(No Model.)

R. L. BETTS.

GRAPPLE.

No. 276,658. Patented May 1, 1883.

Fig. 1.

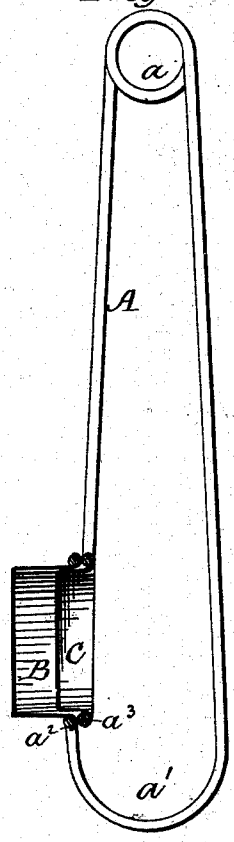


Fig. 2.

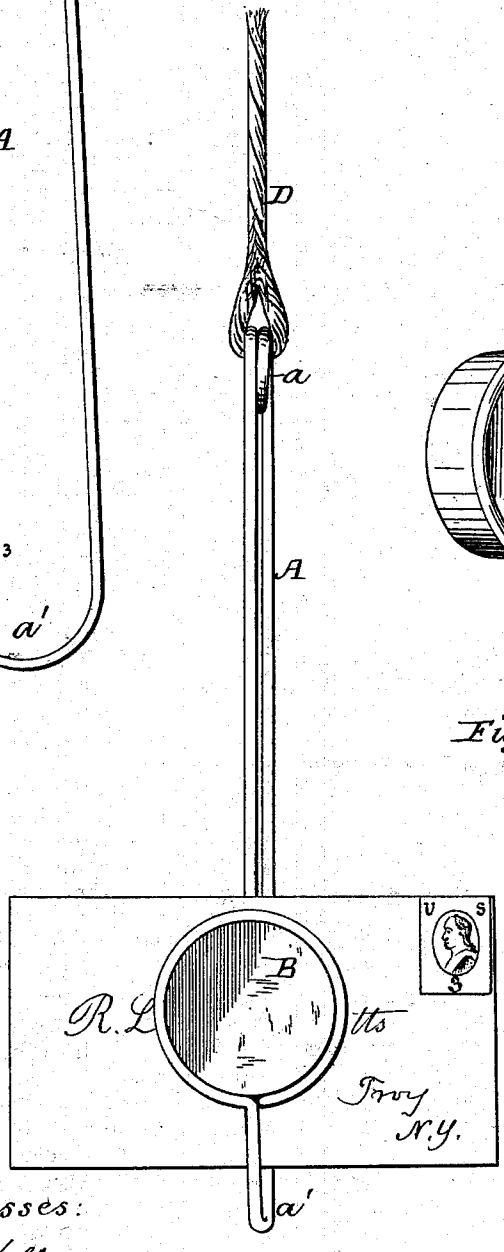


Fig. 3.

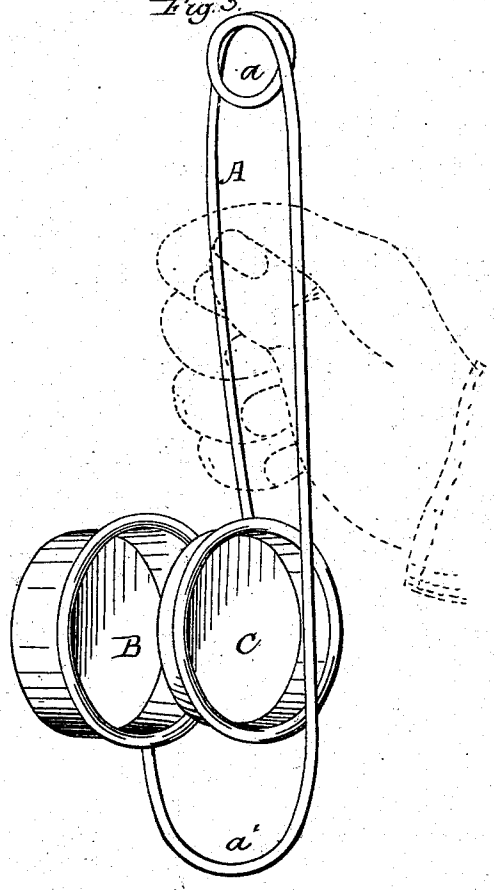
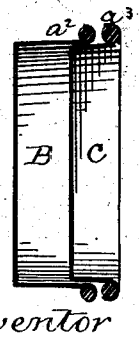


Fig. 5.



