

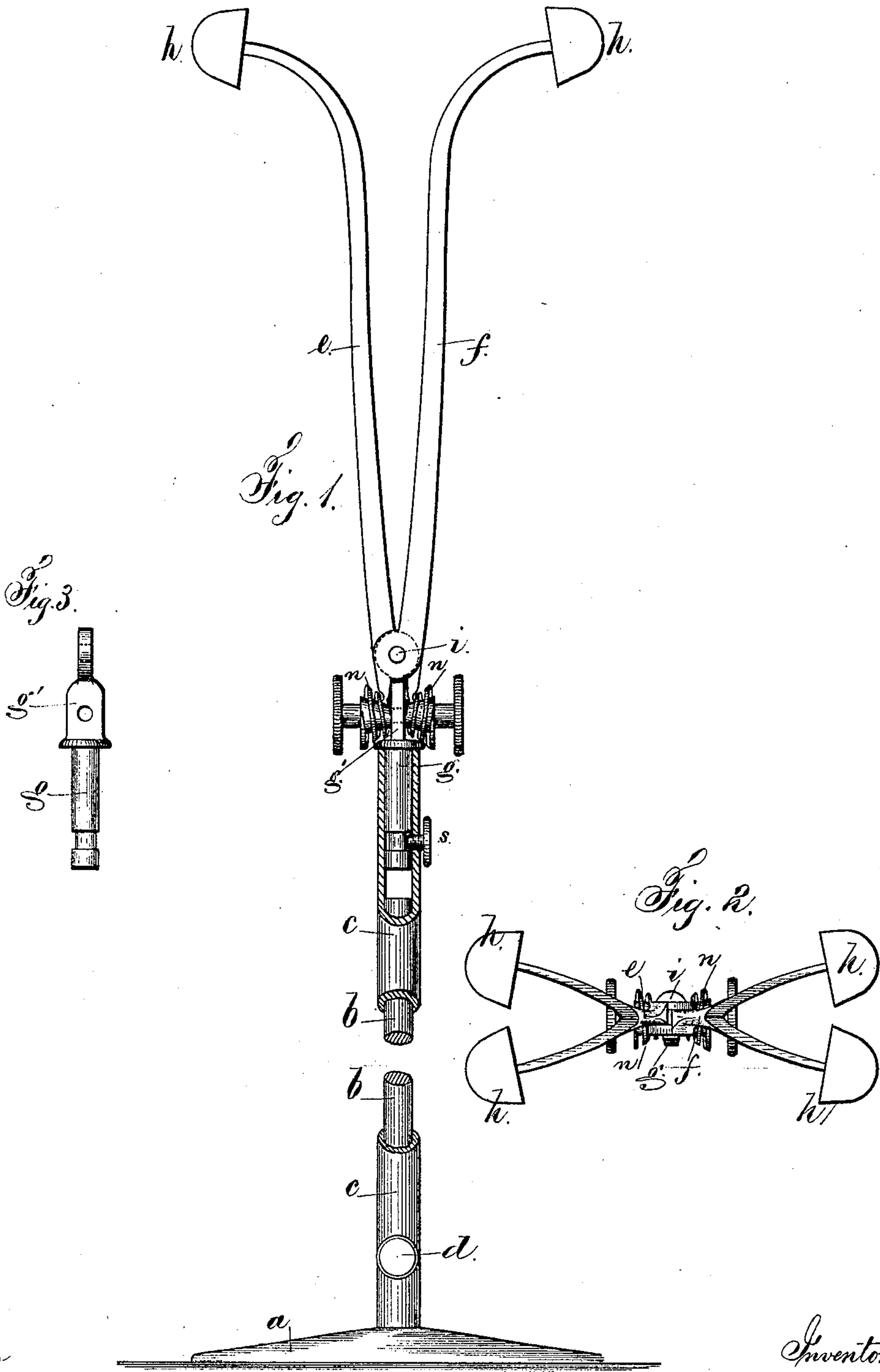
(Model.)

S. E. BROWNING.

HAT HOLDER.

