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COLLAPSIBLE CLOTHES RACK.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 1, 1909. RENEWED JUNE 25, 1910.

984,591.

Patented Feb. 21, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

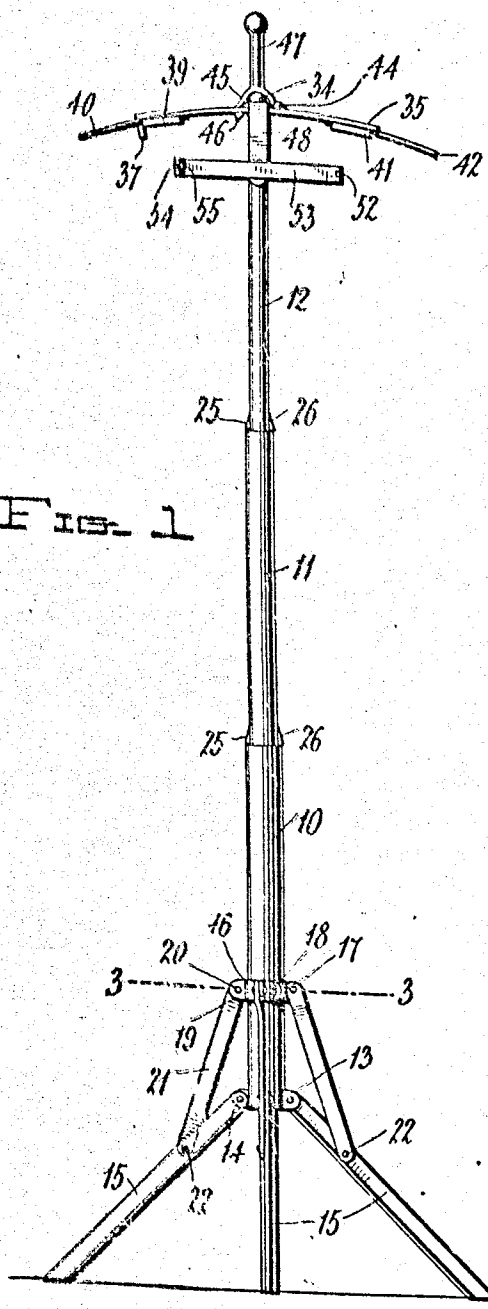

Fig. 1

