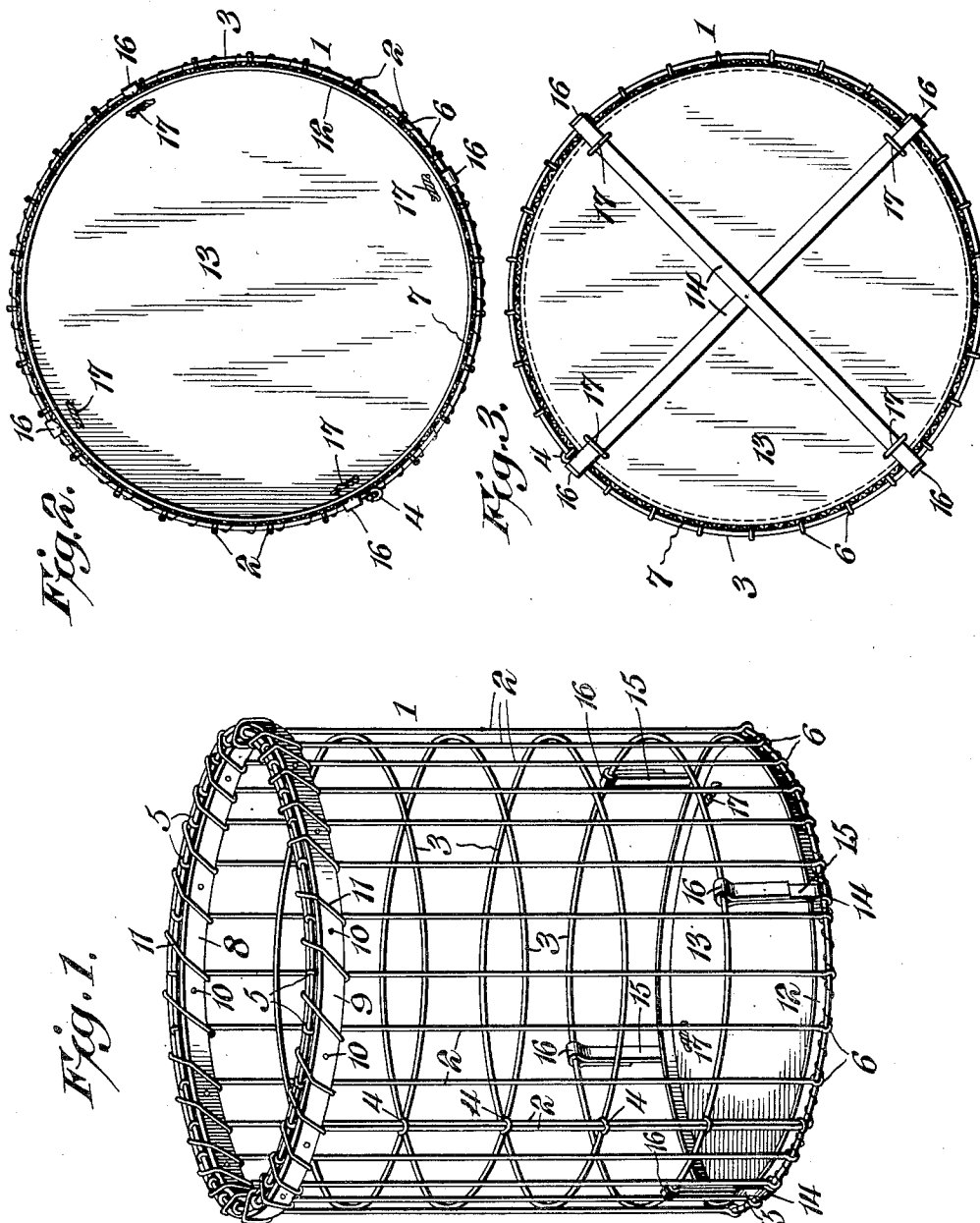


R. P. RODGERS.
WIRE BASKET.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 24, 1909.

1,037,539.

