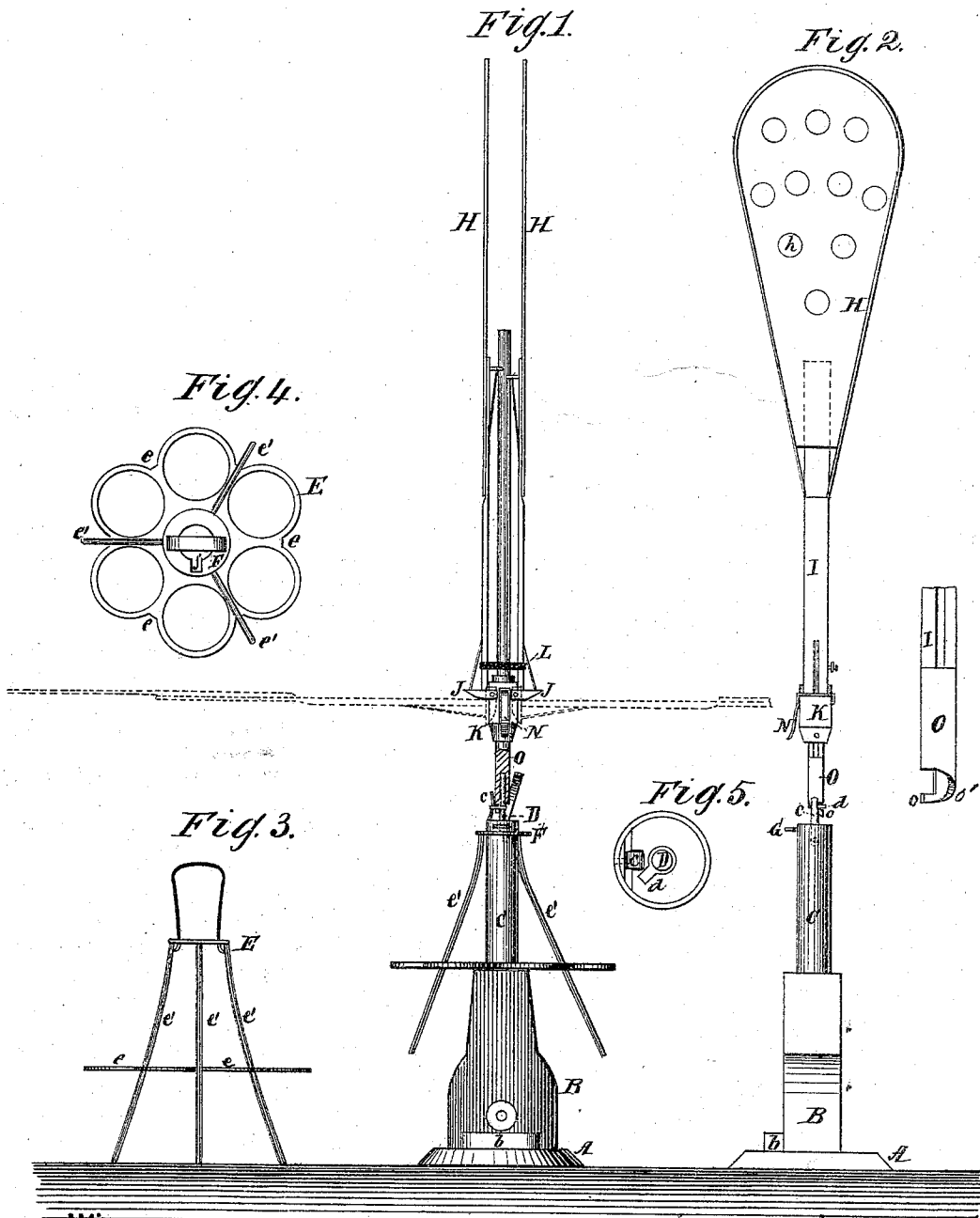


W. R. FOWLER.

Combined Table-Casters and Fly-Fans.

No. 150,855.

Patented May 12, 1874.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM R. FOWLER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED TABLE-CASTERS AND FLY-FANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **150,855**, dated May 12, 1874; application filed February 17, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. FOWLER, of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented a new and Improved Combined Table-Caster and Fly-Expelling Fan; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figures 1 and 2 are side elevations from a different point of view; Fig. 3, a side elevation of caster-holder. Fig. 4 is a plan view of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section.

The invention relates to fans turned by clock mechanism, for the purpose of frightening flies from the family-table at meals, or from a bed or lounge; and consists in connecting a fan, caster-holder, and clock mechanism, so that the fanning-device can be laid aside when fly-time is over and the caster employed in the usual way, or the caster-holder laid aside and the fan alone used, as will be hereinafter explained.

A represents a heavy base, upon which rises a hollow superstructure, B, that contains the clock-work, and a side pocket, *b*, for the key that winds it up. Through this clock-mechanism case B there extends the vertical tube C, and through this tube the rotary drive-shaft D. In a T-slot at top and on the inside of tube C is located a plate-spring, *c*, whose tension causes it to lean forward in close proximity to the shaft D, which itself carries a radial projection, *d*. The spring and projection together lock the shaft D, resist the tension of drive-spring, and stop the clock mechanism when the fan is not required for use. In order to unlock the clock mechanism, so as to allow it to operate, the spring is drawn back in the slot, and pushed to one side in a recess provided for that purpose. E is the caster-holder, consisting of plate *e*, having a hole in the center, and a series of circumferential holes for the casters, the three oblique standards *e' e' e'* forming also feet when the holder is separated from the clock-mechanism case, the same being provided with a suitable handle. The holder is locked to the clock mechanism and around the tube by means of the button G, which has flat oblong head, and is attached to the tube so as to be turned into a horizontal or vertical position.

The ring F has an open slot, *f*, on the inside, through which the button passes. In order to put on or take off the caster-holder, the button is turned to bring the head in a vertical plane, and when used as a fastening this head is turned until in a horizontal plane. H H are fans having several holes, *h*, and attached to arms I, which have (at the lower end) sockets J that are pivoted to and clasp staff-head K when the fans are ready for work or in a horizontal position. The arms I are also provided with one or more elastic connections, L, which, when the fans are not in use, hold them in a vertical position out of the way; and they are so attached to the staff that they can be adjusted higher or lower thereon by means of sliding head K that is held at any point in height by a spring-clamp, N, and is prevented from turning independent of the staff by a feather entering a slot in the staff. At the lower end of the staff is a tubular socket, O, to receive drive-shaft *o* and lock it thereto by means of the end hook *o* and shaft-projection *d*. The rear of the hook is made on a spiral incline, *o'*, so that when the sudden stop of shaft takes place the incline may act as a gradual brake, allowing fan-shaft to turn for a short time.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination of a clock-mechanism stand, A B, through which rises the tube C surrounding drive-shaft, of a caster-holder, E, and a fly-fan having staff with end socket O, as described, so that the caster-holder can be used separately or in conjunction with the mechanism case and the fly-fan.

2. The combination, with driving-shaft D having projection *d* and the surrounding tube C, of a plate-spring, *c*, constructed and arranged as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination, with fan-arms I I and staff-head K, of the sockets J J pivoted to and clasping said head, as and for the purpose specified.

4. The combination, with drive-shaft having projection *d*, of staff-socket O, having hook *o* with spiral incline *o'* on the rear, as and for the purpose described.

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Witnesses:

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