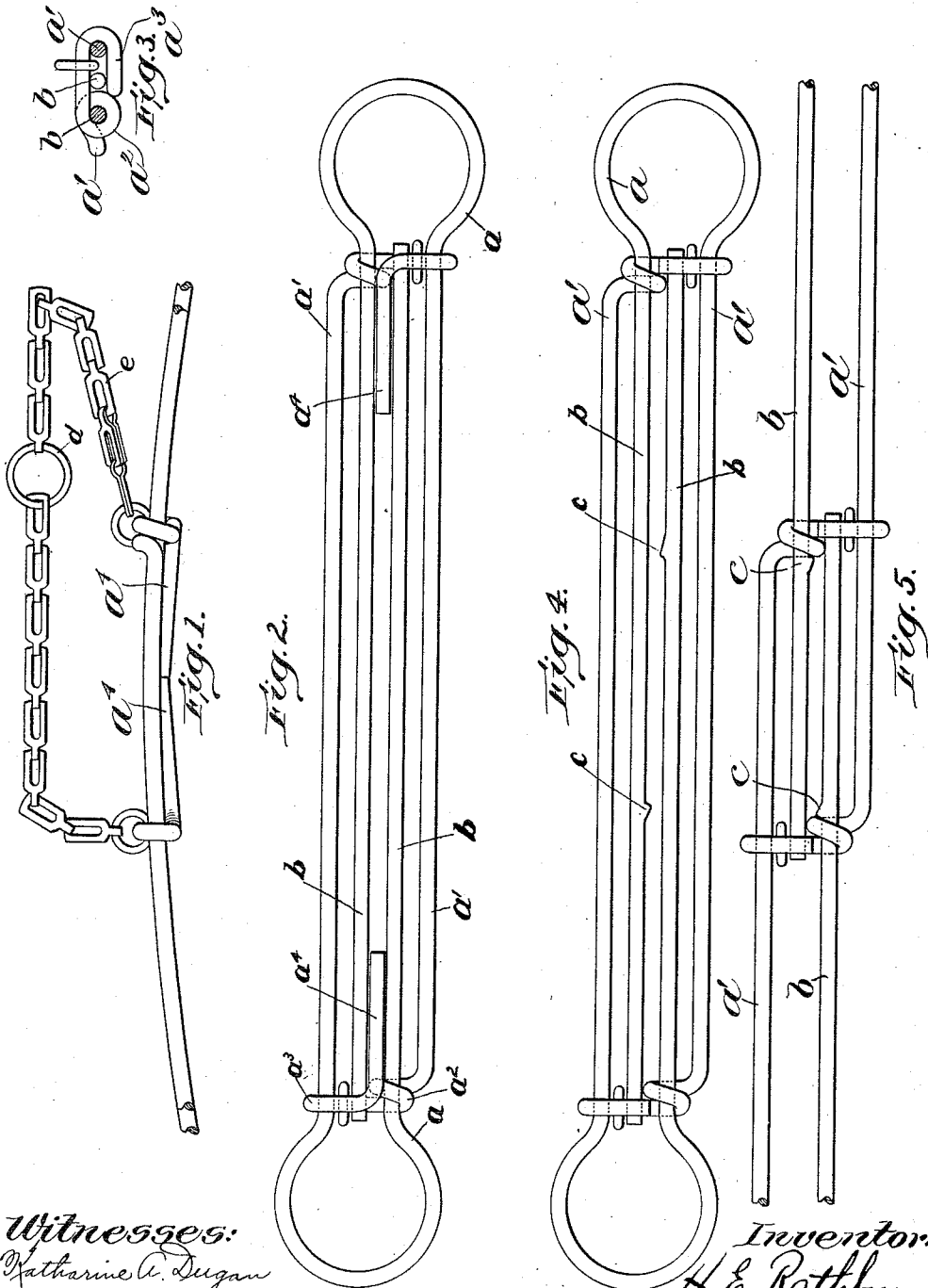


H. E. RATHBUN.
GARMENT HANGER.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 19, 1906.

1,018,584.

Patented Feb. 27, 1912.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GARMENT-HANGER.

1,018,584.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 27, 1912.

