

(No Model.)

R. & O. LACOURSE.
COAT ADJUSTER.

No. 384,769.

Patented June 19, 1888.

Fig. 1.

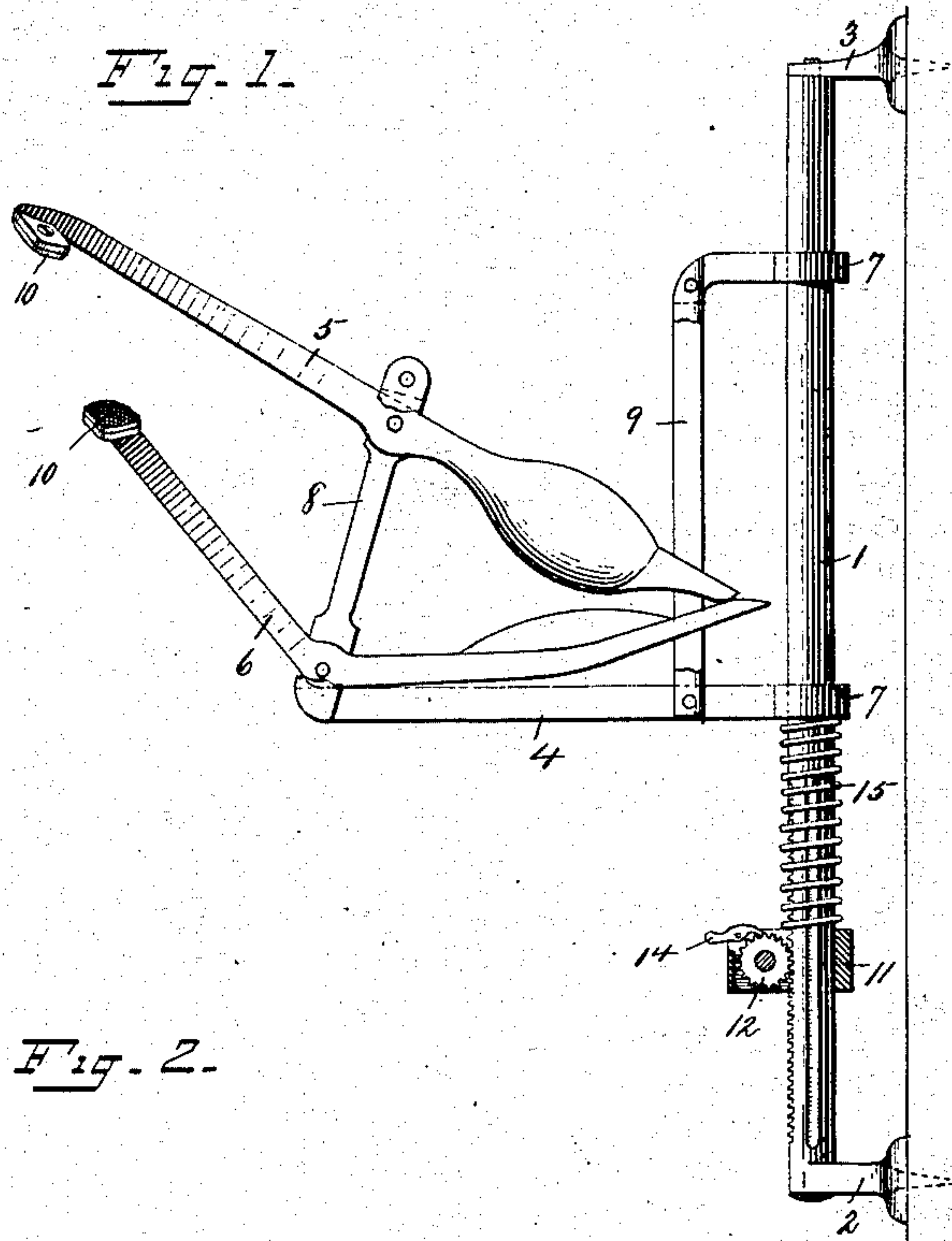


Fig. 2.

