May 17, 1938. W. F. LISKA 2,117,430

PRAYER RAIL

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Fig. 1

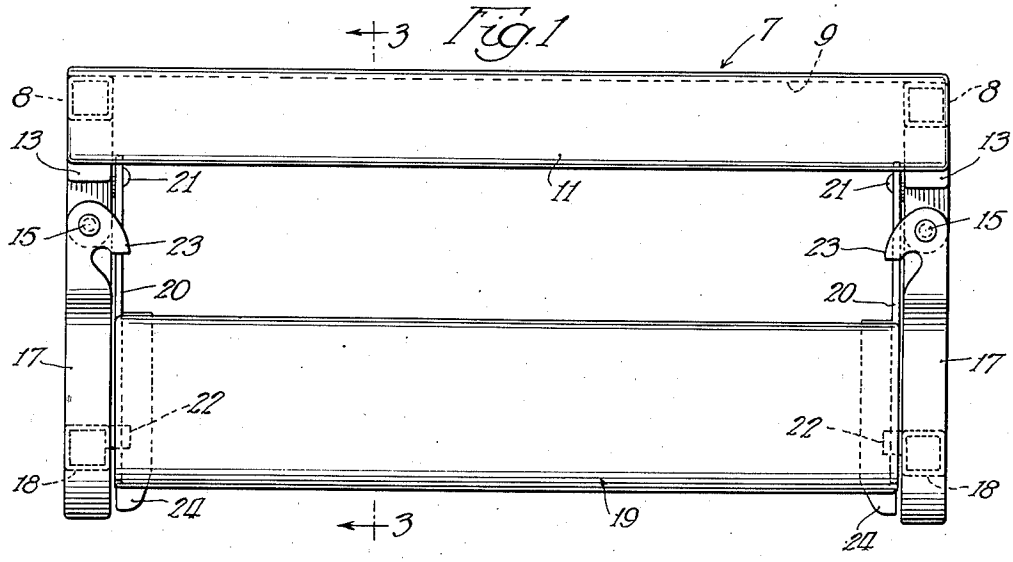
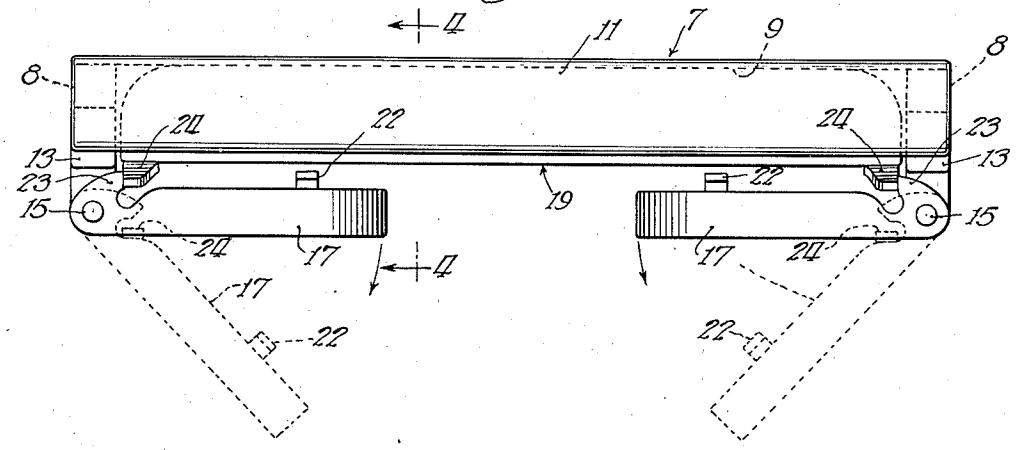


Fig. 2



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Fig. 3.

