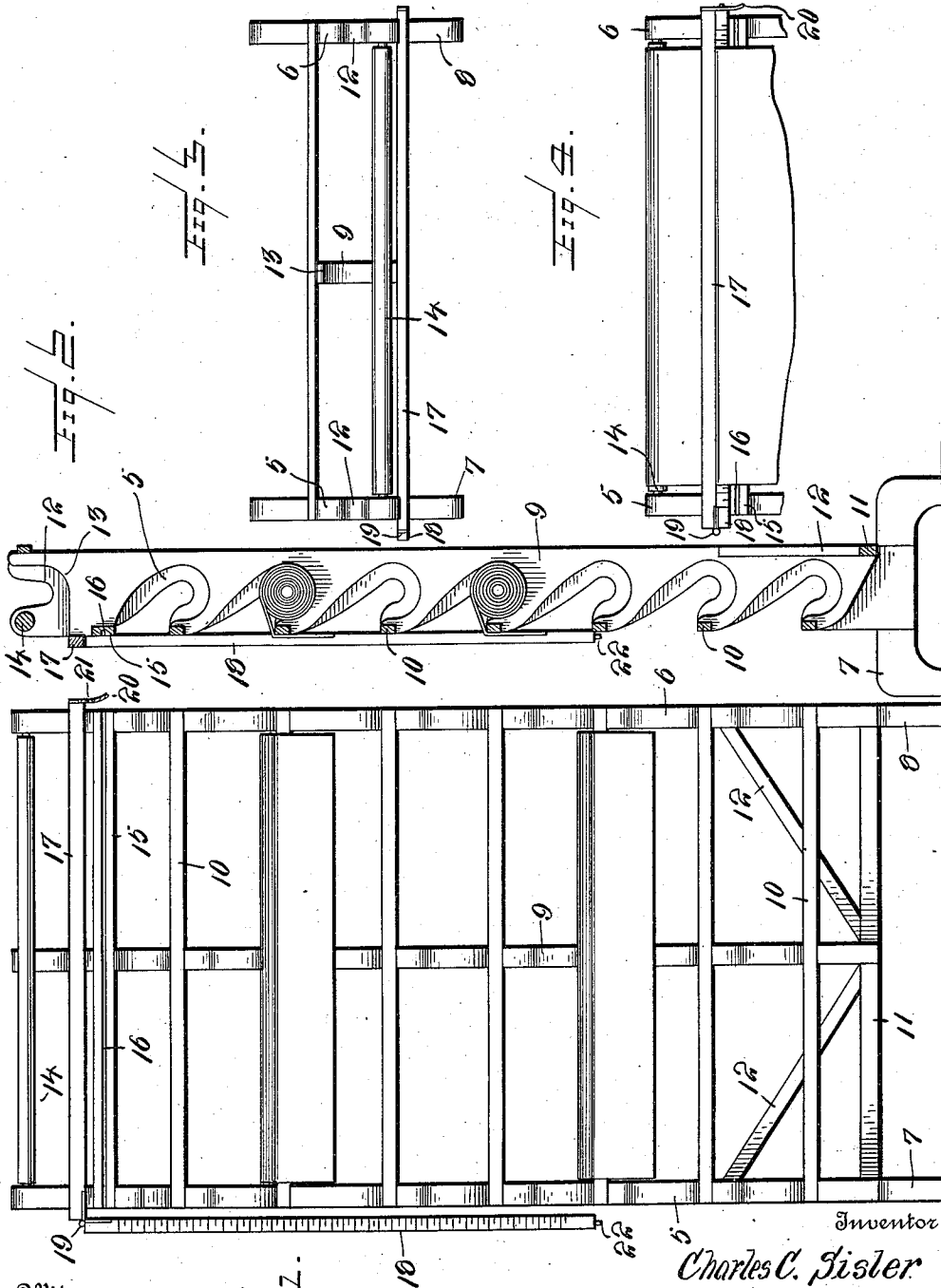


C. C. SISLER.
OIL CLOTH RACK.
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Patented Jan. 9, 1912.



Witnesses
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Fig. 1.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES C. SISLER, OF MINEOLA, TEXAS.

OIL-CLOTH RACK.

1,014,528.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES C. SISLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mineola, in the county of Wood and State of Texas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Oil-Cloth Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in display racks and more particularly to the type employed for displaying oil cloth and the like.

One object of the invention is an improvement in racks and particularly to the type of rack granted me by Letters-Patent, Number 903,016, of December 3, 1908. In that patent the rack is provided with a pair of side members suitably recessed to receive the opposite ends of the rolls of oil cloth, the said side members having at their tops sockets in which the opposite ends of a roll is placed preparatory to unwinding from the roll a desired quantity of material to be purchased. In this construction I employ a roller over which the oil cloth passes while being unrolled, and at the side of the rack is a measuring strip by means of which the operator may measure the oil cloth during the operation of unrolling the latter. The measuring strip is stationary, and in order to clamp the roll against movement during the operation of cutting therefrom the unwound portion of the oil cloth, a lever is provided to bind against the end of the roll. I have found that the utility of the device thus described can be materially increased by providing a pivoted measuring strip designed to clamp the oil cloth during the cutting operation and perform the further function of a measuring strip by depending from the top portion of the rack during the measuring operation.

A further object is the provision of a means for securing the measuring strip against movement during the operation of the cutting of the oil cloth.

A still further object is the provision of a fastener adapted to be automatically released when the cutting operation is completed.

With these and other objects in view, which will more fully hereinafter appear, the present invention consists in certain novel details of construction and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and more particularly pointed out in the

appended claims; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of the device may be made, within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification:—Figure 1 is a front elevation of the device. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a top plan view. Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the upper portion of the device showing the oil cloth held in clamped position while being cut.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to designate corresponding parts throughout.

