F. D. PELLETIER.

COSTUMER OR CLOTHES RACK.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 22, 1911.

1,042,262.

Patented Oct. 22, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

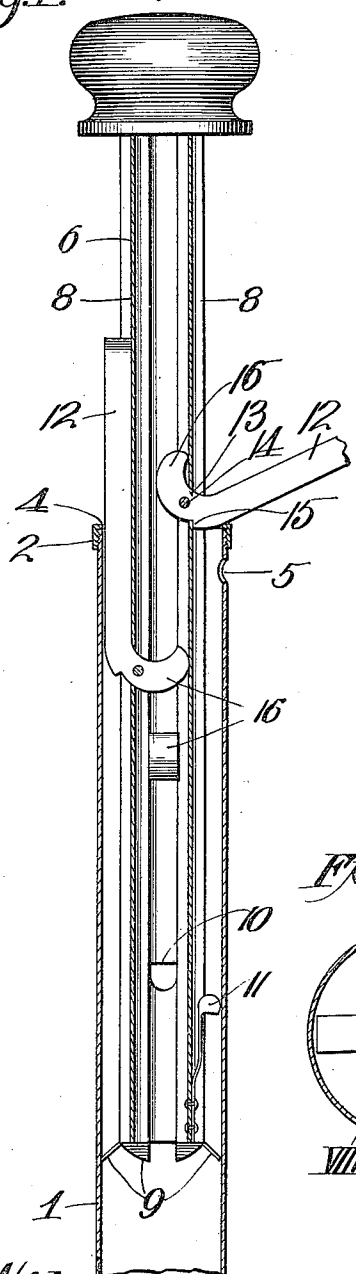


Fig. 2.

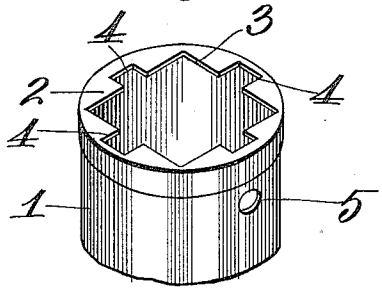


Fig. 3.

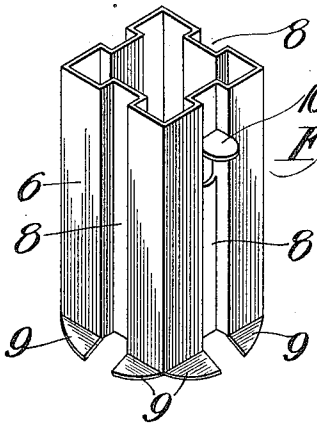


Fig. 7.

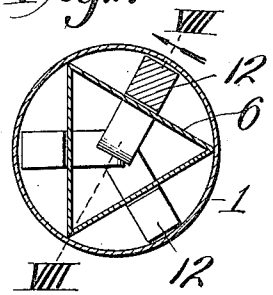
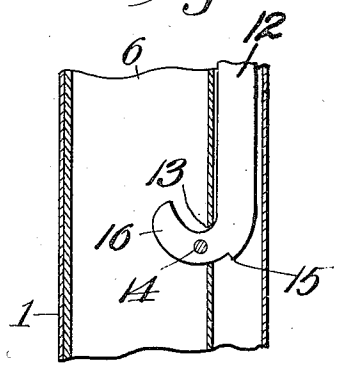


Fig. 8.



Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

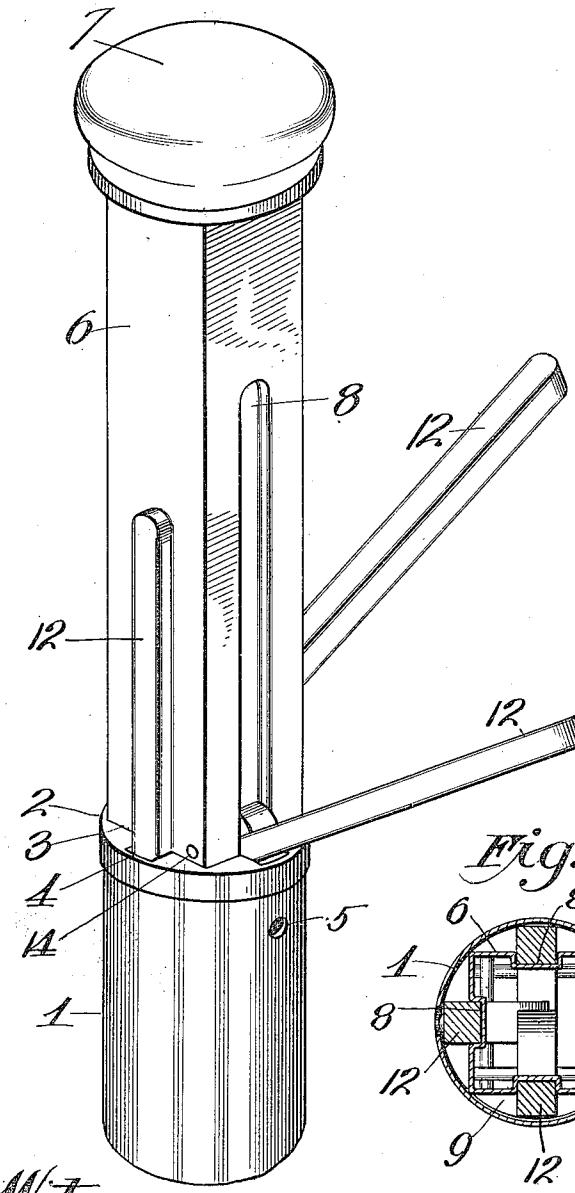

Fig. 5.

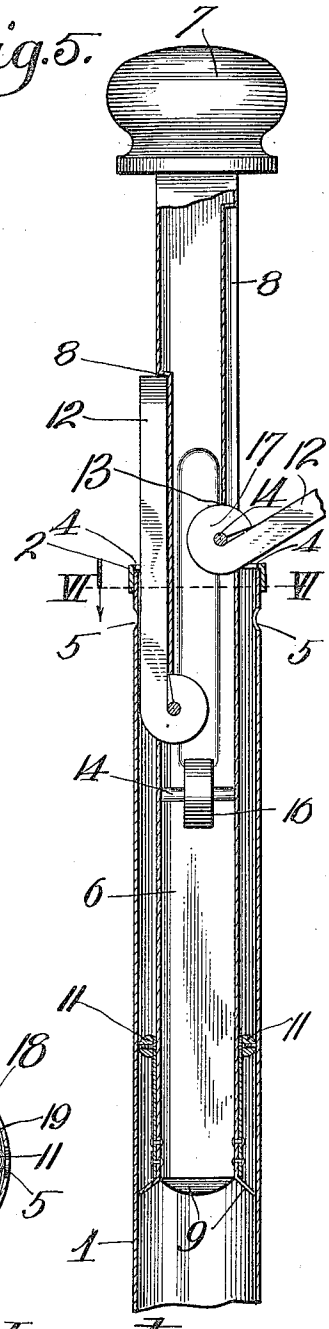

Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK D. PELLETIER, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

COSTUMER OR CLOTHES-RACK.

1,042,262. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 22, 1912.

Application filed April 22, 1911. Serial No. 622,803.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK D. PELLETIER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Costumers or Clothes-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to costumers or clothes racks of that class susceptible of being folded to inoperative condition, and my object is to produce a device of this character of simple, strong, durable and ornamental and inexpensive construction.

With this object in view and others as hereinafter appear, the invention consists in certain novel and peculiar features of construction and organization as hereinafter described and claimed; and in order that it may be fully understood reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1, is a central vertical section of a costumer or clothes rack embodying my invention. Fig. 2, is an enlarged perspective view of the upper end of the casing of the device. Fig. 3, is a perspective view of the inner member of the device. Fig. 4, is a perspective view of the device in slightly modified form. Fig. 5, is a central vertical section of the same. Fig. 6, is a horizontal section on the line VI—VI of Fig. 5. Fig. 7, is a horizontal section of a second modification of the device. Fig. 8, is a section on the line VIII—VIII of Fig. 7.

In the said drawings, 1 is a casing preferably of cylindrical form and provided at its upper end with a removable cap 2, having a large angular opening 3, which in the preferred type of construction is rectangular in contour, and formed in the cap are openings 4, communicating with openings 3. A short distance below the cap the casing is provided with one or more holes 5. Hereinafter the casing is termed the outer member of the device.

6 indicates the inner member of the device, the same being within and bearing a sliding relation to the casing and in the preferred construction the member 6 is provided at its upper end with an ornamental head 7. Member 6 is hollow and in the preferred construction is of rectangular form and fits snugly in the casing and extends through the opening 3 thereof and is incapable of rotary movement. Member 6 is formed with inwardly projecting portions extending longitudinally to provide external vertical grooves 8, which in the preferred construction extend for the full length of the member, and register with the openings 4 of the cap.

As its lower end member 6 is provided with outwardly projecting flanges 9 for frictional engagement with the inner side of the outer member and adapted to coöperate with the cap in maintaining the inner member in a vertical position, and projecting outwardly from one of the grooves 8 is a tongue 10 of slightly greater width than the overlying opening 4 of the cap in order that said tongue shall be incapable of passing through said opening and shall therefore guard against the accidental withdrawal of the inner member from the outer member when the device is being extended for use.

