E. H. HART.

HAT AND BONNET STAND.

No. 192,826. Patented July 10, 1877.

Fig: 1

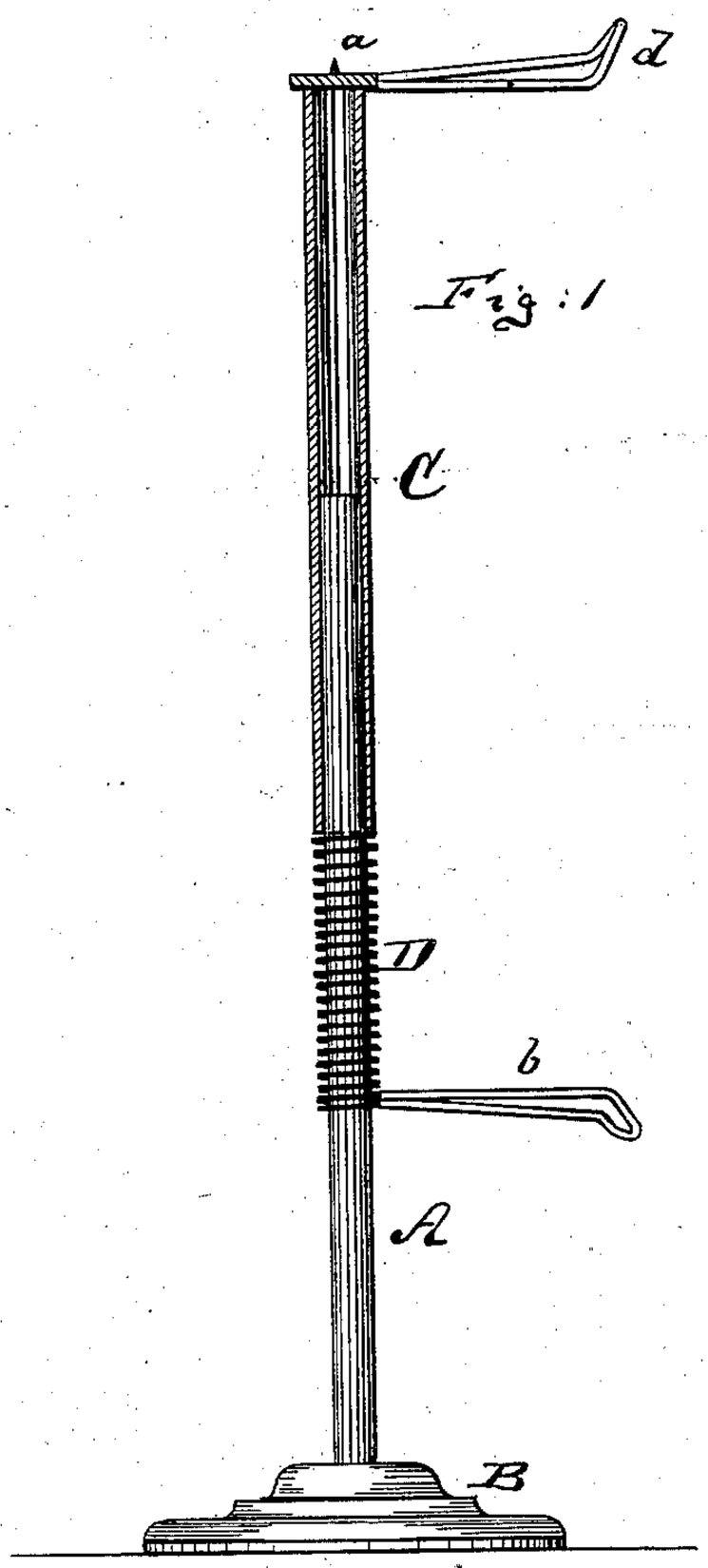
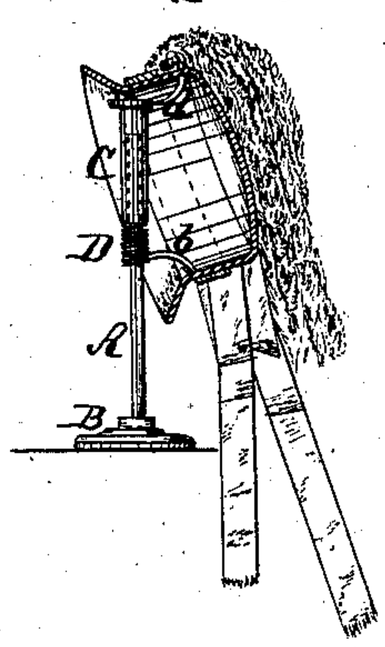


Fig: 2



Witnesses

John C. Trumbridge

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

EDWARD H. HART, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAT AND BONNET STANDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,826**, dated July 10, 1877; application filed January 6, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD H. HART, of New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Hat and Bonnet Support, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a side view, partly in section, of my improved hat and bonnet support. Fig. 2 is a side view, on a reduced scale, of the same, showing it in use.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

This invention relates to a new device for supporting hats and bonnets.

Its purpose is to protect the exterior of costly head-coverings from injurious contact with the sides of boxes wherein they are now usually confined, and also to facilitate their display in show-windows and other parts of stores.

The invention consists in combining with a supporting rod or post a tubular slide and an intervening spring, both post and slide having projecting blades or wire loops, to constitute a self-acting or adjustable spreader for holding a hat or bonnet, in manner indicated in Fig. 2.

The letter A in the drawing represents the supporting-post, which is affixed to a suitable base, B, so that it can be placed wherever desired. C is a tubular slide, made of metal or other suitable material, and embracing the upper part of the post A. To the upper end of this slide C may be affixed an upwardly-projecting pin, *a*, as shown. *b* is a blade, made of metal, pasteboard, or other suitable material, and fastened at or near the lower part of the post A, projecting at about right angles therefrom. A similar blade, *d*, is affixed to the slide C, in line about with the blade *b*. These blades *b* and *d* may also be formed of a bent wire, as shown in the drawing, or be made in other suitable manner. D is a suitable coiled or other spring, applied to the rod A, between the blade *b* or any other fixed point and the lower part of the slide C, as shown. This spring supports the slide C and allows it, nevertheless, to be lowered and raised on the post A.

It is evident that when the spring D is in its natural expanded position, the blades *b* and *d* are at their greatest distance apart, while when such spring is contracted the blades approach each other proportionately.

In use, the slide C is lowered and the spring D compressed so that the blades *b* and *d* may be introduced into the hat or bonnet to be supported. The spring D is then released, so that the upper blade *d* will be carried away from the blade *b*. The two blades will then bear against opposite sides of the hat, and serve to stretch the hat or bonnet, and to firmly hold the same on the support. If the pin *a* is used, the same will prevent the hat or bonnet from being drawn off the blades.

Instead of using the spring D a screw-clamp may be used on the slide C, whereby said slide may be clamped to any desired position on the rod A, but a spring is preferable, as the support is thereby rendered self-adjustable.

I claim as my invention—

A hat or bonnet support, composed of the post A, slide C, blades *b* and *d*, and spring D, substantially as herein shown and described.

EDWARD H. HART.

Witnesses:

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