(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. P. MARSHALL & A. R. HOWZE.

EXHIBITOR FOR ARTICLES OF MERCHANDISE.

No. 327,000. Patented Sept. 29, 1885.

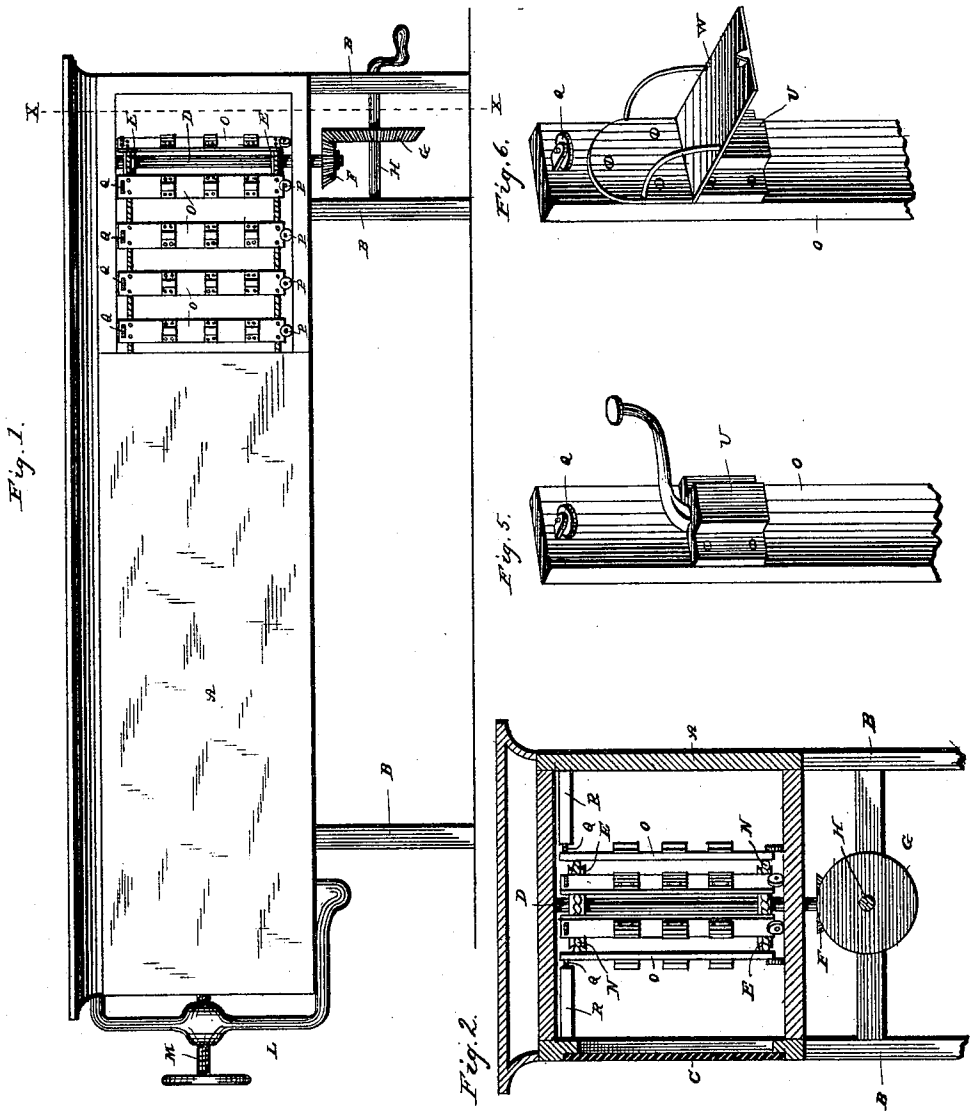


Fig. 1.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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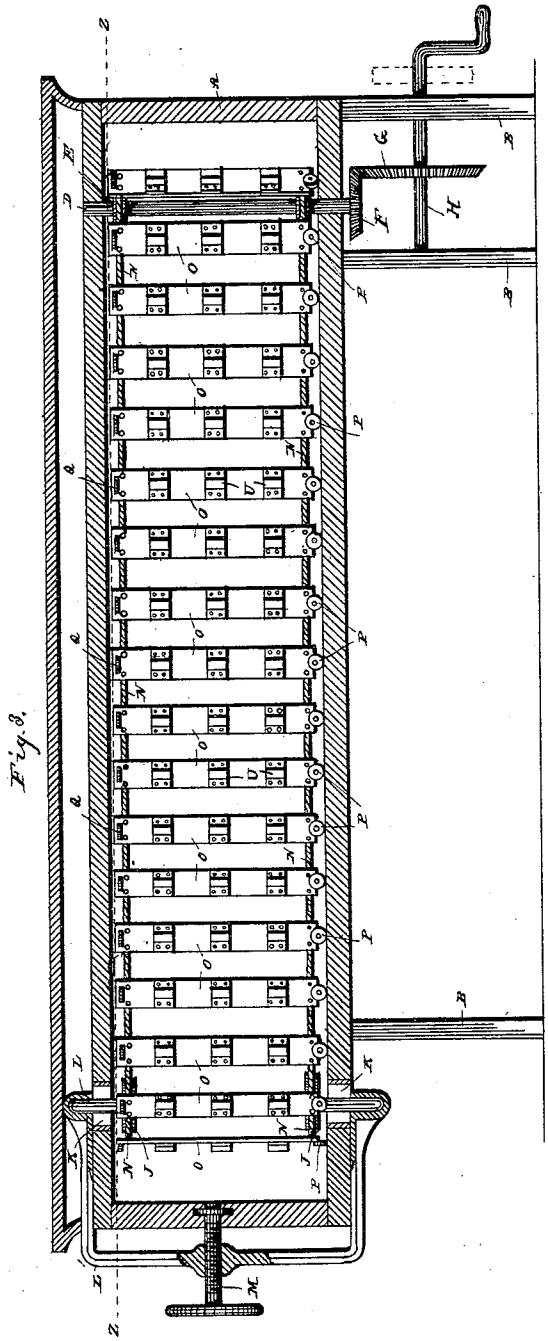


Fig. 3.

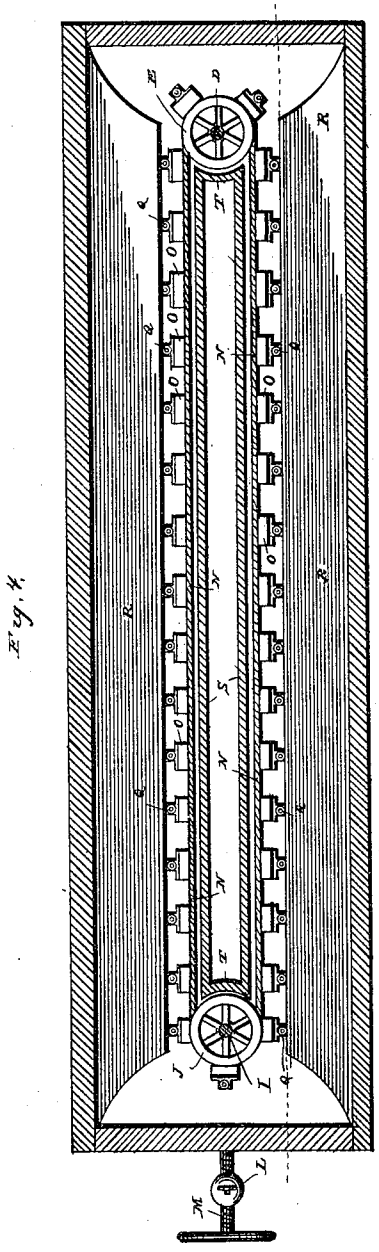


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACKSON P. MARSHALL AND ARTHUR R. HOWZE, OF WINONA, MISSISSIPPI.

EXHIBITOR FOR ARTICLES OF MERCHANDISE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 327,000, dated September 29, 1885.

Application filed April 13, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JACKSON P. MARSHALL and ARTHUR R. HOWZE, citizens of the United States, residing at Winona, in the county of Montgomery and State of Mississippi, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Exhibitors for Articles of Merchandise, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in exhibitors for displaying articles of merchandise; and it has for its objects, first, to provide in an exhibitor of this kind a horizontal traveling endless article-carrier so constructed as to be capable of carrying numerous articles, whether individually or collectively heavy; second, to provide means for taking up the slack of the carrier when the same becomes lengthened.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and on which similar letters of reference indicate the same or corresponding features, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of our improved exhibitor; Fig. 2, a vertical sectional view of the same, taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the same, taken on the line *y y* of Fig. 4; Fig. 4, a horizontal sectional view taken on the line *z z* of Fig. 3; Fig. 5, a detached perspective of one of the carrier-strips, showing a hat-hook applied thereto; Fig. 6, a like view of one of the carrier-strips, showing a shoe-bracket applied thereto.

