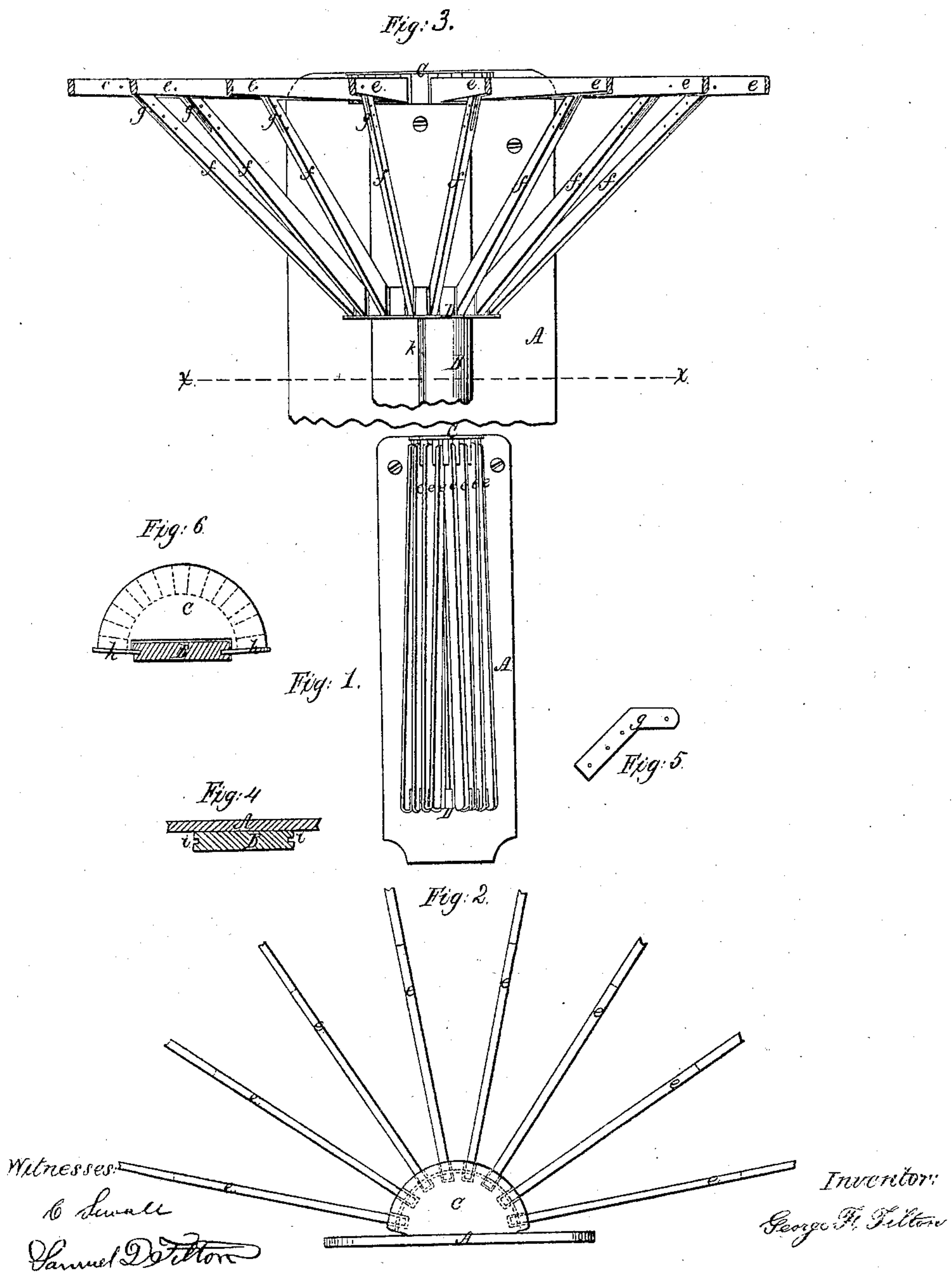


G. F. TILTON.
CLOTHES DRIER.

No. 50,968.

Patented Nov. 14, 1865.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. TILTON, OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVED CLOTHES-DRIER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **50,968**, dated November 14, 1865; antedated November 1, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. TILTON, of Salem, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Airer; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation, representing the arms as they naturally hang when folded down. Fig. 2 is an enlarged top view, representing the arms unfolded and ready for use; and Fig. 3 a front elevation of the same. Fig. 4 is a cross-section in the line *x x* of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a plan of the metallic knee or tenon which unites the arms and supporters, and Fig. 6 is a view of the bottom of the parts D and B.

Like parts are indicated by the same letters in all the drawings.

The nature of my invention consists in a clothes-airer or clothes-drier (to be attached to the walls of a room) constructed with a semicircle of radial arms, which may be opened and folded on the principle of the rods or arms of an umbrella, so that when the arms are opened, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, they will be at a uniform distance apart and in a position to accommodate the greatest number of clothes; and when they are folded down, as shown in Fig. 1, they will occupy but little space, and be, withal, exceedingly neat in appearance.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will now proceed to describe the construction and operation of the same.

A is a flat piece of wood, which can be confined to the wall of a room in any required position by means of screws or nails, or it may be supposed to be the wall itself.

B is a flat piece of wood constituting the upright body of the utensil, attached by means of screws or nails to the piece A, or (when the latter is dispensed with) to the wall of a room. The length of this upright B should be the same as that of one of the arms *e*. The two side edges of B are provided with longitudinal grooves *i i*, as shown in Fig. 4, to receive the guides *k h*, attached to the sliding semicircular block D, as represented in Fig. 6.

The arms *e* (of which I propose to use eight or ten, more or less) are made of hard wood or other suitable material, of any required

length—say from one foot to three—and shaped as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, or in any other suitable manner. The inner ends of these arms enter slots in the fixed semicircular block C, as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, being provided with holes to receive the bent wire, which operates as a fulcrum for them all, in the same manner as the rods of an umbrella are confined to the handle.

f f f f f f f f are the supporting rods or braces, of wood or other suitable material, the lower ends of which are confined to the semicircular sliding block D in the same manner as the arms *e* are confined to the fixed block C, the opposite ends being connected with the arms *e* by means of the metallic knee or tenon *g*, which is inserted in a longitudinal central saw-cut or mortise, as represented in Fig. 3, and confined by rivets, so as to form a joint or hinge. It is obvious, however, that there are other equivalent ways of connecting the braces *f* with the arms *e* and sliding block D, which need not be described. The semicircles C and D may be of wood or metal.

k is a spring-fastener, similar in construction and operation to the fasteners used for keeping up the arms or rods of a common umbrella.

My clothes-airer is intended to be attached to the wall of a room, as a general thing, so far from the floor that when the arms are in a horizontal position they will be above a person's head, but not above a convenient reach of the hand. It is very simple, strong, and efficient. Being, moreover, so entirely out of the way and so ornamental in appearance, it may be used in any room or chamber as a handsome piece of furniture, while for kitchens, wash-rooms, and nurseries it will be found a very great convenience, and superior, I think, to any other article of the kind in general use.

Having thus described the construction and operation of my improvement, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A clothes-airer, to be attached to the wall of a room, consisting of a semicircle of radial arms *e*, semicircular blocks C and D, braces *f*, and upright B, substantially as and for the purpose described.

GEORGE F. TILTON.

Witnesses:

C. SEWALL,
SAMUEL D. TILTON.