

PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED



870,491

Date of filing Complete Specification Feb. 16, 1960.

Application Date Nov. 21, 1958.

No. 37459/58.

Complete Specification Published June 14, 1961.

Index at acceptance:—Classes 52(5), B5A4; and 28(2), P.

International Classification:—A47g. A47j.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to Racks for holding Wine Glasses and like articles

I, ALAN RENE UNSWORTH, British nationality, of 51, Merton Road, Bootle, Liverpool, 20, in the County of Lancaster, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to racks for holding wine glasses and like articles and has for its primary object to provide an improved rack adapted to support a plurality of glasses in inverted positions such that the drying of same after washing is expedited and the necessity to use a drying cloth or towel is obviated. A further aim of the invention is to provide a rack which may be used with advantage for storage purposes.

According to my invention, and in one mode of embodiment, a rack comprises a pair or pairs of rails of any suitable cross-sectional shape, said rails being located in spaced and parallel disposition at a distance apart which permits the passage therebetween of the stem of a wine glass but not the base thereof, and preferably the configuration and disposition of said rails is such that the stems of wine glasses to be supported may be entered therebetween at one intermediate point in the rack structure in addition to an end or ends thereof.

Brackets are provided for supporting said parallel support rails in required disposition such brackets being adapted for securing the appliance to a wall, beneath a shelf, or in other required situation.

The invention is further described with the aid of the accompanying drawings which illustrate, by way of example only and not of limitation, one mode of embodiment.

In said drawings:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a glass holding rack structure and

Fig. 2 is a part sectional elevation of same fitted below a shelf.

Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken as on line III—III of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is an elevation of one of the brackets.

Fig. 5 is a plan view showing two of the glass-supporting rails dissociated from their holding brackets.

Fig. 6 is a plan view showing the adjoining ends of pairs of glass-supporting members.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary view showing the method of engaging or disengaging a wine glass from the support rails.

Referring now to said drawings, a wine glass support structure or rack comprises two or more brackets which are generally designated 10 and each consisting of a cross-piece 10a apertured at 10b (Fig. 3) and two depending leg pieces 10c which have their upwardly facing surfaces formed with slots 10d. The aperture 10b is for the passage of a screw 11 (Fig. 3) whereby said brackets may be secured in appropriately spaced disposition to the underside of, for example, a shelf y. Said brackets 10 are adapted to support pairs of opposed rail members 12 which have end pieces shaped as at 12a for engagement with the slots 10d of brackets 10 whereby said rails are firmly held in spaced and parallel disposition to permit of wine glasses x being suspended therebetween in the manner shown in Fig. 3.

As shown most clearly in Figs. 3 and 4 the slots 10d of brackets 10 are preferably formed at an inclination to the horizontal whereby said rails 12 are located with their transverse axes at an inclination and the glasses supported therebetween make edge contact only with the rails thereby to decrease frictional resistance to sliding.

Each of said rail members 12 has one down-turned terminal end 12b which is

[Price 3s. 6d.]

Price 4s 6d.



arranged to be adjacent the straight end 12c of a next succeeding rail and when pairs of said rails are connected in longitudinal alignment by the brackets 10 the space 13 between said ends, 12b, 12c provide an inclined entry and exit point (see more particularly Figs. 2 and 7) which permits the base x^1 of a wine glass to be passed therethrough provided said glass is held at the appropriate angle. Thus, by reason of the shape and disposition of the adjoining ends of said pairs of rails, glasses may be slid freely from one pair of rails to another over the entry and exit point ~~13~~ without any danger of the glasses becoming accidentally disengaged, but may readily be disengaged therefrom as and when required.

It will be seen that a glass holding rack according to the invention may comprise two brackets 10 and a single pair of opposed rails 12, or, any number of pairs of bracket-supported rails 12 may be disposed in end-to-end alignment to provide a continuous glass-supporting structure with entry and exit points for said glasses at each rail juncture.

In some cases said brackets 10 may be formed in two separate or relatively adjustable parts thereby to enable the rail members 12 to be laterally spaced to suitable a particular size of wine glass. Alternatively, said rails 12 may be made in varying widths with the same object in view.

