

J. SHELLENBERGER.
Clothes-Driers.

No. 153,914.

Patented Aug. 11, 1874.

Fig. 1.

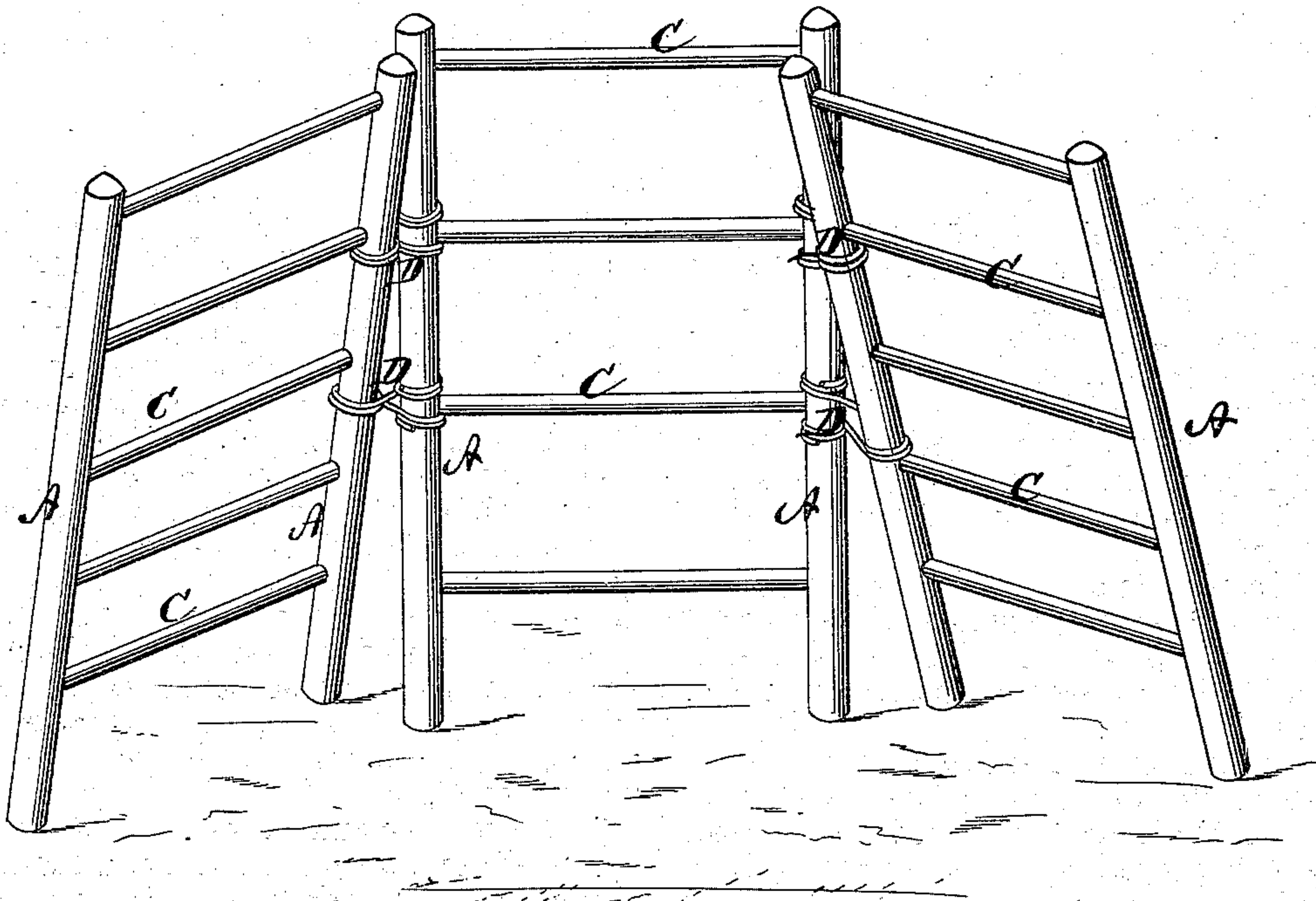
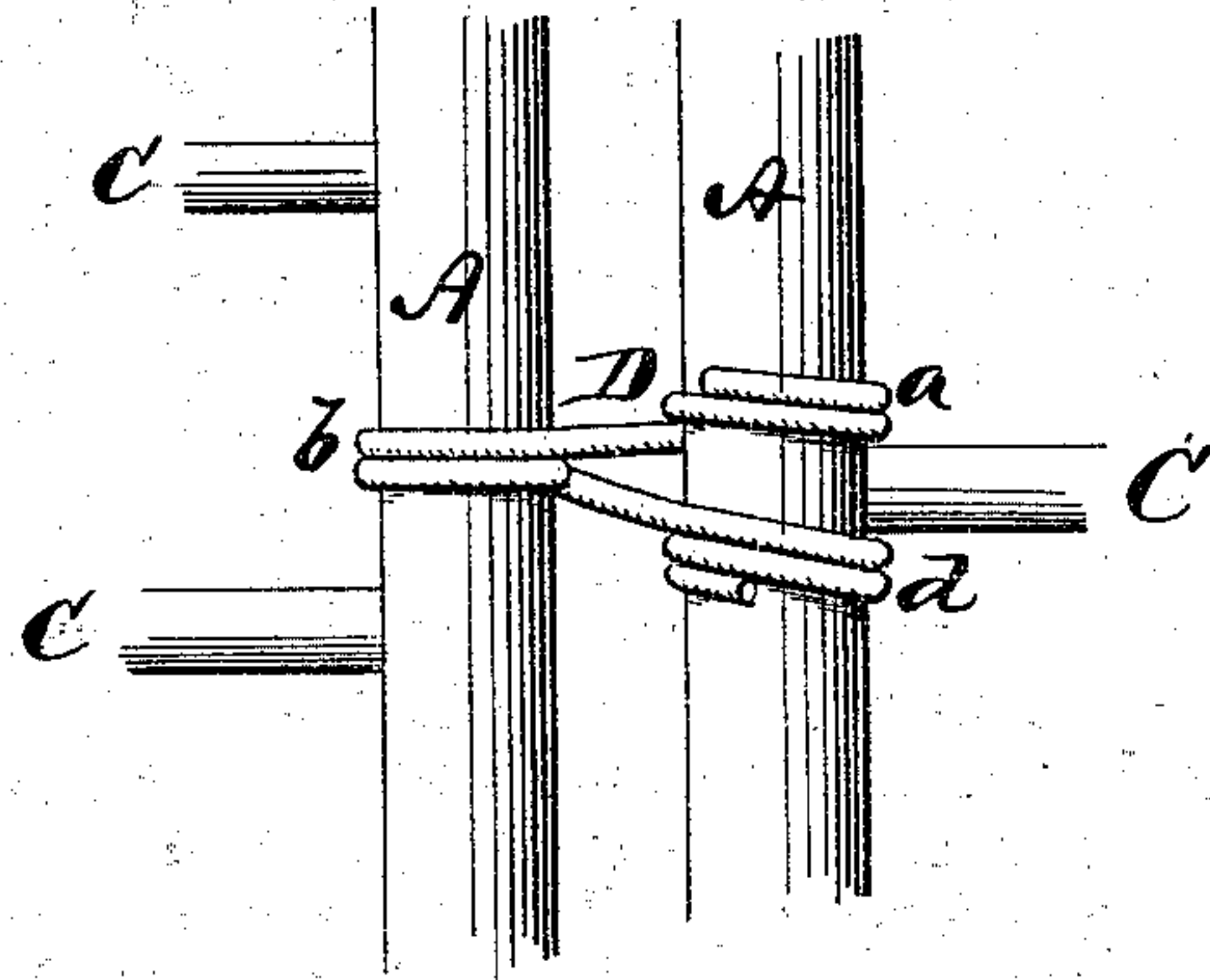


