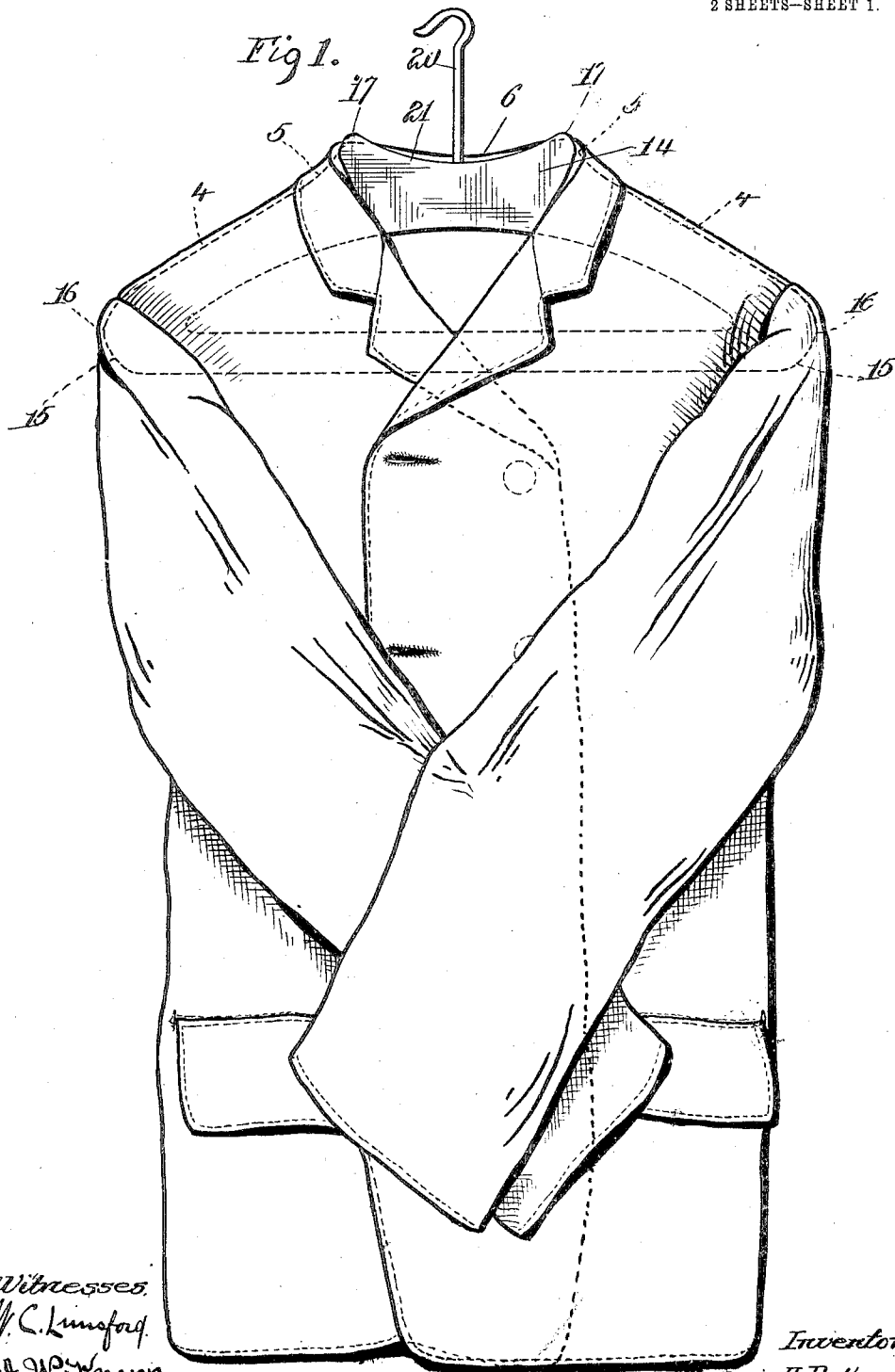


F. H. PARKHURST.
 COAT HANGER FOR WARDROBE TRUNKS.
 APPLICATION FILED APR. 1, 1905.

1,016,707.

