May 24, 1932. K. H. WHITNEY 1,859,945

TOWEL RACK

Original Filed Feb. 4, 1929

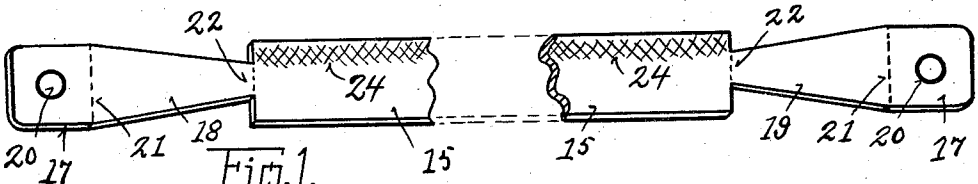

Fig. 1.

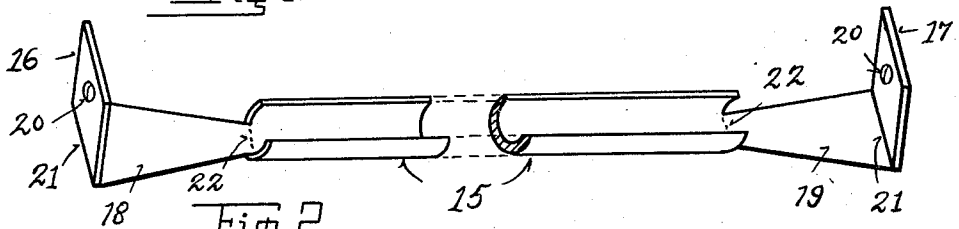

Fig. 2.

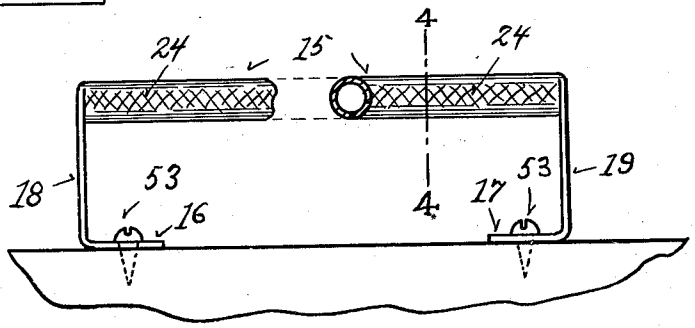

Fig. 3.

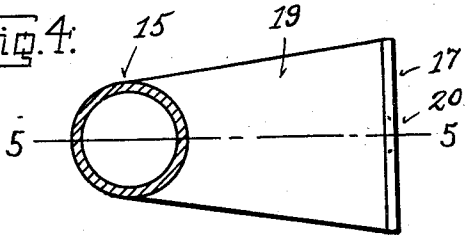

Fig. 4.

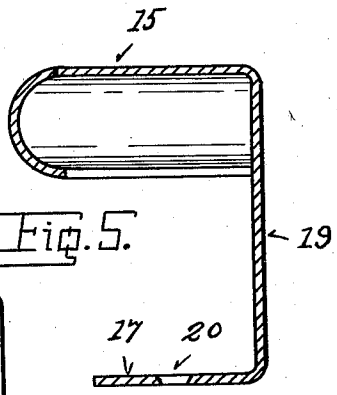

Fig. 5.

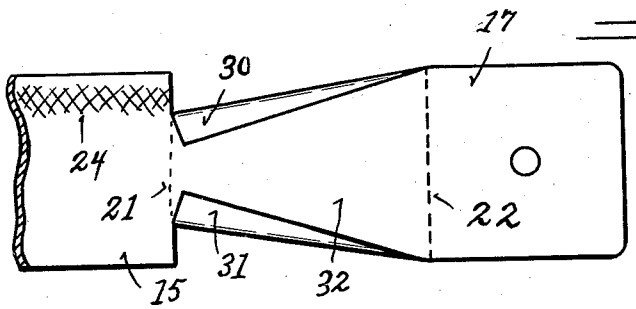

Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

KARL H. WHITNEY, OF KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO WHITMANIS MANUFACTURING COMPANY, INC., OF KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI, A CORPORATION OF MISSOURI

TOWEL RACK

Application filed February 4, 1929, Serial No. 337,439. Renewed October 15, 1931.

My invention relates to improvements in towel rack. One of its objects is to provide an improved towel rack adapted to be constructed by stamping from sheet metal. Another object is to provide a towel rack of maximum strength by stamping from sheet metal. Another object is to provide a towel rack by stamping from sheet metal which is economical of metal and utilizes practically all of the metal leaving practically no waste or scrap. Another object is to provide an improved towel rack which tends to retain the towels in position thereon and to prevent the towels slipping off from the rack. My invention also comprises certain details of form and arrangement and combination of components, all of which will be fully set forth in the description of the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a blank from which my improved towel rack is formed.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view, showing a second step in the formation of the towel rack.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a completed towel rack.

