J. MAITLAND.

HOLDER FOR HEADWEAR AND CLOTHING.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 27, 1909.

961,626. Patented June 14, 1910.

Fig. 2.

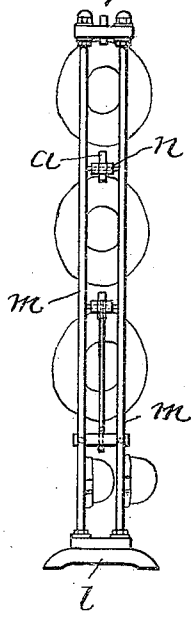
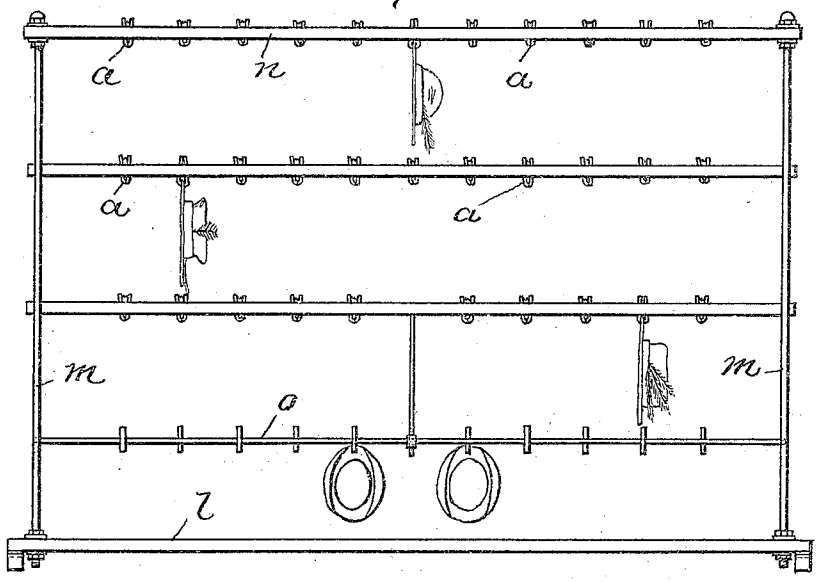


Fig. 1.



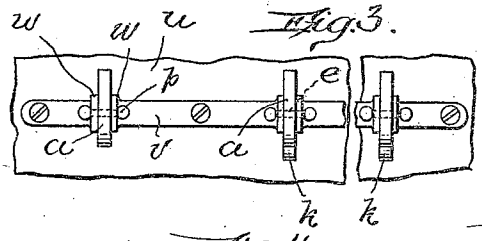


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

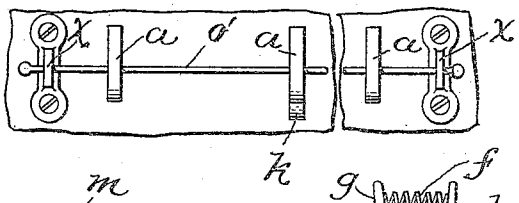
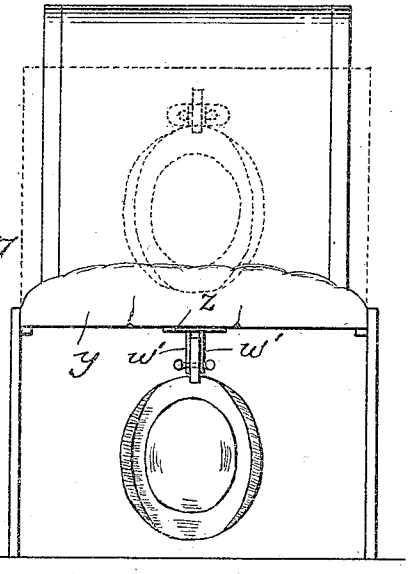


Fig. 7.



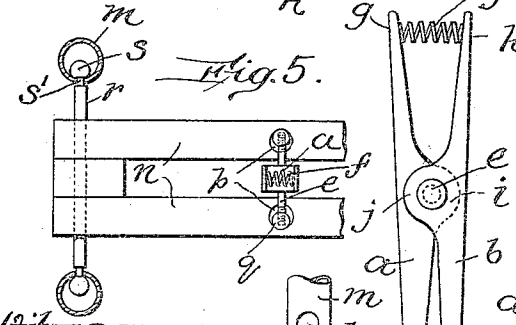


Fig. 5.

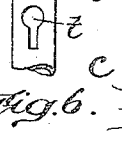


Fig. 6.

Fig. 8.

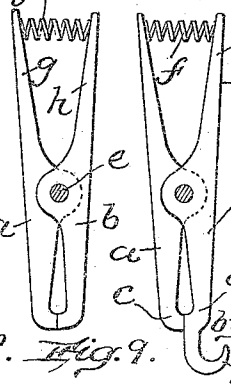


Fig. 9.

