M. C. RYAN.

SHOE RACK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 28, 1906.

914,313.

Patented Mar. 2, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

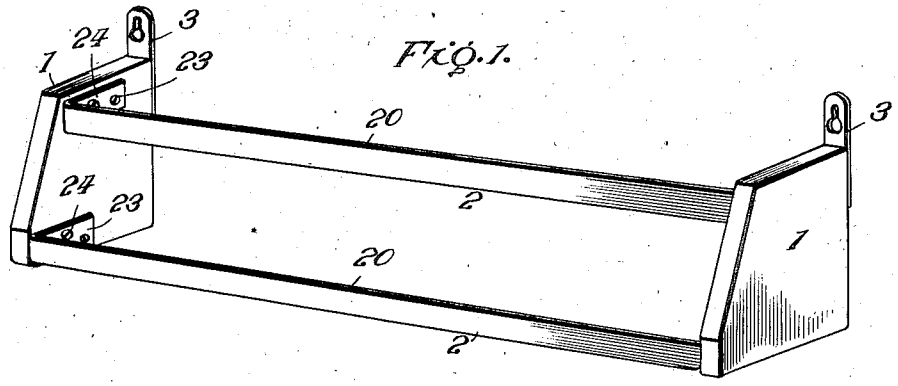


FIG. 3.

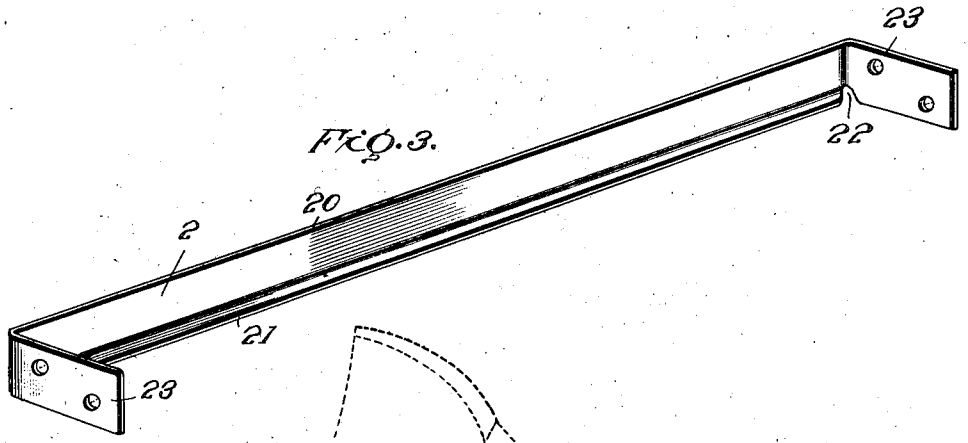
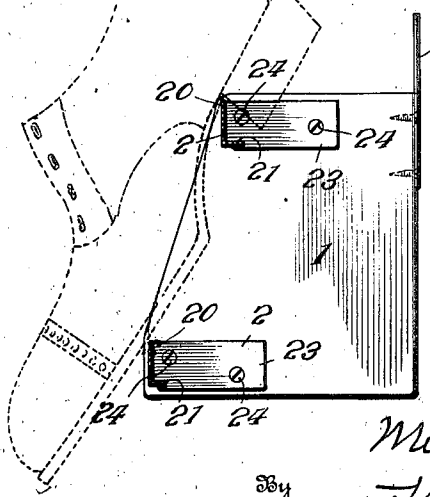


FIG. 2.



Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 4.

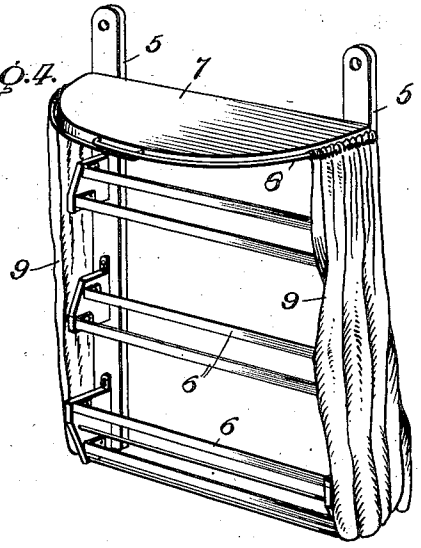


FIG. 5.