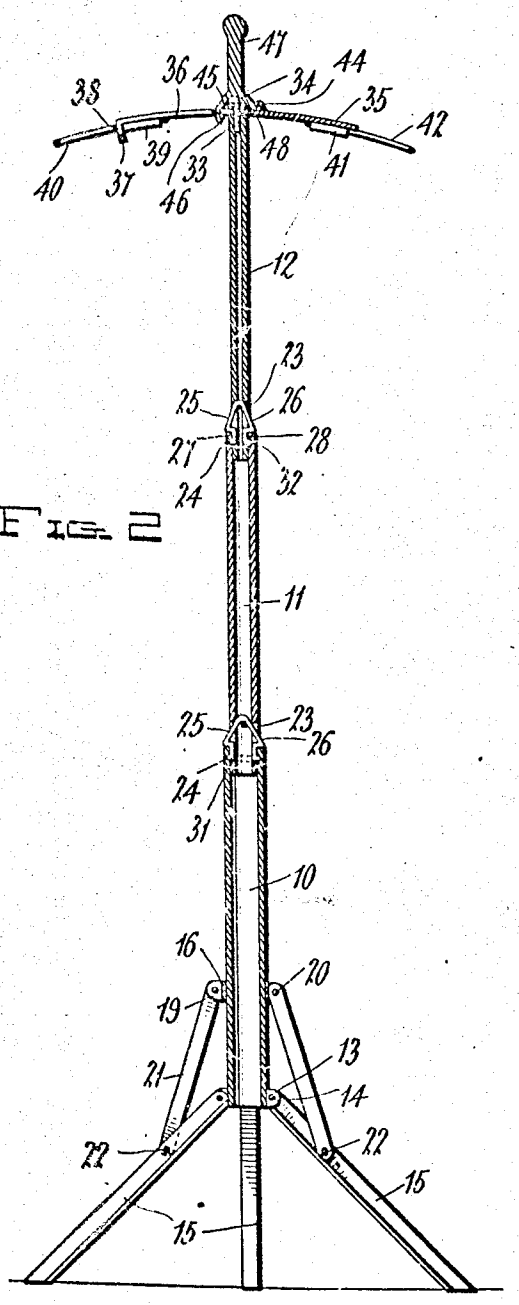

Fig. 2

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 4

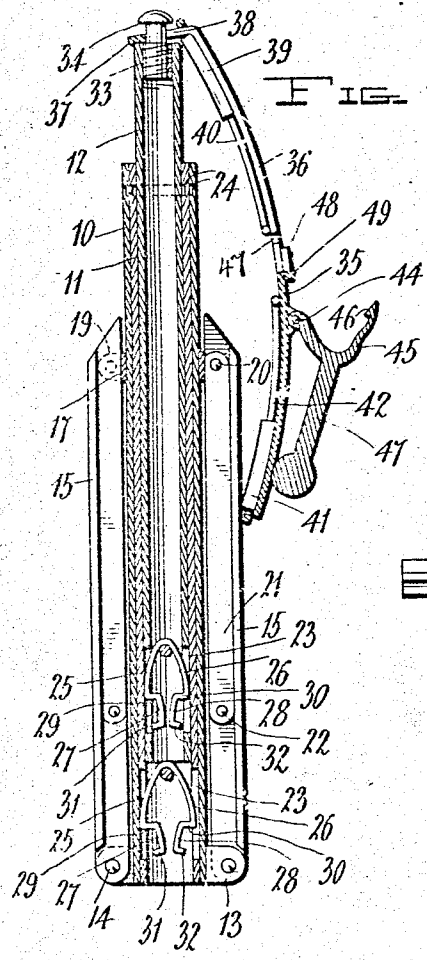


FIG. 3

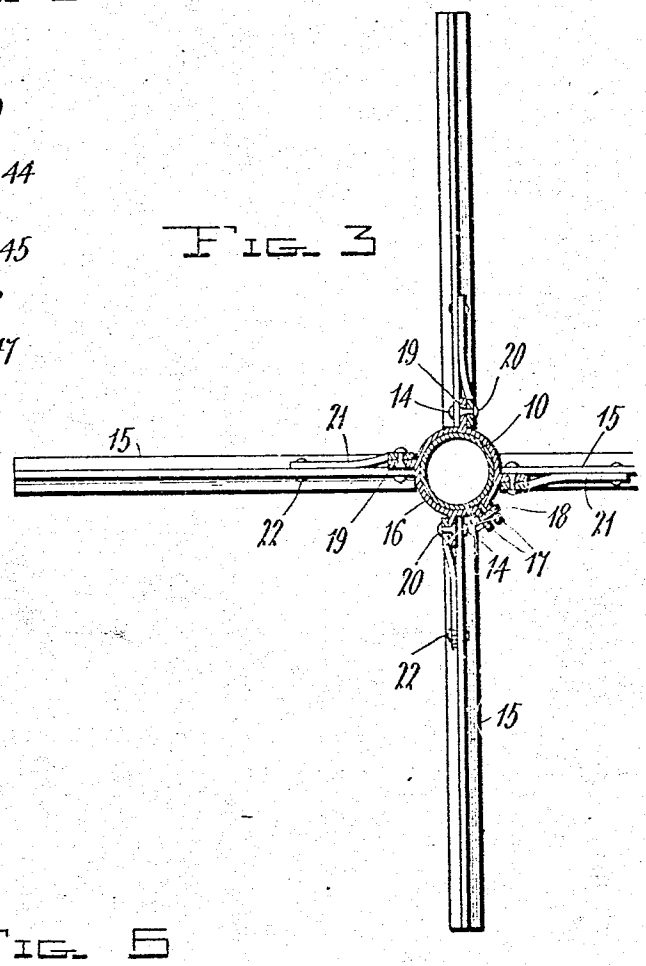
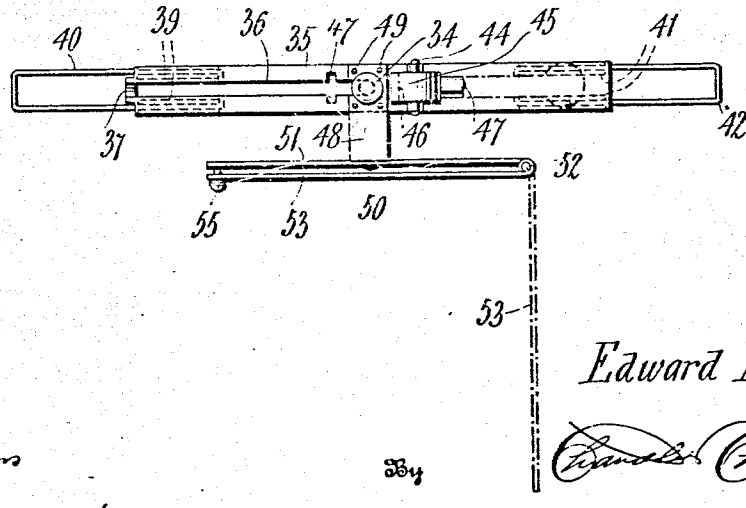


FIG. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COLLAPSIBLE CLOTHES-RACK.