Patented Sept. 3, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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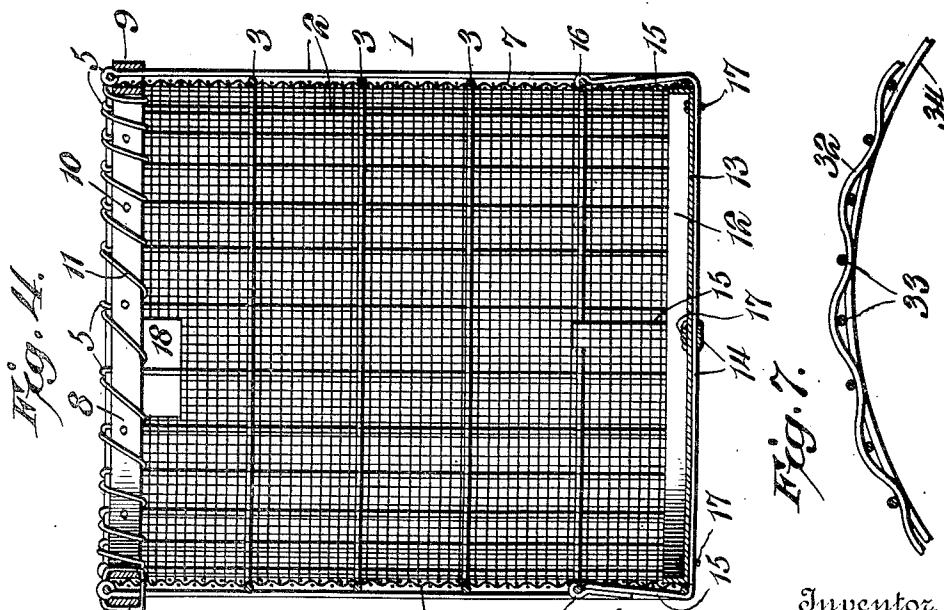
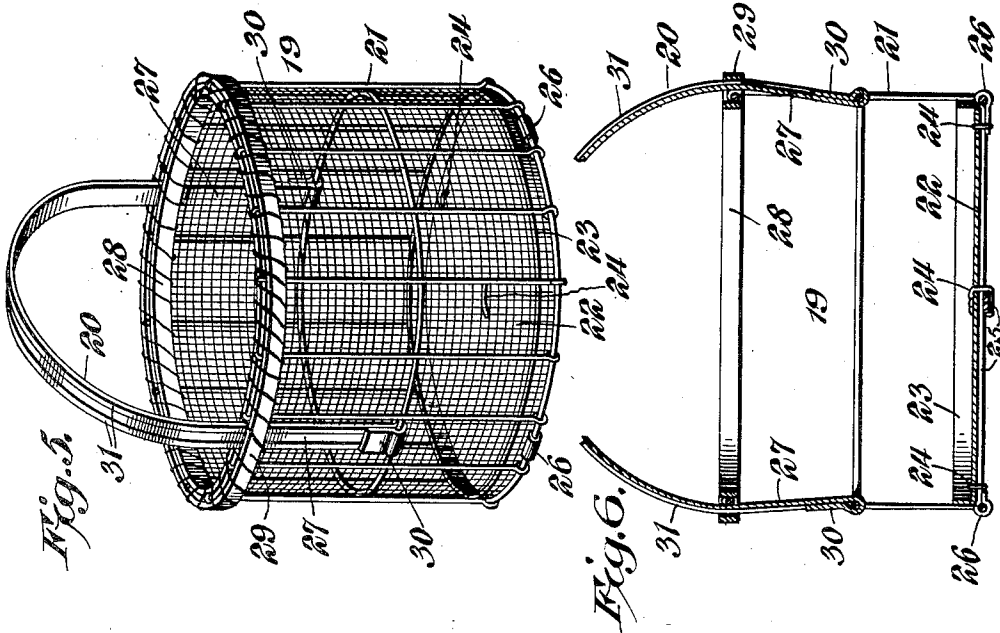
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD PINKNEY RODGERS, OF SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA.

WIRE BASKET.

1,037,539.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 3, 1912.

Application filed November 24, 1909. Serial No. 529,831.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD P. RODGERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Spartanburg, in the county of Spartanburg and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and useful Wire Basket, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in wire baskets.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of wire baskets, and to increase their strength and durability and to provide a simple and comparatively inexpensive basket, adapted to be easily constructed, and capable of being advantageously employed for handling cotton and other produce and various kinds of merchandise.

Another object of the invention is to provide a wire basket of this character, designed to be constructed in various sizes from hand baskets to hamper baskets, and adapted to present both smooth interior and exterior surfaces, and capable of being readily emptied.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a wire basket of the hamper type, constructed in accordance with this invention, the woven wire lining being omitted to illustrate the wire frame of the basket more clearly. Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view of the wire basket. Fig. 3 is a reverse plan view of the same. Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view of the basket. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a hand basket, constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 6 is a vertical sectional view of the same, the lining being omitted. Fig. 7 is a detail horizontal sectional view of a portion of a basket provided with a filler of wooden splits or splints woven in the wire frame or body.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, a wire basket 1 of the hamper type is illustrated, but the basket may be made in various sizes and shapes to adapt it for handling and shipping various kinds of produce, merchandise and the like. The basket 1, which is cylindrical, is provided with a stout cylindrical supporting and bracing frame, constructed of galvanized wire in order to be rust proof and composed of vertical wires 2 and horizontal connecting wires 3, which are in the form of rings and which are secured to the vertical wires at the points of crossing by electric welding, soldering, or any other suitable means. A pair of vertical wires 2 is preferably arranged at the terminals 4 of the horizontal connecting wires, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings, and the terminals 4 are partially twisted around the adjacent upright wires, and are electrically welded or otherwise secured to the said wires 2. The upper and lower terminals 5 and 6 of the upright wires are looped around the top and bottom horizontal connecting wires, and are welded or otherwise secured to the same. In order to form the sides of the receptacle and render the latter as tight as desired, the circular frame or body is provided with a filler 7, which, as illustrated in Figs. 2 to 4 inclusive, may consist of a lining of woven galvanized wire in order to be rust proof, and the mesh of the woven wire may be as fine as desired. Also the basket may be lined with canvas or other fabric to form a perfectly tight receptacle, or a filler of wooden splits or splints may be employed as hereinafter described. The basket is provided at the top with inner and outer hoops 8 and 9, which may be constructed of either wood or galvanized metal, and the upper edge or portion of the lining is arranged between the wire frame and the inner hoop. The upright wires extend between the inner and outer hoops and project above the upper edges of the same, and the top horizontal connecting wire is located above the hoops. The hoops are connected at intervals by nails 10, or other suitable fastening devices, and are bound together by a wire 11, which is wrapped spirally around the inner and outer hoops and the top horizontal connecting wire, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 4. The spirally arranged binding wire 11 is passed through the openings of the lining and assists in securing the latter in

