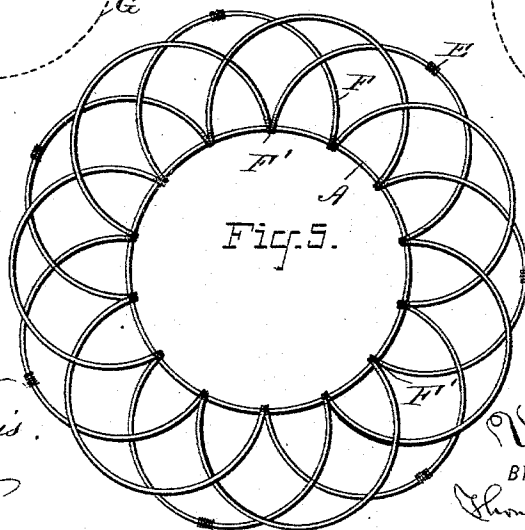
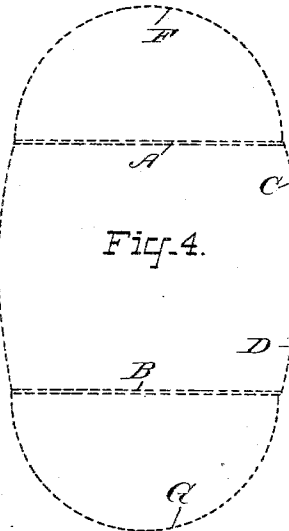
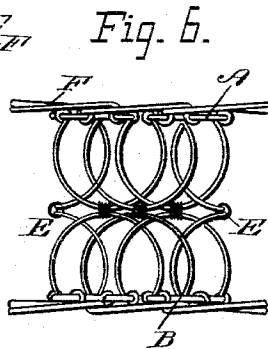
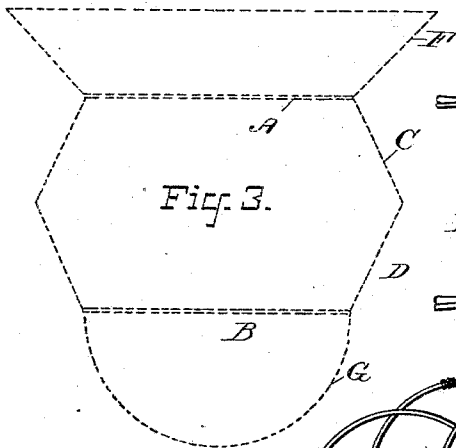
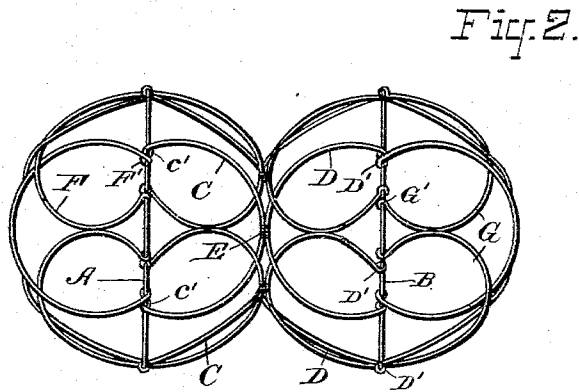
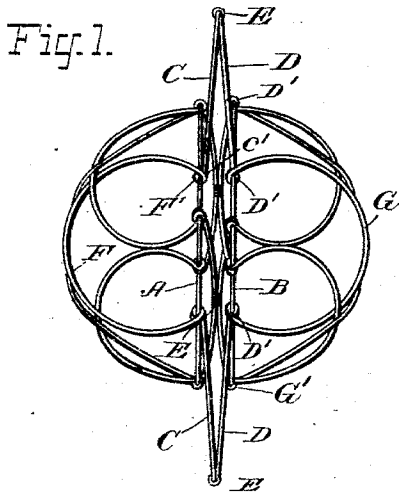


(No Model.)

V. LASSEN.
WIRE DEVICE.

No. 548,614.

Patented Oct. 22, 1895.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICTOR LASSEN, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

WIRE DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 548,614, dated October 22, 1895.

Application filed December 14, 1894. Serial No. 531,849. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VICTOR LASSEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented a certain new and useful wire device adapted to be changed into a number of household articles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

10 This invention consists of rings and semi-rings of wire looped together, as will be hereinafter set forth. It may be rapidly and cheaply made from sufficiently-elastic round wire by the aid of suitable machinery, and is
15 capable of being easily changed by the action of the fingers into a number of useful and ornamental devices, and by reason of the mutual strain of the parts and the friction thereby engendered the several conditions will be
20 maintained under ordinary conditions of use; but the device may always be changed from one condition to another by such force as can be readily imparted by the hands. It may be thrown into a nearly spherical form to
25 serve as a twine-holder, or it may be thrown into an hour-glass form to serve as a double twine-holder. It may be made a capacious receptacle to serve for an egg-boiler, may be given a tubular form to hold napkins, may be
30 made into a flat annular ring to serve as a sad-iron rest, or may be made a hanging basket for flowers, and numerous other changes may be made.

35 The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification and represent what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention, but do not represent all the forms of the invention.

