

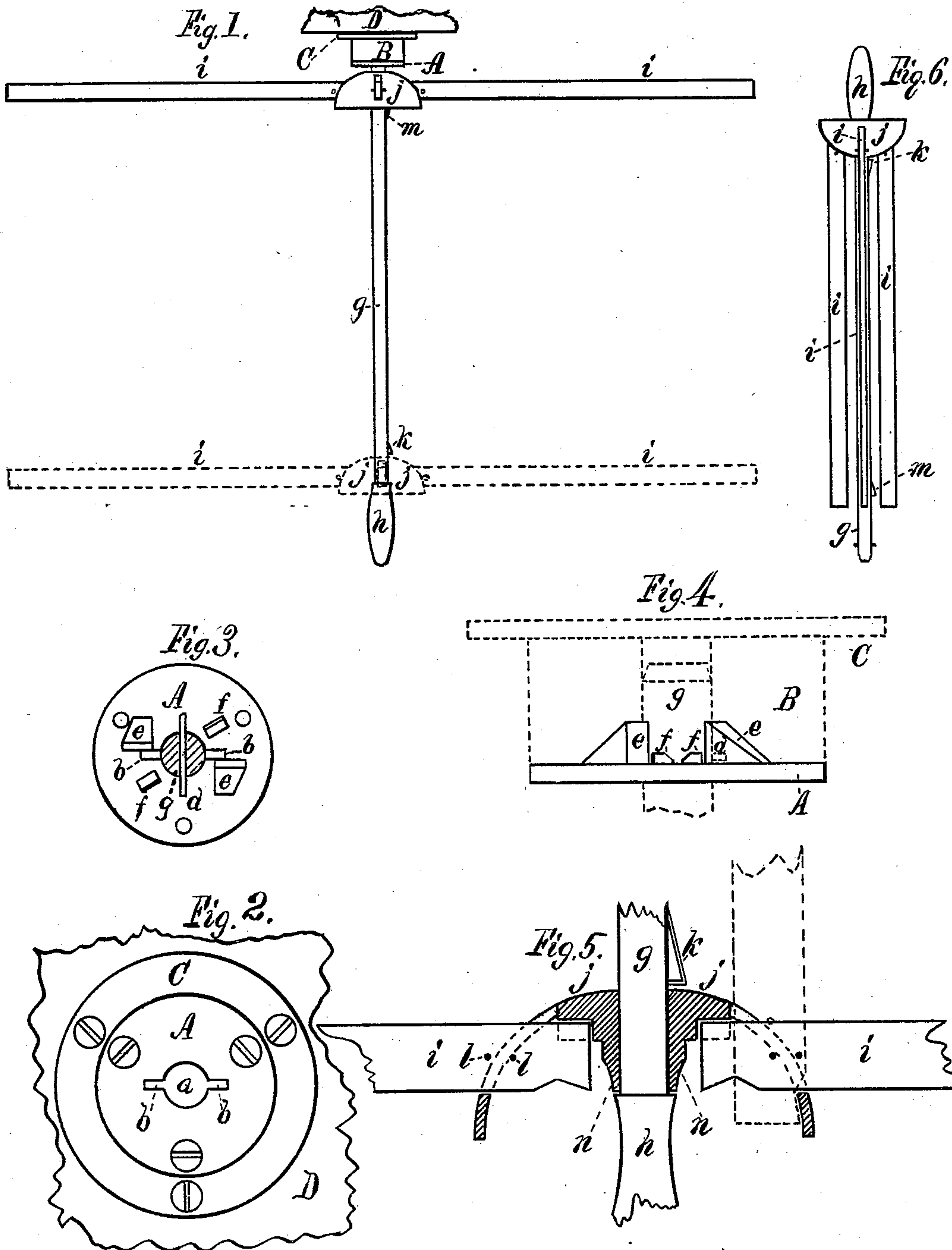
(No Model.)

G. H. BRIGGS.

PORTABLE FOLDING CLOTHES DRIER.

No. 253,503.

Patented Feb. 14, 1882.



Witnesses:

W. J. Dudley.
H. H. Letteney.

Inventor:

George H. Briggs
By Porter & Hutchinson, Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. BRIGGS, OF AMESBURY, MASSACHUSETTS.

PORTABLE FOLDING CLOTHES-DRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 253,503, dated February 14, 1882.

Application filed December 6, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. BRIGGS, of the town of Amesbury, State of Massachusetts, have invented a Portable Folding Clothes-Drier, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in a clothes-drier that is intended to be secured to and supported by the ceiling of a room, and which, when not in use, can be detached from its support and folded compactly for storage.

Figure 1 is an elevation of the drier as expanded and secured to the ceiling of a room. Fig. 2 is an enlarged under side plan view of the supporting-lock by which the drier is suspended from the ceiling. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detached view of the locking-plate. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the locking-plate shown in Fig. 1, the other parts of the supporting-lock and the upper end of the supporting-rod being shown in dotted lines. Fig. 5 is an enlarged detached view, showing the lower portion of the suspending-rod, the inner portion of two of the folding and expanding arms, and the slotted metallic holder in which said arms are seated. Fig. 6 is a side elevation, showing the drier detached from the ceiling, inverted, and folded ready for packing away.