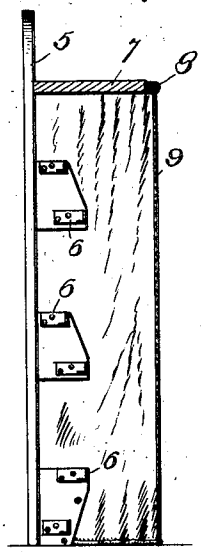


FIG. 7.

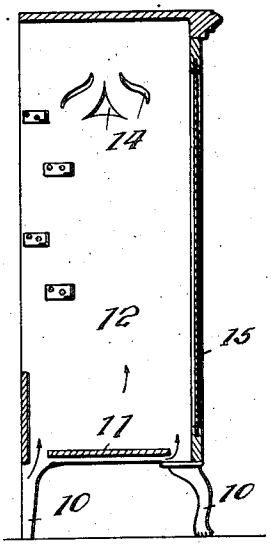
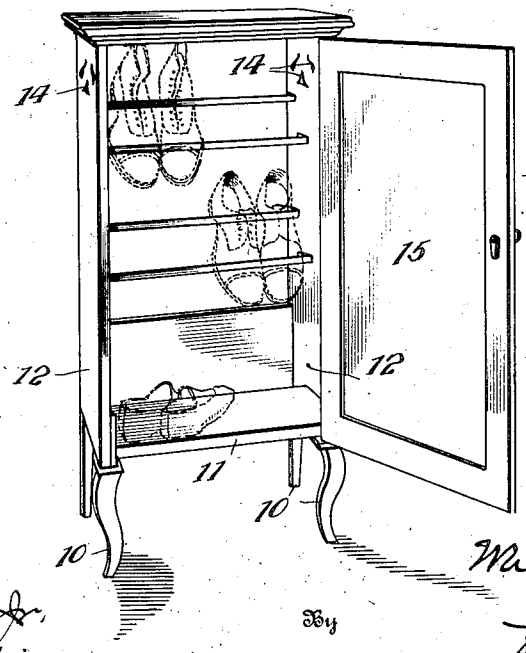


FIG. 6.



Witnesses

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SHOE-RACK.

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Application filed August 28, 1906. Serial No. 332,365.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MICHAEL C. RYAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oswego, Oswego county, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Racks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to certain improvements in shoe racks; and the objects and nature of the invention will be readily understood by those skilled in the art in the light of the following explanations of the constructions shown in the accompanying drawings as examples from among other structures or arrangements within the spirit and scope of my invention.

The invention consists in certain novel features in construction, or in combinations and arrangements of parts as more fully and particularly set forth and described hereinafter.

Referring to the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1, is a perspective view of a rack under my invention, in its simple form. Fig. 2, is a vertical cross section, dotted lines indicating a shoe supported by the rack. Fig. 3, is a detail perspective from the rear of a shoe receiving cross bar showing the end formation thereof and manner of securing the same. Fig. 4, is a front perspective of a multiple rack, showing the inclosing curtains therefor, thrown back. Fig. 5, is a vertical section through the rack of Fig. 4. Fig. 6, is a front perspective of another form of multiple rack, showing the front door thereof swung open. Fig. 7, is a vertical section through the rack of Fig. 6.

