

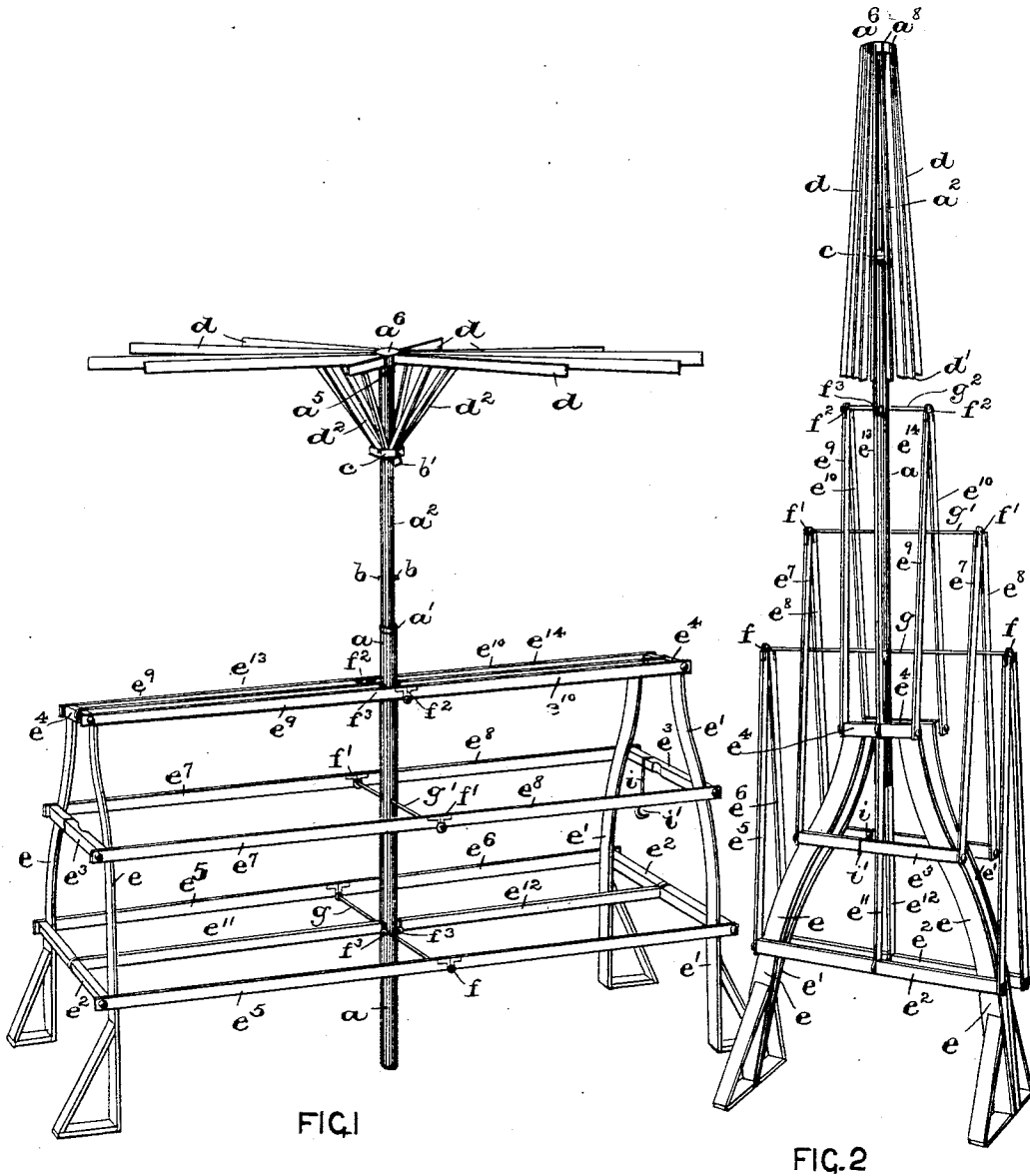
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. A. BODE.
CLOTHES RACK.

No. 541,309.

Patented June 18, 1895.



WITNESSES:

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INVENTOR:

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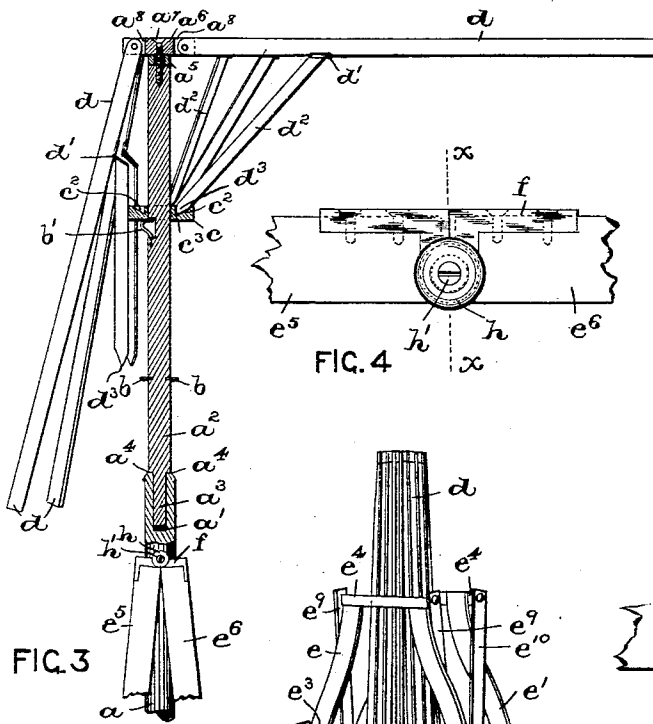


