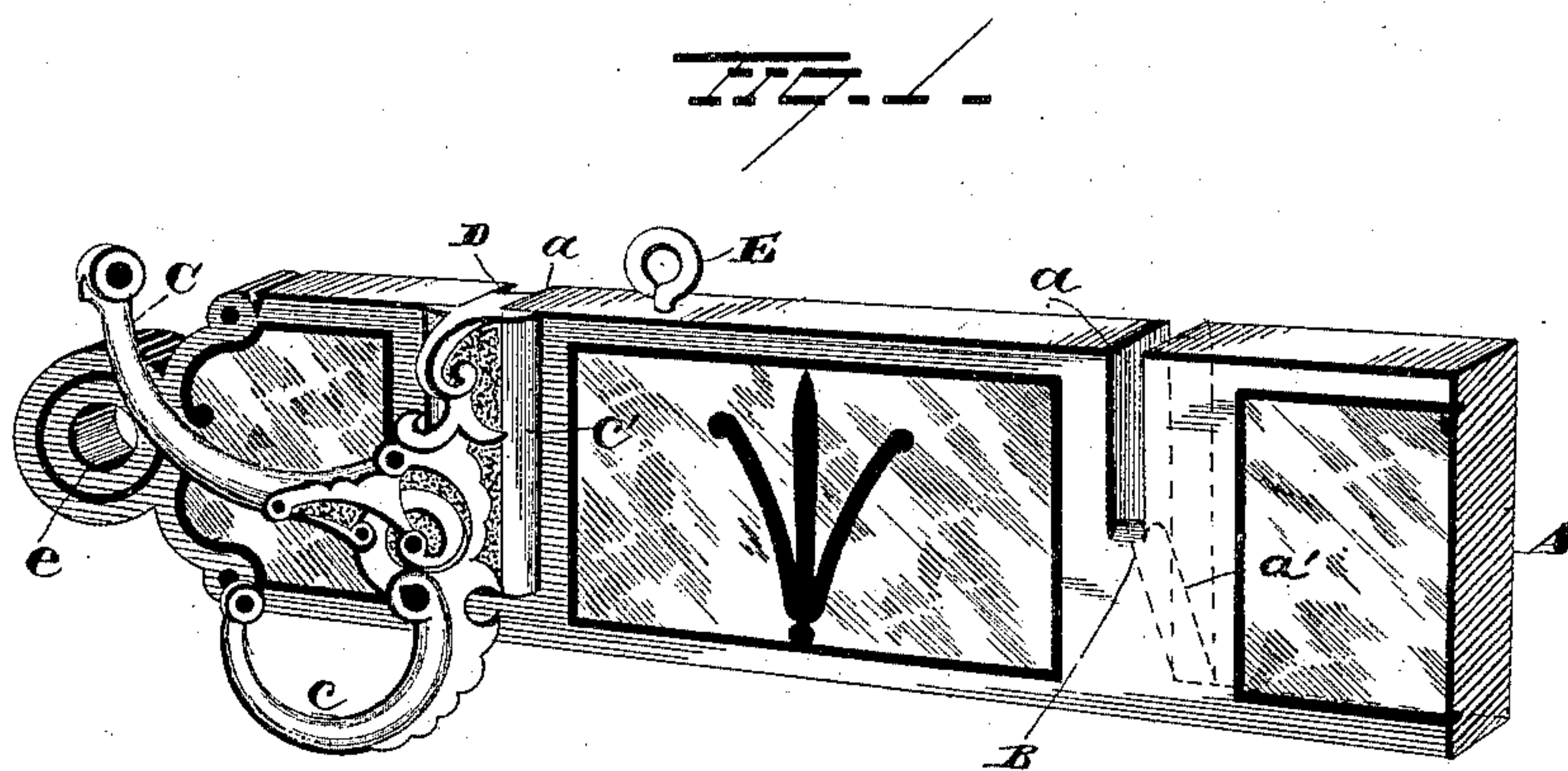