As shown in my previous patent before referred to, the device includes a pair of side members designated by the numerals 5 and 6, the lower ends of which are provided with supporting feet 7 and 8. The forward sides of the members 5 and 6 are provided with downwardly and inwardly extending recesses to receive the opposite ends of the rolls; it being understood that the side members may be of any desired length and any number of recesses may be formed therein. In addition to the side members 5 and 6 I provide an intermediate member designed by the numeral 9 corresponding in length to the side members 5 and 6, or substantially so, and provided on its forward side with recesses to aline with the recesses of the side members 5 and 6. The side members 5 and 6 and the intermediate member 9 are connected by a plurality of cross pieces 10, the opposite ends and intermediate portions of which are secured to the side and intermediate members and at the lower outer ends of the recesses so that the unwound portion of the rolls positioned within the recesses will be supported for display, while the intermediate portion of the roll, by virtue of the intermediate member 9, will be prevented from sagging. The lower end portions of the side members and intermediate member are connected by a cross piece 11 arranged on the rear sides of the members, and are further braced against wobbling by struts 12, the opposite ends of which are fixedly secured to the opposed inner faces of the side members 5 and 6 and the intermediate portion of the cross piece 11.

The upper ends of the cross pieces 5 and 6 are provided with semi-circular recesses 12 to receive the opposite ends of the roll to be cut, and the upper end of the intermediate member 9 is recessed, as shown at 13, to support the intermediate portion of the roll to be cut. A roller is designated by the numeral 14, and has its opposite ends provided with trunnions which are journaled in the side members 5 and 6 and immediately in advance of the sockets 12.

Secured to the forward sides of the side members 5 and 6 and the intermediate member 9 is what will subsequently be termed a cutting strip designated by the numeral 15. This member is positioned immediately above the uppermost notches or recesses in the side and intermediate members and on its outer face is provided throughout its length with a groove 16. Positioned between the cutting strip 15 and roller 14 and located on the outer sides of the side and intermediate members is a cross piece designated by the numeral 17. In view of the fact that the opposite ends of the cutting strip are undercut and also the intermediate portion recessed, it will be evident that the cross piece 17 will project considerably in advance of the outer face of the cutting strip and considerably spaced above the latter.

What will subsequently be termed a combined measuring strip and clamp is designated by the numeral 18. This member corresponds in length to the cross piece 17 and has one end united to one end of the cross piece by means of a leaf hinge 19. The combined measuring rod and clamping strip is of such width that when moved parallel with the cross piece 17 it will be above the groove 16 in the cutting strip 15, and slightly spaced from the cross piece 17 and that portion of the cutting strip located above the groove 16. The outer face of the combined clamping and measuring strip is provided with a yard scale, and it will be evident when the strip depends at right angles to the cross piece 17 that oil cloth drawn from a roll placed in the sockets 12 may be measured in a well known manner. When a required amount of oil cloth is unrolled, the clamping strip is moved upward and over the face of the oil cloth to a position parallel with the cross piece 17 and above the groove 16, and when so positioned, it will be evident that the oil cloth will be clamped between the measuring strip, cutting strip, and cross piece 17, and when so clamped by passing a suitable cutting implement such as a knife through the oil cloth so that the end portion of the cutting implement will enter the groove 16, the measured amount of oil cloth may be readily cut from the roll.

In order that the combined clamping and measuring strip may be secured in the clamped position as just described, a spring

latch 20 is employed. This member is preferably formed of a single piece of spring metal and has one end secured to that end of the cross piece 17 remote from the hinge 19 and in such position that the free end of the strip will extend to a point beyond the groove 16 of the cutting strip. Adjacent to its free end the latch 20 is provided with an opening 21. Extending outwardly from the free end of the combined clamping and measuring strip is a pin 22, of a size to be received by the opening 21 in the latch 20. Thus it will be seen when the combined clamping and measuring strip is moved upwardly the pin 22 will force the free end portion of the latch outwardly and move into alinement with the opening 21; whereupon the strip will move inwardly by its own resiliency and engage with the pin, whereby movement of the strip will be prevented. It will be evident when the cutting operation is completed and the knife drawn through that end of the groove adjacent to the latch 20, by virtue of the disposition of the latch the knife or cutting implement will engage with the free end of the latch and move the same outwardly from the opening 21, whereupon the strip will by gravitation move to its normal vertical position at the side of the frame.

From the foregoing, it is evident that I have provided a device which is comparatively simple in structure and inexpensive in manufacture, embodying few parts and these so arranged that the danger of derangement will be reduced to a minimum.

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

1. In a rack of the class described, a pair of connected side members provided at their upper ends with sockets, a roller having its opposite ends journaled in said side members and arranged in advance of said sockets, a cutting strip having a longitudinal groove and its opposite ends secured to said side members below said roller, a cross piece having its opposite ends secured to said side members and located between said cutting strip and roller, a combined measuring rod and clamp having one end pivoted to one end of the cross piece and movable to a point above and parallel to the groove of the cutting strip, and means for securing the free end of the combined measuring rod and clamp to one end of the cross piece.

2. In a rack of the class described, a pair of connected side members provided at their upper ends with sockets, a roller having its opposite ends journaled in said side members and located in advance of said sockets, a cutting strip having a longitudinal groove and its opposite ends secured to said side members below said roller, a cross piece having its opposite ends secured to said side members and located between said cutting

strip and roller, a combined measuring strip and clamp having one end hinged to one end of the cross piece and movable to a position above the groove and parallel with and spaced from the cross piece and cutting strip, whereby a flexible sheet may be clamped between the cross piece and measuring strip, and cooperating fastening devices carried by the cross piece and free end of the combined clamp and measuring strip. 10

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

CHARLES C. SISLER.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."