

E. A. JOHNSON.  
STOCKING FORM.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1909.

989,015.

Patented Apr. 11, 1911.

Fig. 1.

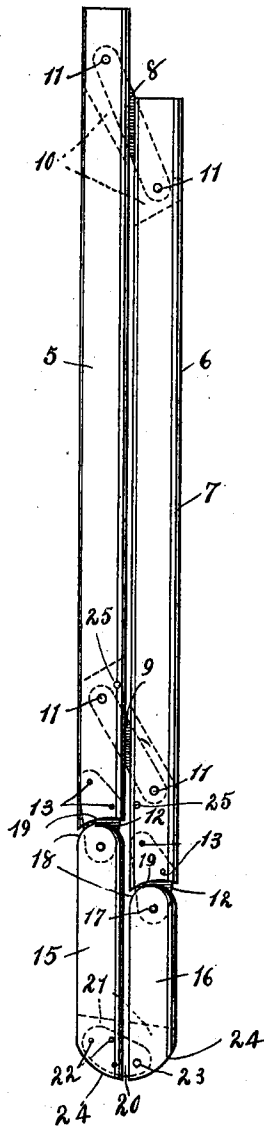


Fig. 2.

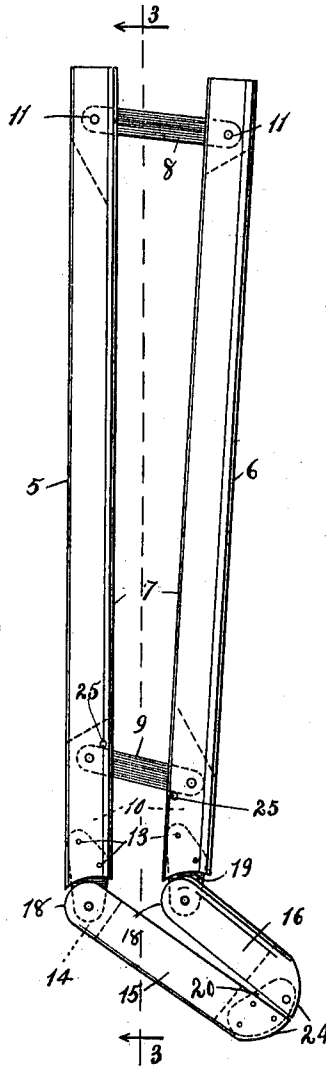
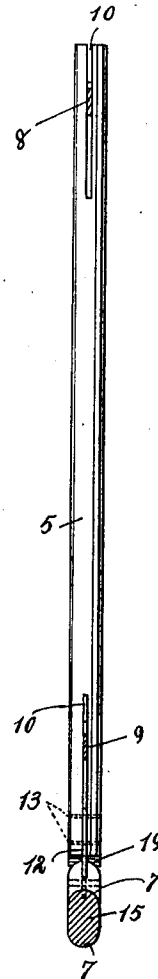


Fig. 3.



Witnesses  
Chas. F. Bassett  
M. A. Milord

Inventor  
E. Albert Johnson  
By Frederick Benjamin  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERICK ALBERT JOHNSON, OF KENOSHA, WISCONSIN.

## STOCKING-FORM.

989,015.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 11, 1911.

Application filed October 2, 1909. Serial No. 520,702.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ERICK ALBERT JOHNSON, citizen of the United States, residing at Kenosha, in the county of Kenosha and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stocking-Forms, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to garment stretchers, and has special reference to frames adapted to stretch stockings either for displaying goods for sale or to retain the articles in form when wet and prevent shrinkage in drying.

The chief objects of the improvements which form the subject matter of this application are:—to provide a simple and efficient device for the purpose stated, and to furnish a frame that can be made of material that will not stain or discolor the hose, a result that may occur when metallic frames, which are liable to corrosion, are employed.

Other objects of this invention are to produce a stocking frame that may be readily adjusted and to so construct the adjusting devices that the members will be retained in the various positions in which they may be placed.

