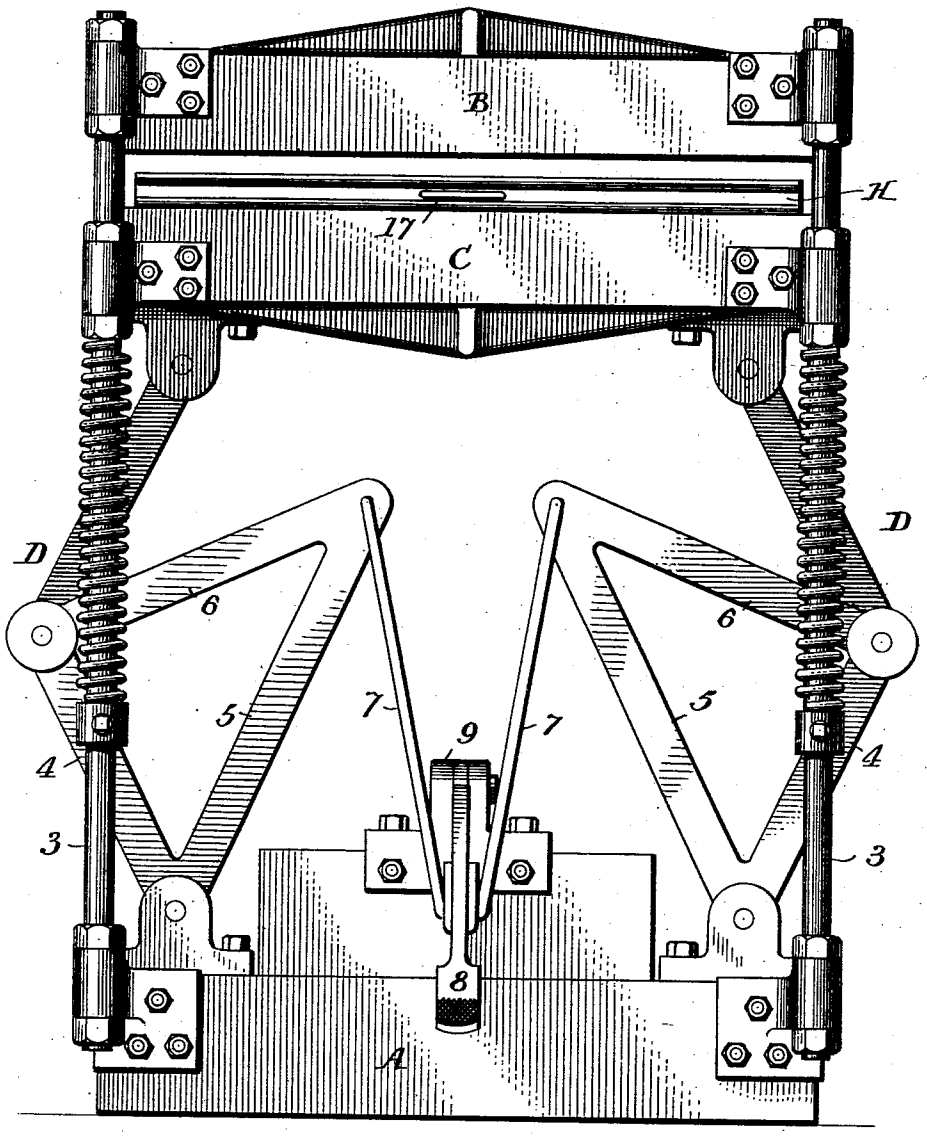
(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. S. CROTTY.

APPARATUS FOR PRESSING AND DRYING GARMENT STAYS.

No. 571,992. Patented Nov. 24, 1896.