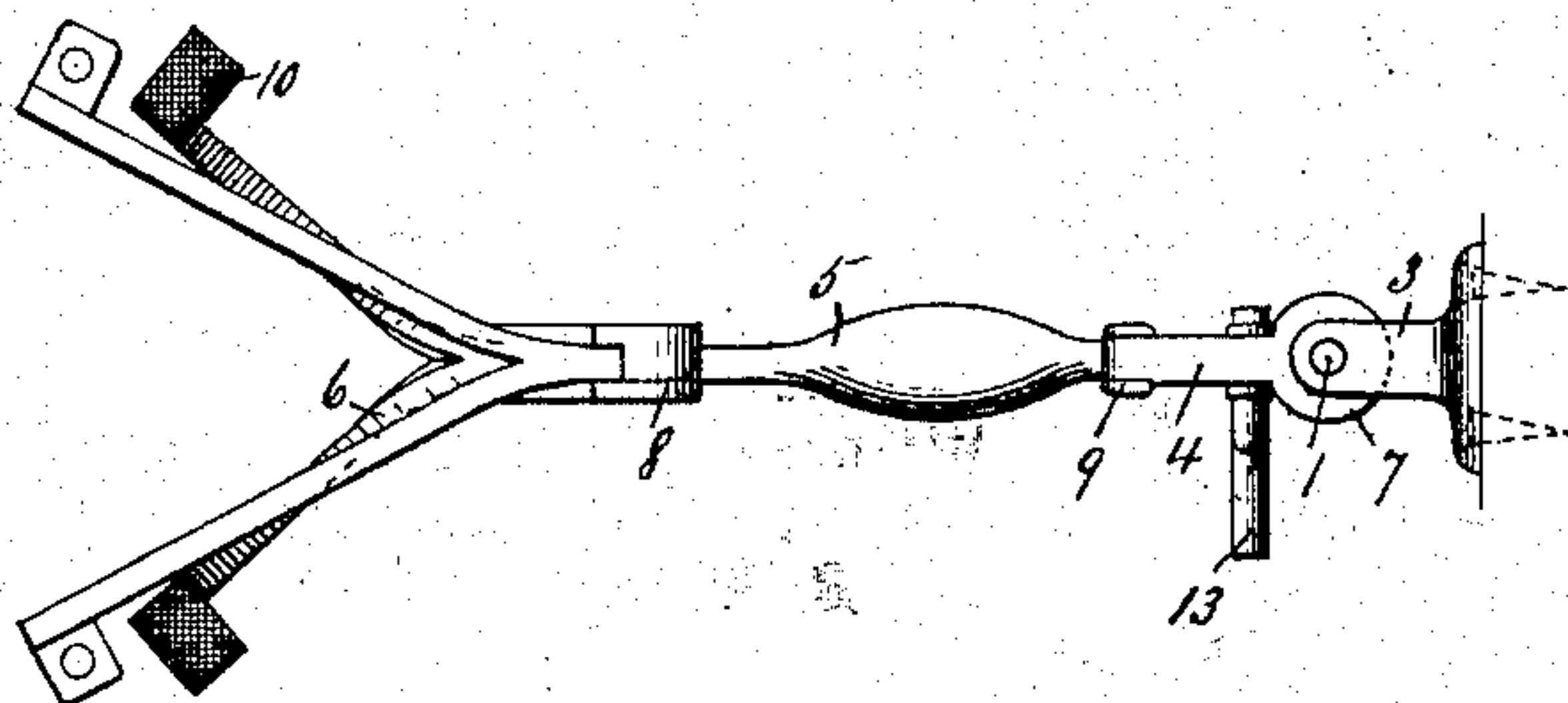
