

(No Model.)

P. A. SMITH.  
DRESS FORM.

No. 532,602.

Patented Jan. 15, 1895.

Fig. 1.

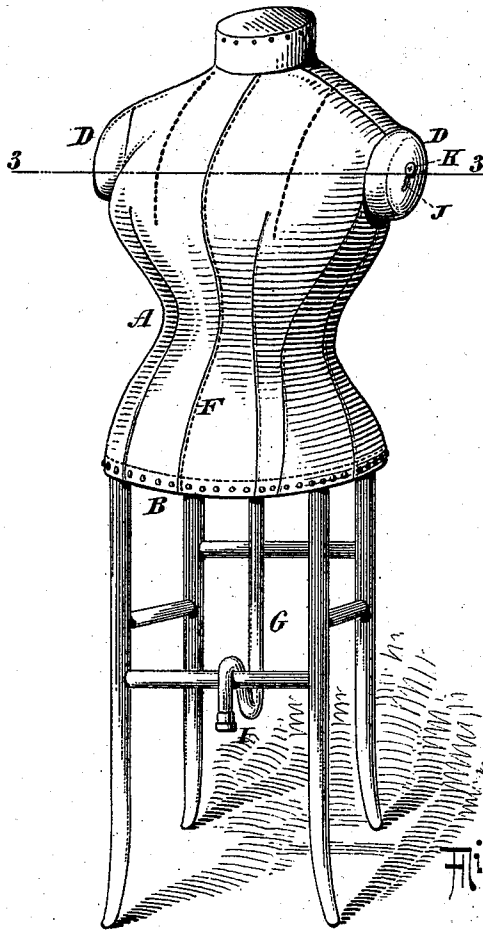


Fig. 2.

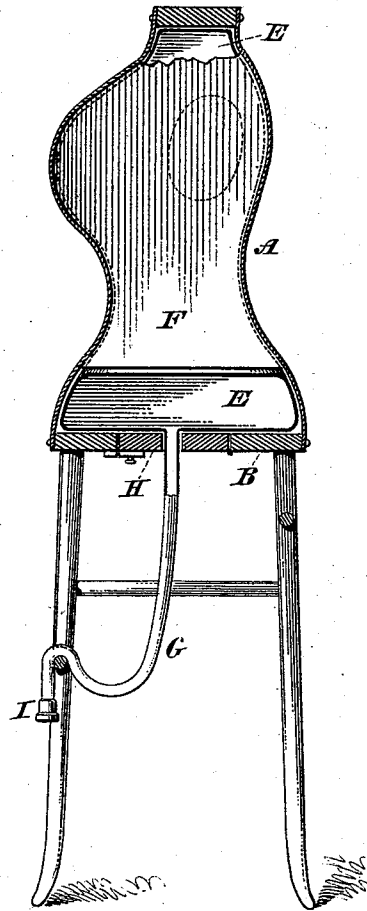
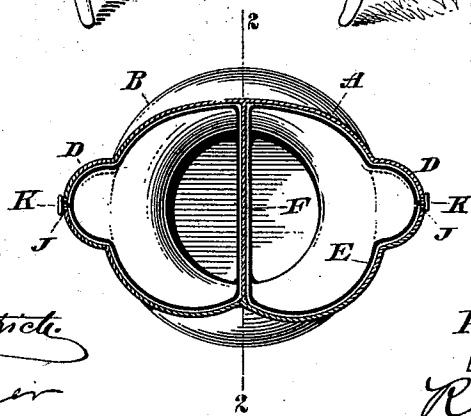


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PRUDENCE A. SMITH, OF PINE HILL, NEW YORK.

## DRESS-FORM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 532,602, dated January 15, 1895.

Application filed June 26, 1894. Serial No. 515,735. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PRUDENCE A. SMITH, of Pine Hill, Ulster county, State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Dress-Forms, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in dress forms and consists in the mechanical construction thereof hereinafter fully shown and described.

The object of my invention is to provide a form to which a garment may be fitted, the said form to possess the following qualities,—simplicity, lightness, compactness, durability and effectiveness.

My invention is illustrated by the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section thereof, and Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the line 3—3 Fig. 1.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

My invention is illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 as being supported on suitable legs or standards.

A is the exterior casing formed from suitable material substantially non-elastic. This casing A is made to correspond with the human form, which it is desired to duplicate. The lower edge of this case is secured to a suitable base B corresponding to the contour of the human form. The upper extremity or the neck portion of this case is by preference closed in a similar manner. By preference the arm portions are omitted, and the spaces left thereby are closed by suitable caps D.

E is an inner flexible air bag of any suitable form, but by preference sufficiently large so as to normally fill the entire case A without stretching to a sufficient extent to cause any material degree of tension.

By preference I provide in the inside of the casing A a vertical partition F of any suitable material, the said partition being cut so that it corresponds with the upright lines of the body which may be determined by caliper measurements taken on the human form on substantially the line through which said partition is to extend. This partition extends substantially the entire length of the casing, although it may not be secured to either the

upper or the lower extremity of said casing. When this partition is used, the air-bag used is bifurcated, the point of connection being near the upper or lower extremity, so that a single air-tube G will suffice to inflate the same. If desirable a suitable door H may be provided through which the air-bag may be inserted.

In operation, the bag E is inflated until the exterior casing A is sufficiently firm to fit the dress thereto. A suitable valve I is provided in the air-tube G to check the outward flow of air.

J J are perforations provided at suitable points in the casing A.

K K are buttons secured to the inner air chamber E at points corresponding to the perforations in the case A. Through these perforations the buttons project, so that, when the air-bag is deflated and the casing is compressed into the narrow space, the extremities of the air-bag will not be displaced materially, thereby causing the air-chamber to resume the proper position within the outer casing when it is again inflated. This is of particular importance when there is a partition F provided in the casing as above described. It is obvious that, instead of the standards shown in the drawings upon which the dress-form rests, any other suitable standard may be provided.

In operation, the bag is inflated by forcing air into the tube G until the tension of the outer casing is sufficient to cause the form to be substantially rigid. By the presence of one partition determining substantially the diametrical measurements of the human form, the diametrical measurements taken on another plane intersecting the plane of the partition and forming an angle therewith, are substantially correct.

It is obvious that several partitions may be provided if desired. It will be clearly understood, however, that it is not absolutely necessary that any partition need be used, for the reason that, if the outer casing A is made sufficiently strong and of substantially non-elastic material, and so that it is a correct fit, the air-bag when inflated within the said casing will cause the same to assume the correct shape.

Having thus described my invention, what

I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A dress form comprising a collapsible outer casing of substantially non-elastic material  
5 secured to a rigid base, and an inner air-bag, and means for inflating said bag, substantially as described.

2. A dress form comprising an outer collapsible casing formed of substantially non-elastic  
10 material and provided with an upright partition as described secured to substantially opposite sides of the said casing, with the air-bag within said casing and on each side of said partition, substantially as described.

3. A dress form comprising a collapsible casing formed of substantially non-elastic material and secured to a rigid base, and provided  
15 with an upright partition the measurements of which correspond substantially to the dia-

metric measurements of the figure and secured 20 to substantially corresponding and opposite inner sides of the casing, in combination with a bifurcated air-bag and means for inflating the same, substantially as described.

4. A dress form comprising a collapsible casing A of substantially non-elastic material, 25 secured to the base B, and provided with the upright partition F, in combination with an inner air-bag E, tube G and valve I, and with the buttons K K adapted to be inserted 30 through the perforations J J in the outer casing, all substantially as and for the purpose specified.

PRUDENCE A. SMITH.

Witnesses:

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