(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

S. WOLERSTEIN.

RACK FOR EXHIBITING GARMENTS.

No. 389,628. Patented Sept. 18, 1888.

Fig. 1.

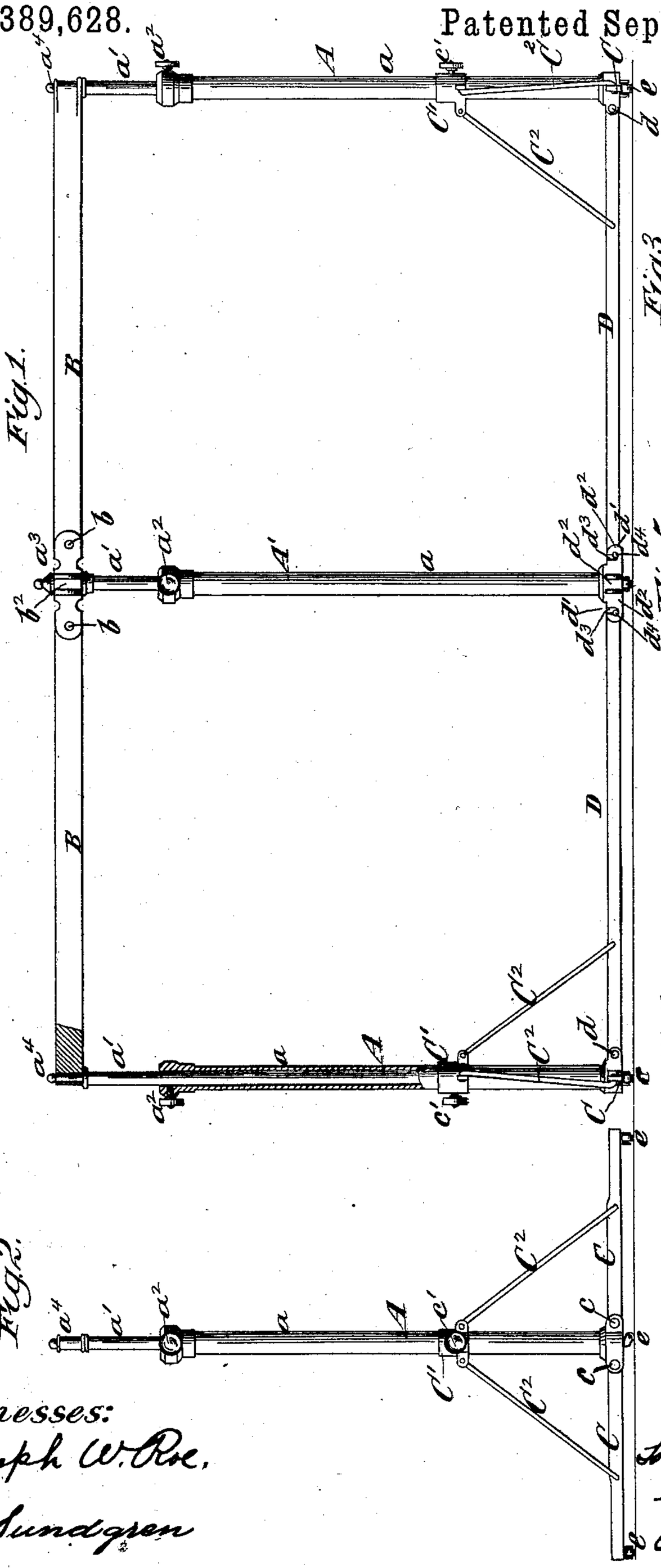

Fig. 3.

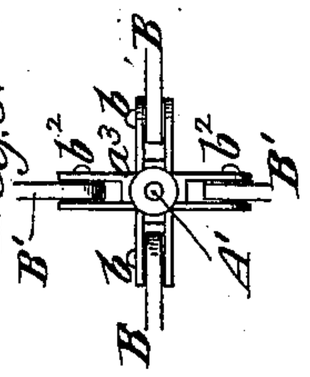

Fig. 5.

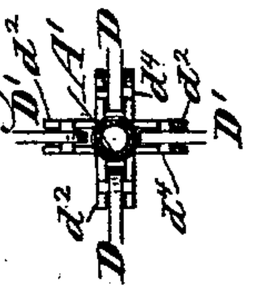

Fig. 4.

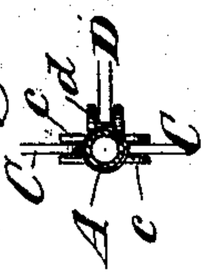

Fig. 2.

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

S. WOLERSTEIN.

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Fig. 6.