984,591. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 21, 1911.

Application filed July 1, 1909, Serial No. 505,421. Renewed June 25, 1910. Serial No. 568,894.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD NELSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Aldrich, in the county of Wadena, State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collapsible Clothes-Racks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to clothes racks or frames, and has for one of its objects to provide a simply constructed device of this character, which may be readily collapsed into a relatively small space when not required, and as readily distended when it is desired to be used.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which may be adjusted vertically to produce a device of varying heights.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claims, and in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved device in its distended or operative position. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional elevation. Fig. 3 is a plan view, enlarged, in section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a sectional elevation showing the parts in folded positions. Fig. 5 is a plan view, enlarged, of the parts shown in Fig. 1.

The improved device comprises a central standard formed of a plurality of tubular sections telescopically arranged, so that the standard may be reduced to the total length of one of the sections, or extended to a length equal to all of the sections less the portions necessary to provide for rigidly coupling the members. Any required number of the sections may be employed, but for the purpose of illustration three of the sections are shown which will be the number generally used, but it will be understood that any required number may be employed, and it is not desired to limit the invention to any specific number of the sections or to any specific length of standard. The sections are denoted by the characters 10—11—12, and will be formed of tubes which closely engage within each other, as represented.

Extending from the lower end of the lower standard 10 are ears 13, preferably arranged in pairs, and swinging at 14 between each pair of the ears is a leg member 15, the latter preferably formed from a portion of T-iron, as shown. Encircling the member 10 intermediate its ends is a divided band 16 with the portions of the band turned outward at the joint to form spaced ears 17 through which a clamp bolt 18 is disposed, so that the band may be clamped rigidly to the member 10 when required. Extending from the band 16 are lugs 19, and pivoted at 20 to each of the lugs is a brace member 21, the free ends of the brace members being pivotally connected at 22 to the leg members 15. Each pair of the ears 13 is provided with one of the legs, and the legs 19 are equal in number to the arms 13, so that each leg member is provided with one of the braces 21. By this arrangement it will be obvious that the legs 15 may be distended at any required extent by loosening the clamp bolt 18 and sliding the band 16 longitudinally of the member 10, or the legs and braces may be folded substantially in parallel relations to the standard members by moving the band upwardly into the position shown in Fig. 4

The tubular sections 11—12 are each provided with resilient catch devices whereby they may be locked in the distended or open position shown in Fig. 1 and as they are precisely alike the description of one will suffice for both. The members 10—11 are provided with oppositely disposed longitudinal slots spaced from their lower ends, the slots being represented at 23, while the members 10—11 are provided near their upper ends with annularly arranged recesses represented at 24. Located within the members 11—12 are wire catch devices, each formed from a single piece of resilient wire bent into inverted V-shape whereby inclined sides 25—26 are formed, and with the sides bent at their free ends into inwardly directed loops 27—28 whereby shoulders 29—30 and studs 31—32 are formed. The studs 31—32 are designed to enter the recesses 24 and the shoulders 29 are designed to bear upon the upper ends of the members 10 and 11, when the several tubular members are arranged in distended or open position, as represented in Fig. 1. The resiliency of the arms 25—26 will maintain them normally in their outward position with

the shoulders and studs engaging the adjacent tubular member, and thus produce an effectual lock between them, and preventing them from collapsing. When it is desired to close the device the sides 25—26 are pressed inwardly until the shoulders 29—30 are withdrawn from engagement with the tubular members, when the tubular members may be moved inwardly into the position shown in Fig. 3. When it is desired to distend the tubular members it is only necessary to draw them outwardly when the catch devices will automatically lock the parts in their distended position.

If it is desired to lengthen the standard for a distance less than the total length of all of the sections, portions only of the sections may be distended, leaving the remaining sections withdrawn within the standard, as will be obvious. Thus the standard may be distended a distance equal to one or more of the sections, as required.

