(No Model.)

H. M. DOWNING.

FOLDING CLOTHES RACK.

No. 284,286. Patented Sept. 4, 1883.

Fig. 1

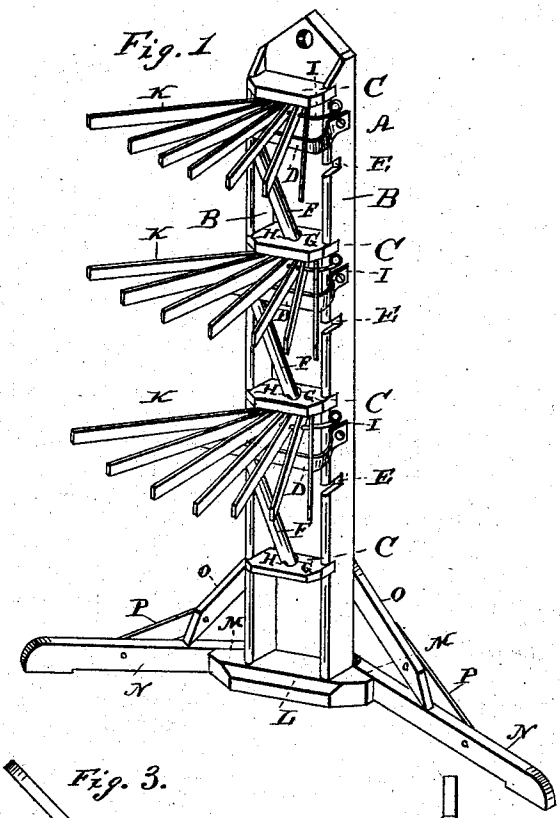


Fig. 2.

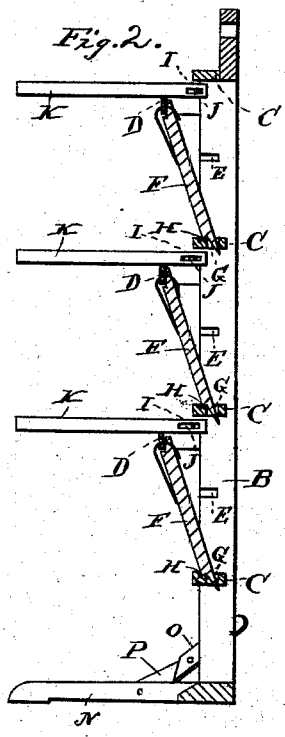


Fig. 3.

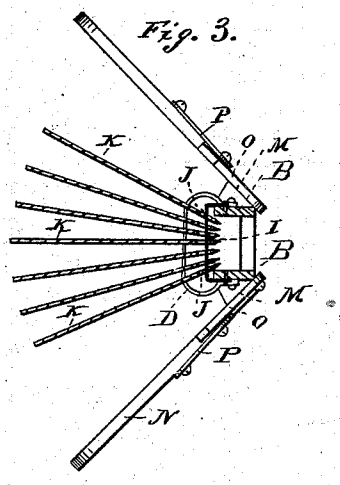


Fig. 4.

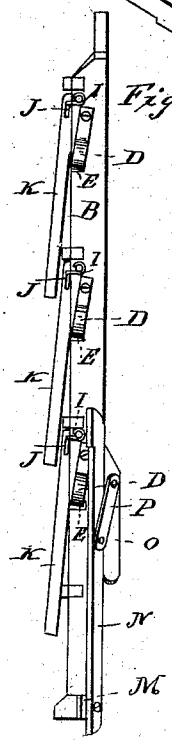
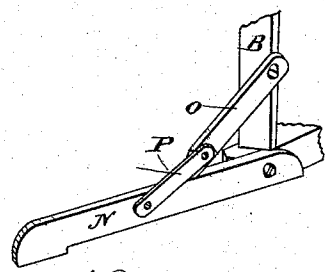


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES

Chas. R. Burr

J. P. Littell

H. M. Downing,
INVENTOR

by C. A. Snow & Co.

Attorneys.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY M. DOWNING, OF ENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

FOLDING CLOTHES-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 284,286, dated September 4, 1883.

Application filed April 4, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY M. DOWNING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Enfield, in the county of Hampshire and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Folding Clothes-Rack, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to folding clothes bars or racks; and it consists in certain improvements in the construction of the same, which will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved clothes-rack extended and ready for operation. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view. Fig. 4 is a side view, showing the device folded; and Fig. 5 is a detail view, in perspective, of one of the folding feet or supports.

The same letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

A in the drawings designates the frame, which consists, essentially, of side pieces, B B, connected by cross-pieces C C, located suitable distances apart.

D D are bails the legs of which are pivoted to the outer sides of the frame-pieces B B short distances below the cross-pieces C. Any desired number of these bails may be used. In the drawings I have shown three, which are pivoted under the three upper cross-pieces, C. The outer or front ends of the said bails are made somewhat bulging, so as to project beyond the side pieces, B, of the frame, and the latter are provided with notches E in their front sides to receive the said bails when the rack is folded, as in Fig. 4.

Pivoted to the center of each of the bails D is a supporting-rod, F, which extends through a perforation, G, in the cross-piece C next below. The supporting-rods F are provided with notches or shoulders H at their lower ends, which, when the bails are raised, will engage the perforations G, and thereby serve to sustain the said bails in a raised position.

I I are horizontal rods, of wire or other suitable material, connecting the front sides of the side pieces, B B, just below the cross-pieces C, under which the bails D are hinged.

K K are bars, having slots J at their upper ends, by which they are strung upon the wires I, each of which may be equipped with any desired number of the said bars. The latter, when the device is folded, hang down freely in front of the bails D, as shown.

The base L, upon which the frame A is mounted, has angular rear corners, M, to which are pivoted the legs or supports N.

O O are braces pivoted to the rear sides of the frame-pieces B a short distance above the base L, and connected with the legs N by pivoted rods or links P. It will be seen from this construction that the legs and braces may be folded up compactly against the side pieces of the frame; or, when desired, they may readily be unfolded to the position shown in Fig. 1 for the purpose of supporting the frame in an upright position. By this arrangement the rack may be placed for operation anywhere desired in a room; but it may also be provided with means for suspending it upon the wall of a room, if this shall be preferred.

The operation and advantages of this invention will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings hereto annexed. It is simple, convenient, inexpensive, and easily manipulated.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

As an improvement in clothes-bars, the combination of a frame, A, having cross-pieces C, provided with perforations G, the bulging bails D, pivoted to the sides of frame A, and having pivoted props or supports F, provided with shoulders H, the bars K, strung upon wires I, above the bails D, and folding legs or supports for the frame A, all arranged and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY M. DOWNING.

Witnesses:

CHAS. RICHARDS,

LORARA S. RICHARDS.