In the use of a rack structure according to my invention, it is only necessary to enter the stems of wine glasses or similar articles between said rail members, either from an end or via one of the intermediate openings, and allow same to hang suspended by their bases in inverted positions. When so suspended, washed glasses quickly drain and dry with no necessity for wiping and if left in said rack their inverted positions prevent the collection of dust.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. A rack structure for wine glasses and the

like, comprising a pair or pairs of rail members and brackets for holding said rail members in spaced and a parallel disposition, the spacing between said rails being such that the stems of glasses may be passed therebetween but not their bases.

2. A rack structure as claimed in Claim 1, wherein two or more pairs of rail members are adapted for end to end alignment to form a continuous supporting structure with entry and exit points for said glasses at the juncture of said pairs of rails.

3. A rack structure as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein said brackets are formed in two separable parts or are adjustable in order to permit adjustment of the space between said rails.

4. A rack structure as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the adjoining ends of said pairs of rails are so shaped and arranged that glasses may be slid across the rail junctures without danger of accidental disengagement from the rails.

5. A rack structure as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said brackets each comprises a cross-piece and two depending leg portions, said leg portions being slotted to receive appropriately shaped end pieces of adjoining rails thereby to locate same in longitudinal alignment.

6. A rack structure as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said slots are adapted to locate said rails with their transverse axes at an inclination to the horizontal whereby, in use, they make edge contact only with the bases of wine glasses or the like supported thereon.

7. A rack structure for wine glasses and the like substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

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storage purposes, by itself, or in conjunction with a tray, as a carrying means.

According to my invention, and in one mode of embodiment, a rack comprises at least one pair of rod-like members of any suitable cross-sectional shape or configuration and of length commensurate with the number of glasses it is required to support. Said rods are connected one to the other in spaced and parallel disposition at a distance apart which permits the passage therebetween of the stem of a wine glass but not the base thereof. The connecting means are such that one of said rods may be of interrupted construction



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It will be seen that a glass holding rack according to the invention may comprise two brackets 10 and a single pair of opposed rails 12, or, any number of pairs of bracket-supported rails 12 may be disposed in end-to-end alignment to provide a continuous glass-supporting structure with entry and exit points for said glasses at each rail juncture.

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like, comprising a pair or pairs of rail members and brackets for holding said rail members in spaced and a parallel disposition, the spacing between said rails being such that the stems of glasses may be passed therebetween but not their bases.

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storage purposes, by itself, or in conjunction with a tray, as a carrying means.

According to my invention, and in one mode of embodiment, a rack comprises at least one pair of rod-like members of any suitable cross-sectional shape or configuration and of length commensurate with the number of glasses it is required to support. Said rods are connected one to the other in spaced and parallel disposition at a distance apart which permits the passage therebetween of the stem of a wine glass but not the base thereof. The connecting means are such that one of said rods may be of interrupted construction



* C L M S *

whereby the stems of wine glasses to be supported may be entered between the rods at at least one other point along their length in addition to each end.

5 Bracket means for releasably supporting said parallel rod members are provided, such means being adapted for securing the appliance to a wall or beneath a shelf, and for holding said rod members. The brackets and rod members may be manufactured also in one piece.

10 Alternatively, said brackets may constitute a base or stand whereby said rod members may be supported, say, upon a tray, or be carried by hand in order that a plurality of glasses may be transported safely without danger of breakage.

15 In the use of a rack under my invention, it is only necessary to enter the stems of wine glasses and similar articles between rod members, either from an end or via an intermediate opening, and allow same to hang suspended by their bases in inverted positions such that washed glasses quickly drain and air dry, and if left in said rack their inverted positions prevent the collection of dust.

20 According to a further modification under

my invention, a wine glass or like holder comprises—preferably in the form of a unit extrusion or moulding—a bowl-like receptacle 30 the lower portion whereof is slotted longitudinally, whilst the upper part is spanned by a cover plate the sides whereof may extend laterally as flanges whereby the appliance may be attached as by screwing to a desired support, although it may be secured in any other convenient manner, say to a shelf or wall. Or, again, the appliance may be provided with or be supported by a pair of brackets or stands on which it is adapted to be seated. 35 40

In another form of my invention said bowl may be provided with cut-out parts at desired spacings so that the bases of glasses may be engaged in the appliance at points other than its ends 45

In use, the stem of an inverted wine glass is passed through said slot so that its base rests and is supported in the bowl, whilst the receptacle portion hangs downwardly for the purpose hereinbefore described. 50

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