place. The lower edge of the lining is arranged between an upwardly extending annular flange 12 of a sheet metal bottom 13, constructed of galvanized metal in order to be rust proof, and adapted to enable the basket to be utilized for handling small grain, seed and the like. The upwardly extending marginal flange also assists in forming a tight receptacle at the lower edges of the sides or walls of the basket. The sheet metal bottom is supported by crossed horizontal bars or braces 14, constructed of strap iron, or other suitable material and having terminal portions 15 extended upward at the sides of the basket and bent downward to form eyes or loops 16, which receive the adjacent horizontal connecting wires, whereby the braces are securely fastened to the body or frame of the basket and form a firm and secure support for the bottom. The bottom is secured in place by wire ties 17, consisting of short pieces of wire extending through the bottom at opposite sides of the supporting bars or braces 14 and passing around the latter, but any other suitable fastening means may be employed. The lining 7 is cut away at opposite sides of the basket adjacent to the rim to provide openings 18, adapted to permit the rim to be grasped in handling the basket, and thereby provide hand holes. Any other form of handle, however, may be employed if desired.

In Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawings, the basket 19 is in the form of a hand basket, and is equipped with a handle 20 to enable it to be readily carried on the arm or otherwise handled. The basket 19 is provided with a supporting frame or body 21, constructed similar to those heretofore described and composed of upright and horizontal wires, the number of wires and the length of the upright wires being less than the corresponding wires of the frame or body of the basket 1. The bottom 22 is equipped with a flange 23 and is secured by wire ties 24 to crossed supporting bars or braces 25, which have their terminals 26 looped around the bottom connecting wire of the frame. The wire ties are located at both the center and adjacent to the marginal flange of the bottom. The handle 20, which may be constructed of either wood or metal, preferably consists of a continuous piece of metal and extends from one side of the basket to the other, the side portions 27 being extended downward between the inner and outer hoops 28 and 29 and having their terminals 30 looped around one of the horizontal connecting wires. This firmly attaches the handle to the body of the basket. When the handle is constructed of galvanized

sheet metal, as illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, it is preferably stiffened by bending the side edges 31 back upon themselves in the manner shown.

A filler consisting of wooden splints or splints 32 may be employed, as illustrated in Fig. 7 of the drawings. The splints or splints 32 are woven horizontally through vertical wires or rods 33, connected by horizontal wires 34 similar to the vertical wires heretofore described.

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

1. A basket of the class described comprising, in combination, a wire frame composed of a series of spaced vertical wires, and a series of spaced horizontal wires located at the top and bottom of the vertical wires and intermediate thereof, the wires joined together at their intersection to form a rigid structure, hoops arranged internally and externally of the frame at the upper margin thereof immediately beneath the uppermost horizontal wire, a binding wire wrapped spirally around and connecting the two hoops to the upper horizontal wire of the frame, a bottom disposed within the lower margin of the frame, and straps underlying the bottom with their termini engaging a horizontal wire in the lower part of the frame.

2. A basket of the class described comprising, in combination, a wire frame composed of a series of spaced vertical wires, and a series of spaced horizontal wires located at the top and bottom of the vertical wires and intermediate thereof, the wires joined together at their intersection to form a rigid structure, hoops arranged internally and externally of the frame at the upper margin thereof immediately beneath the uppermost horizontal wire, a binding wire wrapped spirally around and connecting the two hoops to the upper horizontal wire of the frame, a bottom disposed within the lower margin of the frame and straps underlying the bottom with their termini engaging a horizontal wire in the lower part of the frame, and an upstanding handle having its terminal portions extending downwardly between the hoops into engagement with a horizontal wire on opposite sides of the frame.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

RICHARD PINKNEY RODGERS,

Witnesses:

SAM J. NICHOLLS,
I. S. JONES.