Garment stretching and supporting devices are connected to the upper end of the upper tubular member 12, and are constructed as follows. The upper end of the member 12 is internally threaded, and fitting in this threaded portion is a threaded stud 33 having an enlarged head 34, the head being spaced for a distance above the member 12, to provide a neck or bearing for the garment stretching and holding devices. Fitting over the upper end of the member 12 is a curved bar or plate 35 having a longitudinal slot 36 through which the stud 33 passes, the slot extending a little more than one-half the length of the member 35, so that the latter may be adjusted centrally thereof upon the stud as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, or disposed substantially parallel to the member 12 as shown in Fig. 4 when the device is in folded position, as hereafter explained. The member 35 is formed with a downturned terminal 37 into which the slot 36 extends as shown at 38, to enable the member 35 to be arranged in folded position as shown in Fig. 4. Formed upon the lower face of the member 35 near the bent end 37 are spaced guideways or keepers 39 through which the side members of an elongated link 40 are slidably disposed, while similar keepers 41 are connected to the member 35 at its opposite end and provide guideways for the side members of a similar elongated link 42. The links may be moved outwardly as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 5 to form extensions to the member 35, or withdrawn when the member 35 is arranged in folded position, as shown in Fig. 4. The member 35 together with its extension links 40—43 forms a garment supporter or hanger over which cloaks, coats and like garments may be arranged, and supported. Mounted to swing at 44 to the member 35 is a locking member 45 having a barbed terminal 46 adapted to pass through lateral extensions 47 in the member 35, and communicating with the slot 36, the barbed member thus serving to lock the member 35 to the pin 33, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The member 45 is formed with a concaved lower face to fit over the enlarged head 34 of the bar 33, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Extending from the member 45 is a stud 47, which stands vertically when the member 35 is in its operative position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and thus serve as a support for a hat or like garment. Connected to the member 35 centrally thereof, and surrounding the pin 33 is an outwardly and downwardly directed plate 48, the plate being rigidly secured to the member 35 by rivets or other like fastening devices 49, as shown in Fig. 5. Mounted to swing at 50 to the lower end of the plate 48 is an inner bar 51, and mounted to swing at 52 at one end is an outer bar 53, the latter having an open slot 54 at its free end through which a button 55 extends, the button being rotatable to enable the same to be turned flat-wise to permit the slot 54 to pass over it, and then turned at right angles to lock the members 51—53 together. The members 51—53 thus serve as an efficient device for suspending trousers and similar garments.

The improved device is simple in construction, can be inexpensively manufactured, and wholly of metal, and may be located in any desired position, and moved from place to place, and may be readily folded within a comparatively small space when not required.

What is claimed is:—

1. In a device of the class described, a standard formed of a plurality of tubular sections telescopically arranged, one of said sections having longitudinally extending slots and the other section having transverse apertures, a catch device formed of resilient wire bent into V-shape with inwardly directed loops at the free ends of the sides, whereby lateral shoulders and outwardly directed studs are produced, said catch devices arranged in the slots with the shoulders adapted to bear upon the ends of the adjacent section and the studs projecting through the apertures of the same.

2. In a device of the class described, a standard having a guide pin, a supporting member having a longitudinal slot movably engaging over said pin, and a catch device carried by said member and adapted to lock the same upon the pin.

3. In a device of the class described, a standard formed of a plurality of tubular sections telescopically arranged, means carried by said sections for maintaining them in extended relations, the inner tubular member having a guide pin formed with a lateral head, a supporting member having a longitudinal slot movably engaging over

said pin and provided with lateral recesses, and a catch device having a barbed terminal and swinging upon said inner member, said barbed terminal passing through said slot and the recesses and engaging beneath the head of the pin.

4. In a device of the class described, a standard formed of a plurality of tubular sections telescopically arranged, means carried by said sections for maintaining them in extended relations, the inner tubular member having a guide pin formed with a lateral head, a supporting member having a longitudinal slot movably engaging over said pin, a catch device having a laterally projecting head and carried by said supporting member and adapted to lock the same upon the pin, a plurality of leg members mounted to swing from the lower standard section, a band carried by said lower standard section, means for adjustably connecting said band to said section, and braces swingingly connected at one end to said band and at their other ends to said leg members.

5. A device of the class described comprising a standard having a guide pin, a supporting member having a longitudinal slot, and with a laterally directed slotted terminal, said slots movably engaging over said pin, a catch device carried by said member and operating to lock the same upon the pin, and extensions movably engaging said slotted member.

6. In a device of the class described, a standard having a guide pin, a supporting member having a longitudinal slot movably engaging over said pin, a catch device carried by said member and operating to lock the same upon the pin, guideways carried by said slotted member and spaced apart, and links slidably engaging said guideways and forming extensions to the slotted member.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD NELSON.

Witnesses:
S. L. FRAZIER,
L. D. FRAZIER.