W. M. JOHNSON & J. W. ALTMAN.

CLOTHES RACK.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 10, 1913.

1,200,361.

Patented Oct. 3, 1916.

Fig. 1.

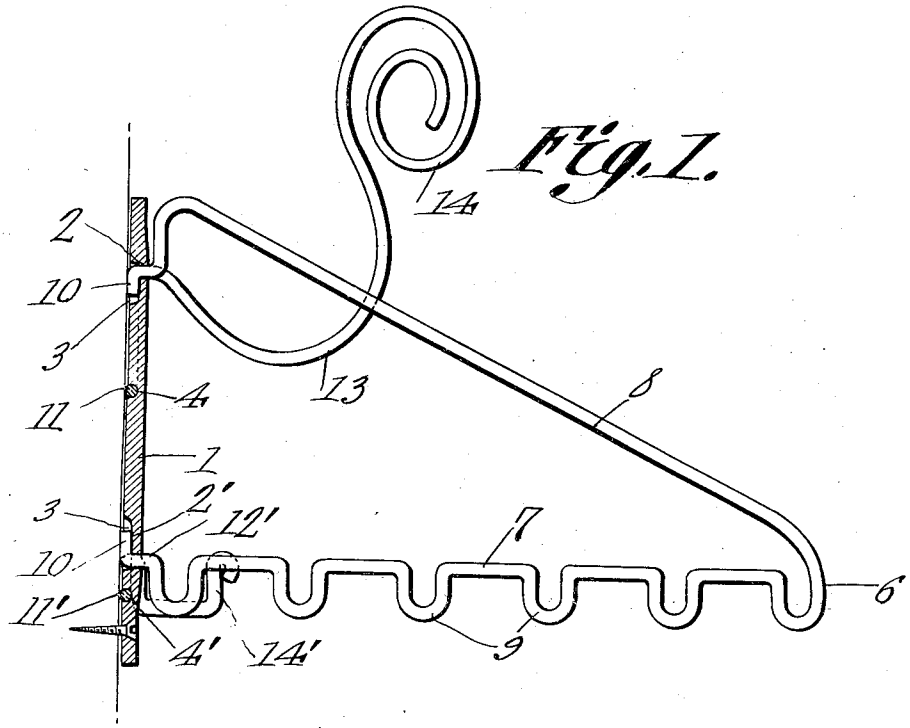
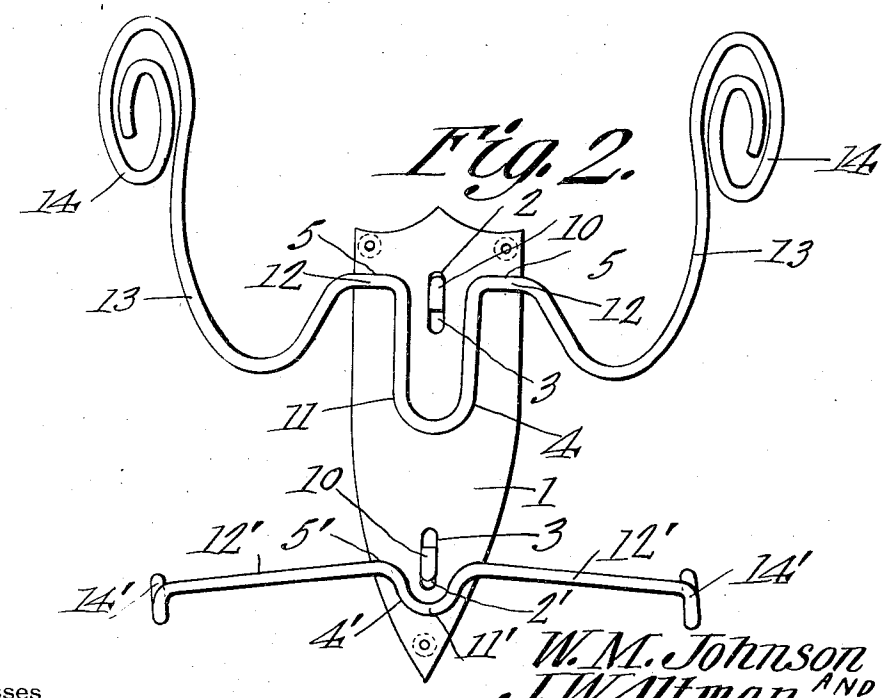


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM M. JOHNSON AND JOHN W. ALTMAN, OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA.

CLOTHES-RACK.

1,200,361. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 3, 1916.

Application filed December 10, 1913. Serial No. 805,799.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM M. JOHNSON and JOHN W. ALTMAN, citizens of the United States, residing at Birmingham, in the county of Jefferson and State of Alabama, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention appertains to a clothes rack.