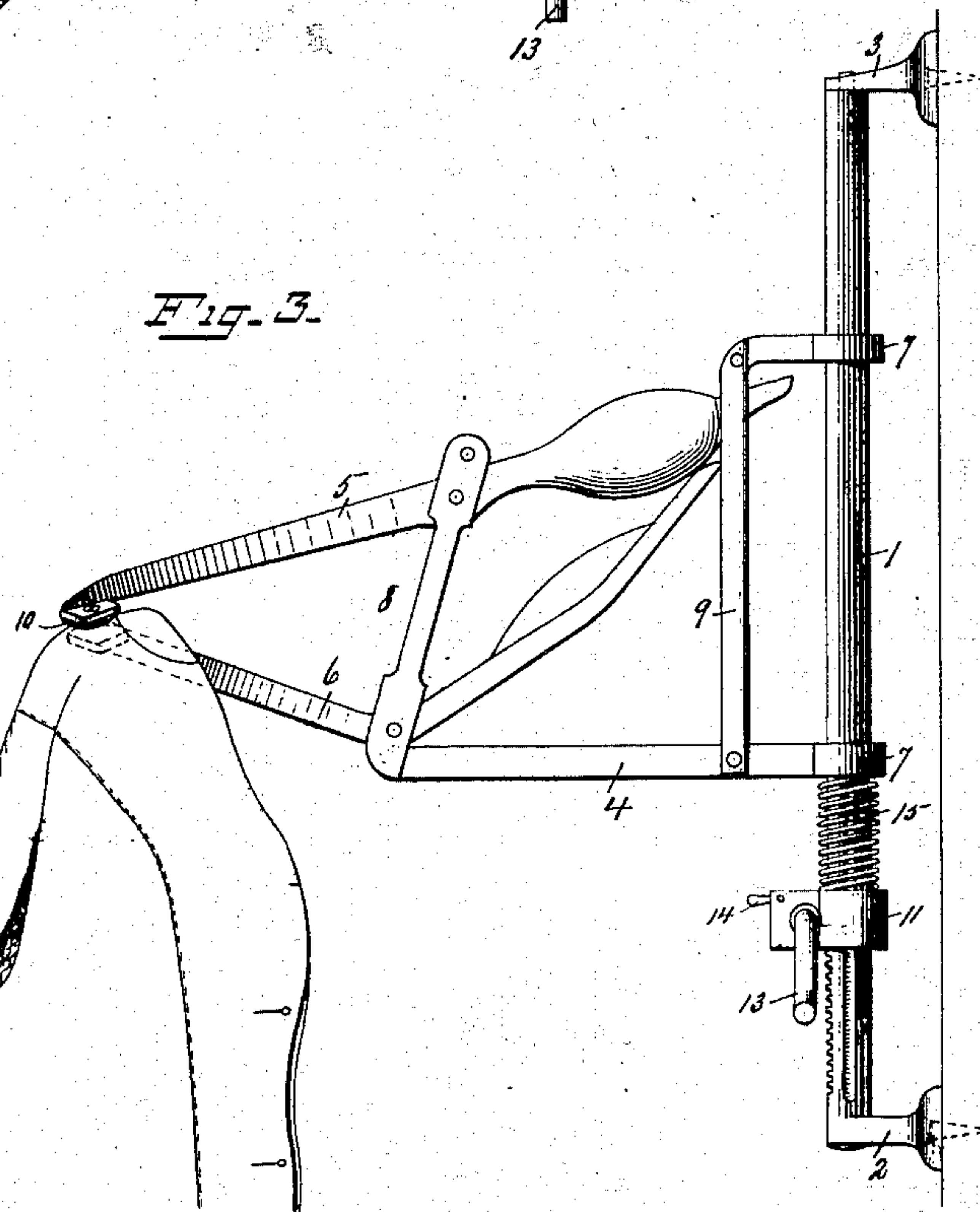


