(No Model.)

B. M. LINCOLN & A. SUMMERFIELD.

COAT HANGER.

No. 589,901. Patented Sept. 14, 1897.

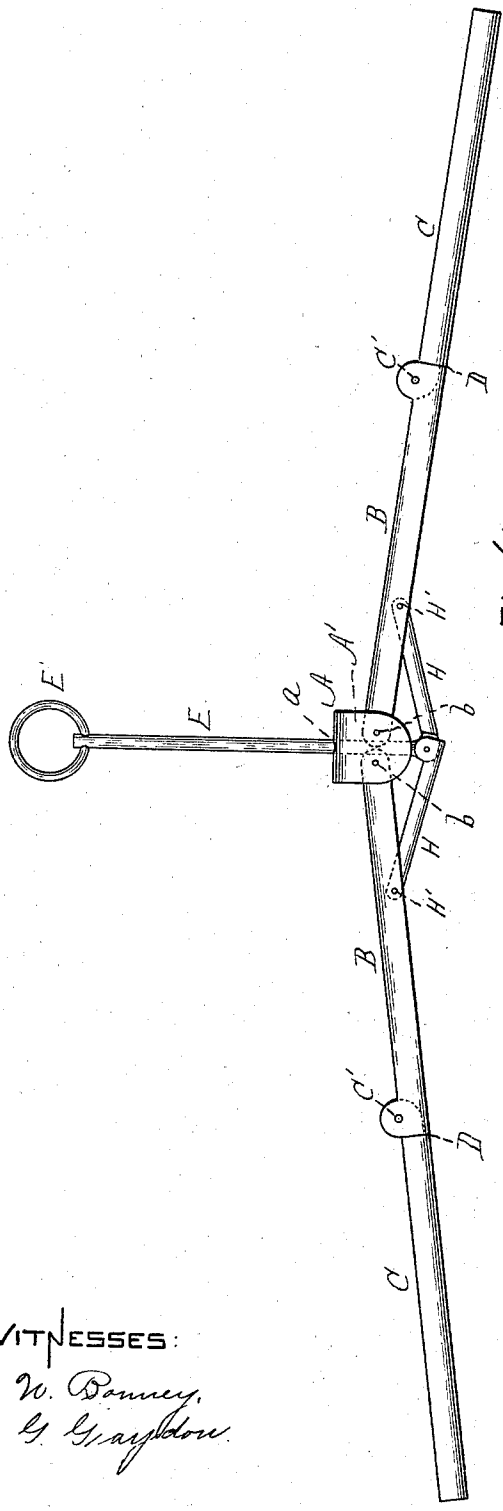


Fig. 1.

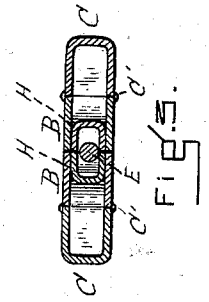


Fig. 5.

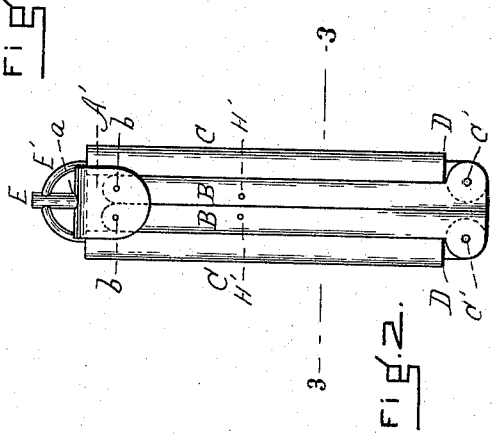


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN M. LINCOLN AND ABRAHAM SUMMERFIELD, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

COAT-HANGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 589,901, dated September 14, 1897.

Application filed February 2, 1897. Serial No. 621,667. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, BENJAMIN M. LINCOLN and ABRAHAM SUMMERFIELD, citizens of the United States, residing in Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Coat-Hangers, of which the following is a specification.

This is an improved device for hanging coats and similar articles of apparel from a hook or other suitable support; and it relates to an improved construction whereby the device may be folded into a small compass and thus be easily transported or carried in an ordinary traveling-bag or in a pocket of a garment and spread into shape for use as a coat-hanger.

The nature of the invention is fully described below and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of our improved coat-hanger in position for use. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the device closed or folded into a small compass. Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3, Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents a central supporting-frame consisting, preferably, of a plate bent into the parallel sides or folds A′ and provided with a central perforation in its upper portion at *a*. To this support A arms or stretchers are pivotally secured at *b*, the inner ends of said stretchers extending between the portions A′ of the support. Each of these stretchers consists of the inner arm B and the outer arm C, constituting a jointed stretcher whose parts are pivotally secured together at C′ near their upper edges, the lower edges abutting against each other at D, so that the outer arm C is sustained in line with the inner arm B. These arms are preferably metallic and are as light in weight as possible, the preferred construction being sheet metal formed into U shape in cross-section. A supporting-rod E is provided at its upper end with a ring or equivalent device E′, adapted to hang from a suitable hook, and this rod E extends down through the perforation *a* in the central support A, as shown. To the lower end of this rod are pivotally secured the inner ends of the two rods H, whose outer ends are pivoted at H′ within and to the U-shaped arms B, thus constituting a toggle.

When the hanger is in position for use, the ring E′ is suspended from the hook and the device assumes the position shown in Fig. 1. The weight of the coat, distributed as it is along the stretchers, prevents the device from folding up, inasmuch as such weight is supported by the rod E, whose lower end is thus pulling upward on the joint of the toggle H. When the device is folded up into the position indicated in Fig. 3, the outer arms C fold up over and upon the inner arms B, the inner ends of the inner arms and the outer ends of the outer arms extending up into the support A. The U shape or channel shape of the arms B on their under sides allows the two parts of the toggle H to fold within them, while as the two parts of the toggle itself are made U-shaped on their upper sides, as shown in Fig. 3, they fold together and around the rod E. Thus the entire device is folded into compact form and may be readily carried in the pocket, as its length when folded is only about one-fourth of its length when extended for use.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A coat-hanger comprising a central support; a pair of jointed stretchers adapted to fold back upon themselves and pivotally secured at their inner ends to said support; a toggle extending from one stretcher to the other and pivotally secured to the under sides thereof; and a supporting-rod extending from the joint of said toggle up through said central support and adapted to be suspended from a suitable hook, substantially as set forth.

2. The herein-described improved collapsible coat-hanger, comprising a central support; the jointed stretchers, each consisting of the pivotally-connected arms B, C and with their connected ends bearing against each other at D, said stretchers being pivotally secured at their inner ends to said support, and the inner arms B thereof being channeled on their under sides; the toggle H pivotally secured to said arms B within the

channels therein; and the rod E extending from the joint of said toggle up through said support and adapted to be suspended from a suitable hook, substantially as described.

3. The herein-described improved collapsible coat-hanger, comprising the central support A formed with the substantially parallel sides A'; the jointed stretchers B, C pivotally secured at their inner ends within and to said central support, said stretchers being formed with channels on their under sides; the toggle H secured at its opposite ends to the stretchers within their channels and formed with channels on its upper sides; and the rod E extending up from the joint of the toggle through the central support, the outer ends of the stretchers being adapted to fold up into the central support when the device is closed, the toggle folding into the channels of the stretchers and over the supporting-rod, substantially as set forth.

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