The form of my invention disclosed in Fig. 1, consists of the two vertically arranged end pieces or heads 1, and the two parallel shoe receiving cross rods, bars or plates 2. The heads 1, are usually similar in shape and construction and each is preferably composed of a wooden block vertically arranged and having flat side faces, and upwardly and rearwardly inclined front edge, and a flat vertical rear edge adapted to fit against the support to which the rack is secured, and from which a metal supporting eye, hanger, bracket or perforated plate 3, extends upwardly to receive and depend from a supporting nail, screw or the like projecting forwardly from the wall or any other suitable support against which the rack is adapted to rest while hung by the two hangers from the said screws or nails. Each bar 2, consists of a comparatively wide strip or plate of thin sheet metal, arranged vertically or on edge to form the thin or narrow straight horizontal top longitudinal edge 20, on which the shoes rest. The plate or strip is struck up or bent to form the horizontal bottom rearwardly projecting longitudinal flange 21, terminating at the transverse notches 22, adjacent the inner faces of the end heads. The extremities of the plate are bent rearwardly at right angles to the body length of the plate to form the two parallel flat rearwardly ears 23, fitting the inner faces of the end heads and secured thereto by suitable means such as screws 24, passed into said heads through perforation in said ears 23. The notches 22, are arranged at the angles formed by the ears 23, and the body or straight length of the plate and extend upwardly at said angles and through the lower edge of the plate, whereby the ears are not flanged but are formed flat of the full width of the plate. The end notches permit the formation of the flange 21, extending the full length of the plate between said notches so that the thin plate is stiffened throughout its full length between the end heads. In cross section, each plate is arranged vertically, and the plates are arranged in pairs for supporting shoes, one plate being arranged a distance below and in a vertical plane in advance of the upper plate. For instance, in the construction of Fig. 1, the upper bar or plate is arranged between the upper ends of the end heads and adjacent the front edges thereof. while the lower plate or bar is arranged between the lower ends of the end heads and adjacent the front edges thereof. As said front edges incline upwardly and rearwardly, the lower bar or plate is arranged in a vertical plane in advance of the vertical plane of the upper bar, for instance, the vertical planes of said two bars can be arranged an inch or two apart, more or less. The bars of each pair are so arranged that the shoes will virtually hang from the upper bar with their soles resting on the top edge of the lower bar and assuming a position inclined downwardly and forwardly; the top edge of the upper bar engaging each shoe in the angle between the

front edge of the heel and the rear end of the shank.

The construction of Fig. 1, can be formed of various lengths to receive one or several pairs of shoes, the shoes being arranged side by side. The construction is exceedingly simple and yet strong and durable and can be produced at a low cost and is attractive in appearance.

Racks of greater capacity can be formed by providing additional pairs of shoe supporting cross bars and by providing added or enlarged supporting devices for the increased number of shoe supporting bars so that the several pairs of shoe supporting bars can be included in a single article or device to form a multiple shoe rack. Also such a multiple shoe rack can be formed to receive or can be provided with means for inclosing or covering the shoe supporting devices and the shoes thereon, and also can be so formed as to provide for the free circulation of air through the rack and for the desirable thorough ventilation of the shoes therein. I show several forms of such multiple shoe racks, in the accompanying drawings.

