion against the outside of the wooden grip.

2. A carrier frame for baskets which is made of wire and adapted to receive a basket, bail-shaped handles connected to this frame each of which is provided with a straight portion, which portions are parallel to each other, hooks formed at the ends of one of these portions and a wooden, axially bored, grip mounted upon the other portion, said hooks being adapted to engage this latter portion opposite the ends of the wooden grip thereon, to detachably lock the portion between them against this wooden handle.

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

FRANK WITTE.

Witnesses:
C. SPENGEL,
A. JOHNSON.