A. C. BROVALD.

COAT HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 10, 1909.

953,254. Patented Mar. 29, 1910.

Fig. 1.

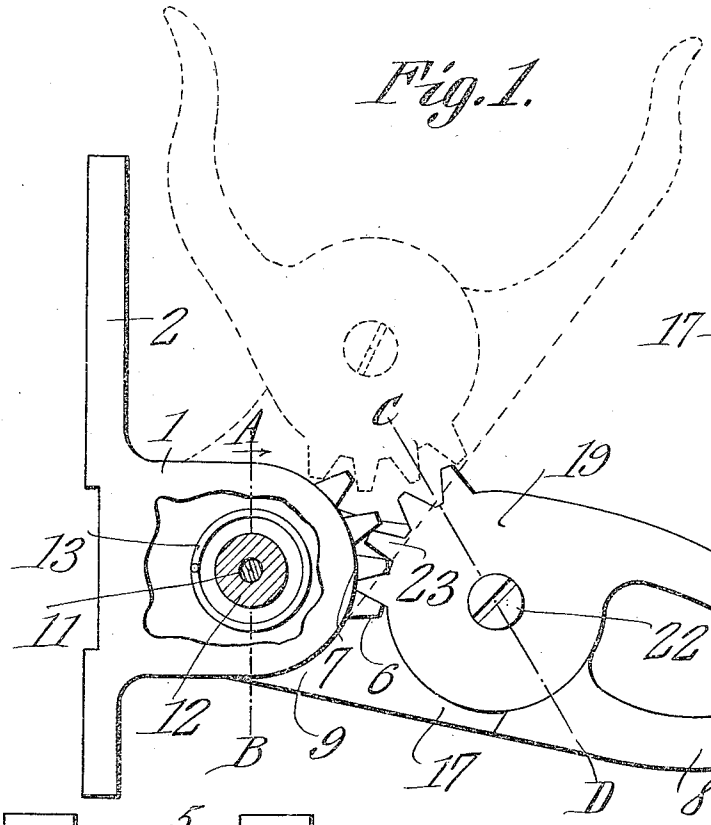


Fig. 5.

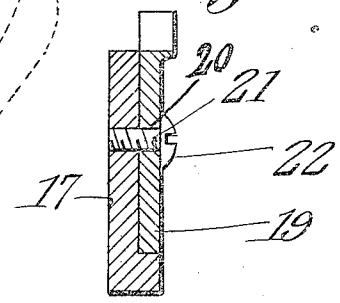


Fig. 3.

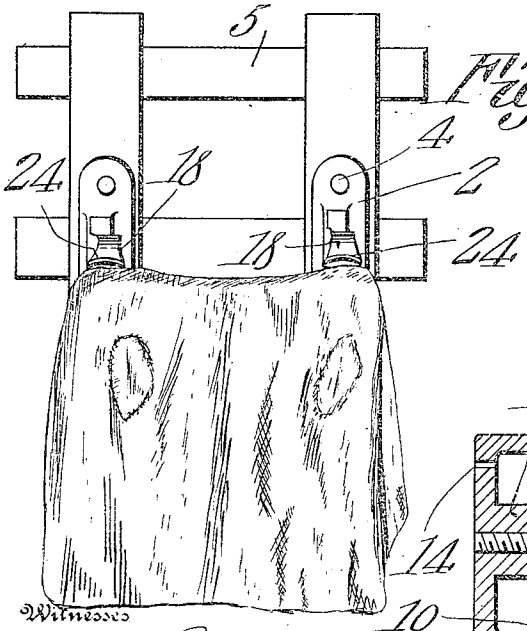
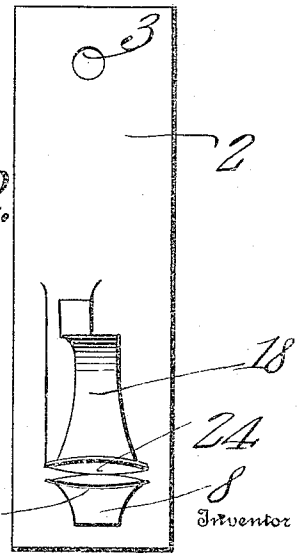


Fig. 2.



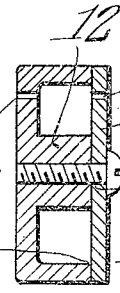


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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COAT-HOLDER.

953,254. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 29, 1910.

Application filed September 10, 1909. Serial No. 517,081.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW C. BROVALD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Finley, in the county of Juneau and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Coat-Holder, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to garment supporters, particularly to hooks designed for use on combined coat and hat racks, and has for an object to provide a device of this character which will support a heavy coat in position for the wearer to put it on.