FIG. 4

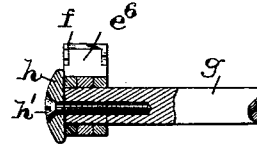


FIG. 5

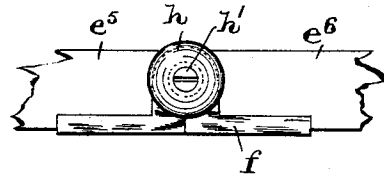


FIG. 8

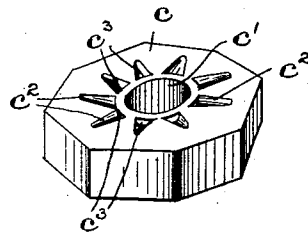


FIG. 6

FIG. 7

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WILLIAM A. BODE, OF ORANGE, NEW JERSEY.

CLOTHES-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 541,309, dated June 18, 1895.

Application filed January 15, 1895. Serial No. 534,981. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. BODE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Orange, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes Horses or 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in clothes horses or racks for the drying of articles of wear and other like articles; and its object is the production for household uses of a clothes horse or rack which will be of a simple, strong and effective construction, which will occupy a minimum amount of space when open for use, or when folded, and is capable of sustaining a maximum quantity of goods.

The invention therefore consists in the arrangement and combination of a vertical support, having a sliding piece and a series of supporting arms, which are preferably adjustably and pivotally connected with said post, to adjust each arm separately and cause the same to stand in an outwardly extending position.

The invention consists, further, in the combination of such vertical post and its parts, with certain folding frames, to be folded against said post, and said frames being provided with horizontal bars for supporting large pieces of clothing to be dried.

The invention, furthermore, consists in the novel arrangement and combination of the several minor parts comprising the clothes horse or rack, and the particular method of constructing these parts and employing the clothes horse, will be more fully pointed out in the accompanying specification and finally embodied in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my novel form of clothes horse in its open position ready for drying purposes, and Fig. 2 is a similar view of the same with

the parts closed. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the vertical post and its parts in vertical section, showing in connection therewith a part of the lower folding frame. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a hinge and button employed to connect two of the horizontal supporting-bars of the folding frame; and Fig. 5 is a vertical section of the same, taken on line *x* in said Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a slide on the vertical post of the clothes horse or rack. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a clothes horse or rack of a slightly-modified form of construction, but still embodying the principles of my invention; and Fig. 8 is a side view of the hinge and button employed in connection with the horizontal supporting-bars of the folding frame.

Similar letters of reference are employed in each of the above described views to indicate corresponding parts.

In said drawings, *a* represents a vertical post, which is preferably of wood, but may be of metal, and is provided in the top with a socket *a'*, as will be seen from Fig. 3. In said socket is loosely arranged a post *a²* provided with a pin or projection *a³*, which extends into said socket *a'*, and a shoulder *a⁴* on said post *a²* rests on the top of the said post *a*, whereby said sections of the vertical post are rotatively placed one upon the other, as clearly shown in the drawings. Said post *a²* is provided with suitable pins or stops *b* upon which is arranged a suitable slide *c* having a central opening *c'*, whereby said slide can be slipped over the said post *a²* and is movable up and down thereon. In the upper surface of the said slide, I have formed downwardly inclining recesses *c²*, radiating, as it were, from the center of said slide, each recess having a straight side *c³* forming a stop, the purpose of which will be stated hereinafter. On the upper end of said post *a²*, I have arranged a suitable supporting plate *a⁵* having a central perforation, and to this is secured a metal top piece *a⁶* by means of a screw *a⁷*, or in any other well known manner, as will be clearly evident. The peripheral surface of said top piece *a⁶* is provided with slots *a⁸*, corresponding in number to the recesses *c²* in the slide *c*, and in these slots are pivotally arranged the ends of

certain supporting rods or arms d , as will be clearly seen from an inspection of Fig. 3.

