T. PRITCHARD.
Revolving Clothes Drier.

No. 237,407. Patented Feb. 8, 1881.

Fig. 1

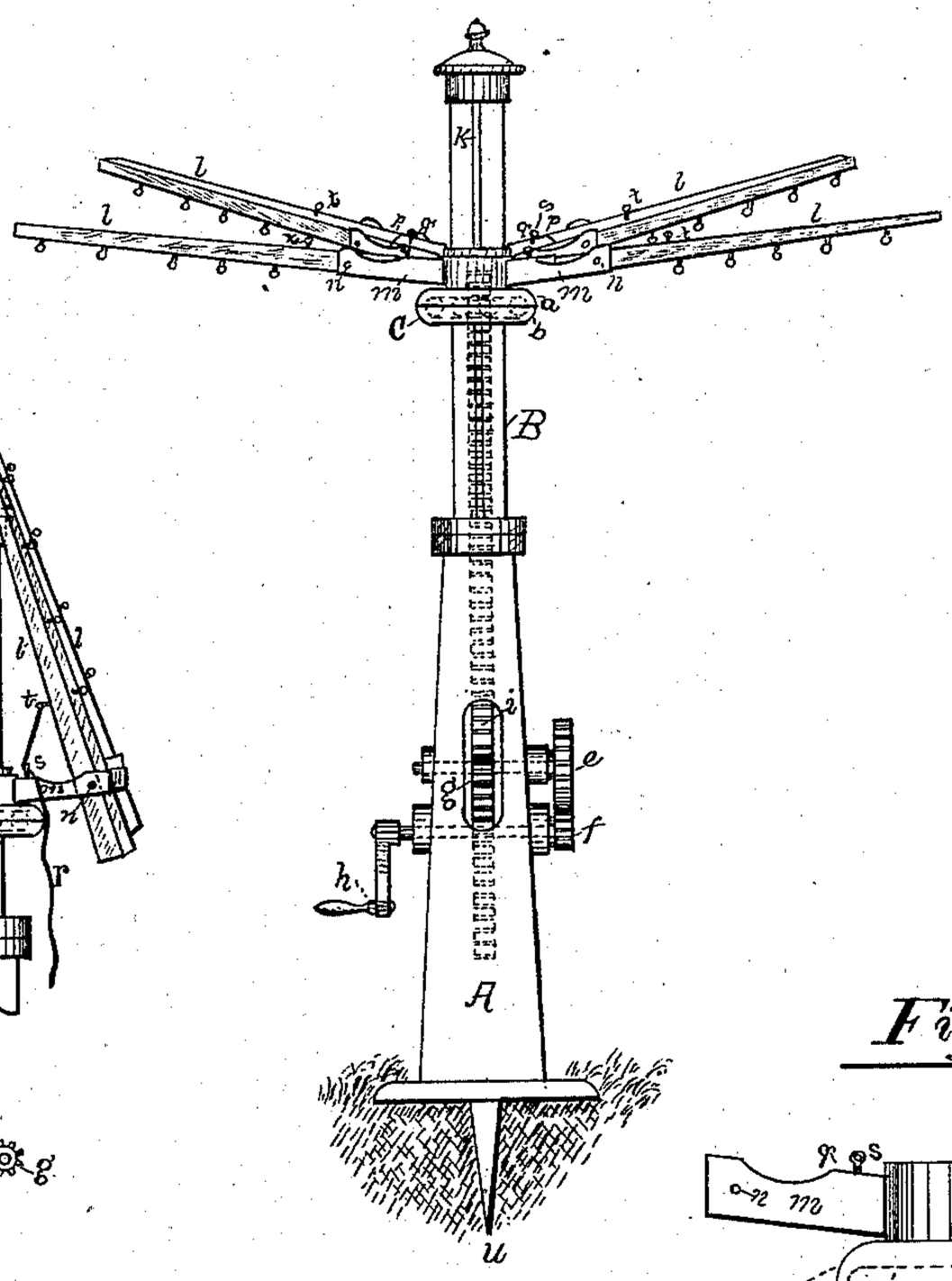


Fig. 2

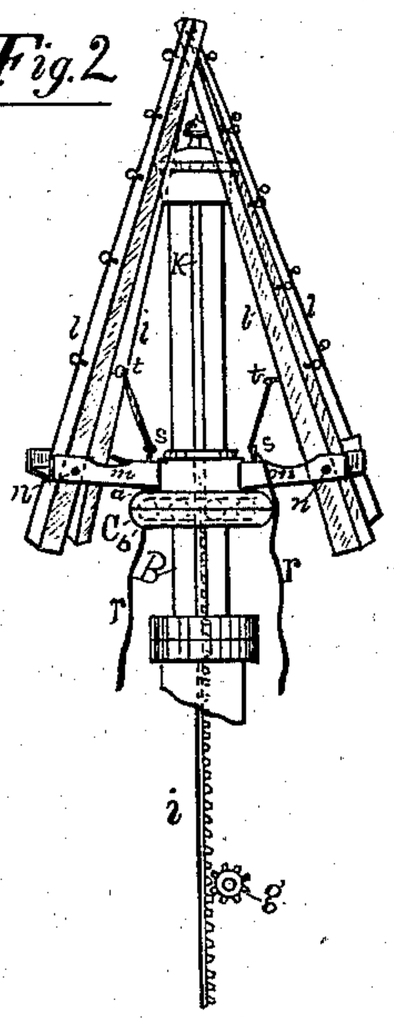


Fig. 3.

