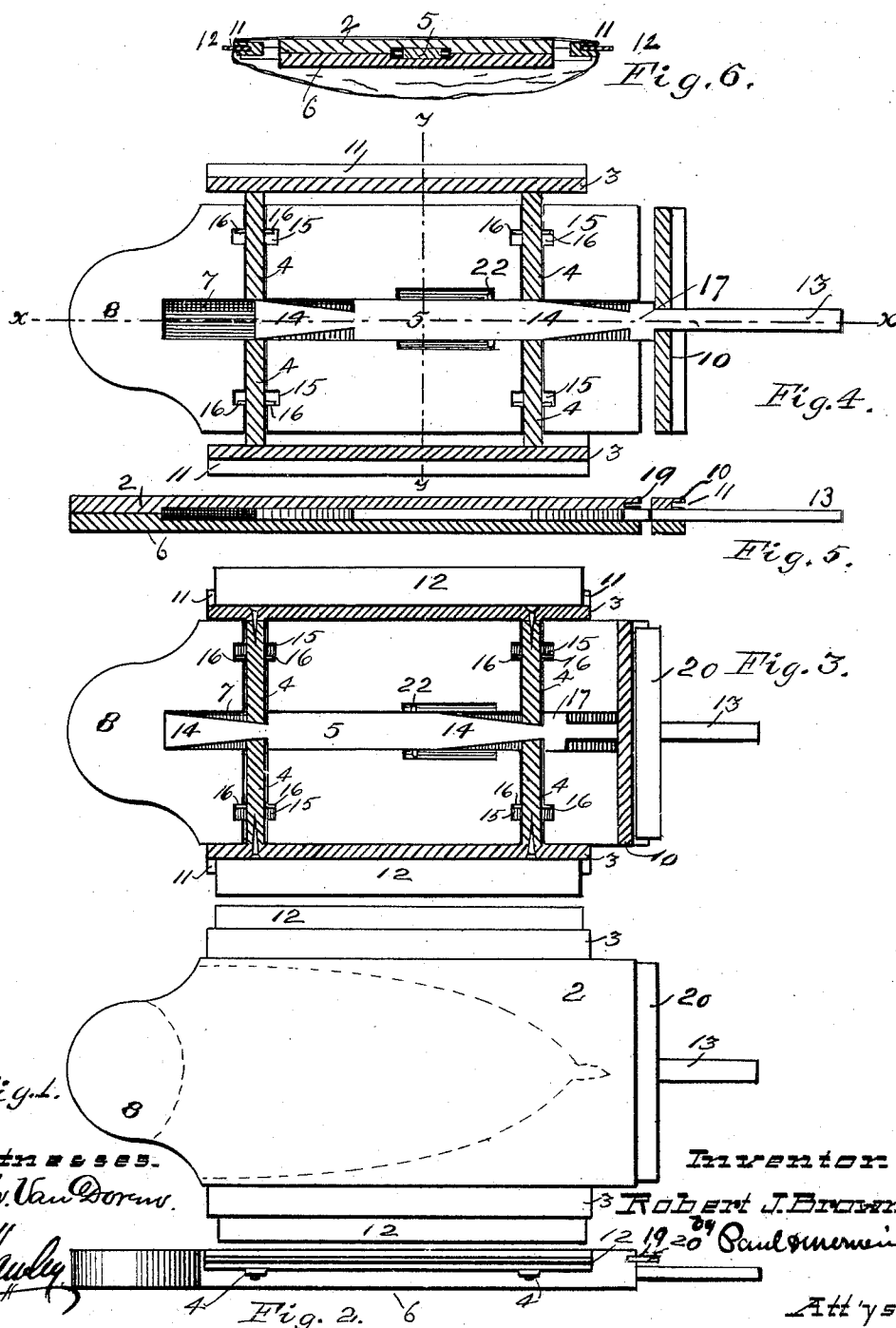


(No Model.)

R. J. BROWN.
SHIRT IRONING BOARD.

No. 463,185.

Patented Nov. 17, 1891.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT J. BROWN, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

SHIRT-IRONING BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 463,185, dated November 17, 1891.

Application filed January 26, 1891. Serial No. 379,012. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT J. BROWN, of Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain Improvements in Shirt-Ironing Boards, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to combination ironing and stretching boards especially adapted for use in ironing shirts or other small articles; and the object of my invention is to provide an ironing-board of a convenient shape and means whereby the shirt may be stretched after being placed on the board and held taut while being ironed.

My invention consists in an ironing-board having a curved head of the usual form, in combination with movable slotted side and end strips, fastening-strips adapted to be inserted in the slots therein, a double wedge-rod adapted to move in a groove or recess in the board, arms extending inwardly from said side strips and adapted to engage the wedge portions of said rod, and stops for limiting the movement of said rod and said arms.