Fig. 1



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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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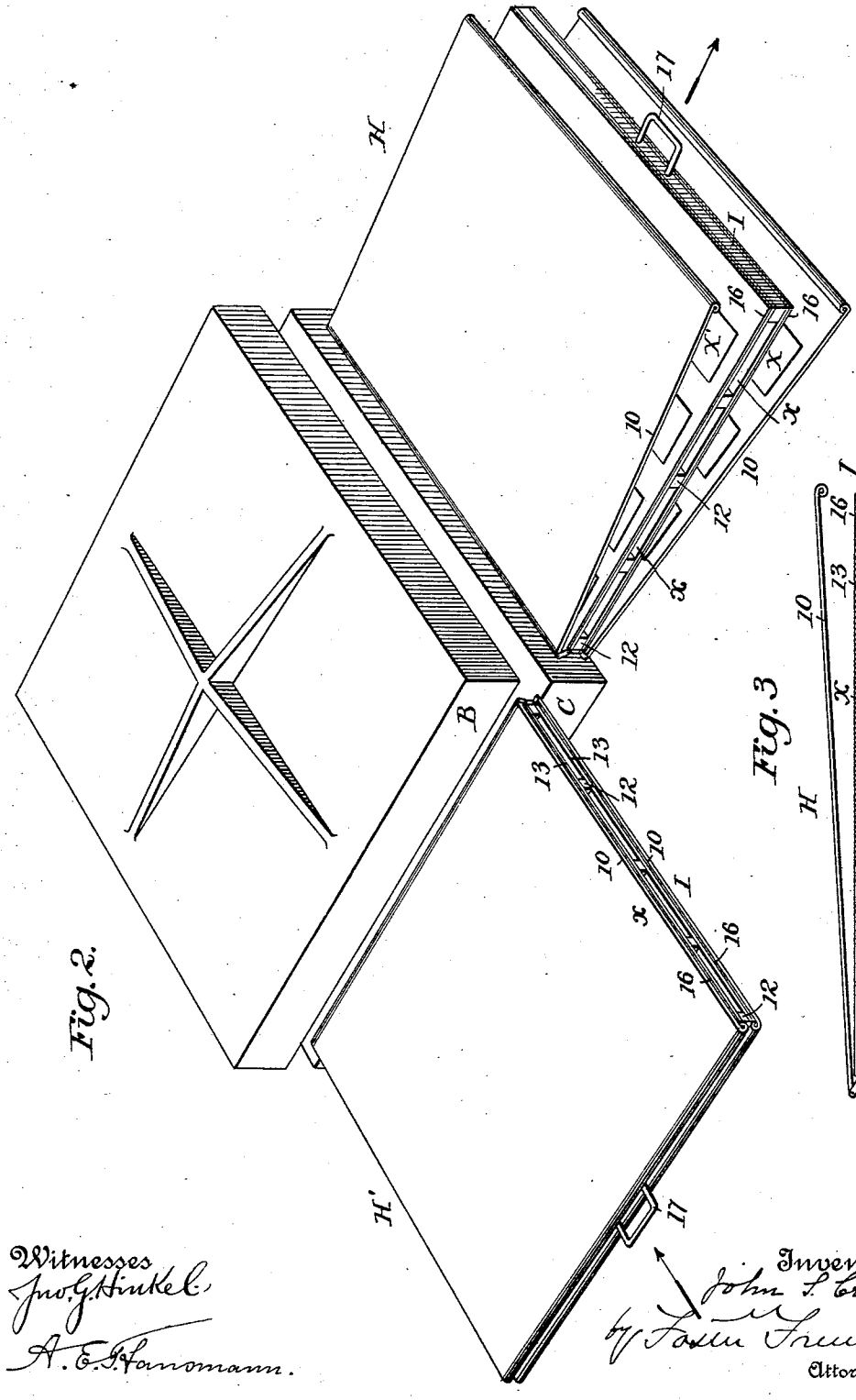

Fig. 2.

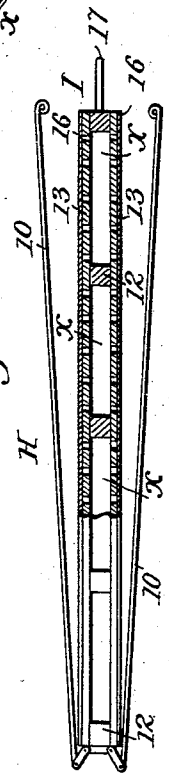

Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN S. CROTTY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

APPARATUS FOR PRESSING AND DRYING GARMENT-STAYS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 571,992, dated November 24, 1896.

Application filed February 26, 1896. Serial No. 580,767. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN S. CROTTY, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Pressing and Drying Stays, of which the following is a specification.

