E. E. SCHMITT.

DISPLAY STAND.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 5, 1910.

1,048,354.

Patented Dec. 24, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

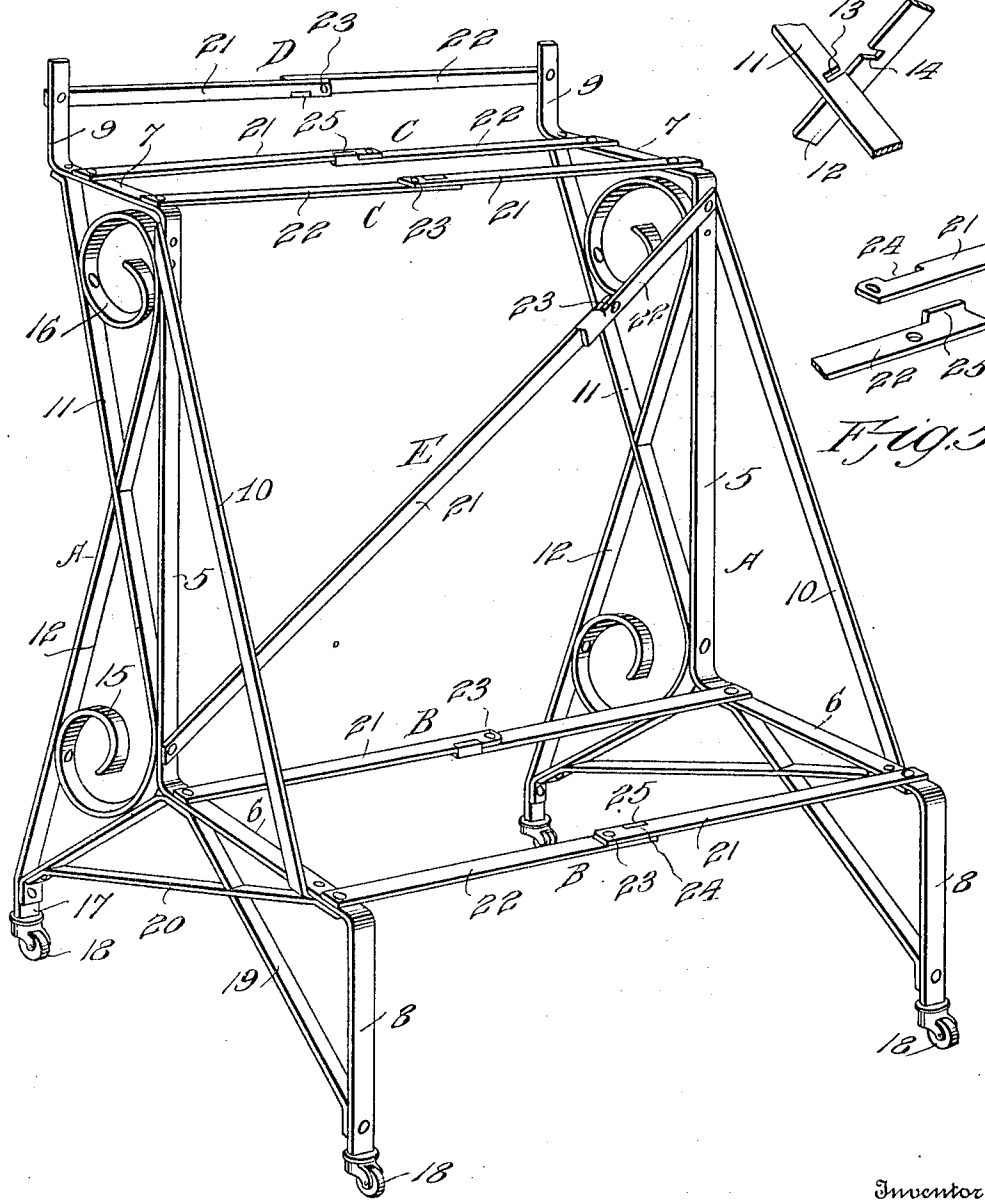

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

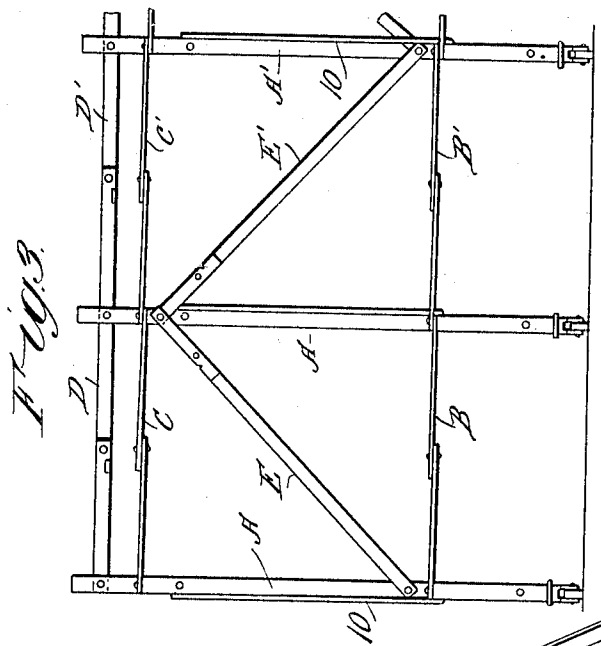
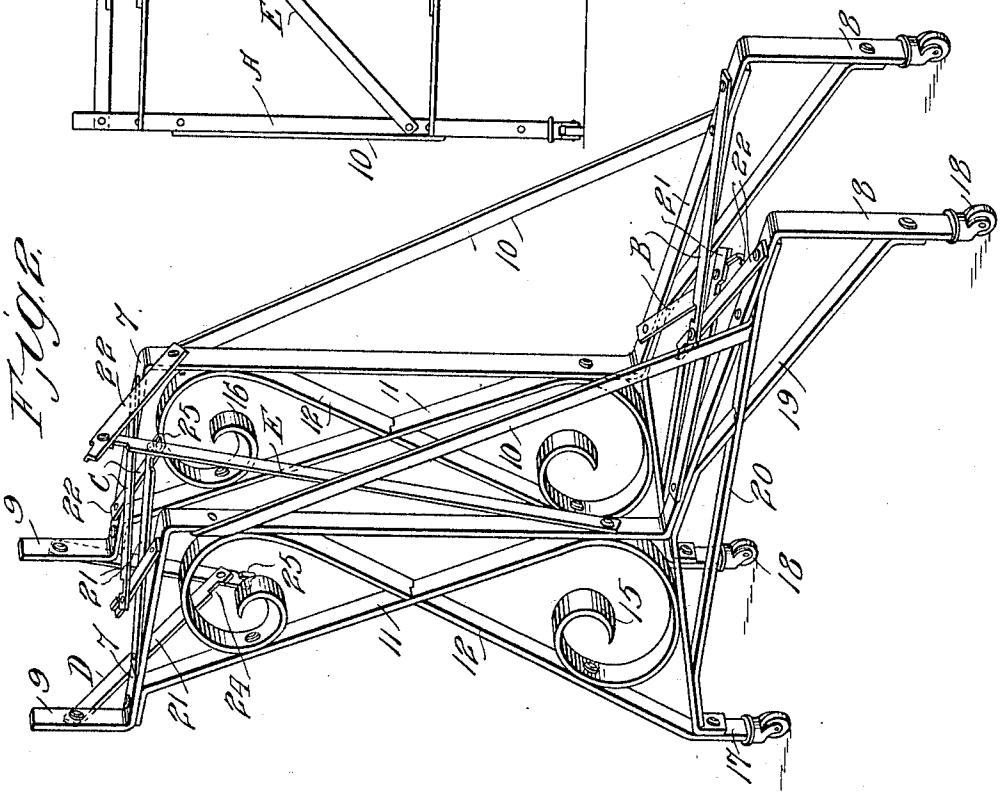


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE E. SCHMITT, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO ROGERS-SCHMITT WIRE & IRON CO., OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, A CORPORATION OF MISSOURI.

DISPLAY-STAND.

1,048,354. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Dec. 24, 1912.**

Application filed August 5, 1910. Serial No. 575,704.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE E. SCHMITT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Display-Stands, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to display stands and racks, and it has for its object to produce a collapsible rack of simple and improved construction which may be conveniently folded into small compass for storage and shipment and which when extended for use shall be firm, rigid and capable of supporting heavy weights.

With these and other ends in view which will readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the improved construction and novel arrangement and combination of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings has been illustrated a simple and preferred form of the invention, it being, however, understood that no limitation is necessarily made to the precise structural details therein exhibited, but that changes, alterations and modifications within the scope of the invention may be resorted to when desired.

In the drawings,—Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the improved rack extended for use. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the rack partially collapsed. Fig. 3 is a front elevation illustrating a modification under which the improved rack or stand is composed of a plurality of units. Fig. 4 is a perspective detail view showing intersecting portions of two of the frame bars, separated. Fig. 5 is a perspective detail view showing adjacent portions of the members of one of the foldable braces, separated.

