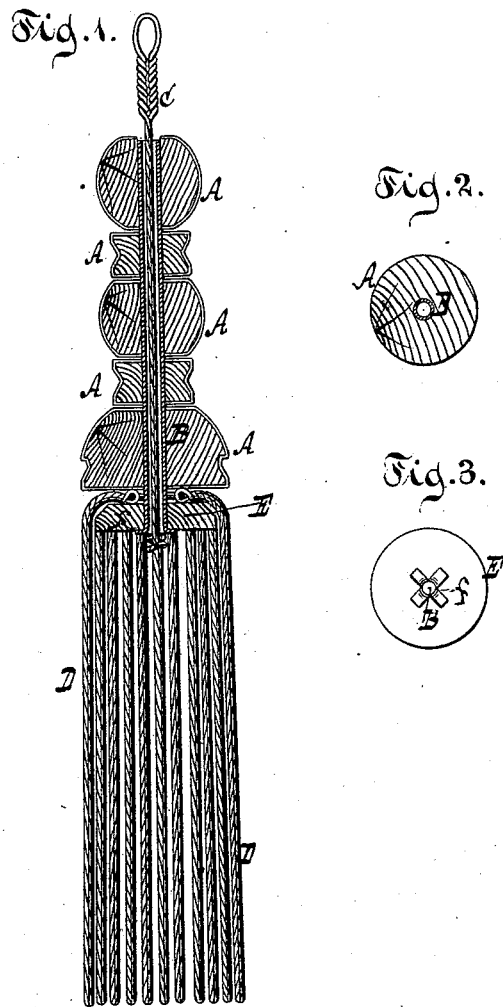


W. OFFNER.  
Tassel.

No. 204,073.

Patented May 21, 1878.



Witnesses  
*Otto Stufelund.*  
*Hugo Bruggemann.*

Inventor.  
*William Offner*  
by  
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his attorneys

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM OFFNER, OF JERSEY CITY HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TASSELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,073**, dated May 21, 1878; application filed December 7, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM OFFNER, of Jersey City Heights, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tassels, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal central section of a tassel containing my improvement. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view of the head thereof, illustrating the manner of confining the core. Fig. 3 is a bottom view of the head of the tassel, showing the end of the tube split and spread to form a catch to prevent its withdrawal.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

My improvement relates to that class of tassels constructed of a series of covered molds, a tube for supporting such molds and for receiving a suspension-cord, of pendants, and a pendant-supporting head. In this class of tassels the tube is usually made of wood, and its construction is laborious, inasmuch as it is necessary to turn the same in a lathe, or by other means, and then bore it, in order to bring it to the proper shape. A wooden tube, moreover, must be made of large diameter, in order to impart thereto the required degree of strength, and in consequence thereof it is necessary to form openings by hand in the mold-coverings at points opposite the holes in the molds for the passage of this tube.

The object of my invention is to produce a neat, cheap, and substantial tassel, comprising a series of molds and pendent cords securely held together; and to this end it consists in a tassel composed of a series of molds, pendent cords, a cord-supporting head, and a metal tube, said tube having its end split and bent outward to form a head, and inserted through central openings in said molds and tassel-head, whereby the tassel is prevented from breakage by lateral strain.

In the drawings, the letter A designates a series of molds, which are strung on a tube, B, through which passes a suspension-cord, C; and D are pendants, suspended between the lowermost mold A and a head, E. The cords D are confined by a wire passed through the end portions thereof and embracing the tube B, as shown.

The molds A are covered with silk or other

threads by a machine constructed for this purpose.

In tassels as hitherto made openings are formed in the coverings opposite the holes in the molds by uniting the strands of silk or other material forming the coverings through the medium of threads passed through the strands and through the hole of the mold, these openings serving to receive the usual wooden tube.

I make the tube B of metal, and of such a diameter that the mold can be covered by machine, while the tube can be forced through the mold-covering by means of a piercer, which is attached to the tube, and can be removed when the tube has been passed through the mold-covering. This piercer spreads the threads of the covering apart without injury.

My tube can be made of very small diameter without detracting from its strength or stiffness, and, moreover, can be made by simply bending a piece of sheet metal around a mandrel, so that little labor is involved in its production as compared with the labor involved in making a wooden core.

In order to secure or confine my tube in position, the lower end thereof is split, and this split portion is spread beneath the head E, as shown at *f*, in Figs. 1 and 3.

By the above-described invention the manufacture of tassels is greatly simplified, as I am thereby enabled to use machines for covering the molds, saving time and labor, which enables me to produce a better article at a lower cost than heretofore.

The tassels made according to my invention are of superior finish to those made in the manner previously practiced.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A tassel composed of a series of molds, pendent cords, a cord-supporting head, and a metal tube, said tube having its end split and bent outward to form a head, and inserted through central openings in said molds and tassel-head, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 5th day of December, 1877.

WM. OFFNER. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

E. F. KASTENHUBER,  
J. VAN SANTVOORD.