In these views, A represents the locking-plate, which in Figs. 1, 2, 4 is shown as secured to the perforated wooden block B, which block is shown in Fig. 4 by dotted lines. In Fig. 3 the upper side of this plate is shown in plan, and as having formed thereon the two higher studs *e e* and the two lower ones *f f*, and also the diametrically-opposite passages or slots *b b*, which communicate with the central passage, *a*.

c is a metallic plate, which is secured to block B upon its upper plane, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 4, and which is secured to ceiling D, as shown in Fig. 1.

A supporting-rod, *g*, provided with the handle *h*, is of a diameter to readily enter passage *a* in plate A and the corresponding passage in block B, and the pin *d*, inserted in said rod, enters through said slots *b b* when the rod is inserted in plate A, and when said pin is above the top of studs *f f*, then by imparting a slight rotary movement to the rod the projecting ends of said pin may be seated in the position shown in Fig. 3, and so as to be respectively between

studs *e* and *f*, as shown, and so as to prevent the unlocking thereof and consequent accidental falling of the drier from such cause. By forming said studs *e e* of a greater height than studs *f f*, the rod may be so arranged as to be raised so that pin *d* will pass over studs *f*, but not over studs *e*; and as slots *b* are formed next the vertical side of studs *e*, therefore rod *g*, when inserted, can only be rotated in one direction, and so as to bring said pin *d* between said studs, as stated.

Plates A C and block *d* may all be formed as one casting, if desired.

A metallic holder, *j*, is formed with a hollow central boss, *n*, to receive rod *g*, and, when the drier is lowered, to furnish a bearing on the enlarged handle *h*, as shown in Fig. 5. A series of apertures are formed in said holder around the center, to receive the clothes-supporting arms *i*, which are arranged to assume the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1 when the drier is suspended, and to fold in the manner shown in Fig. 6 when the drier is inverted. Said arms *i* are secured in place in holder *j* by the slot pins *l l*, which project beyond the sides of the arms and so hold the same in position. In said supporting-rod two spring-catches, *k m*, are secured in the same manner as are umbrella-catches. Catch *k* secures holder *j* in position when the drier is folded, as in Fig. 6, and catch *m* secures the drier in position when it is raised, as shown by full lines in Fig. 1.

In use, the supporting-block being secured by the screws in plate C to ceiling D, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, the supporting-rod *g* is then interlocked with plate A, as shown in Figs. 1, 3, and the holder *j*, with its arms *i*, is lowered upon handle *h*, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1, for convenience of arranging the articles to be dried thereon, when said holder *j* and its arms are raised and secured in position by catch *m*, as shown in said Fig. 1. By depressing catch *m* the holder *j* may be lowered upon handle *h* and the clothes removed; or by means of said handle rod *g* may be unlocked from plate A and the clothes thus lowered and removed, when the drier may be folded, as shown in Fig. 6, the supporting-block remaining permanently secured to the ceiling.

By arranging catches *k m* with their respect-

ive supporting angles or ends toward the ends of rod *g*, the holder *j*, when moved over either of said catches, and between the same and the adjacent end of said rod, is held in place by such catch. Thus when said holder is moved above catch *m* it is there held by said catch while being used as a drier; but when said holder is moved over catch *k* it is there held in place, while arms *i* fold down beside rod *g*. This arrangement of said catches is of material utility, as one catch secures holder *j* and its arms *i* in position when expanded, and the other catch secures said holder at the opposite end of rod *g* when arms *i* are folded beside said rod.

The employment of two pins, *l*, in each arm *i*, in the manner shown and claimed—that is, with said pins on opposite sides of the wall of holder *j*—effects a material result, as said arms are thereby secured from falling out of the slots in the holder, and yet expand or fold together as freely as if but one pin were employed, by being inserted in both the arm *i* and holder *j* to serve as a fixed pivot for the arm, as has been done. Without my said two pins *l* in each arm it would be necessary either to insert the pivot-pin in both the arm and holder, or to form said arms with a shoulder and a tenon of reduced thickness to extend through the slots in the holder, with a pin through said tenon inside the wall of the holder, or else to use but one pin on the inside of the holder, with the annoyance, when expanding said arms, of their falling out of the holder. By forming said arms of uniform thickness I am enabled to first insert the pin that is next the inner end of the arm, and then insert the arm in the slot of the holder, from the inside thereof, when the pin upon the outer side of such holder is

readily inserted, and this obviates the trouble and expense of inserting a pivotal pin in both the arm and the body of the holder, or the trouble of inserting one of the pins in the arm inside the holder after the arm is inserted therein, as would be necessary if but one pin were employed and the arms were tenoned, as described.

I am aware that an extensive variety of expansible and contractile clothes-driers, arranged to be supported by a central standard inserted in the ground, or to be self-supporting when expanded and seated upon a floor, or to be suspended from the walls of a room or other vertical support, have been invented, patented, and introduced to the public; but I make no claim to these, nor broadly to an expansible and contractile drier, my invention being confined to the specific construction embodied in the claims.

I claim as my invention—

1. The holder *j*, having the slots, as described, in combination with the arms *i*, adapted to such slots, and the pins *l l*, arranged in pairs and passing through said arms, one pin of each pair being inside of the holder, the other pin outside of the holder, whereby the arms are held pivotally in the slots between the pins, all substantially as set forth.

2. In a vertically-supported clothes-drier, the combination of plate *A*, formed with passage *a*, slots *b*, studs *e e*, and the minor studs *f f*, and the supporting-rod *g*, with its locking-pin *d*, substantially as specified.

GEORGE H. BRIGGS.

Witnesses:

J. R. MOFFITT,
T. W. PORTER.