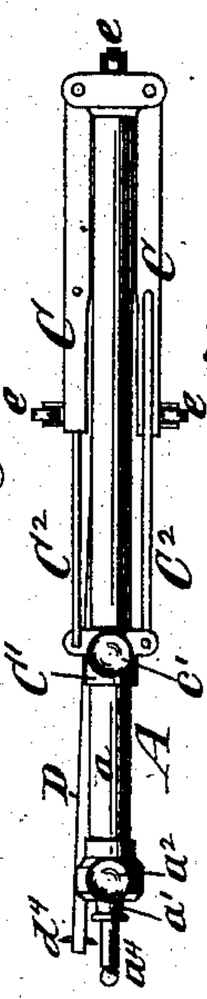

Fig. 7.

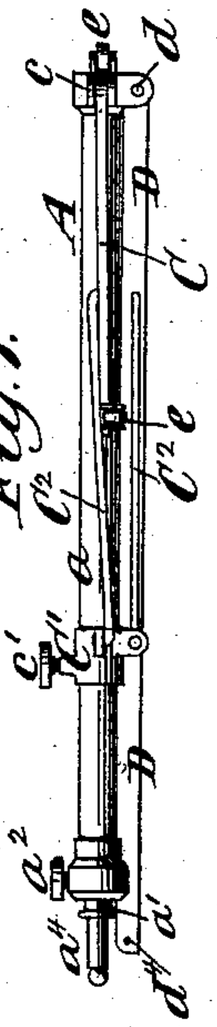

Fig. 8.

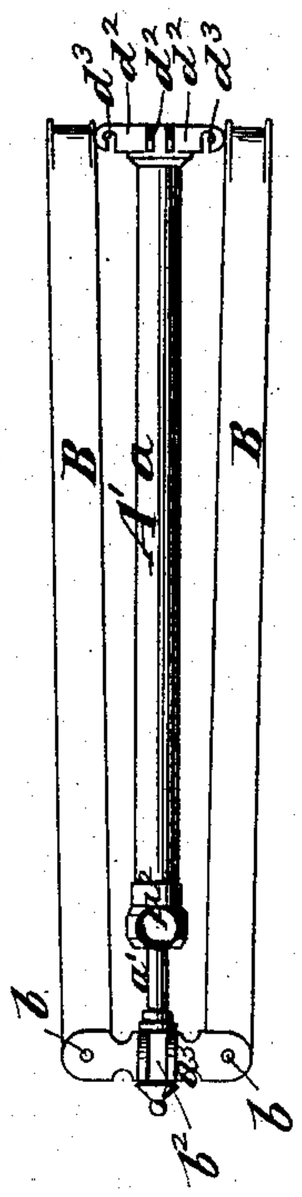

Fig. 9.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SOLOMON WOLERSTEIN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

RACK FOR EXHIBITING GARMENTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 389,628, dated September 18, 1888.

Application filed January 16, 1888. Serial No. 260,811. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SOLOMON WOLERSTEIN, of the city and county of New York, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Racks for Exhibiting Garments, of which the following is a specification.

Although my improved rack may be employed for exhibiting garments of various kinds, it is more particularly intended for exhibiting ladies' cloaks and jackets; and the particular object of my invention has been to provide a light portable rack, constructed in sections, so that it may be readily collapsed or folded to occupy but little space in the trunk of a traveling salesman, and so that he can in a very few moments extend and connect its parts for use wherever he may be.

My improved rack comprises in all cases two end standards, which are adjustable in height, as by making them of telescopic sections, and both supported at their lower ends as on the floor, and a folding top bar having its ends fitted to engage the tops of the standards, and composed of sections each having a horizontal pivot, whereby they may be swung into positions parallel with each other for packing. Each standard, when collapsed within its shortest length, may be readily placed in a sample-trunk, and the top bar when folded may also be there placed. I usually employ, additional to the two end standards, an intermediate standard, with which the folding sections of the top bar are connected by hinges; and I also employ with the end and intermediate standard a bottom bar, which is composed of two sections, each hinged at one end to one of the standards between which it is placed, and having a detachable connection at its other end with the other of the two standards between which it is placed. Preferably these sections of the bottom bar are hinged to the end standards, and I also hinge to the bottom of the end standards base-bars, which may be spread so as to extend at right angles to the standard, or folded upward, so as to lie close against the standard for facility in packing. On each end standard I provide an adjustable collar, and this collar is connected by braces with both the base-bars and the section of the bottom bar, which is hinged to the bottom of that standard. This collar slides upward upon the standard and permits the base-bars and the section of the bottom bar to fold closely against the standard.

The invention will be more particularly hereinafter described, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved rack extended for use. Fig. 2 is an end view thereof. Fig. 3 is a top view of the intermediate standard, showing the connection of the sections of the folding top bar with that standard. Fig. 4 is a transverse section of one of the end standards, showing the connection of its base-bars and the section of the bottom bar therewith. Fig. 5 is a transverse section of the intermediate standard, showing the detachable connection therewith of the bottom bar sections. Figs. 6 and 7 are side views at right angles to each other, showing the end standard with its base-bars and bottom bar-section folded closely against it for packing in a trunk. Fig. 8 is a side view of the intermediate standard with the top bar-sections folded closely against it; and Fig. 9 illustrates a modified form of joint between the two folding sections of the top bar.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