To the underside of each arm d is hinged, as at d' , a suitable stay or support d^2 , the lower end d^3 of each stay being capable of holding its arm d connected therewith in the raised position, when the end is placed in such recess c^2 of the slide c , after the latter has been moved upwardly on the post a^2 and is held in its raised position by a suitable spring catch b' , as clearly shown. Thus it will be seen, that any one or all of the arms d can be supported in their raised positions for the drying of clothing thereon, and where a person is cramped for room, the rack can be placed against the wall and but one half of the arms d are used, as will be clearly understood from an inspection of said Fig. 3.

The lower folding frame consists, essentially, of the end pieces e and e' , which may be provided with suitable feet at the bottom, and which are connected by the cross pieces or bars e^2 , e^3 and e^4 . Said end pieces e and e' are made to lean toward each other, so that they are farther apart at the bottom than at the top, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and whereby, the wet pieces of clothing can be placed on the different drying bars or rods, without any danger of the water from the wet pieces on the upper bars dripping down upon the pieces supported on the lower bars.

Pivotaly connected with the ends of the lower cross pieces e^2 are horizontal bars e^5 and e^6 , connected by hinges f , as shown. Pivotaly connected with the ends of the middle cross pieces e^3 are similarly arranged horizontal bars e^7 and e^8 connected by hinges f' ; and in like manner, connected with the ends of the upper cross pieces e^4 are horizontal bars e^9 and e^{10} , which are connected by means of hinges f^2 . To the central portions of the cross pieces e^2 and e^4 are pivotaly connected the ends of horizontal bars e^{11} and e^{12} , and e^{13} and e^{14} respectively, which are also pivotaly connected at their inner ends with the opposite sides of the vertical post a by means of suitable hinges f^3 , or other suitable devices, as will be clearly seen from Fig. 1.

When the lower folding frame is to be folded in the manner, illustrated in Fig. 2, then the hinges f , f' , f^2 and f^3 are arranged and connected with the said horizontal bars in the manner, shown more especially in Figs. 4 and 5.

As will be seen from Figs. 1 and 2, each pair of hinges $f-f$, $f'-f'$, and f^2-f^2 , are connected by suitable rods g , g' and g^2 of wood or metal, which are passed through perforations in the post a and the ends of which, as will be seen from Fig. 5, extend into the perforated ears of said hinges and are secured in position therein by ornamental caps or button h and screws h' , substantially as shown.

Of course it will be evident, that any suit-

able construction of pivotal connections may be used in place of the hinges herein shown and described, the main purpose of the invention being to provide a folding frame adapted to be folded against a vertical post, as a , substantially in the manner as illustrated in Fig. 2. One of the cross pieces e^3 , on the end pieces e' , is provided with a suitable locking or holding device, as i , having a holding portion, as i' , which can be caught over the edge of the cross piece e^3 connecting the end pieces e , when the frame is folded, and thereby the several parts of the clothes rack or horse are secured in their folded relation to one another and take up but very little space. In order that the said folding frame may be folded in the manner illustrated in said Fig. 2, the hinges f , f' and f^2 are arranged as shown in said Fig. 4, but when it is desired to fold the frame in the manner illustrated in Fig. 7, in which case the vertical post a and its parts remain stationary, then the hinges connecting the several parts or arms of the frame are reversed and are secured to said parts as clearly shown in Fig. 8, but otherwise the construction and arrangement of the several parts of the clothes horse is precisely like the construction shown in said Figs. 1 and 2. In the one construction, the post a receives an upward movement when the frame is folded, and the ends e and e' of the frame in that case act as supports, but in the modification shown in Fig. 7, the frames are raised as they are folded and the post a , which is provided with a foot piece a^9 , acts as a support to the device.

Of course it will be evident, that certain changes may be made in the arrangements and combinations of the parts herein shown and described, and I therefore do not limit my invention to the exact details, arrangement and construction of said parts.

It will be seen that when the parts of the clothes horse or rack are open, ready for use, the clothing or other articles to be dried, can be arranged to good advantage, and the rack, when folded, takes up but very little space.

If desired, the upper post a^2 and its arms connected therewith, being detachably connected with the lower post a , can be readily removed in packing for shipment, or where a person, using the device, is limited for space.

There are many other advantages, which will be readily seen from the fact, that the action of each arm d is independent, whereby all arms can be used at one time, or only one, two or three, as may be desirable.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

The herein described clothes horse, comprising therein, a vertical post, as a , end pieces e and e' , cross bars or pieces e^2 , e^3 and e^4 , horizontal bars e^5 and e^6 , pivotaly connected with said cross bars e^2 , horizontal bars e^7 and e^8 pivotaly connected with said cross

bars e^3 , horizontal bars e^8 and e^{10} , pivotally connected with said cross bars e^4 , and rods g , g' and g^2 , extending from said vertical post, and means for pivotally securing the inner ends
5 of the said horizontal bars to said rods g , g' and g^2 ; substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of January, 1895.

WILLIAM A. BODE.

Witnesses:

FREDK. C. FRAENTZEL,
WM. H. CAMFIELD, Jr.