Patented Feb. 6, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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Fig. 2.

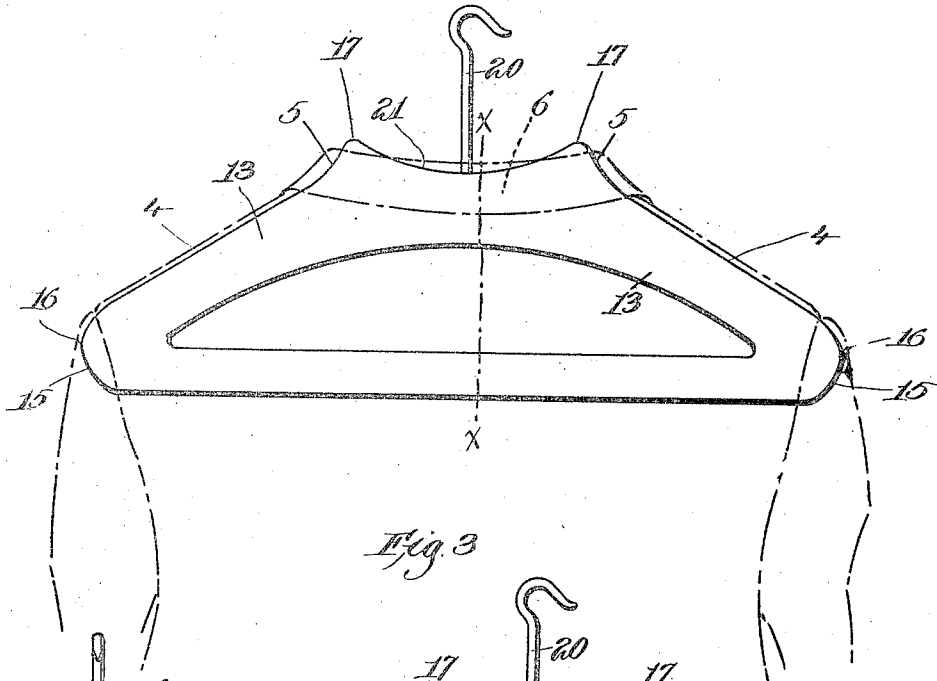


Fig. 3.

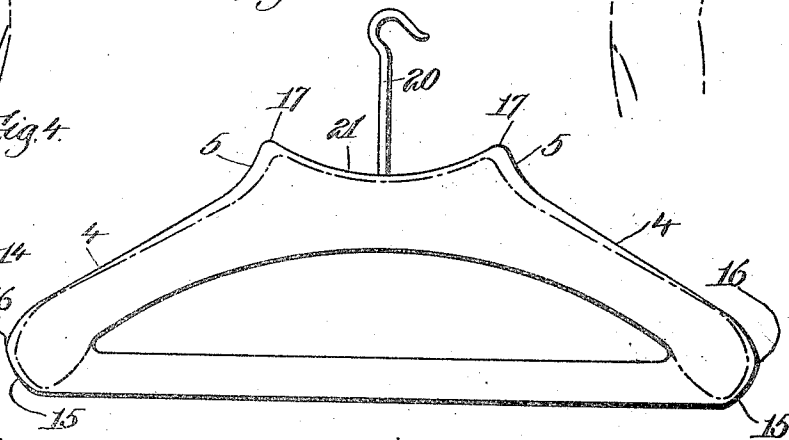


Fig. 4.

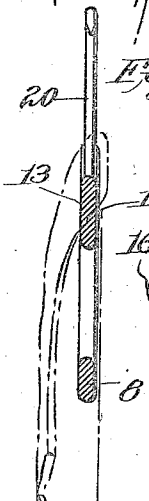
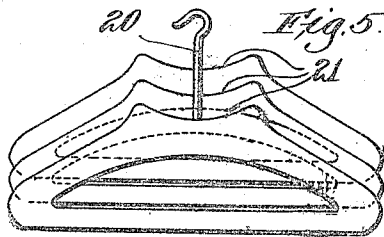


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERIC H. PARKHURST, OF BANGOR, MAINE.

COAT-HANGER FOR WARDROBE-TRUNKS.