Application filed January 19, 1906. Serial No. 296,774.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY E. RATHBUN, citizen of the United States, and resident of Providence, county of Providence, Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Hangers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices for hanging garments and is in the nature of an improvement upon the structure disclosed in Letters Patent of the United States granted to John Webster June 16, 1903, No. 730,992, such improvement consisting in simplifying and strengthening the construction and cheapening its cost, all as will be hereinafter set forth and explained.

In general terms this improvement comprises such a construction and arrangement of the cooperating arms which form the hanger as permits the discarding of the sheet metal guide plate B, thereby getting rid of certain difficulties incidental to that construction which result from the use of the guide plate into which the ends of the wire arms are fastened.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated two forms of embodying the principle of my improvement.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a hanger constructed according to this invention illustrating the stop construction which limits the outward or extended movement. Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the same in contracted position. Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view of one of the arms. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of a modified form in its contracted position. Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view of the same in the extended position. For convenience of illustration in Figs. 2, 4 and 5, the suspension chain has been omitted.

Like the device of the Webster patent the hanger comprises two telescoping members *a a* having sliding engagement with each other to permit their being lengthened or shortened. Instead however of employing the sheet metal cross piece B of the Webster patent, I have entirely dispensed with this and have increased the length of one of the arms of each member so as to give sufficient material to be bent into a shape to be hereinafter described, to form the proper holding and interlocking means for engaging the other member.

As shown in the drawings, the form illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, the longer arm *a'* of each member is bent to form an eye *a'* which passes snugly around the shorter arm *b* of the other member and then is continued across the opposing member on the upper side thereof and bent around beneath it as shown at *a''* to form an elongated loop inclosing and engaging both arms of the cooperating member. The other end of the loop *a''* may then be extended longitudinally as shown at *a'''* in line with and opposite to a similar extension *a'''* of the cooperating member so that the free ends *a'''* of the two members form a stop for limiting the outward movement of the two members when extended to the desired position.

As shown in Figs. 4 and 5 the stops for limiting the outward movement or extension of the device, may consist of little projections *c* properly arranged on the shorter arms *b* of the telescopic members which projection may be formed by simply upsetting or displacing the metal or by small lumps of solder desposited upon the wire at the proper points.

By the above described construction it is possible to greatly simplify the task of assembling, at the same time materially reducing the expense thereof. Moreover the tendency of the wires to get loose from their cross guide pieces when those cross guide pieces are made of separate parts, is entirely obviated and overcome so that the durability of the device is materially increased, there being no joints which can become detached or work loose. Another and minor improvement consists in the introduction of a ring *d* or similar device, into the suspending chain *e* whereby a true balance is always secured, it being impossible for the chain to slide or slip over the sustaining peg or hook as happens in the case where the chain is used without such non-slipping device to positively secure it in proper position.

It will be noticed that both the stops *c* and the stops *a'''* are located well inside of the outer arms of the two members so that they are perfectly protected and do not form an objectionable projection beyond the periphery of the device. The extensions *a'''* are located in line with each other intermediate of the two inside arms of the two

members, while the stops *c* as shown are formed directly on the inner arms of each member.

Without attempting to set forth various changes or modifications that may be made in the practice of my invention, what I claim is:—

1. A garment hanger embracing in its construction a pair of cooperating telescopic members consisting of wire bent to form substantially parallel arms of unequal length, the longer arm of each member being bent to form an eye surrounding one arm of the opposing member and to form also an elongated loop surrounding the other arm of that member to form a supporting guide therefor, substantially as described.

2. A garment hanger embracing in its construction a pair of cooperating telescopic members comprising a piece of wire bent to form substantially parallel arms of unequal length, the longer arm of each member having its end portion bent to surround

and closely engage its shorter free end and also the arms of the cooperating member so as to form a retaining guide therefor, substantially as described.

3. A garment hanger embracing in its construction a pair of cooperating telescopic members each consisting of a wire bent to form substantially parallel arms of unequal length, the longer arm of each member having its end portion bent to surround and closely engage both arms of the cooperating member, each member being provided with a stop formed by displacing or upsetting the metal to form a projection to engage the transverse guiding loop of the other member, substantially as described.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this 19th day of December 1905.

HENRY E. RATHBUN.

In the presence of—

WM. H. THURBER,

F. E. STEARNS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."