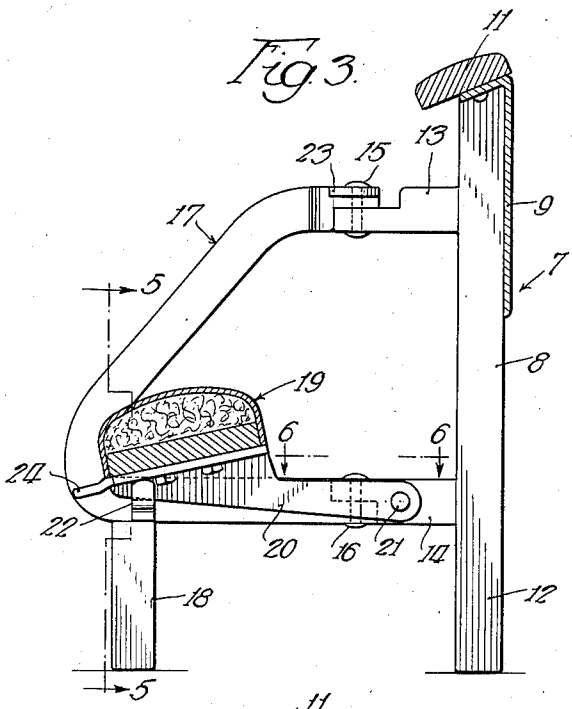


Fig. 4.

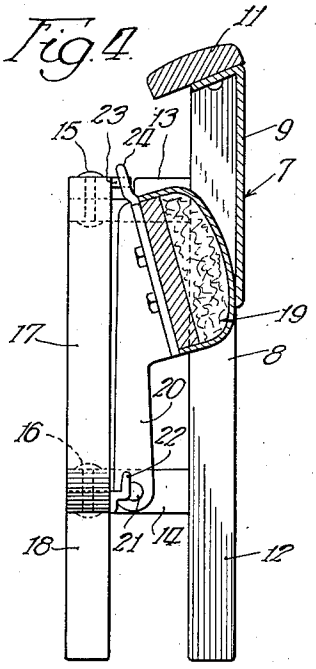


Fig. 5.

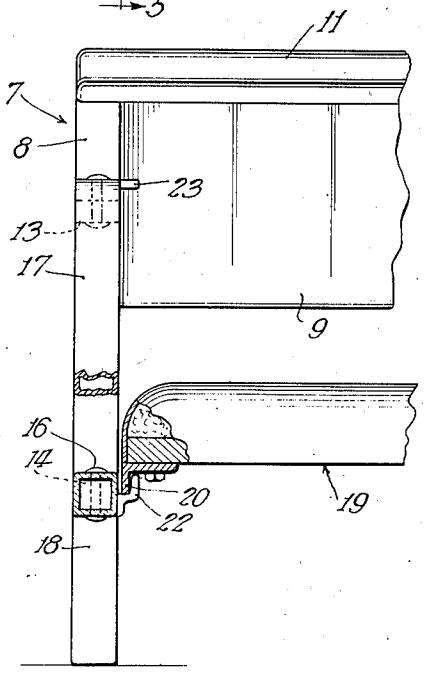
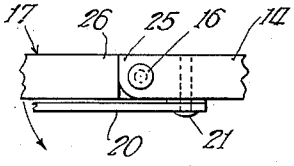


Fig. 6.



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Patented May 17, 1938

2,117,430

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,117,430

PRAYER RAIL

William F. Liska, Chicago, Ill., assignor, by mesne assignments, to Holland Brass Works, a copartnership consisting of Frank B. Liska and William F. Liska, Chicago, Ill.

Application December 30, 1936, Serial No. 118,288

10 Claims. (Cl. 155—166)

This invention relates to a prayer rail and particularly to a device of the character described which may be readily transported manually from place to place.

One object of the present invention is to provide a structure of the character described, which is of suitable size and proportions when in use, and which may be readily folded into a comparatively small space of minimum dimensions for convenient handling and transporting or moving the device from one location to another.

Another object of the invention is to provide a structure wherein the elements comprising the structure are permanently connected together and suitably arranged to permit of their being positioned in operative relationship to provide a safe and efficient structure, and to permit of their being folded to provide a package of relatively smaller size for convenient handling.

Another object of the invention is to provide a structure wherein the various elements are so connected, and capable of being so manipulated that by a single manual operation or movement of one of the elements, the remaining elements of the structure may be moved relatively into folded relationship.

A further object of the invention is to provide a structure wherein certain of the elements, when folded with respect to each other, are so positioned as to provide a locking arrangement for releasably securing the elements of the entire structure in folded position.