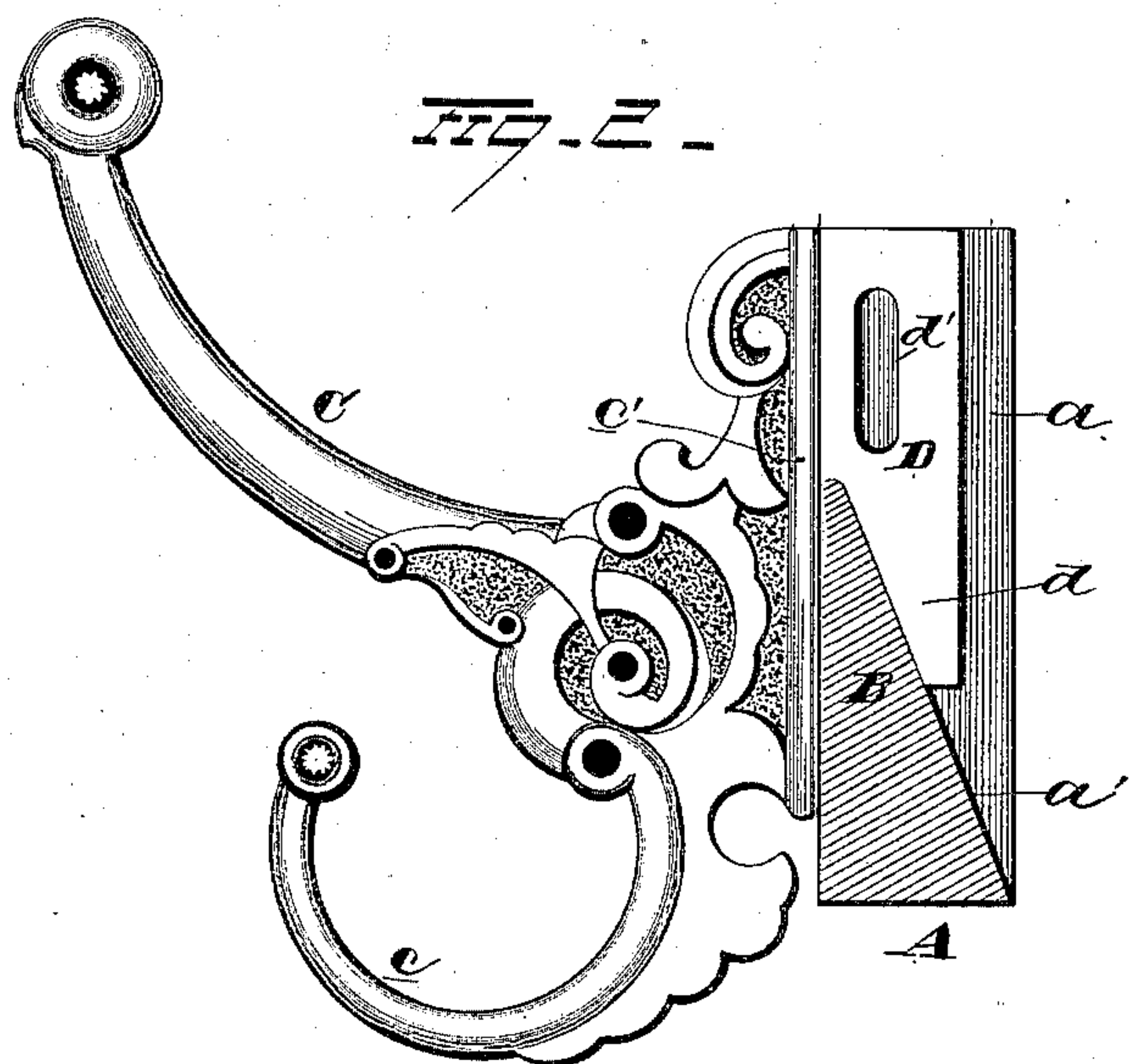