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES.

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JOHN SHELLENBERGER, OF COVINGTON, KENTUCKY.

IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-DRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **153,914**, dated August 11, 1874; application filed January 23, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN SHELLENBERGER, of Covington, in the county of Kenton and in the State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Driers; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon making a part of this specification.

My invention relates to that class of clothes-driers or clothes-bars which are composed of two or more upright sections, so connected by hinges that the sections may be folded together.

In this class of clothes-driers it has been a difficult matter to so hinge the sections together that the hinges will not pry off or break, owing to the leverage that the sections have on the hinges. Another objection is that the sections, standing perpendicular, the stretchers are directly over each other, and any garment put on the same will lie on or hang over garments on the stretcher below. When a clothes-bar is loaded with garments, and an attempt is made to fold it together, leaving the clothes on the bars, the ordinary hinge will pry off or break.

The object of my invention is to obviate these difficulties; and it consists in connecting the upright sections by means of hinges made of wire, the construction of which will be hereinafter more fully set forth, whereby one or more of the sections may be set inclined to prevent the clothes on one bar from touching the clothes on the next bar below.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my clothes-bars; and Fig. 2 is an enlarged view, showing the construction of the hinge.

The clothes-rack or clothes-bars is made in sections, each section composed of two uprights, A A, connected by means of horizontal bars or stretchers C C. The different sections are connected by means of hinges D D, made by bending wire—spring wire about No. 7 to 9—tinned or otherwise protected from

rusting. The wire is bent into a close spiral or circle, *a*, then out forming another spiral circle, *b*, alongside of the first, then back again into another circle, *d*, under the first. The spirals *a* and *d* form the eye to admit the post or upright A of one section, while the spiral *b* forms the eye for the post of the adjoining section, thus forming a hinge that cannot be broken by any ordinary amount of power, while it allows the sections free play, which admits of the clothes-bars being set in almost any position. The parts *a* and *d* of each hinge are one on each side of the stretcher, thereby keeping the hinge in place, while the parts *b* are placed between the stretchers of the adjoining section, so as to give this section sufficient play to allow said section to move down when set incline.

To tip the two side sections, these sections are drawn forward at the top, and the hinges swing around in opposite directions. When the clothes-bars is set in front of a stove the heat will then pass up on each side of the garments, and the garments on one bar or stretcher will not touch the garments on the bar below.

When the hinges are put on the top and bottom stretchers of the middle section, they will not allow the side sections to lean, but will make a good steady hinge.

I do not claim a clothes-drier made of sections, connected by elastic bands, as I am aware such is not new.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with the sections A C of a clothes-bar or clothes-horse, of the hinges D D, made of wire, and formed each into the circles *a*, *b*, and *d*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of December, 1873.

JOHN SHELLENBERGER.

Witnesses:

CHARLES CLINGMAN,
JOHN L. SEBASTIAN.