A still further object of the invention is to improve devices of the character described in sundry details hereinafter referred to and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

One embodiment of the invention is shown for illustrative purposes in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of my improved prayer rail embodying features of the present invention, and showing the various parts of the structure in open or operative position;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the structure illustrated in Fig. 1 showing the parts in closed, folded or inoperative position;

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional elevational view of the structure illustrated in Fig. 1, and taken substantially as indicated by the line 3—3 thereof;

Fig. 4 is a sectional elevational view of the prayer rail in folded position, and taken substantially as indicated by the line 4—4 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary front elevational view, partly in section, of one end portion of the prayer rail taken substantially as indicated by the line 5—5 of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary plan view of a portion of the structure illustrated in Fig. 3, and taken substantially as indicated by the line 6—6 thereof.

The illustrative embodiment of the present invention shown in the drawings, comprises a back portion indicated, as a whole, by the numeral 7 and comprising upright supporting members 8 adjacent its ends and shown, in the present instance, as formed, preferably, of tubular stock of substantially rectangular cross-section, the members 8 being connected together by a back plate 9 and having an arm rest 11 extending across the upper edge portion of the back, and having rear supporting legs 12 adjacent the lower portion thereof.

The back 9 is also provided with upper and lower forwardly extending projections 13 and 14, respectively, to which are connected by means of pivot pins 15 and 16, the upper and lower portions, respectively, of a pair of side frames, each indicated, as a whole, by the numeral 17 and having front leg members 18 secured to the forward portion thereof.

Pivotally mounted also on the projections 14 of the back 7 is a knee rest indicated, as a whole, by the numeral 19 provided adjacent its opposite ends with rearwardly extending brackets 20 pivotally connected to the projections 14 by means of horizontally disposed pivot pins 21 in a manner to permit the knee rest 19 to be swung upwardly and rearwardly toward the back 7, and mounted on the respective side frames 17, preferably adjacent the forward portion thereof, are a pair of supporting members or lugs 22 adapted to engage the brackets 20 for supporting the knee rest in operative position as illustrated in Figs. 1, 3 and 5.

The side frames 17 are each shown, in the present instance, as provided on their respective upper end portions, preferably adjacent the pivot pins 15, with laterally extending arms 23 adapted to extend inwardly toward each other and to be engaged by actuating members or fingers 24 forming a portion of the knee rest when the knee rest is swung in an upwardly direction toward the back 7, thereby swinging the side frames 17 toward each other and into substantially parallel relation with respect to the back 7 as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 4. When the knee rest 19 is swung in the opposite direction, the fingers 24 adjacent the ends of the knee rest will engage the side frames 17 in a manner to swing them outwardly

or away from each other until the limit of their outward movement is reached, which may be determined by a stop portion 25 (Fig. 6) formed on the projections 14 being engaged by a portion 26 of the side frames 17, at which time the side frames will be in a position to permit the brackets 20 to engage the supports or lugs 22 on the side frames 17 for supporting the knee rest 19 in operative position.

It will be noted by reference to Fig. 2 that when the knee rest 19 and fingers 24 mounted thereon are folded with respect to the back 7 in a manner to position the fingers 24 in alignment with and between the ends of the arms 23, that the side frames 17 will be locked or removably secured against outward or unfolding movement until such time as the knee rest 19 and fingers 24 have been moved away from the back 7 in a direction to engage the arms 17 and move them outwardly as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 2, thereby providing releasable securing means for retaining the various elements of the structure in folded position until the knee rest has been moved to unfold or move the elements to operative position, as shown in Figs. 1, 3 and 5 of the drawings.

It will be observed from the foregoing description that the present invention provides a novel construction and arrangement in a folding prayer rail whereby the knee rest 19 may be moved into substantially parallel relation with respect to the back, and in so moving the knee rest, the side frames 17 will be automatically swung into folded position in parallel relation to the back and secured in such position by reason of the position of the knee rest 19 and fingers 24 with relation to the arms 23, and that merely by moving the knee rest away from the back toward operative position, the side frames 17 will be swung outwardly to the limit of their movement, determined by the stops 25 for supporting the knee rest and the entire structure in operative position.

