No. 776,282. PATENTED NOV. 29, 1904.

E. B. WESTON.

DISPLAY RACK.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 31, 1904.

NO MODEL.

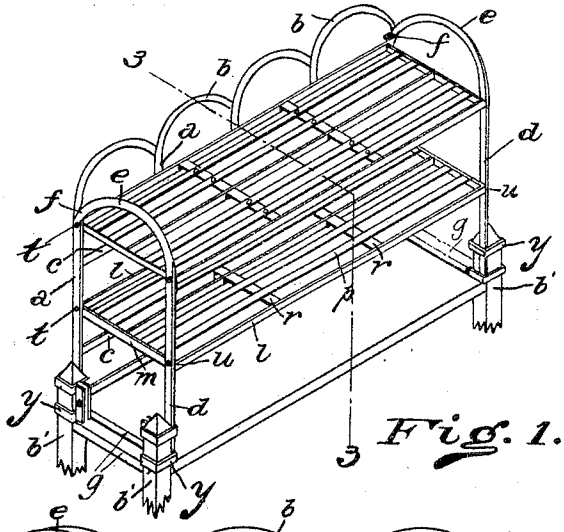

Fig. 1.

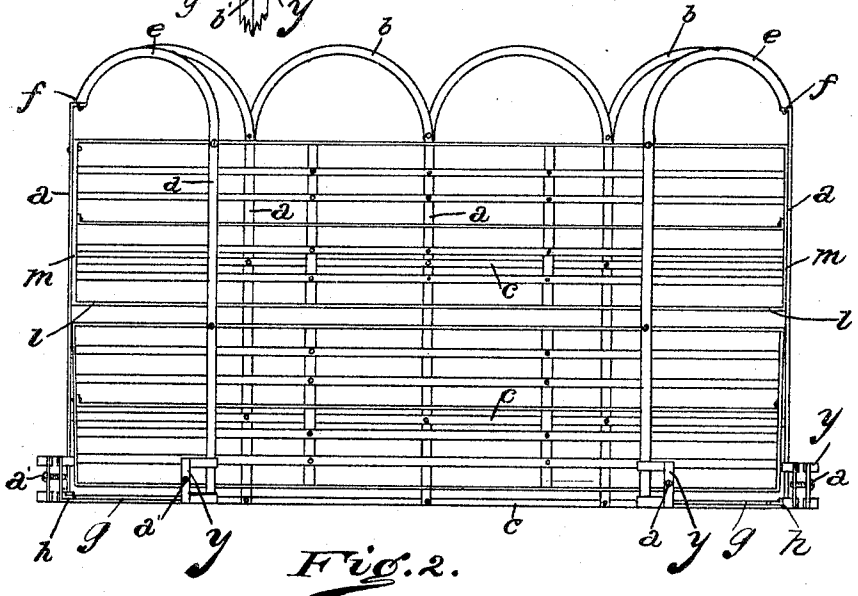

Fig. 2.

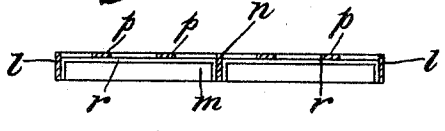

Fig. 3.

Witnesses

W. S. Tyler

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No. 776,282. Patented November 29, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD B. WESTON, OF DAYTON, OHIO.

DISPLAY-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 776,282, dated November 29, 1904.

Application filed March 31, 1904. Serial No. 200,932. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD B. WESTON, a citizen of the United States, residing in Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Racks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My improvement relates to racks or stands for the display of goods and merchandise; and it consists of that certain novel construction and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter pointed out and claimed whereby the display-rack can be cheaply constructed out of metal strips, in which the requisite strength to withstand the strains incident to the display of heavy merchandise on the rack is obtained, and in which at the same time the rack can be readily and easily folded together or "knocked down," so that it can be stored and transported in convenient shape for handling and so as to occupy but very little space.

