

(No Model.)

W. F. GRAY.  
DISPLAY RACK.

No. 577,951.

Patented Mar. 2, 1897.

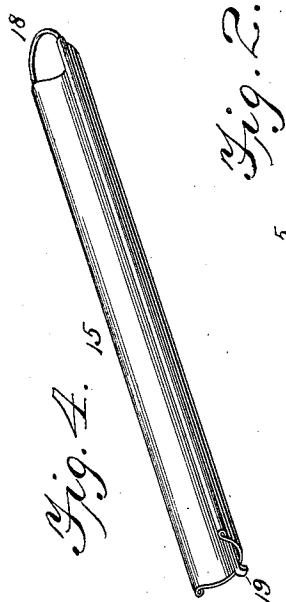


Fig. 2.

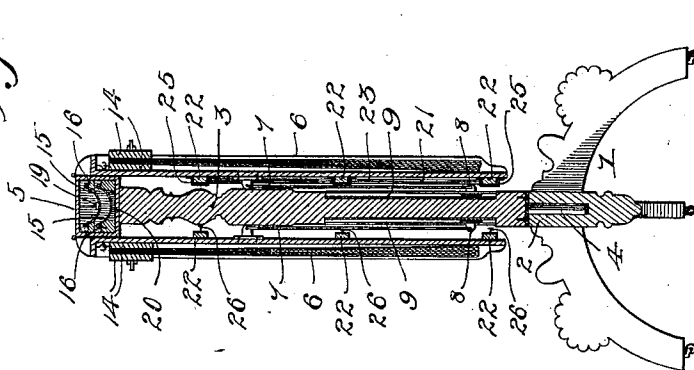


Fig. 5.

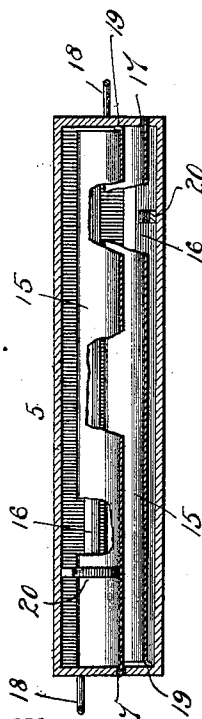
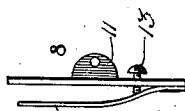


Fig. 3.

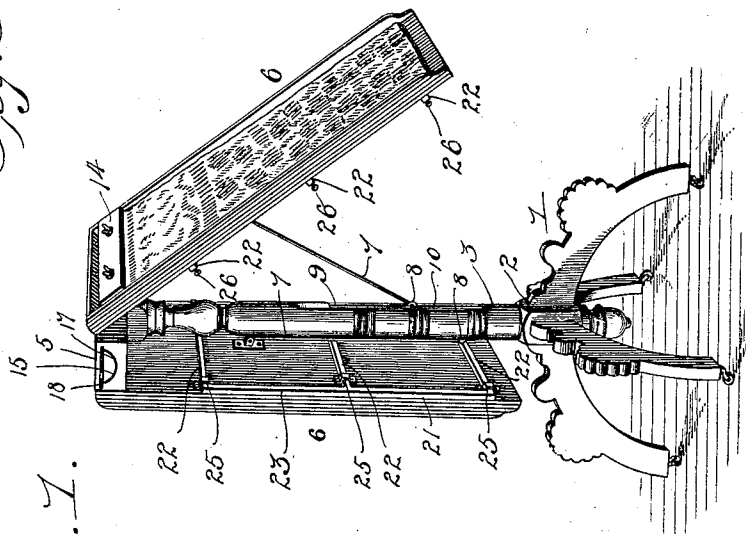


Fig. 1.

Inventor  
William F. Gray.

By his Attorneys,

C. A. Snow & Co.

Witnesses  
E. N. Monroe.  
R. M. Smith.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM F. GRAY, OF MILLERSBURG, OHIO.

## DISPLAY-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 577,951, dated March 2, 1897.

Application filed March 17, 1896. Serial No. 583,589. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. GRAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Millersburg, in the county of Holmes and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Display-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to display-racks, and has for its object to provide a simple, compact, and convenient rack especially designed for exhibiting samples in sheet form, such as wall-paper, &c.

The principal object of the invention is to provide, in connection with a display-rack having a swiveled standard and hinged leaves arranged at either side thereof, a tension device or clutch for upholding one or both of the leaves at the desired angle, an extension-rack slidably connected with one of the leaves, and an extension-support by means of which a roll of paper or other material may be exhibited alongside of the sample, thus enabling the sample and stock to be compared side by side.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the course of the subjoined description.

The invention consists in an improved display-rack embodying certain novel features and details of construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the drawings, and finally pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a display-rack constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section through the same with the leaves folded. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section through the hollow cross-head, showing the extensible supports arranged therein. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the extensible supports. Fig. 5 is a similar view of one of the friction slides or clutches and the metal guide in which the same reciprocates.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 designates the base of the display-rack, which comprises a central hub portion 2, hav-

ing a vertical socket or bore therein and a series of radially-disposed legs or supports.