To secure the device in its extended position, the inner member is provided with one or more spring catches 11 adapted to bear frictionally against the outer member and snap into opening 5 thereof, as the extension of the device is arrested by the contact of tongue 10 with the cap.

12 indicates a plurality of arms, which in the preferred construction, lie within the grooves 8 when inoperative, and susceptible of passing through the openings 4 as the device is extended or contracted or folded, and at their lower ends the arms project into the inner member through openings 13 thereof and are secured to said member by pivots 14. Below and outward of said pivots the arms are formed with shoulders 15, to bear against the exterior surface of said member and to distribute the strain imposed on the member by sustaining coats or other articles of clothing on the arms, the latter are provided with curved extensions or feet 16 which bear against the interior surface of said member, as shown clearly in Fig. 1. For compactness and convenience the arms 12 are pivoted in different horizontal planes as is common in this class of device.

In Figs. 7 and 8 which show the inner member of equilateral triangle form in cross section, the arms 12 are of the same construction and secured to the inner member in the manner described, it being noted, however, that where the inner member is triangular and the outer member cylindri-

cal, there is ample room between the latter and the sides of the former to accommodate the arms when folded without providing the inner member with external grooves.

In the construction shown by Sheet 2, the grooves 8 are of slightly greater length than the arms 12. This construction also differs from the construction shown by Sheet 1, in that the inner ends of the arms 12 are bent to circular form to constitute hinge loops 17 for engagement with the pivots 14, the openings 13 being of sufficient size to accommodate said loops, and it will be noticed also by reference to Fig. 5, that the pivots are inward of the lower ends of said openings, in order that the arms may be supported in operative position by bearing on the inner member outward of said pivotal points. In Sheet 2, I also show a different means for positively arresting separating movement of the members, the inner one being provided externally with a shoulder 18 and the outer member with an inwardly-projecting lug 19 overlying the shoulder and adapted to be struck by the latter in the action of extending the device as the catch 11 snaps into the opening 5 of the inner member. When the device is fully extended all of the arms are above the outer member and as they successively emerge from the latter they will ordinarily fall through the force of gravity to substantially the position shown by the uppermost arm in Fig. 1 and two of the arms of Fig. 4, the spring catch holding the device extended under any weight which would normally be imposed upon them.

When it is desired to contract or fold the device, endwise pressure is applied on the members to slide one within the other. In practice it is preferred to have the catches so formed that they must be pressed inward by hand to permit of the retractive or folding action and for this reason it is preferable to have the catch movable with the inner member and adapted to project through an opening in the outer member so that it shall be accessible when it is to be tripped preliminary to the folding operation.

When the device is fully contracted or folded, all of the arms are within the outer member and the head is resting thereon.

In practice the outer member may constitute one of the posts of a bed as in Patent #932,169, issued Aug. 24, 1909, to me on folding clothes rack attachments for bedsteads, or the outer member may be provided with or mounted upon a suitable support if the device is to be used for display purposes or as a separate article of furniture. Again it may constitute a portable device which can be carried in a trunk, or the inner member may be suspended from an overhead support, in which case the outer member would be slid downward to extend the device and upward to retract it, and it is obvious that it is susceptible of use in other connections not necessary to enumerate.

From the above description it will be apparent that I have produced a costumer or clothes rack possessing the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the state of the object of the invention and I wish it to be understood that while I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of the invention I do not wish to be restricted to the exact details of construction shown and described as obvious modifications will suggest themselves to one skilled in the art.

I claim:

A costumer or clothes rack, consisting of an upright tubular member provided with a hole near and a cap at its upper end, the cap having an angular opening and openings exterior to and communicating with the first-named opening, one of said exterior openings occupying the same vertical and radial plane as said hole, an inner member fitting telescopically in the outer member and extending through and nonrotatably in said first-named opening of the cap and provided in the radial planes of said communicating openings of said cap, with longitudinal grooves in its outer side and with a tongue underlying the cap and with outwardly-projecting flanges below said tongue and in engagement with the inner side of the outer member, a spring catch secured to the inner member within the groove thereof, in the radial plane of the said hole, and arms fitting in the grooves of the inner member and pivoted thereto and projecting at their pivoted ends into the said member and adapted to occupy positions wholly within said grooves and the inner member and being capable, when in such position of passing through said communicating openings of the cap; said arms being adapted when above said cap to swing downwardly and outwardly and having shoulders for engaging the outer side of said inner member to arrest such downward and outward swinging movement before said arms can attain a horizontal position, substantially as described.

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

FRANK D. PELLETIER.

Witnesses:

HELEN C. RODGERS,

FRANK R. GLORE.