No. 618,756. Patented Jan. 31, 1899.

L. A. WIECHEL & D. HIMMELHEBER.

CLOTHES RACK.

(No Model.) (Application filed May 21, 1898.)

Fig. 1.

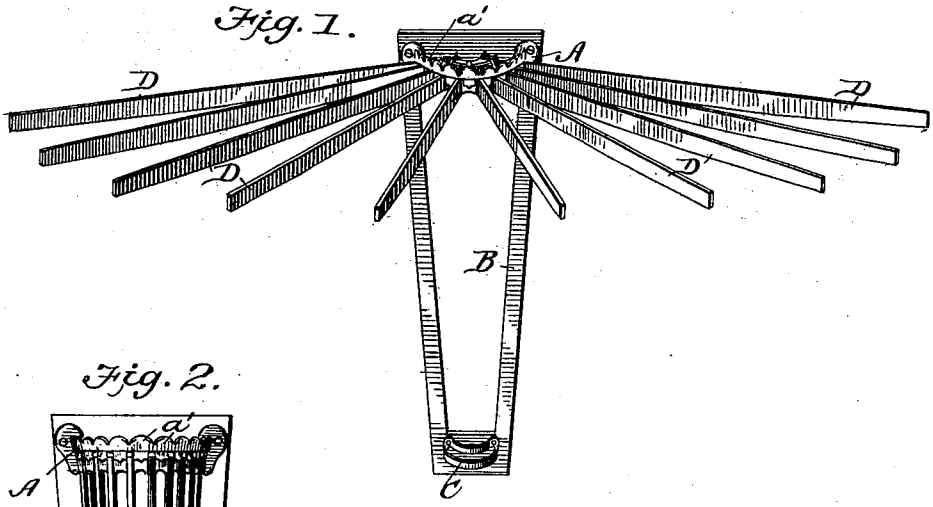


Fig. 2.

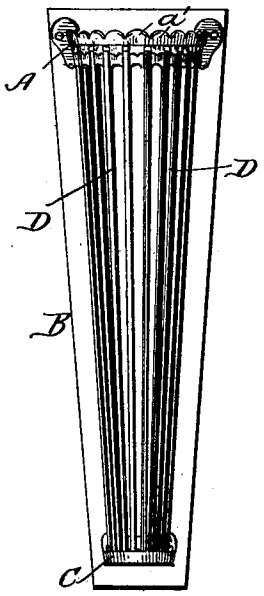


Fig. 3

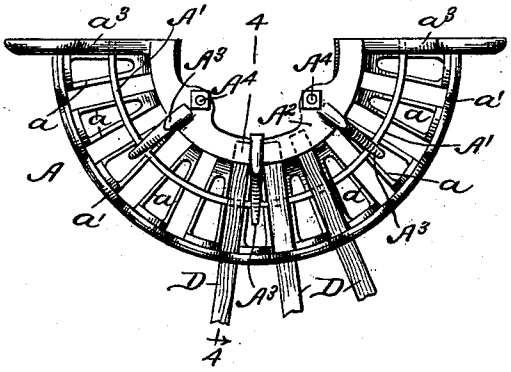


Fig. 4.

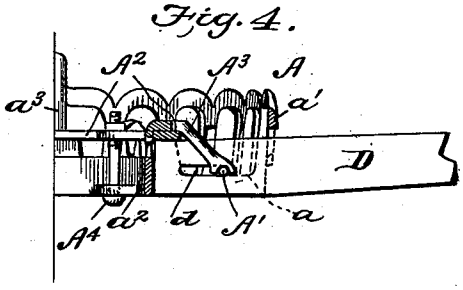
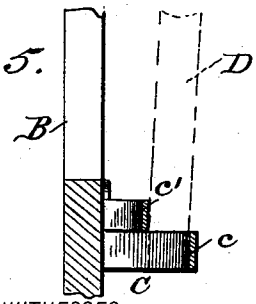


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS A. WIECHEL AND DAVID HIMMELHEBER, OF EVANSVILLE, INDIANA.

CLOTHES-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 618,756, dated January 31, 1899.