Obviously, the present invention is not limited to the precise construction and arrangement shown and described as the same may be variously modified. Moreover, all the features of the invention need not be used conjointly as the same may be used to advantage in variously different combinations and subcombinations.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, a pair of side frames pivotally mounted on said back, and a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back and having portions engageable with portions of the respective side frames for swinging said frames on their respective pivots when the knee rest is swung on its pivot towards said back.

2. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, an arm rest thereon, a pair of side frames pivotally mounted on said back adjacent the respective ends thereof, and a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back adjacent the lower portion thereof and having portions engageable respectively, with a portion of each of the respective side frames for swinging said frames on their respective pivots when said knee rest is swung about its pivot toward said back.

3. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, an arm rest thereon, a pair of side frames pivotally mounted on said back adjacent the respective ends thereof, a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back adjacent the lower portion thereof and having portions engageable with portions of the respective side frames for swinging said frames inwardly on their respective pivots when said knee rest is swung about its pivot toward said back, means on said side frames for supporting the forward portion of said knee rest in operative position, and cooperating stop portions on the respective side frames and back for limiting the outward movement of said frames.

4. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, a pair of side frames pivotally mounted on said back, an arm on each of said side frames extending laterally therefrom, a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back, and fingers on said knee rest engageable, respectively, with said arms for automatically swinging said frames toward each other when said knee rest is swung about its pivot toward said back.

5. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, a pair of side frames pivotally mounted on said back adjacent the respective end portions thereof, an arm on each of said side frames extending laterally therefrom, a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back, and fingers on said knee rest engageable, respectively, with said arms for automatically swinging said frames toward each other and into inoperative position when said knee rest is swung about its pivot toward said back, said fingers being also operatively related to said side frames for automatically swinging said frames away from each other to operative position when the knee rest is swung in the opposite direction away from said back.

6. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, a pair of side frames pivotally mounted on said back adjacent the respective ends thereof, an arm on each of said side frames adjacent the pivotal connection thereof with said back and extending laterally from said frame, a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back, fingers on said knee rest engageable, respectively, with said arms for automatically swinging said frames toward each other when said knee rest is swung about its pivot toward said back, and lugs on said side frames cooperable with said knee rest for supporting the knee rest thereon when in operative position.

7. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, a pair of side frames pivotally mounted on said back adjacent the respective ends thereof and adapted to be folded into substantially parallel relation with respect to the back, an arm on each of said side frames adjacent the pivotal connection thereof with said back and extending laterally from said frame, a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back and adapted to be folded into substantially parallel relation with respect thereto, and fingers on said knee rest engageable, respectively, with said arms for automatically swinging said side frames toward each other and into substantially parallel relation with respect to said back when said knee rest is swung about its pivot and into substantially parallel relation to said back.

8. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, a pair of side frames pivotally mounted on said back, an arm on each of said side frames extending laterally therefrom, a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back, and fingers on said knee rest engageable, respectively, with said arms for automatically swinging said frames toward each other to folded position when said knee rest is swung about its pivot toward said back, said fingers being movable to a position between said arms for resisting the unfolding movement of said side frames about their respective pivots and

away from each other until said knee rest and fingers are moved away from said back and from between said arms.

9. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, a pair of side frames pivotally connected adjacent their upper and lower end portions to the respective end portions of said back, an arm on each of said side frames adjacent their upper pivotal connections with the frame, a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back and adapted to be supported by said side frames, and actuating members adjacent the forward edge portion of said knee rest and engageable, respectively, with said arms for swinging the side frames in an inwardly direction toward each other and toward said back when the knee rest is swung about its pivot toward said back, said actuating members being movable to a position between said arms for resisting the movement of the side frames in the opposite direction away from each other until said knee rest and actuating members are moved away from said back.

10. In a folding prayer rail, the combination of a back, a pair of side frames pivotally mounted on said back, and a knee rest pivotally mounted on said back and having a portion engageable with a portion of one of said side frames for swinging said one of the frames on its pivot when the knee rest is swung on its pivot toward said back.

WILLIAM F. LISKA.