My display-rack, being of light construction and easily handled, is particularly adapted for mounting on top of more cumbersome and solidly-constructed racks, and to that end I supply clamps for securing same to the corner-posts of other racks; but of course my invention can be used by itself when desired.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my rack, showing the same mounted on the corner-posts of another rack. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of my improved rack folded up for storage or transportation. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of one of the shelves, taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1.

The entire rack is made up of metal strips forming an open framework of back and sides, in which *a a* are the vertical strips for the back of the rack, provided with curved connecting extensions *b b* for the top and longitudinal strips *c c* for the bottom and intermediate braces, the strips being riveted together at the various meeting-points.

d d are metal strips forming the vertical portion of the sides, which strips have curved extensions *e e* at the top, hinged by a suitable bolt at *f f* to the corner-strips *a a* of the back. This hinged joint is made by bending over at right angles the ends of the strips *a e* and passing a bolt through the bent-over portions.

g g are the bottom cross-strips of the sides, which are hinged at *h h* to the lower end of the corner-strips *a a* of the back.

The shelves for the rack are made up of metal strips, in which *l l* form the front and rear edges of the shelf and *m m* the end edges, this strip or strips being placed on edge. Running longitudinally of this shelf-frame and at the middle line thereof is a metal strip *n*, also placed on edge, or vertically, and riveted to the end strips *m m* by having its ends turned over at right angles.

p p are intermediate longitudinal strips running parallel to the middle strip, but arranged horizontally instead of on edge, these strips also being riveted to the end pieces *m m* of the frame by having their ends turned down at right angles to the length of the strips.

r r are cross-brace metal strips which have their ends turned over at right angles and which are riveted to the front and rear strips *l l* and the middle strip *n*. These cross-braces are also riveted to the longitudinal strips *p p* at their intersections.

By thus constructing the shelves and arranging the metal strips partly on edge and partly flat, with the cross-braces as shown, I obtain a shelf which is exceedingly rigid and which will not sag or bend in any direction under the weight of the merchandise placed on the shelves. The shelves are hinged or pivoted at *t* to the corner-strips *a a* of the back, and when the rack is set up the shelves are held in horizontal position at their outer edges by the bolts *u u*, which pass through the strips *d* of the sides and through the framework of the shelves.

It will be seen from the above construction that by releasing the bolts *u u* the shelves can be turned down parallel with the rear frame of the rack and that the side frames can then be folded in on top of the folded shelves, so that the entire framework of the rack can thus be flattened out or knocked down.

In order to conveniently secure my rack on

top of a lower rack, I rivet the clamps *y y* at the lower four corners of the framework. These clamps are open at one side and provided with a screw *a'* to draw the clamp together. These clamps are fitted over corner-posts *b' b'* of any suitable rack upon which it would be desired to mount my display-rack, and the clamps are then tightened to take up any difference in the dimensions of the corner-posts.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a display-rack, an open framework constructed of vertical and horizontal metal strips riveted together to form the back and sides, the sides being hinged to the back at top and bottom, with shelves of longitudinal strips of metal and suitable cross-braces, the shelves being hinged to the back, with removable bolts to hold the shelves in extended position, whereby upon removing the shelf-bolts, the shelves and sides may be folded upon the back to flatten out the rack for transportation, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a display-rack, an open framework constructed of vertical and horizontal metal strips riveted together to form the back and sides, the sides being hinged to the back at the top and bottom, with shelves therefor, constructed of metal strips arranged vertically for the outside frame of the shelf, with a central vertical strip and intermediate horizontal strips with horizontal cross-braces for supporting the horizontal strips and bracing the vertical strips, the shelves being hinged to the back, with removable means for holding the shelves in extended position, whereby upon releasing the shelf-support the shelves and sides may be folded upon the back to flatten out the rack for transportation, substantially as shown and described.

EDWARD B. WESTON.

Witnesses:
EARL H. TURNER,
HARRY B. GENGNAGEL.