

A. BRIDGES.  
Car Rack.

No. 102,482.

Patented May 3, 1870.

Fig. 1.

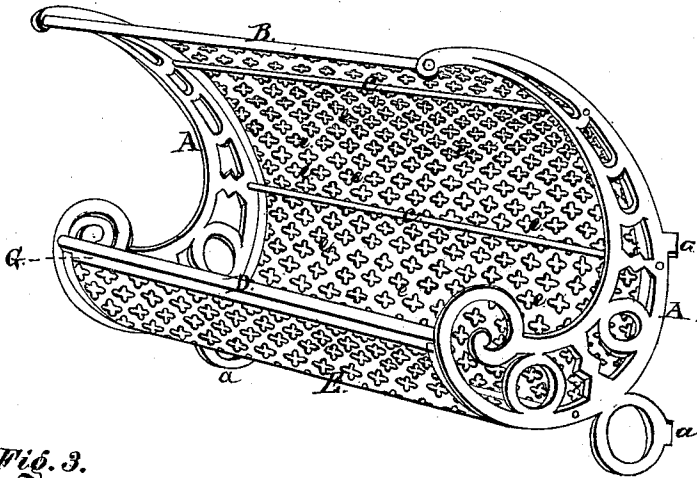


Fig. 3.

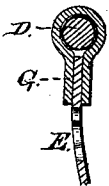
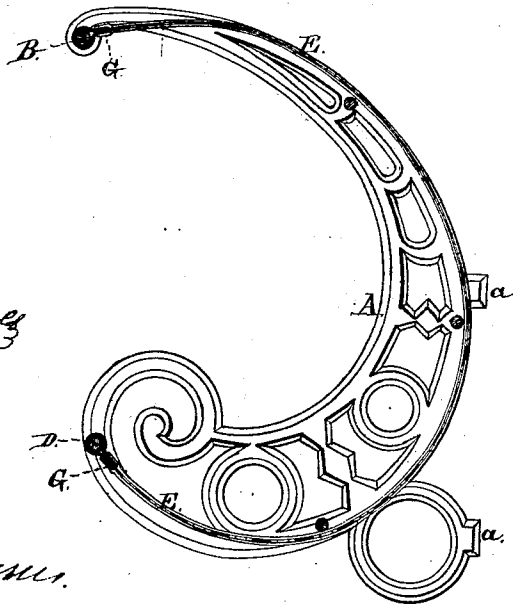


Fig. 2.



Inventor.

*Albert Bridges*

Witnesses.

*A. Hoermann.*  
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# United States Patent Office.

ALBERT BRIDGES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 102,482, dated May 3, 1870.

## IMPROVED RACK FOR CARS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, ALBERT BRIDGES, of the city and county of New York, in the State of New York, manufacturer and dealer in railroad supplies, car-furnishings, and the like, have invented a new and improved Construction of Car-Racks, by which I mean the devices mounted over the heads of the passengers at each side of the car, to receive hats, coats, and other articles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to the material of the rack, and the mode of its construction.

I employ sheet metal, perforated, instead of the wire netting heretofore employed, and produce a rack which is stronger and more durable in proportion to its weight than any before known.

I also avoid the roughness of the front bar, which is produced by coiling the wire about it in the ordinary manner, and avoid the necessity for the covering of such roughness by an exterior casing, as has been recently introduced.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view;

Figure 2, a vertical section; and

Figure 3, a section of a portion on a larger scale.

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

A A are the side frames, which may be castings of iron, lacquered, bronzed, or otherwise suitably ornamented and covered, and provided with the ordinary means *a a*, for firm attachment to the side of the car;

B is the top bar connecting the upper ends of the frame; and

*c c* are intermediate bars; and

D is the front bar.

All these parts may be of the ordinary or any suitable form and construction.

E is a sheet of hard brass, or other suitable metal, punched with holes *e*.

These holes lighten it, render it partially transparent, avoid the retention of water in case of any accidental wetting, or the like, and enable it generally to perform all the functions of the ordinary open-work or

basket-rack; while the fact that the material is all in a single sheet, gives it a degree of strength and durability which far excels that of the wire material.

At each edge the material E is let into the castings A A, a groove being provided for the purpose.

At the front it does not embrace the front bar D, but simply abuts against it, and is itself embraced by a flat part or flange of a covering-sheet of sheet-brass or other suitable material, as represented by G.

The flanges or flat edges of this sheet G are firmly secured to the perforated metal E by riveting or soldering, or both.

The upper edge of the material E may be joined to the upper cross-bar B by similar means.

I can make the perforated metal very cheaply and rapidly by machinery, and can join the edges to the bars B and D by the means described, more rapidly and strongly than can be practiced with the wire.

It will be obvious that the construction of the front bar D, and its covering, is important. If wires simply embrace the front bar, as has been practiced until very recently, the roughness thus produced has a destructive effect on valises and other heavy articles drawn across it.

The covering described in a recent patent to W. G. Creamer is an efficient protection against such evil; but my invention allows the employment of a much larger, and, consequently, much stouter cross-bar, D, with the same size of exterior, and greatly economizes the cost.

My invention requires no covering analogous to Creamer's, but makes the material which joins the material E to the cross-bar D itself smooth, so that it requires no covering.

I claim, as a new article of manufacture, the within-described basket-rack, having perforated sheet metal E *e*, connected and arranged relatively to the other parts, as herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALBERT BRIDGES.

Witnesses:

A. HOERMANN,  
WM. C. DEY.