Fig. 10.

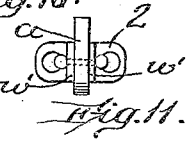


Fig. 11.

Witnesses:
P. N. Pezzetti
F. R. Rowlstone

Inventor:
John Maitland
by Wright Brown Quinby & May.
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MAITLAND, OF SWAMPSCOTT, MASSACHUSETTS.

HOLDER FOR HEADWEAR AND CLOTHING.

961,626. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 14, 1910.

Application filed April 27, 1909. Serial No. 492,542.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN MAITLAND, of Swampscott, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Holders for Headwear and Clothing, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a holding device by which in particular hats may be held, but which is also capable of supporting other articles of clothing.

My object in developing the present invention has been to enable headwear to be held in a more secure manner than is possible with the hooks which are at present ordinarily provided for this purpose, the holder constituting my invention being adapted to grasp the headwear and thereby support the same securely even in case of its being accidentally handled or moved in such a way as would serve to displace it from a hook and cause it to fall to the floor.

My invention therefore consists both in a holding device capable of gripping the article of headwear, and of supporting a garment, and also in a rack and other supporting means by which one or a plurality of such holders may be held accessibly.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown a holder embodying the principles of my invention and having the form and construction which I prefer to give it, together with a rack and other type of supporting means in or from which the holder is hung.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a rack equipped with a number of holders made and mounted in the rack in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the same rack. Figs. 3 and 4 are elevations of my holding device attached to different forms of supports, all of which embody the invention. Fig. 5 is a detail view showing in plan a portion of rack illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, and the manner in which the holder is supported thereby. Fig. 6 is a detail side elevation of one of the supports of said rack. Fig. 7 is a view showing the manner of applying my supporting device to a chair to permit of a hat being hung beneath the chair. Figs. 8, 9 and 10 show in elevation the details of holders embodying my invention. Fig. 11 is an elevation of the holder and support thereby adapted for attachment beneath a chair in the manner shown in Fig. 7.

The holder itself in which my invention is embodied is preferably constructed as shown in Figs. 8, 9 and 10 and consists of two members *a* and *b* having gripping portions or jaws *c* and *d* on adjacent ends thereof which are connected together in any suitable way so that the gripping portions or jaws thereof may be moved together and apart, as by means of a pintle or pivot-pin *e*. I prefer also to provide the holder with means acting in a yielding manner to press the gripping portions or jaws toward one another so as always to tend to press the jaws together and hold the article placed between them. Such means may be of any desired and suitable character, but is preferably a spring such as that shown at *f* which is placed between the handle parts *g* and *h* of the gripping members and exerts its force so as to press such parts away from each other and hold the jaws together. I do not however confine my invention to any particular type of spring but include within the scope of the invention any sort of spring capable of performing the result desired.

The construction of the members *a* and *b*, by which they may be pivotally united together, is preferably that shown, in which one of the members as *a*, has a lug *i* contained between lugs *j* of the other member which have a space between them approximately equal in width to the thickness of the lug *i*. These lugs are perforated and the pivot-pin *e* is passed through the perforations.

The holders shown in Figs. 8 and 9 are the same in essentials and they differ only in size. That shown in Fig. 10 is adapted not only to hold an article of headwear but also to support garments. For this purpose one of the members as *b*, has a hook *k* projecting laterally from it and preferably extending downward from the jaw *d*.

In order to support the holder in or on a suitable supporting device the pivot-pin is extended at one or both ends beside the members of the holder as shown in Figs. 3, 4, 5, 7 and 11. These extending ends are hung in a support which may be of any character provided it permits free opening and closing of the holder jaws.

In Figs. 1 and 2 the support for the holders consists of a rack having a base *l*, standards *m* and transverse bars *n* and *o*. The transverse bars *n* are arranged in pairs as shown in Fig. 5, the complemental bars serving to support the holder pintle and

separated by a space in which the holder hangs. The bars have recesses *p* which receive the ends of the pintles of the holders and upon the bottoms of which recesses the pintles rest. Preferably on the ends of the pintles are knobs or heads *q* which are adjustably attached, as by being screwed upon the ends of the pintle and so may be moved to extend or contract the length of the pintle. The adjustment is made so that the knobs will bear on the outer sides of the recesses *o* when crowded thereinto and will thus serve to retain the holder and prevent its accidental removal. The pintle rod and knobs together constitute the pivotal connecting means or pivot on which the members of the clamp are hung and by which they are supported, the effective length of the pivot being varied by adjustment of the knobs, which constitute the end portions of the pivot.