3 indicates the standard, which at its lower end is provided with a depending spindle 4, which enters the hub 2 of the base, thus affording a swiveled connection between the standard and base.

At its upper end the standard 3 is provided with a horizontal cross-head 5, which is in the form of a long hollow box closed at its sides and ends, as shown. To the cross-head 5 are hinged two opposing leaves 6, which connect at their upper edges to said cross-head and normally hang pendent therefrom. Each of said leaves may, however, be supported at any desired angle with relation to the standard 3 by means of a rod or brace 7, which connects pivotally at one end to its leaf and has pivotally connected to its opposite end a slide 8, which reciprocates vertically within a metal guide 9, arranged in a vertical recess in the side of the standard 3.

The metal guide 9 is formed in its outer side with a vertical slot 10, through which is received the inner end of the rod 7 or the ear or ears 11 of the slide 8, with which the rod connects. The slide 8 cannot, however, escape from the guide 9 through the slot 10, but is retained in the guide and caused to travel up and down therein as the leaf with which it is connected is adjusted. A tension device or spring 12 is connected to the slide 8 and bears within the guide 9 for resisting the movement of the slide, and the pressure of said tension device or spring may be adjusted by means of a set-screw 13, passing through the slide and bearing against said device. This tension device holds the leaf 6 at whatever angle it is placed and may thus be adjusted to correspond to the weight or number of samples placed on exhibition. The samples may be connected to the leaves in any manner, but are preferably clamped at their upper ends between parallel boards or strips 14, having at their upper edges eyes which may be engaged with or disengaged from hooks or pins arranged at or near the top edges of the leaves. In this manner one set of samples may be removed and replaced by another set.

Within the hollow cross-head 5 are arranged two extensible supports 15, each of

which is in the form of a semicylinder and of a length about equal to that of the cross-head. These supports 15 engage with longitudinal guide-ribs 16 inside of the cross-head and slide through crescent-shaped openings 17 in the end walls of the cross-head. Each of said supports is reinforced as to its longitudinal edges with wire, as shown, and the sections of the wire are connected at the outer end of the support to form a loop 18, constituting a handle by means of which the support may be withdrawn when needed. The supports 15 at their inner ends are provided with lips 19 which, when the supports are drawn out to their full extent, strike against stationary stops 20, located near the ends of the cross-head, thus limiting the outward movement of the supports.

21 designates a pair of racks located one beneath each leaf 6. Each of said racks is made substantially in the form shown in Fig. 1, consisting of two or more parallel horizontal bars 22, connected at one end by a vertical bar 23. The horizontal bars 22 slide through staples or eyes 25, secured to the under side of each of the leaves 6, and these arms are provided in rear of such staples or eyes with stops 26 for limiting the extent to which the rack 21 may be withdrawn.

In operation when it is desired to compare a roll of paper or other stock with one of the samples on the leaf 6 the extensible support 15 is drawn out from one end of the cross-head 5 in the manner above described, and the extension-rack 21 is also withdrawn. The roll of paper may now be placed in the semicylindrical holder or support 15, and the unrolled portion of the paper may be spread over the rack 21, thus bringing it side by side with the sample on the leaf and facilitating comparison. The leaf, together with the extension-rack, may be adjusted simultaneously to the desired angle, and the standard may be revolved to get the desired light or reflection upon the goods being exhibited. When no longer required, the extension-support 15 and the extensible rack 21 may be moved inward, where they will be out of the way and out of sight.

It will be apparent that changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction

may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

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

1. In a display-rack, the combination with a suitable standard having a longitudinal recess therein, of a folding leaf hinged at its upper end to said standard, a rod or brace having pivotal connection with said leaf, a friction-slide connected to said rod and reciprocating in said recess, and a tension-spring carried by said slide, substantially as described.

2. The combination with a suitable stand, of a hollow cross-head in the form of a closed box provided with openings in its ends, folding leaves hinged to said cross-head, extension-racks supported on said leaves, and extensible supports slidably mounted in said cross-head and adapted to be moved independently in opposite directions through the openings in the ends of the cross-head, said supports being provided with handles, substantially as described.

3. In a display-rack, the combination with a standard, and a folding leaf having a hinged connection therewith, of a rod or brace attached at one end to said leaf, and a slide connected to the opposite end of said rod and engaging the standard, and provided with a tension device for resisting the movement of the slide, and also having provision for adjusting the pressure of the tension device, substantially as described.

4. As an article of manufacture, a semicylindrical sliding support of sheet material, having its longitudinal edges reinforced by a piece of wire, the said wire being extended beyond one end of the support and fashioned into a loop constituting a handle by means of which the support may be manipulated, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM F. GRAY.

Witnesses:

L. G. BARTON,  
JOHN BURKEY.