(No Model.)

H. F. GRAY.
HAT AND COAT RACK.

No. 335,189.

Patented Feb. 2, 1886.



WITNESSES

W. M. Nottingham
W. F. Downing

INVENTOR

Henry F. Gray
By *W. A. Simpson* Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY F. GRAY, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO, ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO LEVI T. STRADER AND FREDERICK W. HAWKES, BOTH OF SAME PLACE.

HAT AND COAT RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 335,189, dated February 2, 1886.

Application filed June 9, 1885. Serial No. 168,129. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY F. GRAY, of Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful
5 Improvements in Hat and Coat Racks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.
10 My invention relates to an improvement in hat and coat racks.

It is a very important feature in the manufacture of hat and coat racks of the folding or knockdown description that they should be
15 capable of a compact adjustment for packing, and that they should also be capable of a quick and simple adjustment for use.

The object of my present invention is to provide a hat and coat rack of the knockdown
20 type which shall be capable of the most compact adjustment for shipment, which may be adjusted for use in a moment's time by the most unskilled person, and which shall be capable, when adjusted, of sustaining any
25 amount of weight within the limits of the strength of the material used without tending to loosen the hooks, but rather to set them more firmly in position.

A further object is to provide a neat, inexpensive, and durable rack; and with these
30 ends in view my invention consists in certain features of construction and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter explained, and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the rack adjusted for use, and Fig. 2 is a sectional view through one of the hooks
35 and slots in the body of the rack.

A represents the body of the rack. It preferably consists of a wooden slat about an inch
40 thick, three inches wide, and of any length desired. These dimensions with reference to the thickness and width are not, however, of any material consequence, excepting to show
45 the proportions which I find it at present convenient and economical to use, as the body A may be made of any desired width and thickness and of other shapes than oblong. The body A is provided with a series of narrow

transverse slots, *a*, in its upper edge, the distance between the slots *a* being that desired
50 for the hooks. The bottoms of the slots *a* are inclined to the faces of the body, as shown at *a'*, Fig. 2, forming a wedge-shaped section, B, between the bottom of the slot and the face of
55 the body A, the edge of the wedge-shaped section being uppermost.

The hook consists of a longer upper prong, C, and a shorter under prong, *c*, as is common. The portion *c'*, however, to which the prongs
60 are secured, and which commonly forms a bearing against the face of the body and projects laterally in the form of flanges adapted to receive securing-screws, is in the present instance formed with very narrow flanges and
65 provided with a rearwardly-extending tongue, D, which terminates downwardly in a wedge-shaped prong, *d*. For the purpose of economizing metal and diminishing the weight the upper portion of the tongue D is provided with
70 an oblong slot, *d'*.

The rear edge of the tongue D is substantially straight and lies flush with the back, or between the back and front faces of the body A. The wedge-shaped space between the prong *d*
75 and the bearing-face of the portion *c'* is the same shape as and slightly narrower than the wedge-shaped section B, thereby causing the said prong and bearing-surface to tightly grip the front and rear edges of the section B when
80 the hook is adjusted for use and weight applied.

The slots *a* extend entirely across the body to a depth sufficient to allow the tongue D to slide downwardly therein until the top of the
85 tongue and portion *c'* rest flush, or nearly so, with the upper edge of the body.

The hook when adjusted for use presents a neat finished appearance, with no screw-heads visible, and affords a strong and durable support
90 for hats and coats, the weight suspended from the hook serving to settle it more snugly into contact with the wedge-shaped section B. Its compactness when knocked down and packed for shipment is also one of its more
95 important advantages, since the hooks may be removed from their positions in the slots without the use of a hammer or screw-driver,

and when bunched or laid in a line along the face of the body admit of the whole being wrapped up closely, and without leaving any projecting parts, which will be liable to become
5 broken or otherwise damaged in handling.

To complete the rack ready for setting up immediately upon arrival, I provide it with a pair of eyebolts, E, in its upper edge, for the purpose of suspending it from a point or points
10 above, and with one or more perforations, e, for the introduction of large screws or other fastening. If the eyebolts are not required, they may be readily removed and the perforations e used alone to fasten the body to the
15 wall.

I am aware that it is old to secure a strip permanently to a wall, the said strip being provided with a series of vertical slots each terminating in an inclined bottom on the rear
20 side of the strip for the reception of a wedge-shaped hook formed on a shelf-bracket, the lower end of said bracket being constructed to project below the strip and rest against the wall, and hence I make no claim to such construction.
25

In my device the rack-strip is provided with means for its removable attachment to

the wall, and the removable hooks are wholly supported on the strip, and consequently do not come in contact with or deface the wall. 3c

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

As a new article of manufacture, a portable hat or coat rack consisting of a rack-strip provided with means for its removable attachment
35 to a wall or other support, and furnished with a series of vertical slots each terminating at its lower end in an inclined bottom on the rear side of the rack-strip, and removable hooks
40 provided with side flanges the rear surfaces of which are supported throughout their entire length against the front side of the rack-strip, said hooks being each provided with a
45 rearwardly-projecting shank constructed with a wedge-shaped slot in its lower end, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY F. GRAY.

Witnesses:

A. E. CREIGHTON,
C. C. JONES.