Fig. 4 is a sectional detail taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a sectional detail taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a sectional detail of a modification.

The accompanying drawings illustrate one embodiment of my invention in which a long and relatively narrow flat blank is formed by stamping from sheet metal, sheet iron or steel for instance. The next step is to partially form the middle section 15 into a tube or cylinder, which is done by stamping to cause the blank Fig. 1 to assume the shape shown in Fig. 2, by curving the middle of the section 15 transversely thereof and turning the opposite edges of the section 15 upwardly and substantially parallel one to the other. The edges of the section 15 are next closed together so as to form the section 15 into a tube or hollow cylinder.

The end or shoe sections 16 and 17, which are perforated at 20, are then bent upwardly at right angles to the bracket or supporting sections 18 and 19 along the transverse lines 21. The sections 18 and 19 are then bent at right angles to the section 15 along the transverse lines 22, so that the sections 18 and 19 cover and close the openings at the ends of the tubular section 15, which brings the sections 16 and 17 into one plane at one side of the section 15, and so that the completed towel rack may be attached to the wall by means of screws or bolts 53 passed through the perforations 20 and into the side wall of a building. In order to prevent towels thrown or suspended over the tubular section 15 from slipping or sliding from the towel rack, a strip 24 of the section 15 is made sufficiently rough exteriorly of the section 15 to have a tendency to retain the towels in any position in which they may be placed upon the towel rack, and to prevent the towels from sliding over the face of the section 15 so as to fall from the towel rack. In order to provide this roughened surface the blank Fig. 1 may have a strip 24 thereof roughened by the original stamping operation as shown in Fig. 1. A roughened strip or surface 24 may be applied at a later stage in the operation of forming the towel rack. If desired the longitudinal seam where the edges of the section 15 meet may be either tacked together at intervals or entirely closed by an electro-welding operation. Also if desired, the sections 18 and 19 may be tacked in position to the ends of the tubular section 15 by an electro-welding operation to increase the strength and rigidity of the rack. Ordinarily the stamping operations alone combined with attaching the rack to a wall by screws through the perforations 20 affords sufficient strength and rigidity, as the sections 18 and 19 are held rigidly across the ends of the tubular section 15, and are spaced and braced by the ends of section 15, while the sections 16 and 17 are rigidly attached to the wall and rigidly space the opposite ends of sections 18 and 19.

In the modification Fig. 6 the excess metal 30 and 31 at the sides of the sections 32 and corresponding to the sections 18 and 19 of Figs. 1 to 5, in place of being cut away are turned in or bent over upon the faces of the sections 32 to thereby increase the strength and rigidity of the sections 32.

The apparatus herein shown and described is capable of considerable modification within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What I claim is:

1. A towel rack constructed by stamping from a single piece of sheet material comprising an intermediate tubular section, supporting sections extending from opposite ends of said tubular section at substantially right angles thereto, and inwardly directed shoe members adapted to attach said towel rack to a wall extending from the free ends of said supporting members at substantially right angles to said supporting members.

2. A towel rack constructed from sheet metal by stamping, comprising a central tubular section, supporting sections extending from opposite ends of said tubular section at substantially right angles thereto, and inwardly directed shoe members adapted to attach said towel rack to a wall extending from the free ends of said supporting members at substantially right angles to said supporting members and parallel with said tubular section.

3. towel rack constructed from sheet metal by stamping comprising a central tubular section, supporting sections extending from opposite ends of said tubular section, at substantially right angles to said tubular section and so as to close the ends of said tubular section, and perforated shoe members adapted to attach said towel rack to a wall extending from the free ends of said supporting members at substantially right angles to said supporting members.

4. A towel rack constructed from sheet metal by stamping comprising a central tubular section, supporting sections extending from opposite ends of said tubular section at substantially right angles thereto, and broader at their free ends than where attached to the ends of said tubular section, and shoe members adapted to attach said towel rack to a wall extending from the free ends of said supporting members at substantially right angles to said supporting members.

5. A sheet metal blank for a towel rack comprising an intermediate section of uniform width and of the length desired in the towel rack, supporting sections at opposite ends of said intermediate section of substantially the same width as said intermediate section at their outer ends and of less width at their junction with said intermediate section, and shoe sections extending outwardly from the free ends of said supporting sections and of substantially the same width as said intermediate section.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

KARL H. WHITNEY.