1,016,707.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 6, 1912.

Application filed April 1, 1905. Serial No. 253,238.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERIC H. PARKHURST, a citizen of the United States, resident at Bangor, county of Penobscot, and State of Maine, have invented an Improvement in Coat-Hangers for Wardrobe-Trunks, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

The object of the present invention is to provide a novel coat-hanger which is especially adapted for use in so-called "wardrobe-trunks", that is, trunks which have a hanging-compartment in which coats, suits and other garments are packed for transportation by being hung on suitable garment-hangers. These trunks usually are made to stand on end when they are open and are provided with a garment-supporting rod from which the various garments are hung.

In order to prevent the suits from shifting their position while the trunk is in transit, it is customary to compress them in the hanging-compartment by means of suitable securing devices, said devices usually being constructed to apply considerable pressure to the suits or other garments.

In Patent No. 768,683, dated August 13, 1904, granted to me I have described and claimed a wardrobe trunk in which a clothes retainer in the form of a gate is used for applying pressure to the coats and other garments supported in the hanging compartment of the trunk, said clothes-retainer when in operative position applying sufficient pressure to the garments to prevent their shifting during transportation.

It is very desirable that the garments should be so supported in a wardrobe trunk that they will not become wrinkled when subjected to the pressure necessary to keep them from shifting, for otherwise they would have to be pressed after having been packed in the trunk before they would be fit for wear.

So far as I am aware no one prior to my invention has attempted to devise a coat-hanger which has been especially designed to meet the requirements of use in a wardrobe trunk. Such a coat-hanger should be thin and flat so as to occupy a minimum space, and should be so shaped that a coat may be supported thereon in a perfectly flat condition with all the fullness taken up

so that no wrinkles can be formed in the coat by the pressure to which it is subjected while packed in the trunk. After a long period of experimenting I have evolved the coat-hanger illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which coat-hanger is so constructed that, first, all the looseness in both the front and back of the coat will lie perfectly flat and the coat can therefore be subjected to pressure without being wrinkled, second, the collar of the coat is filled out and kept in an unwrinkled condition, and third, the sleeves may be folded flatly across the front of the coat without wrinkling at the shoulders.

When a coat is hung properly upon my improved coat-hanger and adjusted thereon, as above described, the front and back of the coat lie flatly together without wrinkles and the coat may be placed in a wardrobe trunk and subjected to the necessary pressure to hold the garments in place without putting into the coat any wrinkles or creases other than those which are naturally left therein by the process of pressing. A plurality of coats therefore properly suspended on my improved hangers may be packed in a wardrobe trunk and shipped long distances, and when unpacked the coats are in a ready-to-wear condition and are absolutely free from wrinkles. In fact they have the appearance of just having been pressed.

Referring now to the drawings Figure 1 is a front view of my improved hanger showing how the coat is hung thereon, the coat being shown in full lines and the hanger in dotted lines, said view showing the front of the coat; Fig. 2 is a similar view of the hanger showing the back of the coat shoulders; Fig. 3 shows how I make my hangers vary in size, the full lines showing one size of hanger and the dotted lines the next smaller size; Fig. 4 is a section on the line $x-x$, Fig. 2; Fig. 5 shows a plurality of hangers with different lengths of hook.

The coat-hanger may be made of any material, although I preferably use wood as this is easy to work into shape and makes a light coat-hanger. The coat-hanger is made as thin as practical, and the two sides and 14 thereof are made flat. The coat-hanger is shaped to present a hollow triangle having the two inclined edges 4 which terminate at their upper ends in upwardly curved edges or portions 5 and a connecting

brace 8 joining the lower ends. The lower corners are shaped to present the rounded portions 16 which merge into a flatter portion 15, this special shape of end having been designed to hold the upper ends of the sleeves in proper position when they are folded, as will be more fully hereinafter described.

In placing a coat upon my improved hanger preparatory to packing it in a wardrobe-trunk the coat is arranged so that the shoulders hang over the edges 4 and the collar 6 of the coat is supported by the upwardly curved portions 5 of the hanger.