Corresponding parts in the several figures are denoted by like characters of reference.

The improved display rack comprises in its construction upright frames A, A which are connected together by foldable members, some of which, when the device is extended for use, serve to support the objects that are to be displayed. Each of the upright frames A includes an approximately vertical bar 5, the lower portion of which is bent forwardly to form a bracket 6 and the upper portion of which is bent rearwardly to form a bracket 7, said brackets 6 and 7 being approximately horizontal and disposed in parallel relation. At the forward ends of the brackets 6 are downturned legs 8, and at the rear ends of the brackets 7 are upturned arms 9. Obliquely disposed braces 10 connect the upper ends of the bars 5 with the forward ends of the brackets 6. Each of the frames A, furthermore, includes a pair of braces 11 and 12 intersecting each other diagonally and provided at their intersections with interengaging notches 13, 14, as clearly seen in Fig. 4. The lower end of the brace 11 and the upper end of the brace 12 are bent to form ornamental scrolls 15, 16, the coils of each of said scrolls being riveted or otherwise secured to the opposed brace bar and likewise to the vertical bar 5 of the frame A. The upper ends of the braces 11 are bolted or riveted to the undersides of the brackets 7, and the lower ends of the braces 12 are bent to form downwardly extending legs 17, said legs, as well as the front legs 8 being equipped with casters 18 to enable the rack to be conveniently moved. Brace bars 19 which are bolted or riveted upon the undersides of the brackets 6 adjacent to the rear ends of the latter are extended forwardly and downwardly, their forward extremities being firmly secured upon the rear sides of the legs 8 adjacent to the lower ends of the latter, said braces 19 being also extended downwardly and rearwardly and secured upon the front sides of the legs 17. Additional braces 20 intersect the braces 19 diagonally, said braces being notched at their intersecting points in like manner as the braces 11 and 12, the front ends of the braces 20 being secured upon the undersides of the brackets 6 adjacent to the front ends of the latter, while the rear ends of the braces 20 are riveted or otherwise secured upon the braces 19 adjacent to the ends of said braces 19 which are secured upon the legs 17. The upright frames A, A constructed in this manner are not only strong, durable and capable of supporting heavy weights, but said frames are also ornamental and of sightly appearance.

The upright frames A, A are connected by a plurality of foldable braces B, B, C, C, D and E, all of which are of substantially similar construction, the only difference being in the location of said braces. Each of

said braces is composed of two members 21, 22 pivoted together at 23, one of said members 21 being provided with a notch 24 adapted to receive a lug 25 that extends upwardly from the member 22, thus forming a rule joint or knuckle which will permit the pivoted members to bend or flex in one direction only. The terminal ends of the braces B, B are pivoted upon the brackets 6 of the upright frames. The terminal ends of the braces C are pivoted upon the brackets 7 of the upright frames. The terminal ends of the brace D are pivoted upon the upwardly extending arms 9, and the terminal ends of the brace E are pivoted upon the upright bars 5 of the frames. The braces B, B, as well as the braces C, C, are so disposed that they will bend or flex in the direction of each other, while the brace D is disposed to bend or flex downwardly, and the brace E upwardly. It will be readily seen that under this construction when the joints of the several braces are broken, the said braces may be folded, as indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawings, thereby carrying the upright frames A, A toward each other and enabling the entire device to be folded in very small compass. When, on the other hand, the device is extended, as shown in Fig. 1, the braces B, B and C, C form supporting means or shelves upon which objects of various kinds may be displayed; the braces D and E constituting rear guards for the shelves or supporting devices thus formed.

Under the modification illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawings an additional frame A′ has been shown, said additional or auxiliary frame being connected with the proximate frame A by foldable braces B′, C′, D′ and E′ which are constructed and arranged as hereinbefore described, it being noted, however, that the obliquely disposed brace E is preferably arranged at an angle to the corresponding brace E connecting the frames A, A. It is obvious that by increasing the number of auxiliary frames and connecting braces a display rack of any desired dimensions and composed of any desired number of units may be formed.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

A collapsible display stand comprising two rigid end frames having supporting legs and horizontal brackets disposed in step formation, in combination with connecting means for said frames including pairs of braces foldable in a horizontal plane and terminally pivoted upon the horizontal brackets, one pair of braces being connected with each bracket, each brace being composed of two members pivotally connected together intermediate the end frames, and said braces being disposed, when extended, in parallel relation to one another so as to constitute in connection with the horizontal brackets a rectangular frame upon which goods may be supported and displayed.

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

EUGENE E. SCHMITT.

Witnesses:
W. R. Rogers,
C. B. Green.