(No Model.)

W. C. NEWTON & J. G. FERRILL.

MEASURING RACK FOR GOODS IN THE PIECE.

No. 357,534. Patented Feb. 8, 1887.

Fig. 1.

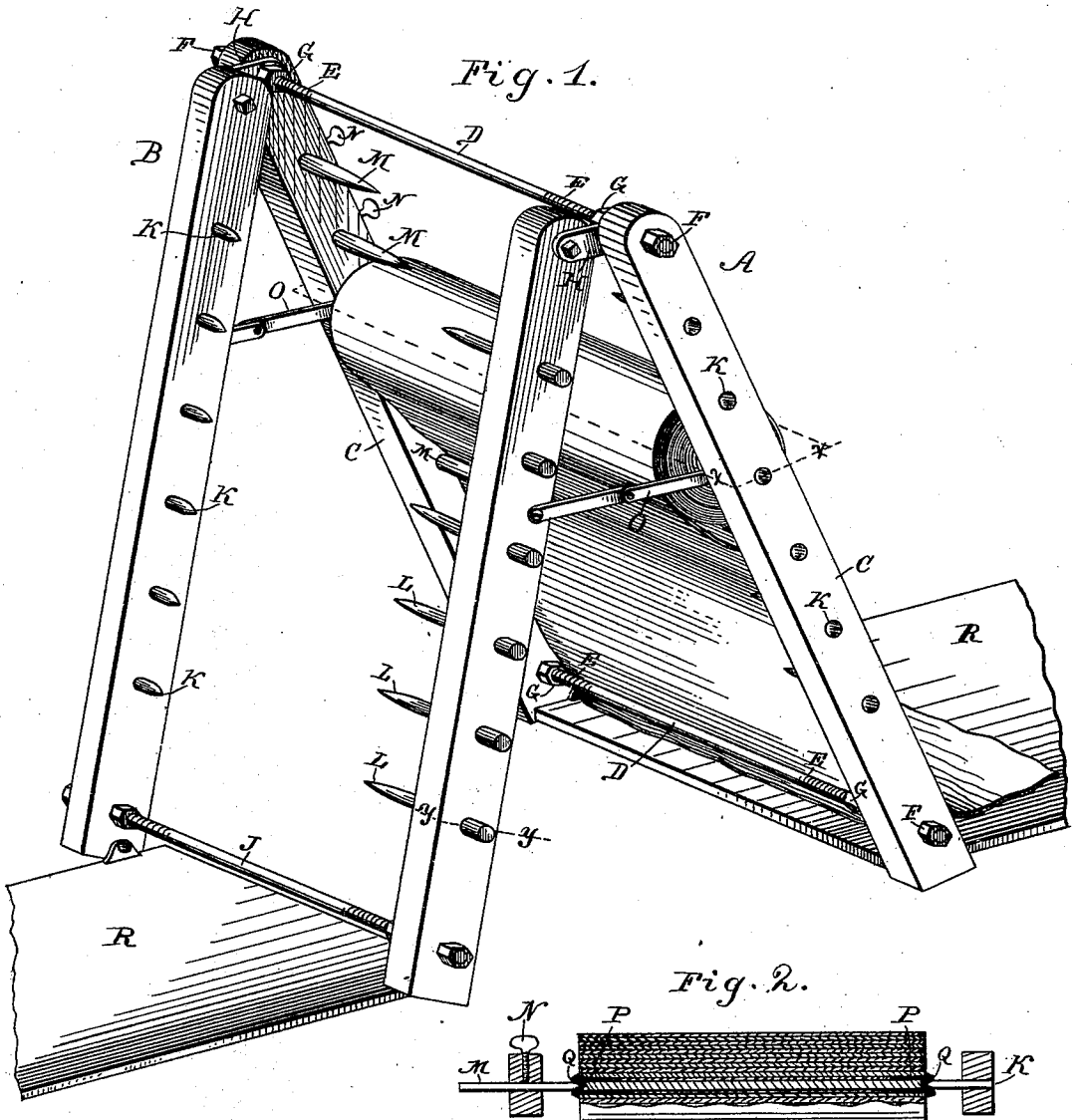
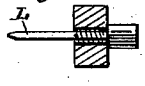


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM C. NEWTON AND JAMES G. FERRILL, OF BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS.

MEASURING-RACK FOR GOODS IN THE PIECE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 357,534, dated February 8, 1887.

Application filed April 1, 1886. Serial No. 197,472. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM C. NEWTON and JAMES G. FERRILL, of Batesville, in the county of Independence and State of Arkansas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Measuring-Racks for Goods in the Piece, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention consists in the improved construction, arrangement, and combination of parts of an adjustable measuring-rack for textile goods in the piece or bolt, as will be hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

Heretofore it has been necessary in measuring textile goods from the piece or bolt to unroll from the bolt what was thought to be the necessary number of yards, and if on measuring it was found that several yards more than was required had been unrolled from the bolt, it was necessary to rewrap this surplus quantity upon the bolt; or, if too busy to do this at the time, which frequently occurred, it was necessary to leave the unwrapped goods to pile upon the counter until night, when time could be found to roll them up again, and by leaving the goods to be piled and crumpled upon the counter much loss was sustained, especially with fine ladies' dress-goods. On the other hand, if it was found that an insufficient quantity to make up the measure had been unrolled from the bolt, it was necessary to hold the goods with one hand at the last measured point and turn the bolt on the counter with the other hand—a very awkward and tedious operation.