To properly support the coat the hanger should be of such a size and the coat should be so placed thereon that the tips 17 at the extremity of the curved edges 5 will come flush with or project slightly above the top of the collar as shown in the drawings. If with the coat thus supported on the hanger the front edges of the coat are lapped by each other sufficiently to take up the fullness or slack therein, it will be found that the coat lies perfectly flat across the shoulders against one side of the coat hanger and perfectly flat across the chest against the other side of the coat-hanger, the collar in the meantime bending sharply over the curved portions and being sustained in an unwrinkled condition. This result is attained by the peculiar shape given to the hanger.

The hanger should be of such a size that the ends 15 thereof will just enter slightly the arm-eyes so as to support the shoulders of the coat clear to the sleeve. After the coat has been thus placed on the hanger the sleeves should be folded across the front of the coat, as shown in Fig. 1, and pinned together, the folds in the sleeve being taken along the line of crease usually made when the garment is pressed. Because of the peculiar shape of the end of the hanger, that is, the rounded point 16 and the flatter surface 15 the folding of the sleeves against the front of the coat may be accomplished without putting any wrinkles into the sleeve at the shoulder of the coat, the back of the sleeves being folded about and drawn over the flatter portion 15 of the hanger.

When a coat is thus supported on my improved hanger all fullness or slackness therein is taken up, and both the front, back and sleeves of the coat lie perfectly flat so that the coat may be packed in a wardrobe trunk such as shown in my patent and subjected to the pressure necessary to hold the garments in their proper place without having any wrinkles put into the coat.

In order to properly support a coat on my improved hanger, as above described, it will be observed that the hanger should have a size corresponding to the size of the coat, in other words, the hanger must be made to fit the coat.

Since one standard size of hanger will not answer for all sizes of coats I propose to make my hangers in different sizes, the different sizes varying from each other, as shown in Fig. 3.

The size of hanger for a thirty-six coat will be made with the neck-supporting portions 5 farther apart than a coat-hanger made to support a coat of size 34, and similarly the first named coat hanger will be longer between the points 16 than the smaller sized hanger. By thus having hangers of different sizes it is possible for any one in purchasing a hanger to select the particular hanger which will fit his individual coat.

I propose to make the coat-hangers for use in any individual trunk with sustaining-hooks 20 of different lengths, as shown in Fig. 5, so that when a plurality of coats are hung in the trunk the shoulders of the coats will come at different heights. This prevents the thickest portions of the garments from all standing in the same plane and thus enables me to pack the garments in more closely.

In order to permit the hangers with the shortest sustaining hooks to be attached to or taken from the hanging-rod in the trunk I prefer to make the upper edge of the coat-hangers concaved, as shown at 21.

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

1. In a coat hanger for packing coats and similar garments in a wardrobe trunk without creasing, a thin flat body portion presenting the two garment-supporting sides 4 which terminate at their upper ends in dished or upwardly-curved collar-distending and supporting portions 5, which portions are more widely separated than the supported portions of the collar when in natural position on the wearer, whereby when the coat is placed on the hanger, the front of the coat is raised and held in such position that it will lie perfectly flat and can be pressed against the back of the coat in the trunk without wrinkling.

2. In a coat hanger for packing coats and similar garments without creasing, a body portion of substantially hollow triangular form made of thin flat sheet material, the base of the triangle comprising a brace bar for the garment supporting sides 4, said sides 4 first curving outwardly from the base portion and terminating at their upper ends in dished or upwardly and oppositely curved portions 5, said curved portions 5 being convergent and lying far enough apart to constitute a collar distender or support, that part of the hanger between the extremities 17 of the curved portions 5 being deeply dished or cut down to receive a supporting hook or similar fastening de-

vice, the aforesaid garment supporting sides terminating at their lower extremities in edges 15, said edges running substantially at right angles to the sides 4, the body
5 of the triangle at the points of intersection of the edges 15 with the exterior edges of the sides 4 and the exterior edge of the aforesaid brace bar being beveled and rounded to eliminate all sharp points and

yet reserve the proper angular relations 10 between the sides 4 and the edges 15.

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

FREDERIC H. PARKHURST.

Witnesses:

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N. I. WINSLOW.