My invention consists, also, in various details of construction and in combinations hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

My invention will be more readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the simplest form of my device. Fig. 2 is a side view thereof. Fig. 3 is a sectional plan view showing the movable strips and the arms thereof in section. The wedge-rod is shown in full. Fig. 4 is a similar section, showing the side and end strips distended. Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line *x x* of Fig. 4, the wedge-rod not being shown in section. Fig. 6 is a section on the line *y y* thereof.

As shown in the drawings, the ironing-board consists, generally, in the face-board 2 and the side strips 3, having arms 4 extending inwardly and engaging the wedge-rod 5, by the operation of which the said strips are distended. A back-board 6 is provided of the same shape as the face-board 2. Both of these boards are slotted, as shown, for the reception of the double wedge-rod 5 and the arms 4. The slotted side strips 3 and the end strip 10 are provided with slots 11, into which the long

wedge-strips 12 and the strip 20 are adapted to be inserted. The wedge-rod 5 has a handle 13, extending beyond the foot of the board. The forward or inner part of the rod has the two wedge portions 14, the sides of which engage the inner ends of the arms 4. In the inner side of one or both of the boards recesses 15 are provided, in which the pins or stops 16 move, and engaging with the ends thereof limit the movement of the arms and stretcher-strips 3. The end strip 10, which I sometimes use, is mortised and may be slipped over the handle 13, the sides of which are preferably parallel for this reason. The arrangement of the shoulder 17 between the handle and the rest of the wedge-strip 5 is such that it does not strike the strip 10 until the arms 4 have risen to very nearly the full height on the sides of the wedges, so that the longitudinal stretch on the shirt-bosom is very little.

As shown in Fig. 2, I may dispense with the strip 10 entirely, making use only of the slot 19 in the end of the board, the strip 20 being also adapted to be inserted therein.

In use the shirt-band is buttoned together at the back and the neck of the shirt passed over the narrow head 8 of the board, as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 1. The shirt is then stretched down lengthwise and held down by the strip 20, after which the shirt is stretched by hand sidewise and the strips 12 forced in over the cloth in the slots 11 in the side strips 3. The handle 13 is then drawn out carefully, thereby gradually forcing out the side strips and slowly stretching the cloth until it becomes flat and smooth, after which the ends of the arms 4, binding on the wedges, prevent the rod 5 from slipping back to loosen the cloth. I provide the stop 22 on the rod 5 to prevent its being drawn out too far.

I sometimes prefer to make the boards 2 and 6 plain and dispense with the recessed ways for the arms and the wedge-rod by providing strips or guides therefor between the boards, which are separated a sufficient distance to allow the insertion of said parts. The construction and idea thereof are, however, practically the same as that shown and described, and hence need no special mention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with the face-board, of the strips 3, having the slots 11, a slot provided in the end portion of said board, strips 12 and 20, adapted to be inserted in said slots, 5 the arms 4 of said strips 3, and a wedge-rod 5, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the face-board 2, of the back-board 6, the wedge-rod 5, having the wedge portions 14 and the handle 13, the 10 slotted strips 3, the arms 4, adapted to engage said wedge-rod, and the slots or ways in which said rod and arms are held and adapted to move, substantially as described.

3. The combination, in a shirt-ironing 15 board, of the pieces 2 and 6, secured together and having longitudinal and transverse slots or recesses, with the wedge-rod 5, adapted to move in the longitudinal slot 7 in said board, arms 4, arranged in the transverse recesses 20 or slots and having their inner ends engaging the wedge portions of said rod 5, the slotted side strips 3, arranged on the outer ends of said arms 4, the handle of said rod 5, the slotted end strip 10 on said handle, the shoulder 25 thereon adapted to engage said strip 10, and wedge or fastening strips adapted to be inserted in the slots of said side and end strips 3 and 10, respectively, substantially as described.

4. The combination, in a shirt-ironing 30 board, of the parts 2 and 6, secured together with the wedge-rod arranged between the same and having wedge portions, the arms 4, extending transversely into engagement with said wedge portions of said wedge-rod 5, the slotted 35 strips 3, secured on the outer end of said arms 4, said arms and rod being retained and adapted to move in transverse and longitudinal slots, respectively, the stops 16 and 22 for said arms and rod, the slotted strip 10, remov- 40 ably secured on the handle 13 of the wedge-rod, the shoulder on said wedge-rod adapted to engage said strip 10, and fastening-strips 12 and 20, adapted to be inserted in the slots of said strips 3 and 10, substantially as and 45 for the purpose specified.

5. The combination, with the face-board, of the side strips 3, having the arms 4, the wedge-rod 5, having the wedge portions 14, and means for limiting the movements of said 50 arms and of said rod, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 22d day of January, 1891.

ROBERT J. BROWN.

In presence of—

O. G. HAWLEY,
FRED S. LYON.