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B. B. ELLERBECK

HANGER

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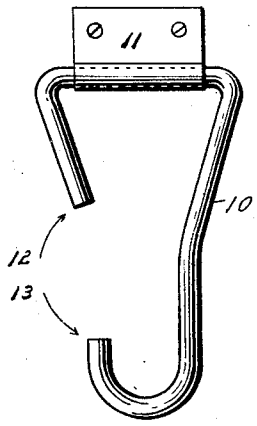


Fig. 1.

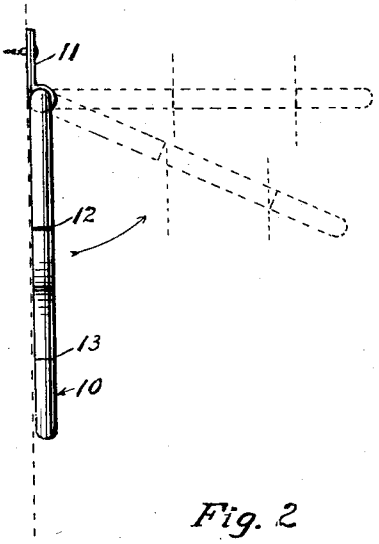


Fig. 2

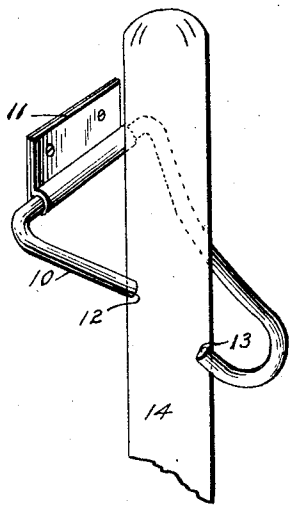


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HANGER.

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My present invention relates to devices for hanging up or suspending brooms, mops, rakes, shovels or any similar article, the object being to provide a hanger which is of extreme simplicity and which functions by effecting a gripping or binding action at the points of contact between the device and the article to be suspended.

The preferred manner of carrying out the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this specification, and in which,

Figure 1 is a face view showing the device with suitable hinging means to fasten to any upright support,

Figure 2 is a side view showing the hanger first in normal inactive position by means of full lines, and showing its movement by means of dotted lines,

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the hanger in active position gripping an article in the manner specified.

Referring now to these figures, I have shown at 10 the portion of the hanger which serves as the gripping element of the device and have indicated at 11 a suitable means of hinging the active element 10 and securing it to any upright support. This active member is of such shape that the article to be gripped is held at a distance from the point of hinging.

While this element 10 may be blanked from sheet metal with a suitable opening to allow the handle of the article to be inserted, it is preferred to use stiff wire as the material for this part and to shape it in the general form of a loop. To gain the utmost simplicity in this hanger, it is deemed preferable to have the element 10 in the form of an incomplete loop, that is; a portion of one side is left open so that the handle of the broom or similar article may be inserted through the opening in the side. This makes for quicker action than would be obtained by inserting the end of the handle up through the loop and permits the hanging up of such articles as may have extremely long handles, or handles having a cross piece at the end. Further, by allowing the article to be inserted from the side, this side opening permits the article to be suspended from either end.

The loop or element 10 is continuous through the hinge 11. This hinge may be of any simple nature such as a strip of sheet metal doubled over the base of the loop or may consist of staples or similar fastenings.

The ends of the loop 10 are shown at 12 and 13. When the element 10 is lifted to the horizontal position, Fig. 2, the distance between the ends 12 and 13 is sufficient to allow the handle of the broom or similar article to be freely inserted. The weight of the element 10 causes it to assume an upright position, as indicated in full lines in Fig. 2, when it is not in use. As the loop drops downward, the effective horizontal distance between the ends 12 and 13 is diminished, thus bringing these ends into firm contact with the handle of the article suspended. The weight of the article suspended pulls the loop or element 10 further from the horizontal, decreasing the effective width of the opening and increasing the pressure of the ends 12 and 13 on the article gripped. This action causes the element 10 to effect a firm and positive grip.

The perspective view shows the hanger in effective position gripping an object 14 such as the handle of a broom. The lower end of such an article will tend to swing back of the vertical line through the points of support. If the hanger is fastened to an upright support such as the side of the wall, this movement is checked by the wall, but if the hanger is fastened at any distance from the wall such as at the edge of a shelf, it is still effective since the center of weight of the article suspended tends to remain under the point of suspension thereby limiting this backward inclination to a very slight degree.

It is obvious that my invention provides a hanger of extreme simplicity, easy and inexpensive to fabricate, and very effective to suspend any type of elongated object.

I claim:—

1. In an article of manufacture, the combination of a sheet metal clasp and a wire formed approximately in the shape of a plane isosceles triangle, the base of which is rotatably held in the sheet metal clasp, and the ends of the wire terminating some distance apart midway along one of the adjacent sides, as and for the purpose described.

2. In an article of manufacture, the com-

bination of a sheet metal clasp and a wire formed approximately in the shape of an isosceles triangle, the base of which is rotatably held in the said clasp, and the ends of the wire approaching each other at one of the equal sides but turned to point into the approximately triangular area thus leaving an opening at the side, said opening being at some distance from the base side and designed to grip any elongated article in the opening when the wire form is tilted downward from a horizontal plane through the base side.

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