Another object is to provide a device of this character in which the gripping power of the clamping lips will be automatically adjusted relatively to the weight of the supported garment so that the greater the weight of the garment the tighter will the lips take hold.

Still another object is to provide a device of this character which will not injure or wrinkle the supported garment, and which will automatically release a garment after the wearer has gotten into it.

The invention is designed particularly for supporting heavy coats, such as overcoats, reefers, fur coats and the like, which require the aid of a second person in putting on and consists in certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification:—Figure 1 is a side elevation of a coat holding device constructed in accordance with my invention showing the clamping lips in operative position and dotted in released position, Fig. 2 is an end elevation of my coat holding device, Fig. 3 is a view in elevation showing a pair of coat holding devices supporting a garment in position for the wearer to put it on. Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view taken on the line A—B Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view taken on the line C—D Fig. 1.

Like characters of reference designate similar parts in the views shown.

Referring now to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates a casing, substantially semi-circular in contour, and having an integral plate 2 formed remote from its curved face. Formed adjacent the ends of the plate 2 is a pair of openings 3 through which screws or similar connections 4 are passed to secure the casing to a coat rack or like support 5. A rack 6 is formed on the curved face 7 of the casing, the purpose of which will presently appear.

A jaw 8 is provided at one end with a circular head 9 which swivels on and forms a closure for the open face 10 of the casing. A screw 11 is passed centrally through the circular head 9 of the jaw and engages a screw threaded hub 12 projecting from the opposed face of the casing. The jaw is thus pivoted on the hub 12 and may be rocked to a vertical, horizontal, or any intermediate angular position thereon.

Surrounding the hub 12 is a coiled spring 13, one end of which is engaged through an opening 14 in the casing and the opposite end of which is engaged through an opening 15 in the head 9 of the jaw. The spring exerts a pressure on the jaw tending to normally hold the same in upright position and stores up energy as the jaw is rocked downward to return the same to its initial position as soon as released.

The jaw terminates in a clamping lip 16 remote from the head 8 and which is provided with a rounded working surface which will not lacerate the garment supported thereupon. The intermediate portion of the jaw 8 is expanded to form a substantially circular seat 17 upon which is pivoted a second jaw 18.

The jaw 18 is expanded at one end to form a circular head 19 which is centrally provided with a screw threaded annular opening 20, alining with a threaded opening 21 in the seat 17, through which a pivot screw 22 is attached. Formed on the curved peripheral surface of the head 19 is a series of teeth 23 that mesh with the rack 6 formed upon the casing. The jaw 18 terminates remote from the head portion 19 in a clamping lip 24 having a rounded working surface that coöperates with the working surface of the lip 16 to securely clamp a garment therebetween.

As the teeth of the jaw 18 are in mesh with the rack 6, and the jaw is pivoted to the intermediate portion of the jaw 8 which latter is in turn pivoted on the casing 6, any movement of the jaw 8 will be transmitted through the medium of the rack 6 and teeth 23 to the jaw 18, so that the greater the downward pressure upon the jaw 8, the tighter will the clamping lip of the jaw 18 be held in engagement with the clamping lip of the jaw 8. In this way the gripping

power of the jaws is automatically adjusted relatively to the weight of a garment, so that the greater the weight of the supported garment, the tighter will the lips take hold.

In the operation the collar of the coat desired to be worn, is placed between the open jaws of adjacent holding devices, as shown in Fig. 3 and the jaws rock downward to a horizontal position. The coat is then securely held while the wearer inserts his arms into the sleeves, any downward pressure upon the jaws during this operation only serving to tighten their grip upon the garment.

When the arms have been inserted into the sleeve holes and the garment has been brought to proper position upon the wearer's shoulders, the wearer has simply to step away from the coat rack when the jaws will release their hold upon the garment, when an upward and outward pull will cause the supported garment to readily be released from the rack without tearing or injuring the garment in any manner.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings it is thought that the construction and operation of my invention will be easily understood without a more extended explanation, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction may be made without sacrificing any of the advantages or departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:—

A coat holding device consisting of a semi-circular casing having a rack formed upon its peripheral surface, a jaw pivoted at one end to said casing, a spring seated in said casing and exerting a pressure on said jaw tending to hold the same normally in upright position, a second jaw pivoted at one end to the first named jaw and having a curved series of teeth adapted to mesh with said rack whereby to bring the free end of said jaws into contact as the first named jaw is rocked downward to operative position.

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

ANDREW C. BROVALD.

Witnesses:
J. E. INGRAHAM,
J. Q. DANIELS.