Application filed May 21, 1898. Serial No. 681,366. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, LOUIS A. WIECHEL and DAVID HIMMELHEBER, of Evansville, in the county of Vanderburg and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clothes-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to that form of clothes-racks in which a series of arms are hung upon a supporting-frame by means of a slot in the arms embracing an axial wire and so arranged that the arms may be compactly folded in a vertical position or be extended and held in a horizontal position to support the clothes, the same being especially useful for supporting clothes in the laundry, or for holding towels or napkins in the bath-room, or for like uses.

Our invention consists in the special construction of the supporting-frame, its hanger-castings, and their combination with the adjustable arms, as will be hereinafter shown and described.

Figure 1 is a front view of the rack as it appears when hanging against the wall with the arms extended for use. Fig. 2 is a similar view with the arms compactly folded. Fig. 3 is an enlarged top plan view of the hanger. Fig. 4 is a section through line 4 4 of Fig. 3, and Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view of the holder for the arms when folded.

In the drawings Figs. 1 and 2, A represents the metal hanger; B, the wooden frame; C, the metal holder arranged at the bottom end of the frame for retaining the bottom ends of the arms when folded, and D the arms themselves.

The frame B is somewhat wider at its upper end than it is at the lower end and is designed to be attached to the side wall or a vertical partition in any convenient place, being easily attached by screws or hung up by means of screw-eyes or supported in any detachable manner.

The hanger A is a semicircular casting formed of a series of wedge-shaped and radially-arranged brackets a, with intervening spaces to receive the inner ends of the arms, said brackets being formed in one piece with a continuous ornamental band or crest a' at their upper edges of semicircular shape and a continuous semicircular inner band or hub portion a^2. On the diametrical line the inner and outer bands are connected by flat bearings a^3 a^3, with screw-holes through them for attaching the hanger to the frame.

Within the upper or hollow part of the holder A there is arranged above and crossing the brackets a semicircular pintle-rod A', which forms the axis for each one of the arms D_2 each of which is slotted, at d, at the inner end to receive said pintle-rod. This pintle-rod is firmly clamped and fixedly held down upon the brackets by a semicircular plate A^2, having three (more or less) forked arms or bearings A^3, extending downwardly to and resting upon the top of said pintle-rod. This plate A^2 is clamped to the hub or inner band by means of screw-bolts A^4, and this plate at its outer or convex edge projects far enough to catch above and hold the inner ends of the arms D, so as to sustain them in a horizontal position, as shown in Fig. 4, but from which position the arms may be readily dislodged by simply pulling them out longitudinally, which is permitted by the slot d until the inner ends are free from the overlapping edge of said plate A^2.

The holder C for the arms when folded is simply a semicircular casting having an inner band c' and an outer band c, which latter is lower than the inner band, so that when the arms are hanging in a vertical position their lower ends may be dropped within the outer band c and retained in a compactly-folded position, as shown in Fig. 2.

We are aware of the fact that it is not broadly new to slot the inner ends of the arms of a clothes-rack and to lock them in horizontal position by slipping the arm longitudinally to catch its inner end under an overhanging central flange, and we make no broad claim to this alone.

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

1. In a clothes-rack, the combination with a series of swinging and slotted arms; of a hanger for said arms comprising a series of brackets with spaces between them for the arms, a pintle-rod arranged above the brackets and passing through the slots of the arms, and a clamping-plate fastened detachably to the inner ends of the brackets and having bear-

ing-points pressing upon and securing the pintle-rod to the tops of the brackets substantially as shown and described.

2. In a clothes-rack, the combination with a series of swinging and slotted arms; of a hanger for said arms comprising a series of brackets with spaces between them for the arms, said brackets being connected at their ends by a continuous band or crest, and also being connected at their inner ends, a pintle-rod arranged above the bracket and passing through the slots of the arms, and a clamping-plate detachably secured to the inner band of the brackets, and having depending arms pressing upon the pintle-rod, and an overhanging edge for retaining the inner ends of the slotted arms substantially as and for the purpose described.

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Witnesses:
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