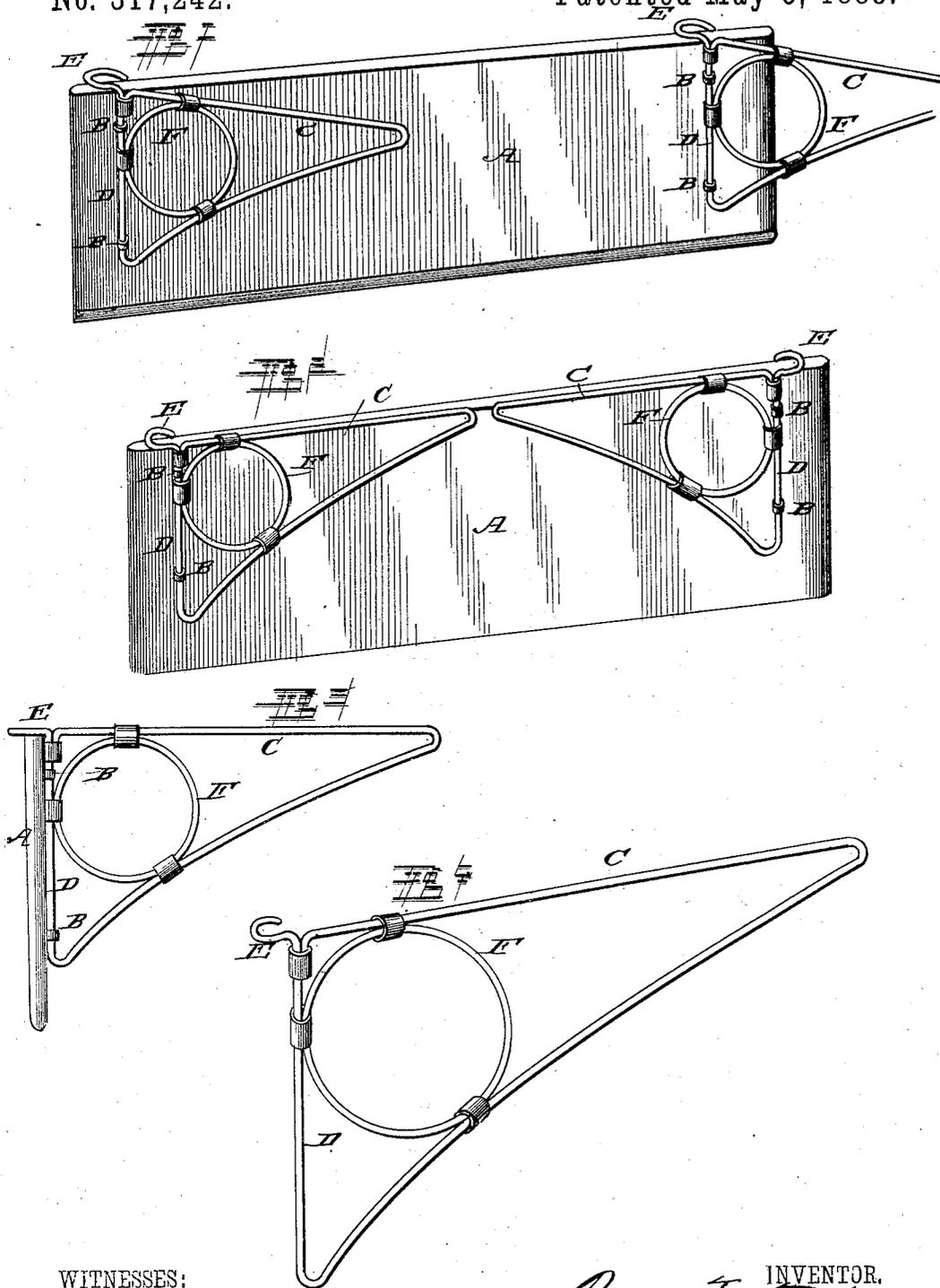


(No Model.)

B. F. TATEM.  
SHELF BRACKET.

No. 317,242.

Patented May 5, 1885.



WITNESSES:

*Wm. S. Dietrich.*  
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INVENTOR.  
*Benj. F. Tatem*  
by *Louis Baggerly*  
ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. TATEM, OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

## SHELF-BRACKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 317,242, dated May 5, 1885.

Application filed May 9, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. TATEM, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Memphis, in the county of Shelby and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shelf-Brackets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved bracket, showing it ready to be hung upon a wall or other support. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing it folded. Fig. 3 is a side view, and Fig. 4 is a detail view, of one of the hinged arms.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

My invention has relation to brackets adapted to support shelves, mirrors, cabinets, or other articles upon a wall; and it consists in the construction of the movable folding bracket, which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, A is a flat piece of board or metal of suitable size, which may be suitably ornamented, if desired. Fastened near opposite ends of this board or back piece are staples B B, in which the wire brackets are hinged. The latter (shown at C) are made by bending a piece of wire into triangular shape, the stem D passing through the staples, so as to form the hinge, and being bent to form an eye or loop, E, at its projecting upper end, which said eye or loop is bent into a plane at right angles to the stem, so as to overlap the top edge of the back piece, A. The triangular bracket is braced by a circle, F, also a wire fastened by soldering, or in any

other suitable manner, to the inner sides of the triangle.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings, the manner of using my improved folding bracket will readily be understood. When the triangular brackets C are folded down flat upon the back piece, as shown in Fig. 2, a number of these brackets may be packed together, occupying but very little room, for shipment or storage. When the bracket is to be used, the triangular arms C are placed at right angles to the back piece, A, in which position it will be seen that the eyes or loops E E will project some distance back of the part A, so that they may be suspended upon hooks or nails driven into the wall. When in this position and suspended upon a wall or other vertical support, the back A will prevent the projecting brackets from becoming displaced in their proper relation to each other and to the shelf supported upon them.

I am aware that it is not new to have wire brackets hinged or pivoted to fold outward upon a board or back piece, and I do not claim such construction, broadly; but

I claim—

The combination, with the back piece, of the wire brackets hinged with their vertical sides in staples upon the back piece, and provided at the upper ends of their vertical hinged sides with rearwardly-projecting eyes or loops of a greater diameter than the thickness of the back piece, as and for the purpose shown and set forth.

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

BENJAMIN F. TATEM.

Witnesses:

J. W. PATRICK,  
E. A. YERGER.