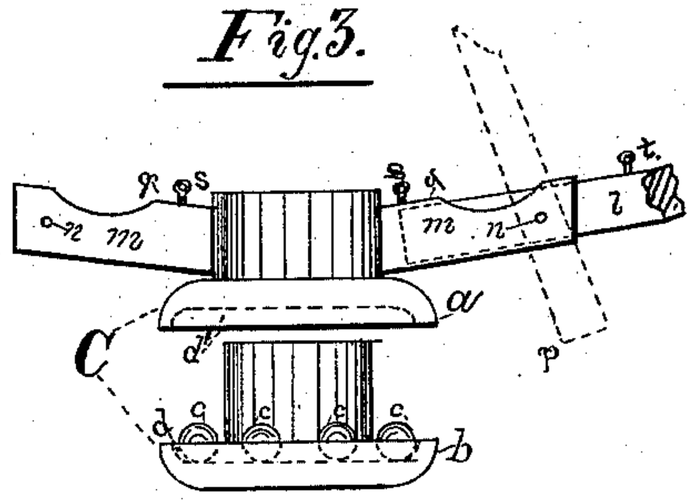
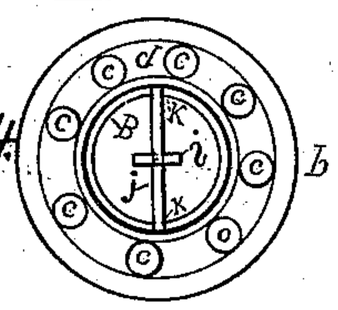


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
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Herman Gauss,

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Per
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TIMOTHY PRITCHARD, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

REVOLVING CLOTHES-DRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 237,407, dated February 8, 1881.

Application filed July 15, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TIMOTHY PRITCHARD, of the city of Bridgeport, county of Fairfield, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Revolving Clothes-Driers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in revolving clothes-driers; and it consists of a lower column or base supporting an upper column, operating freely thereon, and guided by the upper column is the ball-bearing having upper and lower sections provided with circular grooves for the reception of the balls, the upper section of the bearing having arm-supports, to which are fitted the arms, so constructed as to be raised and folded around the upper column when not in use. The arm-supports are also provided with stops or braces, which, in connection with the pins upon which the arms swing, operate to hold them in the proper position when in use. The ball-bearing carrying the arms is raised and lowered on the upper column by means of rack and pinion, the upper end of the rack being attached to a rod on the lower section of the bearing, which rod works in vertical slots in the column.

To more clearly understand my invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a view of the drier complete. Fig. 2 is a view of the upper portion of the upper column, showing the arms folded. Fig. 3 is a view of the ball-bearing, showing the upper and lower sections. Fig. 4 represents a plan view of the lower section of the ball-bearing, to which is attached the rack for raising and lowering the bearing carrying the arms.

A, Fig. 1, is the lower column or base, supporting the upper column, B. C is the ball-bearing, having upper and lower sections, *a b*, as shown more clearly at Fig. 3, the upper section, *a*, raised. The balls *c* rest in a circular groove, *d*, of the lower section, *b*. A corresponding groove, *d'*, is provided in the upper section, *a*. To the upper section, *a*, and forming part of the same, the arm-supports *m* are secured; and attached to the support *m* by the pins *n*, and working freely thereon, are the arms *l*. The bridge or stop *q* of the supports *m* engaging with the end *p* of the arms operates to hold them in a horizontal position when in use. The bearing C, carrying arms *l*, is raised and lowered on the column B by means of the gears *e f* and pinion *g* engaging with the rack *i*. The upper end of rack *i* is attached to the rod *j* of the lower section, *b*, of the bearing C. The rod *j* also passes through the slots *k* of the column B, which operates to prevent the lower section of ball-bearing from revolving. The upper section, *a*, carrying arms *l* and resting on the balls *c*, is allowed to revolve freely with little or no friction.

The view Fig. 2, as stated, represents the arms folded around the upper column, B, and to the ring-bolt *t*, (which is placed at the proper distance on the arms *l* from the pins *n* to get the required purchase,) is attached the cord *r*, which passes through the ring-bolt *s* of the arm-support *m*, by means of which the arms are brought to a perpendicular position.

When the articles are placed on the line they can be raised to a height sufficient to avoid contact with objects beneath, also presenting a better surface for the wind to act upon. The perfect freedom with which the arms revolve by means of the ball-bearing not only makes them susceptible to the slightest force of the wind, but enables them to give way readily before a heavy breeze, thus preventing whipping and tearing of the clothes.

I do not wish to be understood as claiming, broadly, the ball-bearing, nor the rack-gears or pinion for raising and lowering the arms.

What I do claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described clothes-drier, consisting of the column A, gears *e f*, pinion *g*, column B, having slots *k k*, ball-bearing C, rack *i*, rod *j*, arm-supports *m*, stops *q*, pins *n*, ring-bolts *s t*, and cord *r*, as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of June, 1879.

TIMOTHY PRITCHARD.

Witnesses:

EDWARD P. WALTER,

HERMAN GAUSS.