The letter A designates the body of our improved exhibitor, the same consisting of a rectangular structure, preferably of parallelogrammatic form, supported at suitable intervals by legs B.

The front of the body, as seen in Fig. 1, is omitted for a convenient portion, and a pane of glass, C, fitted in the opening, so as to present the articles to view as they pass across the same in the manner presently to appear.

Near one end of the structure we mount in suitable bearings a shaft, D, to which are rigidly mounted grooved wheels E, and which is provided, preferably at its lower end, with a beveled pinion, F, meshing with a beveled drive cog-wheel, G, mounted on the shaft H, having its journals in two of the legs B. This shaft may be provided with a crank or drive pulley, as represented in dotted lines.

Corresponding to the shaft D is the shaft I, located near the opposite end of the structure, and provided with grooved wheels J. In order to adjust this shaft to and from the shaft D, so as to compensate for the contraction and expansion of the carrier, we provide slots K in the top and bottom of the structure, and mount the ends of the shaft I in bearings formed in the arms of the adjustable bracket L. This bracket is provided with a screw-threaded aperture, which receives the correspondingly-threaded adjusting-bolt M, having a hand-wheel at one end and fitted so as to rotate in a plate secured to the end of the structure.

In the upper and lower sets of grooved wheels we run an endless rope or suitable belt, N, to which we attach at proper intervals a series of upright carrier-strips, O. These strips are provided at their lower ends with supporting-rollers P, which are journaled upon the floor or bottom of the structure, and serve to support the strips and articles attached to them, as well as to prevent undue sagging of the ropes and unnecessary strain upon the shafts D and I. The said strips are further provided with guiding or anti-friction rollers Q near their upper ends, which project in a horizontal direction and serve to keep the strips in a vertical or approximately vertical position by rolling along the edges of the guide-strips R, which are secured to the upper part of the structure, as more clearly seen in Fig. 2.

To prevent the strips from sagging inward, we locate boards or strips S, preferably connected at their ends by cross-pieces T, within the space between the opposite sides of the belts, and against which the latter play more or less, according to their tension, as they travel around.

Each of the strips O is to be provided with any suitable device for supporting the articles to be exhibited. In the present instance we show sockets U, in which hooks V, for the support of hats or other articles, which can be conveniently engaged with them, or brackets W, specially designed for holding boots and shoes.

This exhibitor may be constructed of any desired size, and in some instances we contemplate making them about twenty feet long, in which case they may be fitted into the shelving so as to virtually form a part of the shelving of a store. As it is contemplated to make them of considerable size, and as the articles they may be used to exhibit will be numerous and may be heavy, we have provided the supporting-rollers, before alluded to, so as to insure their working and to lighten the strain upon the several parts, as before intimated.

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

1. In an exhibitor, the combination, with the body thereof having guide-strips, of the shafts and the endless carrier provided at intervals with strips having supporting and guiding rollers.

2. In an exhibitor, the combination, with the body thereof, of the shafts mounted therein and provided with wheels, mechanism to rotate one of said shafts, and the endless belts fitted to the said wheels and provided at intervals with strips having supporting and guiding rollers.

3. In an exhibitor, the combination, with the body thereof, of the shafts mounted therein and provided with wheels to rotate one of said shafts, the endless belts fitted over said wheels and provided with strips at intervals having supporting and guiding rollers, the guides with which the guiding-rollers engage, and the strips to prevent the belts from sagging inwardly.

4. In an exhibitor, the combination, with the body thereof and a carrier-shaft located within said body, of the bracket in which the shaft is journaled and the adjusting-screw engaging with the bracket and connected with the body of the exhibitor so as to rotate.

5. In an exhibitor, a carrier constructed of belts and strips secured thereto at intervals and provided with supporting and guiding rollers.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JACKSON P. MARSHALL.
ARTHUR R. HOWZE.

Witnesses:
I. V. STEEN,
J. S. CAMERON.