It is the object of the present invention to provide a clothes rack of unique construction, which shall be convenient, practical and efficient in its use.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a device of the nature indicated, which shall be comparatively simple, durable and inexpensive in construction, and which may be compactly stored or boxed.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, can be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

The invention has been illustrated in its preferred embodiment in the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a central vertical section of the improved clothes rack. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the rack.

In carrying out the present invention, there is provided an upright back plate 1 which may be of cast, forged or pressed metal of any suitable quality, and which is illustrated as in the form of a shield, although it may be of any other ornamental configuration. The back plate 1 is elongated vertically, and at its ends is provided with openings for the passage or screws to take into a door, wall, or other support, whereby the back plate can be attached to the door, wall or other support.

The back plate 1 is provided with the rear longitudinal depressions 3 along its median line, and adjoining its upper and lower ends, and with the respective openings or apertures 2 and 2′ extending from the depressions 3 to the face or front side of the back plate, the apertures 2 and 2′ being preferably disposed at the remote ends of the depressions 3.

The plate 1 is further provided at its rear side with an upper upright relatively long U-shaped groove or furrow 4 surrounding the upper vertical depression 3, and having its terminal portions 5 extended laterally or horizontally away from the depression 3, to the side edges of the back plate 1. The plate 1 is provided with a short U-shaped groove or furrow 4′ at its lower end, surrounding the lower end of the lower depression 3, and having its terminals 5′ directed laterally away from the said lower depression to the side edges of the plate 1.

The present rack embodies a clothes hanger bracket 6, which includes the horizontal arm 7, and the inclined brace 8 connected to the outer or free end of the arm 7, the bracket being bent from a length of wire, and the arm 7 being provided with a series of depending loops 9 for the engagement of suitable clothes hangers. The terminals 10 of the arm 7 and brace 8 are passed through the apertures 2 and 2′, and are swaged or bent within the depressions 3 to secure the bracket 6 to the back plate. A hat holder is also provided, and is bent from a length of wire or similar stock, the central portion of the wire being bent to form an upright relatively long U-shaped portion 11 adapted to fit snugly in the U-shaped groove 4, and having the lateral or horizontal portions 12 bent angularly from its arms to fit in the grooved portions 5, the sections of the wire being bent into forwardly projecting curved arms 13 which are extended downwardly and then upwardly from the portions 12, and having their terminals coiled, as at 14, to provide suitable arms over which hats or similar articles of wearing apparel may be placed.

A second holder for umbrellas, canes and other articles, and the like, is provided and is bent from a length of wire having its central portion formed into a U-shaped portion 11′ arranged to fit in the groove 4′, the sections 12′ of the wire being extended laterally from the arms of the U-shaped portion 11′ to fit in the groove portions 5′. The terminals of the wire are formed into hooks 14′ for the engagement of various articles to be suspended from the rack, such

as umbrellas, canes, etc. It will therefore be noted that the hooks or terminal portions 14′ are first extended downwardly and then upwardly from the portions or sections 12′.

The grooves 4 and 4′ are of a depth slightly less than the thickness of the wire stock from which the holders are formed, whereby when the U-shaped portions 11 and 11′ of the holders are placed within the grooves 4 and 4′, the said U-shaped portions will project slightly from the inner or rear face of the back plate 1, to be clamped against the door, wall, or other supporting member, to which the back plate is applied. It will be evident, that when the back plate is screwed or secured to a supporting member, the holding members will be firmly clamped in position, and will be constrained against sliding or swinging movements, the U-shaped portions 11 and 11′ preventing such actions.

When the back plate 1 is released from the door, wall or the like, the holding elements may be readily detached from the back plate 1, and the several parts may be compactly stored or packed for shipment, or the like.

The present rack will be found useful for attachment to closet or wardrobe doors, in hotels, and residences, on the doors and walls in offices, clubs and barber-shops, and may be employed for divers purposes as will be obvious. The rack will occupy little space when applied to a door, wall, or the like, and will be ornamental, as well as useful. The device may be manufactured at a slight cost, there only being the three wire elements, and the back plate, all of which may be readily and inexpensively assembled.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

A clothes rack embodying an upright back plate attachable to a wall and having a rear upright U-shaped groove with its bend lowermost and its terminals extended to the side edges of the back plate, the back plate having a rear longitudinal depression between the terminals of said groove and an aperture extending from said depression, a bracket having a terminal passed through said aperture and bent within said depression, and a wire holding element having a central upright U-shaped portion with its bend lowermost fitting snugly in said groove, and portions extended in opposite directions from said U-shaped portion and extending out of the terminals of said groove so as to be arranged close adjacent the wall to which the back plate is secured, and the remote ends of said extended portions being bent downwardly, thence forwardly, and thence upwardly to provide hooks which are arranged adjacent said wall.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own, we have hereto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM M. JOHNSON.
JOHN W. ALTMAN.

Witnesses:
CLAUDE D. COOPER,
L. A. TRUMAN.