

No. 740,734.

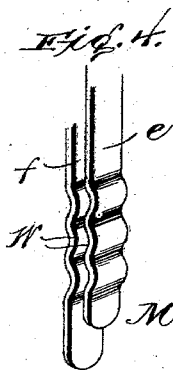
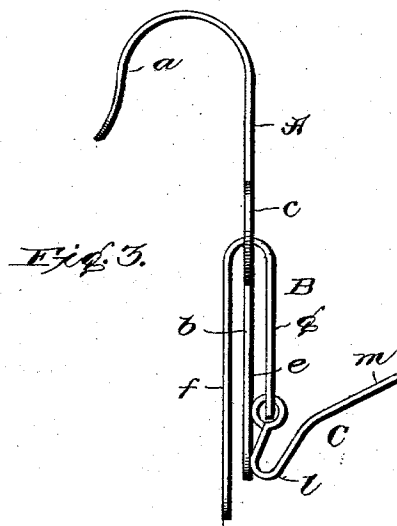
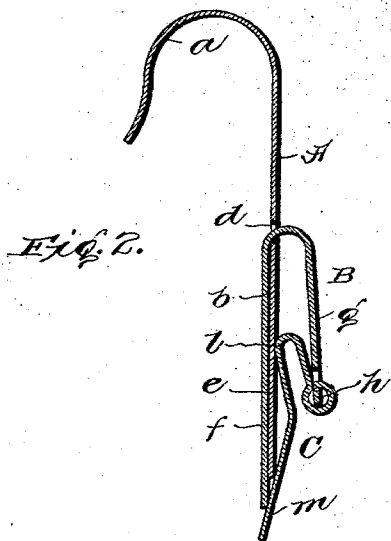
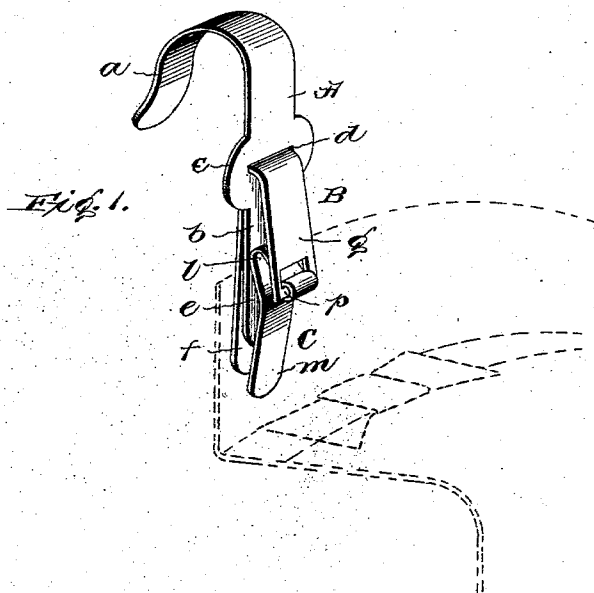
PATENTED OCT. 6, 1903.

McKENDREE F. BISHOP.

HAT HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 10, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MCKENDREE F. BISHOP, OF ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA.

HAT-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 740,734, dated October 6, 1903.

Application filed February 10, 1903. Serial No. 142,745. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MCKENDREE F. BISHOP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Alameda, in the county of Alameda and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Hat-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices for suspending articles of wearing-apparel, and particularly hats and other forms of head-gear; and it consists of a hook member adapted to suspend the article and provided with a shank forming one member of a pair of jaws, a second member bent into substantially an inverted-U form loosely connected with the hook member and having one of its legs lying substantially parallel with the shank of the hook member and forming the second member of the pair of jaws, and a clamping-lever pivotally connected with the other leg of the U-shaped member and having a bent portion or cam adapted to bear upon the back of the jaw of the hook member to force said jaw into intimate contact with the jaw of the U-shaped member, and thereby firmly clamp the brim of a hat or edge of a cap or other article or garment between the two jaws.

The invention further consists of the parts and the construction and combination of parts, which I will hereinafter describe and claim.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures, Figure 1 illustrates a perspective view of a hat or garment hanger embodying my invention and showing a hat in dotted lines suspended therefrom. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view of the device. Fig. 3 is a side elevation showing the jaws open to receive the hat or garment or other device to be suspended. Fig. 4 is a modification to be referred to.

In carrying out my invention I prefer to impart to the several parts constituting the device substantially the configuration illustrated, as I find this design well suited for my purpose and of great simplicity and capable of being manufactured at a minimum cost. However, I do not limit myself to the precise details shown, as it is evident that

the parts are capable of modification without detracting from their functional properties. Therefore modification within reasonable bounds may be expected as within the scope of my invention.

In the form of device herein shown the device consists of three essential parts, (designated by A, B, and C,) each made of some light yet relatively stiff more or less springy material—say sheet metal—capable of a pleasing finish.