No. 252,925.

Patented Jan. 31, 1882.



Witnesses

Harold Terrell
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SARAH E. BROWNING, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

HAT-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 252,925, dated January 31, 1882.

Application filed September 12, 1881. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SARAH E. BROWNING, of Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Hat-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

Stands have been made for holding hats in show-cases and windows. Such stands have sometimes been provided with springs that spread the pads or fingers that support the hat or bonnet. In instances where spring-fingers are employed they sometimes distort the hat or bonnet by spreading the same in one direction, and consequently rendering the hat narrower in the other direction. Where rigid fingers or supports are employed the hat is loose on the stand and becomes misplaced by moving the stand and hat.

My invention is for holding the hat in the desired position with sufficient firmness to allow of the stand and hat being moved about without the hat becoming misplaced on the stand, and at the same time the supporting-pads upon the stand do not bend the hat or bonnet out of shape.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of the stand and hat-holder, the column of the stand being partially in section; and Fig. 2 is a plan view of the hat-holder. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the stock and its shank, separately, at a right angle to Fig. 1.

The base *a* of the stand is preferably of cast-iron, so as to be sufficiently heavy. Above this base there is a vertical rod, *b*, passing at its lower end into the base and securely fastened. The tube *c* is outside of this rod *b* and capable of being moved up or down upon the rod and clamped by a screw, *d*. These parts *b* and *c* form the column or support for the hat-holder, and they allow for raising or lowering the hat-holder and hat or bonnet.

The hat-holder is made of the arms *e f*, that are pivoted together and to the stock *g'* at *i*, and the upper ends of the arms *e f* terminate with one or more fingers having pads *h* on their ends. These arms are adapted to set inside the hat or bonnet, and the hinge at *i* allows of these arms being spread more or less to suit the size and shape of the inside of the hat or bonnet, and pressing slightly on the same sufficiently to hold such hat or bonnet in the desired position. The fingers or devices that are at the ends of the arms and press against the inside of the hat or bonnet may be more or less round-

ing or in any other suitable form. These arms *e f* may be spread by the action of a spring and drawn together by a screw, a cam, or a band; but I prefer to use the right and left handed screws or cam-volutes *n*, that act upon the lower ends or toes of the respective arms *e* and *f* to spread or contract the arms at their upper ends. These screws or volutes are fastened upon a short shaft passing through the stock *g'*, so that they revolve together when turned. The stock *g'* has a circular shank, *g*, that passes into the upper end of the column *c*, and it can turn freely therein, so that the hat-holder and hat can be revolved independently of the stand *a b c*, and a screw, *s*, is provided, the inner end of which, entering a groove or neck around the shank, prevents the hat-holder stock becoming separated accidentally in handling the stand or bonnet.

The stock *g'*, it is to be understood, is a piece of metal that has a cylindrical shank, *g*, at its lower end to pass into the tubular column *c*, and it has a shoulder resting upon the upper end of such column, and the part of the stock between the volutes *n* is flattened, and the upper end of the stock terminates as one leaf of the hinge *i*.

This hat-holder is very convenient for milliners, because the hat can be displayed to advantage without being handled.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a hat-holder, the combination, with the supporting-column, of two arms extending upwardly and terminating with pads, a stock to which the lower ends of the arms are connected, and mechanism, substantially as specified, for spreading or contracting such arms and holding them, as set forth.

2. In a hat-holder, the arms *e f*, provided with pads at their outer ends, and the stock *g'*, to which the arms are pivoted, in combination with the screws *n*, having right and left hand threads, substantially as specified.

3. The combination, with the base *a* and rod *b*, of the tubular standard *c*, clamping-screw *d*, pivoted arms *e f*, adjusting-screws *n*, stock *g'*, and shank *g*, the latter entering the upper end of the tube *c*, as and for the purposes set forth.

Signed by me this 5th day of September, A. D. 1881.

SARAH E. BROWNING.

Witnesses:

SUSAN E. FULLER,
NANNIE E. COFFIN.