In the manufacture of corsets, stays, or ribbed or boned sections of corsets it is requisite to submit to heat and pressure the casings or fabrics containing the series of parallel blades cemented between said casings for the purpose of drying and securing the blades in the fabrics; and my invention consists of means whereby this operation may be effected economically and rapidly without the loss of time incident to the ordinary method of inserting the casings between the plates of a press as usual, and to this end I construct the press and the holder for the casings as fully set forth hereinafter and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the press. Fig. 2 is a perspective view illustrating the plates of the press and the holders and showing how the same are manipulated, and Fig. 3 is a sectional view of one of the holders.

The press consists of a foundation A, to the corners of which are suitably secured four uprights or standards 3, which extend to and are attached to the corners of the upper hollow plate B of the press. Upon these standards 3, as guides, slides the lower hollow plate C of the press, and steam is admitted to the chamber in each plate through flexible pipes, (not shown,) as is common in connection with many other forms of hot presses.

In order to avoid the delay incident to the moving of the movable plate of the press by means of screws and secure a greater pressure, I make use of toggle-levers D D, joined to each other and to the base and sliding plate of the press, as shown, and I make the lower member 4 of each toggle in the shape of a bracket with converging arms 5 6, and at the meeting ends of the said arms I attach a connecting-rod 7, which extends to a treadle 8, jointed to a bracket 9 upon the base. These parts are so constructed that a single downward movement of the treadle by the pressure of the foot will straighten the toggles to such an extent as to force the movable plate C to the limit of its upper movement, thereby compressing the holder H and its contents.

Heretofore it has been common in the manufacture of stays, stiffeners, &c., to place the same between the plates of the press and then bring the plates together, but this is accompanied by considerable manipulation, which loses a great deal of time, to avoid which I make use of a holder H of the character which I will now describe.

The holder H consists of a press-frame I, having cross-bars 12 12, preferably of metal, as aluminium, two perforated plates 13 13, also preferably of aluminium, supported on opposite sides of the cross-bars, so as to leave an intervening ventilating-space *x*, and two metallic sheets 10 10, secured by flexible joints or hinges to one edge of the frame I, so that each sheet can be swung away from the frame or the frame from the sheet, and to the opposite faces of the frame I apply one or more layers of woolen fabric and a sheet 16 of fine cotton, so as to prevent the fibers of the coarser woolen fabric from being pressed into and marring the casings of the stays.

The frame I is provided with a handle 17 opposite the edge where the metallic sheets 10 are joined to the frame, so that the frame, with its sheets, may readily be drawn out from between the plates of the press.

In operating with the holder and the press I make use of two holders H H′, as illustrated in the perspective view, Fig. 2. One holder is opened and the sheets X of boned fabric are placed between the lower plates 10 and the press-frame I, and another series of sheets X′ are placed upon the presser-frame I beneath the sheet 10, and then the presser-frame is brought upon the lower sheet 10 and the upper sheet 10 is brought upon the presser-frame, and the holder thus closed is pushed in between the plates of the press, and the latter are brought together by pressing upon the treadle. After a sufficient length of time the treadle is raised, the holder is drawn out by means of the handle 17 and opened, and while the boned fabrics X X′ are being taken out and others inserted in their places the holder H′ and its contents are put into the press and subjected to heat and pressure, and by the time the contents have

been properly pressed and dried the holder H will have been filled and is ready for insertion, which then takes place after the holder H′ is removed. By this means I am enabled to keep one press constantly in use instead of being under the necessity of using two presses, as heretofore, each of which must remain idle during the time the holder is being discharged and replenished.

It will be seen that while the articles are being pressed the fabric will take up the moisture, and the passage of air through the chamber *x* will evaporate the moisture from the fabric.

Without limiting myself to the precise construction and arrangement of parts shown, I claim as my invention—

1. The combination in an apparatus for pressing stays, corset-sections, &c., of a base A, standards 3, a hollow press-plate B secured to said standards, a movable hollow press-plate C, toggles D, one section of each toggle in the form of a bracket, and a treadle connected to the bracket-section of each toggle, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination in a holder for making boned corset-sections, of flat perforated plates supported in separated positions to form intermediate air-circulating spaces *x*, a layer of fabric on each of said plates, and flat flexible sheets 10, 10, connected at their edges with the plates, substantially as described.

3. The combination in the holder H, of a presser-frame consisting of perforated plates and intermediate ribs 12, layers of fabric on opposite sides of the frame, and metallic sheets 10, 10, jointed to the frame at one edge, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN S. CROTTY.

Witnesses:
HENRY J. GROSS,
GEORGIA P. KRAMER.