Fig. 4



Witnesses:
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W. B. Masson

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RODNEY L. BETTS, OF BRUNSWICK, NEW YORK.

GRAPPLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 276,658, dated May 1, 1883.

Application filed March 27, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RODNEY L. BETTS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brunswick, in the county of Rensselaer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Grapples, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a device which I denominate a "domestic grapple;" and the objects of my invention are to provide a device by which persons in a room of a building above the ground-floor can communicate with and transfer articles to and from persons outside and upon the ground. Some of the uses to which the device is adapted are to facilitate the purchase of articles from persons on the streets without the necessity of going down one or more flights of stairs, particularly such articles as newspapers, baskets, and even packages containing liquids, and for the reception or delivery of mail-matter from postmen.

My invention consists, first, in a grapple comprising a spring the ends of which are secured to or form a receptacle which by the resiliency of the spring is held in a closed condition; second, in a grapple comprising a spring bent to form a hook, and having at one of its ends the body of a receptacle and at the other end a cover for said receptacle; third, in a grapple comprising a spring, and hook in one piece, one end of which forms a receptacle and the other a cover therefor, which is set therein to strengthen the hook and guard the same against separation by longitudinal strain; and, finally, my invention consists in certain features hereinafter described, and specifically set forth in the claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, Figure 1 is a side view, partly in section, of a grapple constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a front view of the same, holding a letter. Fig. 3 is a perspective of the grapple opened, and Fig. 4 is a section of the receptacle and cover. Fig. 5 is a modification of the grapple.

Like letters refer to like parts in all the figures.

A represents a wire coiled, as at *a*, to increase its resiliency, and in this instance bent also at *a'* to form a hook. I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to forming the hook *a'*, as the coil *a* may be so bent as to normally compress the cups together, as shown in Fig. 5, and the upper portion of the outer cup be used as a hook to retain the handle of a basket or other articles, and in this case one end of the spring is secured to the bottom of the receptacle B. One end of the spring is formed into a ring, a^2, and the other end into a similar ring, a^3, and about the former is secured, by soldering or in any suitable manner, a box, B, preferably of sheet metal, and made large enough to hold a silver dollar, and in like manner a cover, C, adapted to fit or close said box, may be secured to the ring a^3; but I prefer to attach the box and cover to the rings, as shown—that is to say, by forming a bead or fold in the material of the box and cover and inclose the rings therein. The cover is made to enter some distance into the box for the purpose of preventing their separation when a heavy basket or pail is hung on the hook *a'*; but it is apparent that a simple flat cover may be used for some purposes for which the device is intended. One end of a cord or rope, D, is secured to the coiled portion *a*, and the other end may be also attached to a window-sill.

When used, money or orders or any desired communication is placed in the box B, the cover placed in position, and the grapple is lowered; or a basket may first be hung on the hook *a'*, if desired, and the whole lowered to the ground, when the huckster, newsboy, or postman, as the case may be, takes out the money, puts in the change, and secures the desired article between the box and its cover, or in the basket, pail, or other vessel suspended on the hook, and the user elevates the whole by means of the cord.

If desired, a single bend in the spring may take the place of the coil *a* at that point.

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

1. A grapple comprising a spring the ends of which form a receptacle and a cover normally held in a closed position, substantially as specified.

2. A grapple comprising a spring bent to form a hook, and having at one of its ends a box or receptacle and at the other end a cover

for the same, substantially as shown and described.

3. A grapple comprising a spring one end of which forms a receptacle and the other a cover therefor, which is set into the receptacle to strengthen the spring against separation at its ends, substantially as specified.

4. The combination of the spring A, the box B, and the cover C, said spring being constructed and arranged to normally hold the box and cover together, substantially as shown and described.

5. The combination of the spring A, terminating in the rings a^2 a^3, with the box B and cover C, folded or beaded upon the rings, substantially as shown and described.

6. The combination of the spring A, box B, and inset cover C, substantially as shown and described.

7. The combination of the spring A, formed into a hook, a', box B, and inset cover C, substantially as shown and described.

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

RODNEY L. BETTS.

Witnesses:

HERBERT C. BETTS,

AUSTIN F. PARK.