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD LACOURSE AND OCTAVE LACOURSE, OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT.

COAT-ADJUSTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 384,769, dated June 19, 1888.

Application filed September 5, 1887. Serial No. 218,801. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, RICHARD LACOURSE and OCTAVE LACOURSE, citizens of the United States, residing at Bristol, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coat-Holders; and we 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.

Our invention has for its object to produce a device for this purpose which may be adjusted at various heights to accommodate different individuals, will take a coat or wrap directly from the shoulders, and will hold it in position ready to put on again without assistance.

With these ends in view we have devised the simple and novel device of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, numbers being used to denote the several parts.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device complete, certain portions being broken away to more fully illustrate the construction and arrangements of the parts; Fig. 2, a plan view corresponding with Fig. 1, but showing the arms and the operating crank in full; and Fig. 3, a side elevation illustrating the device in use, a coat being held between the arms.

1 denotes a standard, which is provided at one end with a bracket, 2, to adapt it for attachment in position—as, for example, upon a wall or post—and 3 is an independent bracket, which is provided with an opening to receive a reduced portion at the opposite end of the standard.

The essential parts of the device are a frame adapted to slide upon the standard and designated by 4, and the upper and lower holding-arms designated, respectively, by 5 and 6.

The specific construction of the frame is not an essential portion of our invention. In the present instance we have shown it as provided with collars 7, adapted to slide upon the standard, a rigid arm, 8, having a slot, at the opposite ends of which the holding-arms are pivoted, and a rigid arm, 9, also provided with a slot, serving as a guide and stop for the rear ends of the holding-arms. The rear ends of

the holding-arms are made heavier than the forward ends, so that when not in use they will drop by gravity to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2—that is, in position ready to receive a coat. The forward ends of the holding-arms are bifurcated, as shown in Fig. 2. Pads 10 may or may not be provided at the ends of the branches to form contact-surfaces with the coat or wrap. In use a person upon divesting himself of his coat or overcoat places the back of the shoulder portion over the lower holding-arm, as shown in Fig. 3.

It should be noted that the coat is thrown over the branches of the lower arm in just the position in which it is taken off—that is, the lining being outward and the outside of the coat in contact with the branches of the arm. The weight of the coat draws the lower arm down to the position shown in Fig. 3, and the rear end of said arm being tilted upward throws the upper arm down upon the coat, as clearly shown, thus grasping it firmly between the branches of the arms. The rear ends of the arms are both weighted, as shown, just sufficiently to throw them to the position shown in Fig. 1 the instant the coat is removed. The weights are not heavy enough, however, to prevent even a light coat from drawing the arms down to the position shown in Fig. 3 as soon as it is thrown over the lower arm. The upward and downward movements of the rear ends of the holding-arms are limited by the slot in arm 9, through which they pass. The heavier the coat the tighter of course it will be grasped.

In order to compensate, if found necessary, for different heights of persons using the device, we provide simple means for adjusting the frame upon the standard. In the present instance we have shown the lower end of the standard as provided with rack-teeth and an adjustable bracket, 11, carrying a pinion, 12, which engages the rack-teeth to raise or lower the adjustable bracket.

13 is a crank for convenience in operating the pinion, and 14 a pawl engaging the teeth of the pinion to lock it in any desired position.

15 is a coil-spring surrounding the standard and interposed between the adjustable bracket and the frame. When the coat is suspended between the holding-arms the spring

is compressed, as shown in Fig. 3. It will of course be apparent that, as the lining is outward and the coat or wrap necessarily held in a distended position, the arm-holes will be held conveniently to receive the hands when it is desired to put it on, in the same manner as if the coat or wrap were held by another person.

The device will work most perfectly if so adjusted that when not holding a coat the lower arm of the device will be about on a plane with the lower portion of the face of the person using it. If adjusted at this height, when the coat is placed upon the arms, the arm-holes will be just in position to receive the hands. The instant the weight of the coat is lifted from the lower arm the spring acts to raise the entire frame, the effect of which is to throw the coat off from the arms of the holder and upon the shoulders of the wearer.

The device is adapted for general use, and will be found especially valuable in dressing-rooms, coat-rooms of hotels, billiard-parlors, &c. It will be apparent that the various details of construction are subject to wide variation without departing from the principle of our invention.

We claim—

1. In a coat-holder, the combination, with a standard and a frame consisting of collars engaging the standard, an arm, 9, having a slot, and an arm, 8, of upper and lower bifurcated holding-arms, pivoted to arm 8 and adapted to oscillate in the vertical plane, the rear ends of said arms engaging the slot in arm 9, and having weights, as shown, whereby when a coat is placed between the holding-arms they close together, holding the coat in position to receive the arms of the wearer,

and when the coat is removed the holding-arms return to the open position.

2. The combination, with the standard, bracket 11, adjustable thereon, and spring 15 above said bracket, of the frame engaging the standard and resting on the spring, and bifurcated holding-arms pivoted to the frame to oscillate in the vertical plane and weighted at their rear ends, whereby a coat placed between the holding-arms is held in position to receive the arms of the wearer, the spring acting to throw the coat off from the holding-arms upon the shoulders of the wearer.

3. The standard having rack-teeth and the sliding bracket having a pinion engaging the teeth, and a locking-pawl, in combination with a frame supported by said sliding bracket and pivoted holding-arms carried by the frame.

4. In a coat-holder, the combination, with a frame, of upper and lower pivoted arms, the forward ends of which are bifurcated and provided with holding-pads, and the rear ends of which are weighted, substantially as described.

5. In a coat-holder, the combination, with the standard, sliding bracket 11, and spring 15, of a frame adapted to slide on the standard and rest against the spring and pivoted holding-arms carried by the frame.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

RICHARD LACOURSE.
OCTAVE LACOURSE.

Witnesses for Richard Lacourse:

ELBERT E. THORPE,
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Witnesses for Octave Lacourse:

A. M. WOOSTER,
B. E. LEE.