40 Figure 1 shows the device adjusted for a twine-holder. The remaining figures show it adjusted for other uses. All are ornamental. Fig. 2 shows the device arranged for a table twine-holder. Fig. 3 is a dotted outline showing the form assumed when adjusted for a
45 flower-basket; Fig. 4, a similar outline when adjusted for an egg-boiler; Fig. 5, a strong line view adjusted for a sad-iron rest; Fig. 6, on a somewhat smaller scale, for a napkin-ring or other holder.

50 Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures where they appear.

A and B are two similar rings of wire, composed each of a single length of wire bent around and with its ends united.

55 C C are semi-rings having their ends joined to the ring A by loops C' and arranged to overlap. Each semi-ring is applied within the corresponding semi-ring on one side and without the corresponding semi-ring on the other
60 side, the relation being allowed by the elasticity of the material, each semi-ring being slightly strained in an oblique position. I will designate by "locking" the slightly-twisted strained position in which each is
65 held.

D D are corresponding semi-rings similarly engaged by loops D' with the ring B and similarly overlapping and obliquely strained. The semi-rings D on the ring B equal in size
70 and number the semi-rings C on the opposite ring A. The rings A and B being thus equipped with their semi-rings C and D held in parallel positions, each semi-ring C is united with the corresponding semi-ring D
75 by a small ring E or other easy fitting but reliable and permanent fastening. This should be so easily fitted that it offers little resistance to the turning of the respective loops therein.

80 F and G are corresponding series of semi-rings, similarly lapping each upon the next, and engaged by loops F' and G' at their ends, the semi-rings F with the ring A and the semi-rings G with the ring B. The several
85 loops C', D', F', and G' are sufficiently close to hold their respective semi-rings reliably but loosely, so that all can be readily turned on their several fastenings. The oblique and elastically strained position of each semi-ring
90 insures that all of each series—that is to say, all of the semi-rings C, or all of the semi-rings G, or of any other series—shall be flared outward or coned inward together. The tying
95 together of of the semi-rings C and D insures that these two series are deflected outward or inward together, always to an equal extent, but the series F may be deflected outward or inward independently of any of the other series, and so, also, may the series G.

100 When the semi-rings C and D are deflected sufficiently outward or inward, and the rings A and B are compressed together, this portion of the device can be compacted into a flat

open-work ring. Thus put in position, if the semi-rings F and G are deflected inward, the device makes a twine-holder, as shown in Fig. 1.

5 If, holding the semi-rings F and G in the same position, the rings A and B are moved apart and the semi-rings C and D are pressed inward, the device makes an hour-glass figure suitable for holding two balls of twine.
10 This adjustment is indicated in Fig. 2. If, maintaining the same condition of the semi-rings F and G, the semi-rings C and D are thrown into an intermediate position, the device makes a capacious receptacle suitable
15 for an egg-boiler. This arrangement is indicated in Fig. 4. If the same condition of the middle parts is maintained and the semi-rings F and G at the ends are turned outward, the device assumes a spool form and
20 may serve as a napkin-ring holder, as shown on a small scale in Fig. 6.

If the semi-rings C and D are also deflected outward to their fullest extent, the entire device assumes the form of a flat ring suitable
25 for a sad-iron rest. This arrangement is shown in Fig. 5. If the semi-rings C and D are thrown in the partly-extended condition, and the semi-rings at one end are closed together and the semi-rings G at the other end
30 are set flaring, half-extended, the device makes a graceful hanging basket for flowers or other like articles. This is indicated in outline in Fig. 3.

Modifications may be made without departing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages of the invention. The semi-rings
35 may be larger and smaller relatively to the rings A and B. Each may be semielliptical instead of semicircular. The sizes and material of the wires for the several parts may
40 be varied.

There may be three complete rings corresponding to A and B, the third being united

to the ring B by loops corresponding to C and D.

45 Parts of the invention can be used without the whole. I can use only one ring corresponding to A or B, the sets of semi-rings F and G for each end being engaged therewith, and of course omitting the semi-rings C and D.
50 I claim as my invention—

1. An adjustable wire device having two series of semi-rings F and G, in combination with two rings A and B, loosely engaged
55 respectively therewith by means of looped ends F', G', the semi-rings being arranged to overlap each upon an adjacent member of the series, and the whole series adapted to be extended or contracted simultaneously and uniformly, and means for connecting the rings
60 A and B, as and for the purpose specified.

2. An adjustable wire device having a series of semi-rings F, in combination with a ring A and loosely engaged therewith by means of looped ends F', the semi-rings being
65 arranged to overlap each upon an adjacent member of the series, and the whole series to be extended or contracted simultaneously and uniformly, and to be held in a gently strained condition so as to induce friction
70 holding the series outward or inward to various degrees as they shall be set; and with an additional ring B carrying a corresponding series of semi-rings G and with two series of semi-rings C and D similarly strained,
75 and frictionally engaged with said rings, and with links E loosely engaging the series C and D together, all arranged for joint service substantially as herein specified.

In testimony that I claim the invention
80 above set forth I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

VICTOR LASSEN.

Witnesses:

MILTON T. HAFEY,
WILLIAM H. STEVENSON, Jr.