Our invention does away with all of these objections, and has many advantages, which will be hereinafter set forth.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved measuring-rack. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken on line *x x*, Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a similar view taken on line *y y*, Fig. 1.

The same letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Referring to the several parts by letter, A and B represent the two halves of our adjustable rack, which we will distinguish by denominating them as the "outer" and "inner" halves, the inner half, B, being of less width than the outer half, A, and fitting partially within the same when the rack is folded.

C indicates the side pieces of the outer rack, A, which are adjustably connected near their upper and lower ends by the metal rods D, having the screw-threaded ends E, which pass through suitable apertures in the ends of the said side pieces, each end of the said rods being provided with two nuts, F and G—one on the inner and one on the outer side of the end of the side piece—by which arrangement the distance between the side pieces of the frame or rack may be adjusted to suit the width of the bolt of goods to be measured and the side pieces secured firmly in their adjusted positions.

To the upper ends of the side pieces of the inner rack, B, are pivotally secured the ends of hinge-plates H, the other ends of which are apertured to admit the upper metal rod of the outer rack to pass through them, the ends of the hinge-plates fitting on the said rod between the inner sides of the upper ends of the side pieces, C, and the inner nuts, G G, so that the upper ends of both racks may be adjusted together. The lower ends of the side pieces, I, of the inner rack, B, are adjustably connected by a rod, J, in the same manner as the lower end of the other half, A, previously described. In one side piece of each half of the rack are rigidly secured the stationary pins K, projecting inward and having the reduced inner ends, while the opposite side pieces are provided with the inwardly-projecting spring-actuated pins L, diametrically opposite to the stationary pins; or, if desired, these spring-actuated pins may be replaced by the adjustable pins M, held in their adjusted positions by the thumb-screws N, though the spring-actuated pins L are automatic, and we therefore prefer to employ them. The two halves of the rack are connected together below their upper ends by the hinged braces O, which admit of the rack being folded up closely when not in use, so as to occupy but little space.

In operation the bolt of goods is placed between the side pieces of the frame, and if the textile fabric is wrapped upon a round wooden roll the ends of the said roll are recessed to adapt them to receive the ends of two diametrically-opposite pins, when it will be seen that the bolt will turn freely between the said pins, so that the exact number of yards desired may be measured from it without un-

winding any more of the material than is required.

When the material is wrapped upon a flat board, as is frequently the case, we employ the spring-clamps P, the jaws of which seize firmly upon the ends of the flat board, while their rear ends are provided with the conical sockets Q, in which the ends of the pins fit and turn, as will be readily understood. A flat table, R, is secured to each half of the rack, as shown, on which the goods fall when being measured.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of our adjustable measuring-rack for goods in the piece will be readily understood.

It will be seen that any quality of goods, from the heaviest carpet to the lightest dress-goods, may be exhibited and measured from our improved rack without regard to the width of the goods.

By its use all of the objections previously set forth in measuring goods in the piece or bolt are removed, and a great saving, both in time and money, is effected.

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

1. A rack for holding textile goods, consisting of two frames hinged together at their upper ends and each provided with stationary pins in one side bar and movable pins in the other side bar, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. A rack for holding textile goods, consisting of two frames hinged together, the side bars of each frame being adjustable to and from each other and provided with inwardly-projecting pins, substantially as herein shown and described.

3. In a rack for holding textile goods, the combination, with two frames, each having the lower ends of their side bars adjustably connected together and provided with inwardly-projecting pins, of a rod passing through the upper ends of one frame and having screw-threaded ends, nuts on opposite sides of each side bar of the frame, through which the rod passes, and plates pivoted to the other frame and provided with apertures to receive the said rod, substantially as herein shown and described.

4. The combination of the outer rack, consisting of the side pieces connected at their upper and lower ends by the rods having the screw-threaded ends, and the outer and inner nuts arranged upon the said ends, as described, the inner rack consisting of the side pieces connected at their lower ends by the rod having the screw-threaded ends and the outer and inner nuts, arranged as described, the hinge-plates pivotally connecting the upper ends of the side pieces of the inner rack with the upper cross-rod of the outer rack, the stationary inwardly-projecting pins, and the movable inwardly-projecting pins, as set forth.

5. In a rack for holding textile goods, the combination, with the side bars provided with stationary and movable pins, of spring-clamps for engaging the board upon which the goods are wound, having recesses in their ends for receiving the pins on the side bars, substantially as herein shown and described.

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