(No Model.)

H. S. BROUGHTON.

TOWEL RACK.

No. 601,550. Patented Mar. 29, 1898.

Fig. 1.

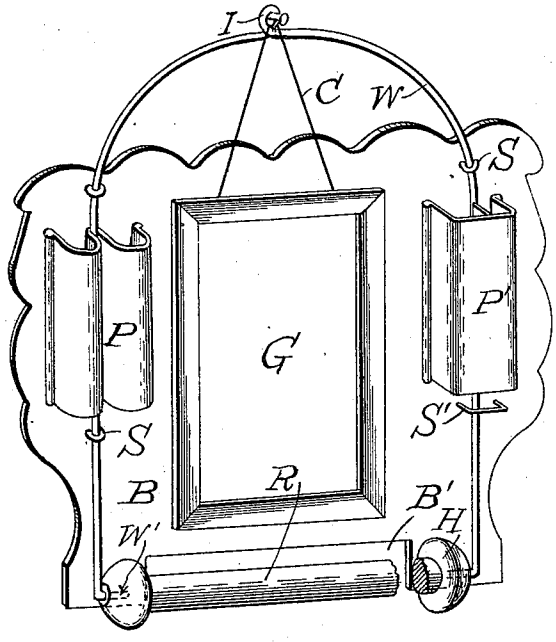
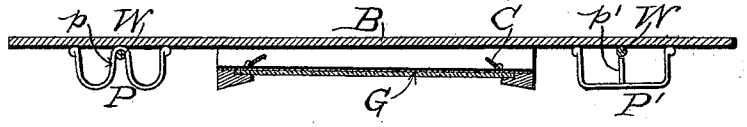


Fig. 2.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY S. BROUGHTON, OF STAYTON, OREGON.

TOWEL-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 601,550, dated March 29, 1898.

Application filed October 20, 1897. Serial No. 655,780. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY S. BROUGHTON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Stayton, Marion county, State of Oregon, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Towel-Racks, &c.; and my preferred manner of carrying out the invention is set forth in the following full, clear, and exact description, terminating with claims particularly specifying the novelty.

This invention relates to furniture, and more especially to that class thereof known as "towel-racks" and "stands," although it also embodies other features; and the object of the same is to produce a neat and serviceable piece of wall furniture.

To this end the invention consists in a device constructed substantially as hereinafter more fully described and claimed and as illustrated in the drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device complete, partly broken away and showing two arrangements of the pockets. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section taken just above the pockets.

Referring to the drawings, the letter B designates a back, of metal, cardboard, or wood (preferably the latter) and of about the configuration herein shown, and W is a stout wire, also shaped about as shown—viz., in an inverted U—and stapled or otherwise fastened, as at S, to the back, one of the staples S′ being elongated for a purpose to appear below. This wire extends above the back piece like a bail and may have an eye *l* to take over a hook or nail in the wall, by which the entire device is supported at proper height and in convenient position.

G is a looking-glass, preferably of a size smaller in contour than that of the back, about as shown, and C is the usual supporting-cord therefor, which extends upward from the glass and is attached either to the supporting-eye *l* or to the nail in the wall, preferably the former, so that the glass can be removed from the nail along with the back. On the back of this glass may be advertising matter, space for memoranda, a calendar, or other printed matter, or even sandpaper, as for striking matches, and it will be clear that the glass can be turned over by hand at any time desired, so that its other face will be outermost.

At opposite sides of the glass are pockets, which may be B-shaped in plan or D-shaped, as shown, respectively, at P and P′, the pocket P here having a vertical longitudinal bend *p*, through which the wire W passes and which forms a partition dividing it into two compartments, as for the comb and brush, and the pocket P′ also, if desired, having a central partition *p*′, standing over the wire, although this may be omitted, so as to make a larger pocket, as for the whisk. These pockets may be of cardboard, sheet metal, or woven wire and are attached to the back in any desired manner, (not shown,) although I consider the bend *p*, receiving the wire W, as the simplest means. The face of the back B and also that of the pockets may be covered with advertising matter, if desired, or can be suitably ornamented.

The lower edge of the back B is cut out, as at B′, except at its ends, and R is an ordinary towel-roller having enlarged heads H at its extremities, which heads are so spaced as to rest against the lower ends or feet of the back while the body of the roller comes opposite the cut-out B′. The lower ends of the wire W are bent sharply inward, as at W′, to form stub-shafts, which are journaled in sockets in the outer faces of the heads H, and the roller turns on the bearings thus formed. When it is desired to remove the roller, one of the wires W is sprung, the elongated staple S′ permitting, until its inturned end clears the socket in that head H, and the roller can then be withdrawn, as for the reception of another towel (not shown) of the endless type, which hangs therefrom in position for ready use, yet never in contact with the back B, because of the presence of the cut-out opposite it. It will be obvious that the spring-wires W must be bent forward from the back B below their lower staples in order to allow their lower ends to enter the sockets in the roller, and hence they will hold the heads H against the feet of the back with a slight frictional force, which I consider advantageous.

All parts of this device are of the desired sizes, materials, shapes, and proportions, and it may be used either for ornamental or ad-

vertising purposes, as preferred. I do not confine myself to the details precisely as shown, as considerable change therein and addition thereto may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What is claimed as new is—

1. In a wall-cabinet, the combination with a flat back, and a wire of inverted-**U** shape whose arms are secured to the face thereof and whose bend extends above the back to form a supporting-eye; of a pair of upright pockets secured to the face of the back each astride one wire arm so that the latter stands at the transverse center of the pocket, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a wall-cabinet, the combination with a back, and a wire secured to the face thereof and extending upward to form a supporting-bail; of a pocket substantially **B**-shaped in plan view, the inward central bend thereof being clamped between the wire and back, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a wall-cabinet, the combination with a back, a wire attached to the face thereof and extending upward to form a support, and upright pockets also attached to the face of the back over said wire and having upright partitions of which the wire forms a part; of a towel-roller removably carried by the lower ends of the wire and standing at the lower part of said back, all as and for the purpose set forth.

4. In a towel-rack, the combination with a flat back, upright spring-wires having inturned lower ends, and staples over the wires into the back, one of the staples being elongated laterally of and loosely spanning its wire; of a towel-roller resting at its ends against the back and having sockets in its extremities into which said inturned ends pass loosely, whereby the springing force of the wires causes the roller to bear at all times frictionally against said back and yet one of the wires can be removed longitudinally from the socket in the roller, substantially as described.

5. In a towel-rack, the combination with an upright back having its lower edge cut away at the center to leave two downwardly-projecting side feet, and a roller resting at its ends against the face of said feet; of upright wires attached to and clamped against the face of the back at points above the roller and sprung outward from the back below such points of attachment, and journals between their lower ends and the extremities of the roller whereby the latter is borne frictionally against said back at its ends only, leaving its center free as and for the purpose set forth.

6. In a towel-rack, the combination with an upright back having its lower edge cut away at the center to leave downwardly-projecting feet at its sides, and a roller standing across its face and having enlarged heads at its ends resting against the feet, said roller being provided with axial sockets in its extremities; of upright spring-wires attached to the back and having inturned lower ends removably entering said sockets, the springing force throwing the heads into frictional contact with the back, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my signature on this the 24th day of September, A. D. 1897.

HENRY S. BROUGHTON.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. DITTER,

JOSEPH A. DITTER.