The part A comprises a hook member formed, preferably, of thin sheet metal, one end of which is bent into hook form, as at *a*, to enable it to engage over the back of an opera-chair or to hook over a rod edge, pin, or other projection from a chair, wall, or other article or surface. The hook is formed with a flat substantially straight shank *b*, the width of which is about equal to the width of the hook. At or near the junction of the shank *b* with the base of the hook *a* the plate from which these parts are made is formed with a circular or other enlargement *c*, which has a transverse slot *d*, whose length may be substantially equal to the width of the shank, said shank forming one of the members *e* of a pair of smooth clamping-jaws, as I will presently explain.

The member B of the device is likewise preferably formed of a thin metal plate whose width is about equal to the shank *b* of the piece A, said member B being doubled or bent into substantially an inverted-U form, and one of its legs *f* is passed through the aforesaid slot *d* and lies parallel with the shank *b* and forms the second member of the pair of jaws, and between which jaws the brim of the hat or the edge of a cap or garment is placed and securely held between the smooth surfaces of the jaws without danger of the article or garment being marred or otherwise injured. The bight of the folded piece B rests loosely in the slot *d*; and the width of the bight is such that the piece B has a free lateral movement relative to the piece A, when the jaws are open, to allow the brim of the hat or the edge of the garment to be freely entered between the jaws. The other leg *g* of the piece B extends substantially parallel with the companion leg, and

one of said legs lies upon each side of the shank of the hook member A, and said other leg has its lower end transversely slotted to form a cross-bar *h*, which forms the axis of an angularly-bent locking-lever. This locking-lever C constitutes the third member of the device. One end of it is hingedly secured to the cross-bar *h* of the part B and thence extends straight for a suitable distance and is then bent backward substantially parallel with the first-named part to form a head or cam *l* and thence extends at an angle to form the long arm or operating finger-piece *m* by which the lever is manipulated.

In operation, the parts being in the position shown in Fig. 3, the brim of the hat or other article is slipped into the space between the jaws *f* and *e* and the long arm of the lever is pressed downward, thereby causing its head or cam *l* to press upon the back of the shank *b*, causing the leg of the piece B, with which the lever is connected, to swing outward, the bight of the piece B fulcruming in the slot *c* to permit this movement. A continued movement of the lever causes the piece B to move laterally in the slot *c* to bring the leg *f* up against the shank, and a further movement of the lever causes the head or cam to ride up along the back of the shank of the hook member A, the leg *g* of the member B yielding until the head or cam passes the center of movement of the lever, when the elasticity of the leg *g* of piece B snaps the lever into a locked position, thus securely clamping the hat or article between the jaws.

In practice the hook member may be attached at any point where there is a projection or surface upon which it may be hung. This may even be a buttonhole in an outer garment.

The device is simple and is capable of being carried in the pocket without annoyance. It will be found of great convenience as a support for a hat when the latter is not in actual use, instead of hanging the hat upon a hook or peg or laying it down, where it is either a source of annoyance and watchfulness to the owner in places of amusement or public comfort, and avoids maintaining the hat on the knees or lap when the usual hat-holders are not available.

If desired, the lower portion of the shank of the hook member and the outer leg of the doubled member may be corrugated or fluted to form substantially interlocking surfaces,

as at W in Fig. 4, which will be found useful for hanging curtains and other draperies.

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

1. A hat or garment hanger comprising a hook member provided with an integral shank forming a jaw; a bent member passing loosely through the shank of the hook member and having a jaw lying parallel with said shank and between which and the latter the hat or garment is clamped; and a lever carried by the bent member and operating against the shank to close said jaws.

2. A hat or garment holder including a hook member provided with a shank extension forming a jaw; a member formed of a doubled strip or piece of sheet metal having its bight loosely hung upon said shank said strip having its legs upon opposite sides of the shank and one of said legs forming a jaw to coact with the first-named jaw; and an angularly-bent lever pivotally hung upon the other leg of said doubled strip and adapted to bear upon the back of the shank and close said jaws.

3. A hat or garment holder comprising a hook member having a flat shank forming a jaw; a double strip of sheet metal having its bight loosely hung upon said shank whereby its legs lie one upon each side of the shank; and means for spreading the legs of the double strip whereby the hat or garment is clamped between one of said legs and said shank.

4. A hat or garment holder comprising a hook member having an integral shank forming a jaw said shank having a transverse slot; a doubled strip of sheet metal passed through said slot and having its bight loosely hung therein whereby the legs lie one upon each side of the shank, one of said legs forming a jaw which coacts with the first-named jaw; and a lever having one end pivotally hung upon the other leg and having an intermediate portion angularly bent to form a head or cam adapted to bear upon the back of the shank to close and lock said jaws and frictionally hold the hat or garment.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MCKENDREE F. BISHOP.

Witnesses:

CHAPMAN W. FOWLER,
T. W. FOWLER.