In Figs. 4 and 5, I show a form of multiple rack comprising rear vertical flat bars 5 at their upper extending ends formed with holes or otherwise to receive securing means, whereby the rack can be hung on the wall. On the front flat faces of the rear bars 5, several of the racks of Fig. 1, can be hung or secured and properly spaced and with their end heads resting against the front faces of said bars 5. At the lower end portions of the bars 5, I can arrange a rubber rack consisting of one of the shoe racks of Fig. 1, reversed so that the bottom cross bar of the rack of Fig. 1, will be the top bar of the rubber rack. The end heads of the rubber rack are secured to the front faces of the bars 5, and additional cross rods 6, are secured to and extending between the end heads and arranged between the flanged bars 2, and between the lower flanged bar 2, and the inner edges of the end heads to form the bottom of the rubber rack. 7, is a horizontally arranged top piece secured to and connecting the upper portions of the bars 5 and projecting forwardly above the racks. At the edge of this top piece, I can provide curtain rods 8, suitably overlapping at their front ends at the front central portion of the top piece. 9, are depending curtains at their upper ends hung on or from said curtain rods to slide thereon and so that the two curtains can be drawn together and overlapped at the front to completely cover and inclose the racks and shoes thereon. The curtains preferably are of a length to hang below the rubber rack and hence completely inclose the entire multiple rack below the top piece. The curtains can be easily pushed back on the curtain rods to expose the shoe and rubber racks. It will be noted that this multiple rack is constructed and arranged to provide for thorough interior ventilation even when inclosed by the curtains, as the back of the rack is open between bars 5, and the bottom of the rack is open between the bars and rods of the rubber rack and between the rubber rack and the wall against which the multiple rack is hung. The multiple rack is also open at the top between the top piece, the bars 5 and the wall. Free upward circulation of air through the multiple rack is hence possible to aid in drying and ventilating the shoes and rubbers inclosed therein, and this is a feature of importance in a multiple shoe rack for home or household use.

In Figs. 6 and 7, I show another form of multiple rack, in the form of an upright cabinet mounted on suitable legs 10, and comprising an open bottom 11, between the lower ends of the vertical side walls 12, a top between the side walls, and an open back. The lower portions of the side walls 12, being secured together by cross piece 13. The upper ends of the side pieces or walls 12, have top ventilating openings 14. 15 is a vertical horizontally swinging door whereby the front of the multiple rack can be closed. Several pairs of the flanged shoe supporting cross bars 2, described in connection with Fig. 1, are arranged within the cabinet with their end ears secured to the side walls 12, thereby providing the multiple or series of pairs of shoe supporting bars. The open bottom can form a support or rack for rubbers. When the door is closed the shoes are concealed. Free circulation of air through the cabinet and around the shoes therein, is provided for by the open bottom and back, and top openings in the side walls.

It is evident that various changes, modifications, omission or addition of elements might be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, hence I do not wish to limit myself to the exact constructions disclosed.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A shoe rack comprising side or end pieces and a pair of shoe supporting cross bars arranged in different horizontal and vertical planes, and each formed of a metal plate arranged vertically or on edge with a longitudinal narrow or sharp top shoe engaging edge and a bottom longitudinal flange.

2. A shoe rack comprising a pair of shoe supporting bars, each consisting of a metal plate having a longitudinal top shoe engaging edge, and lateral end securing ears, the lower edge of the plate being notched at the

angles between said ears and the body of the plate, said plate having a lower longitudinal flange between said ears.

3. A shoe rack comprising ends, and a pair of spaced similar parallel horizontal shoe supporting cross bars between and secured to said ends, each bar consisting of a sheet metal strip or plate having its extremities bent laterally to form flat rearwardly projecting securing ears, said strip having a straight narrow top longitudinal shoe engaging edge between said ears.

4. A shoe rack comprising separated end supports, and a pair of horizontal spaced shoe supporting bars arranged in different horizontal and vertical planes and formed by sheet metal plates extending between said supports and arranged on edge to provide longitudinal top shoe engaging edges and having their ends bent laterally forming flat engaging ears fitting the side faces of said supports and secured against the same.

5. A shoe rack comprising separated end supports, and a pair of shoe supporting bars carried by, secured to and extending between said supports, the lower bar being arranged in a vertical plane in advance of and in a horizontal plane below the other bar, one of said bars being formed by a longitudinally flanged metal plate arranged on edge to present a narrow longitudinal top shoe engaging edge and having its ends bent laterally to form securing ears, the plate being notched through its flanged edge at the junction between said ears and the body of the plate.

6. A shoe rack comprising vertical supports, horizontal shoe supporting cross bars carried by said supports, and a rubber rack carried by said supports and open at the top and comprising spaced horizontal cross bars and rods forming the bottom and front wall of the rack.

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

MICHAEL C. RYAN.

Witnesses:
C. F. Loomis,
J. W. Loomis.