The bars *n* are supported on the standards *m* preferably by pins which pass through the ends of the bars and into the standards *m*, which are tubular. On the ends of the pins *r* are heads *s* connected with the body of the pin by narrow necks *s'*. The heads are passed through the widened portions of key-hole slots *t* in the standards and the necks are slipped into the narrow portions of such slots whereby the rods are securely held. It is not essential of course that the standards should be complete tubes but only that they should be of a construction as to permit slots of the character indicated to be provided on or in their sides to receive the ends of the supporting pins *r*. From this it will be seen that the rack is of simple construction and easily taken apart and adjusted, being without nails, screws or other fastenings which are difficult to remove and which injure the parts more or less.

The longitudinal member *o* of the rack is shown as a rod which passes through the holders and is itself the common pintle for all of the holders. This rod is supported at its ends in the standards *m* in any desired manner such as that illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6.

Figs. 3 and 4 illustrate the manner in which my holder may be applied to a wall. In these figures *u* represents a section of wall on which a plate or strip *v* or a rod *o'* is mounted. The plate or strip *v* has lugs *w* arranged in pairs between which each holder is contained and through which the pivot-pin of the holder passes. In Fig. 4 the rod *o'* is the pivot-pin of all the holders and is contained at its ends in brackets *x*.

Fig. 7 illustrates the manner of applying my invention to a chair *y* such as is used in theaters and other public gathering places. The holder is mounted between the sides *w'* of a bracket or support which is provided with a base *z* by which it is secured to the under side of the chair bottom or seat. When the seat of the chair is raised, as shown in dotted lines, the holder swings on its pivot and allows the hat to lie against the under side thereof. Otherwise the hat hangs clear and can swing back if accidentally struck, thereby avoiding injury.

Other modes of mounting the holder may be employed, but the same principle is common to all in that the holder is supported by its pivot in such a way that the members or jaws thereof may be operated to grip and release the headwear and the holder as a whole may swing to permit movement of the headwear or prevent accidental dislodgment thereof.

I claim:—

1. A holder of the character described, comprising two grippers, a pivot by which said grippers are connected so that the jaws thereof may be moved together and apart, a spring tending to press such jaws together, and a rigid support to which said pivot is connected and from which said grippers are hung.

2. A holder of the character described, comprising two members having overlapping perforated lugs, a pivot passing through the perforations in said lugs, coöperating gripping jaws on said members, a spring tending to press said jaws together, and a support to which the ends of said pivot are connected on each side of said holder and from which the gripping jaws of the members hang freely.

3. A holder of the character described, comprising two pivotally connected members having overlapping perforated lugs and gripping portions, a pivot passing through said lugs and projecting from said holder, and a support to which the projecting ends of said pivot are connected.

4. A hat holder comprising parallel supporting members, a pin mounted in said members and crossing the space between them, coöperating grippers pivotally mounted on said pin between said supporting members, having gripping jaws and handle portions on opposite sides of said pin, and a spring arranged between the handle portions of said grippers tending to force the jaws thereof together.

5. A holder of the character described, comprising two grippers, a pivot to which said grippers are connected respectively between their ends, so that the jaws thereof may be moved together and apart, a spring tending to press said jaws together, and a rigid support to which said pivot is connected, and from which said grippers are hung, one of said jaws having a hook at its lower end bent away from the coöperating jaw.

6. A rack for headwear having uprights,

spaced parallel bars adjustably secured to said uprights and a holder or holders pivotally mounted between and supported by said bars, each said holder having coöperating gripping means.

7. An adjustable garment rack comprising standards, transverse parallel bars between said standards, gripping holders pivotally connected to said bars and contained in the space between them and pins projecting from said bars and contained in slots in the standards.

8. A garment rack, comprising two or more pairs of standards, parallel bars extending from one pair of standards to the next between the standards, pins projecting laterally from said bars into slots in the standards, and grippers pivotally supported by said bars in the space between them.

9. A rack for headwear having spaced supporting members, a holder or holders contained between said supporting members, and means pivotally connecting said holder or holders to said members, each said holder consisting of gripping members pivotally connected for relative movement on the same means which connects such holder with the supporting members, and said pivotal connecting means being adjustable in length, whereby it may be crowded into firm engagement with the supporting members.

10. A rack comprising a pair of separated supporting members, a holder mounted between said members, consisting of coöperating gripping members, and a pivot adjustable in length passing through adjacent portions of said gripping members, whereby the latter are pivotally united, into engagement with the supporting members, and being maintained firmly in such engagement by its length adjustment.

11. A rack comprising a pair of separated supporting members, a holder mounted between said members, consisting of coöperating gripping members, a pivot-pin passing through said gripping members into engagement with the supporting members, whereby said gripping members are pivotally connected together, and a piece threaded upon the end of said pivot-pin for varying the length thereof and making a tight engagement with the supporting members.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN MAITLAND.

Witnesses:
ARTHUR H. BROWN,
P. W. PEZZETTI.