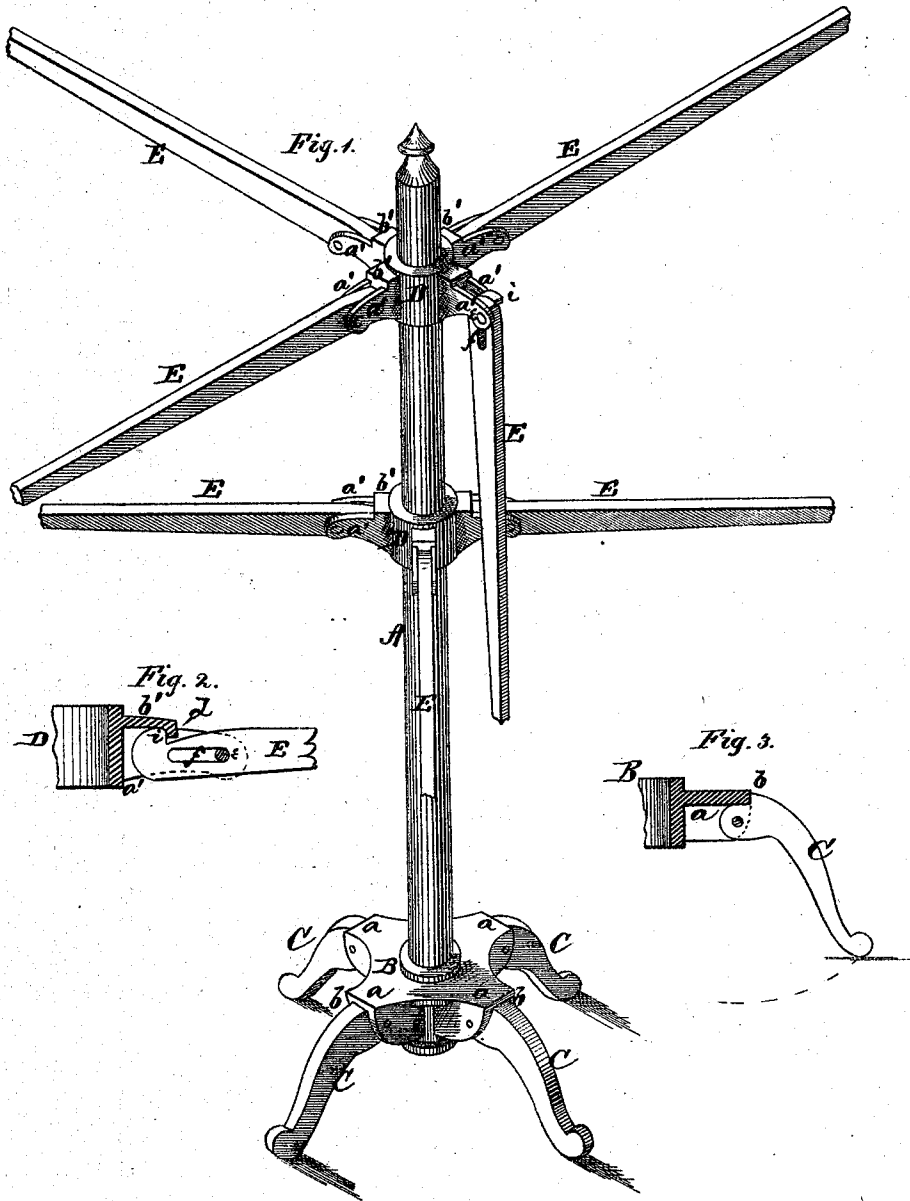


N. F. MATHEWSON.

Improvement in Clothes-Driers.

No. 131,696.

Patented Sep. 24, 1872.



Witnesses:

Henry N. Miller  
C. L. Everh

Inventor.

Nathaw F. Mathewson  
per Alexander Mason

Attorneys.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHAN F. MATHEWSON, OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-DRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 131,696, dated September 24, 1872.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NATHAN F. MATHEWSON, of Bloomington, in the county of McLean and in the State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Racks; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a clothes-horse or clothes-rack, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my clothes-rack, and Figs. 2 and 3 are detached views of certain parts thereof.

A represents the center-post, the lower end of which passes through and turns in a casting, B. This casting is so made as to form four sockets, *a a*, closed on top, but open on the under and outer sides. These sockets are at equal distances, and in each of them is pivoted a curved leg, C, having a shoulder, *b*, on its upper side, which, when the leg is thrown out, bears against the top of the socket. When the rack is not in use the legs C C may be folded so that the rack can be put away in a small compass and not take up much room. On the post A are secured one, two, or more collars, D, each of which is provided with radiating arms or ears *a' a'*, arranged in pairs at equal distances apart. The two arms or ears of each pair are connected on their upper sides, at or near their inner ends, by a cross-bar, *b'*, having at its outer edge a flange, *d*, projecting a short distance downward between the arms *a a*, as shown in Fig. 2. In each pair of arms or ears *a' a'* is hung a clothes-bar, E, by means of a pin, *e*, which is passed through said arms and goes through a slot, *f*, in the bar E, so that

when the bar is raised in a horizontal position the bar can be moved in and out the distance of said slot, and when moved in its inner end will come under and bear against the cross-bar *b'*. On the inner end of the clothes-bar E is formed a hook, *i*, which catches on the downward-projecting flange *d* of the cross-bar *b'*, and thus prevents the clothes-bar from becoming accidentally unfastened. By raising the outer end of the clothes-bar the hook *i* will disengage from the flange *d*, and the bar may be drawn out on the pin *e*, and then turn on the same, falling downward. When more than one set of clothes-bars is used the bars of each set should be under and between the bars of the set next above. The post A, turning in the lower casting B, allows the clothes on either side to be turned to the fire or the sun, as desired.

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

1. The combination of the standard A, cast-metal collar D, with radial jaws *a' a'*, connected at their tops by the cross-bars *b'* and having downward projections *d*, with the wooden arms E, provided with slots *f*, whereby they are secured between the jaws by the pins *e*, and with notches *i* at their ends for catching under the projections *d*, all substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the casting B with sockets *a a*, legs C C with shoulders *b b*, the central upright post A turning in the casting, and one or more collars, D, secured on said post, each collar having arms *a' a'*, bars *b' b'*, with flanges *d d* and pins *e e*, and the clothes-bars E E with slots *f f* and hooks *i i*, all substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 3d day of August, 1872.

NATHAN F. MATHEWSON.

Witnesses:

EDM. F. BROWN,  
C. L. EVERT.