A further object is to provide an adjustable stocking frame that can be cheaply manufactured in quantities, so that it may be placed upon the market for a nominal price.

I accomplish the desired results by means of the apparatus illustrated in the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this application, the details of construction being disclosed in the following views:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved stocking stretcher frame in position for insertion into the article to be stretched; Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 but with the foot members adjusted to the limit of their movement relatively to the leg members, and Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the details of the drawing, the numerals 5, 6, indicate elongated flattened bars, preferably made of wood, and having their edges 7, finished by rounding the corners, to facilitate handling and to present more suitable bearing surfaces than if left angular. These bars constitute the leg members of the device and are joined

together by pivotal metallic links 8, 9, having their ends received in median longitudinal slots or slits 10, which extend to the end margins. These links are preferably formed of flat plates of metal which may be lacquered or plated to resist moisture, or they may be made of non-corrosive metal if preferred. The slots are constructed so that the links fit closely therein and are pivotally secured by rivets 11. The upper link 8 is longer than the lower and as a result the upper ends of the members will be farther apart than the lower ends when the members are spread or distended as shown in Fig. 2. The lower ends of the said leg members 5, 6, are provided with flat plates or tongues 12, having their upper ends fixedly secured in the corresponding slots 10 by rivets 13, and their lower ends engaging slots 14 in the inner ends of foot members 15, 16, to which they are pivotally secured by rivets 17. The foot members have their edges rounded in the same manner as the members 5 and 6, and their inner ends 18 curved concentrically with the rivets 17, and the lower ends of the leg members are correspondingly concave as shown at 19, to permit the ends of the connected members to be closely approximated to form a neat joint. The opposite ends of the foot members are joined together by a tongue 20 which engages slots 21 in the said members, and is fixed to the member 15 by rivets 22, while it is pivoted to the member 16 by a suitable rivet 23. The lower ends of the foot members are rounded to form a continuous curve, as shown at 24. When the leg members are folded together, as shown in Fig. 1, the member 6 projects beyond its companion member 5, and this necessitates making the foot member 16 shorter than its companion 15, in order that their lower ends may be approximately even.

The manner of using this stretching frame will be readily understood. To operate and adjust the members, the leg-member 5 is grasped firmly by one hand and the member 6 moved in a longitudinal direction. Thus if the members are in apposition with the foot members in alinement with the leg members (Fig. 1) the member 6 will be moved upwardly, the links 8, 9, will be turned on their pivots, thrusting the members apart, and at the same time the trac-

tion thus made upon the foot member 16 which is attached to the companion member 15 at the extremity will cause both foot members to partially rotate or swing upon their pivots 17, and the entire frame will assume the relative positions shown in Fig. 2, if moved as far as they will go, their movement being limited by stop pins 25, which engage the margins of the link 9, as shown in Fig. 2, the movement of the parts in the opposite direction being limited by the engagement of the proximate edges of the members 5 and 6.

To use the device for stretching a stocking the members are first brought to the position shown in Fig. 1. The foot members are then inserted into the leg of the hose, the rounded ends 24 facilitating this procedure, and the frame then pushed on until the foot is carried clear to the toe of the stocking. The frame is now adjusted by grasping the member 5 through the fabric or at its exposed end, and moving the other member in the manner heretofore described.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, is:—

A hose-stretcher consisting of a pair of oppositely arranged flat members adapted to form leg members and having slots in their ends, flat links pivotally mounted in said slots and connecting said members, means for limiting the pivotal movement of the link near the lower end of said members, a pair of oppositely arranged flat-members adapted to form foot members and having slots in their ends, means pivotally connecting the outer ends of said members together, and means pivotally connecting the inner ends of said foot members with the adjacent ends of the leg members, all of said connecting means being arranged in said slots.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

E. ALBERT JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

E. H. HOLLISTER,  
CHARLOTTE GRIFFITH.