The rack comprises as essential elements two end standards, A, each of which is adjustable in height, and, as here represented, the adjustment is secured by forming each end standard of a bottom section, *a*, and a top section, *a'*, sliding telescopically within the same. By a set-screw, a^2, the inner section, *a'*, may be secured at any desired height of projection above the bottom section, *a*. As here represented, an intermediate standard, A', is also employed, and is, like the end standards, composed of telescopically-joined section *a a'*, secured at any desired height by a set-screw, a^2. A folding top bar, B, is also employed. The sections B of the top bar are hinged at their inner ends by horizontal pivots *b* to a top piece or head, a^3, which is on the intermediate standard, and at their outer ends they have eyes or sockets which slip over the studs a^4, projecting from the upper ends of the end standards, or they are otherwise detachably connected with the tops of the end standards. When the rack is made without employing the intermediate standard and using only the

two end standards, the sections B of the top bar may be connected by a rule-joint, b', as shown in Fig. 9. This making of the top bar of folding sections is desirable to provide for readily collapsing said top bar into such length that it may be packed into a trunk and the standards A A', when drawn together to their shortest height, may also be readily packed within a trunk.

Each end standard A is provided with base-bars C, which are hinged at c to the bottom of the standard, and the rack also has a bottom bar, D, which is composed of sections hinged at d to the bottoms of the end standards, and having their inner ends detachably connected at d' with the bottom of the intermediate standard. As here represented, this detachable connection between the sections of the bottom bar, D, and the intermediate standard, A', is formed by constructing the intermediate standard, A', with pairs of laterally-projecting lugs or ears d^2, between which the bottom bar-sections, D, enter, and forming in these lugs or ears notches d^3, which receive a cross-pin, d^4, in the bar-section D. When the ends of the bar-sections D are thus connected with the intermediate standard, the end standards and intermediate standard are held at the proper distance apart.

When packing the rack in a trunk, it is necessary to fold the base-bars C and the bottom bar-section, D, of each end standard into positions parallel with the end standard, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7. To provide for readily doing this, I place upon each end standard A an adjustable collar, C', which may be secured in any position by a set-screw, c', and which is connected by braces C^2 with the base-bars C and the section D of the bottom bar. By loosening the set-screw c' and sliding it upward on the standard the base-bars C and the bottom bar-section, D, may be folded upward into positions parallel with the standard, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, and the folding sections B of the top bar may be folded downward against the side of the intermediate standard, A', as shown in Fig. 8. To provide for readily moving the rack about upon the floor of a room, its base portions may be provided with casters e, so that even when it is loaded with garments it may be readily moved.

An end standard A, with its necessary base-bars C and bottom bar-section, D, may be considered as constituting a section of the rack, and it is obvious that a rack of this character may be extended in a straight line or extended laterally from the intermediate standard, A'. To that end I have shown the intermediate standard, A', as provided with pairs of notched lugs or ears d^2, extending at right angles to those which receive the bar-sections D, as shown in Fig. 5, and I have represented the ends of other bar-sections, D', as engaged with these latter lugs or ears. To the same end I have represented the top piece, a^3, of the intermediate standard as provided with lugs or ears b^2, extending at right angles to the top bar-sections, B, as best shown in Fig. 3, and in these lugs or ears b^2 may be pivoted top bar-sections, B', similar to those here designated B, but extending at right angles to them. Thus by providing an intermediate standard with hinged top bar-sections, B B', extending from it at four equidistant points, and by providing four end standards, A, each with a bottom bar-section, D or D', I form a rack having four sections radiating from a common center.

The above-described rack will be light and very quickly set up for use or taken down for packing. Its top and bottom bars, B D, may be composed of flat thin bars set up edgewise, and its standards A A' may be formed of thin tubes. Because of the adjustment of the standards vertically, provision is afforded for forming a low rack, on which jackets or short coats may be exhibited, and by raising the standards I adjust the rack so that it is adapted for long coats.

Not only is my improved rack very advantageous for traveling salesmen, as it can be carried in their trunks and can, at a moment's notice, be set up in any hotel-room ready for use, but it is also very desirable for retail and wholesale stores, because in the dull season they can be folded together and laid away in a very small compass, thereby saving large and valuable space over the old-fashioned and clumsy wooden racks commonly used for the purpose.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a rack for garments, the combination, with two standards, A, adjustable in height and each to be supported at its lower end, as on the floor, of a folding top bar, B, having its ends fitted to engage the tops of the standards and composed of sections each having a horizontal pivot, whereby they may be swung into parallel position for packing, substantially as herein described.

2. In a rack for garments, the combination, with two telescopic standards and folding base-bars hinged to the lower section of each standard, of a collar adjustable on each standard and braces pivotally connected with the collar and folding base-bars, so that by sliding the collar the base-bars and braces may be adjusted to position for use or folded against the standard, and a folding top bar having its ends fitted to engage the tops of the standards, substantially as herein described.

3. The combination, with two end standards and an intermediate standard, of a folding top bar composed of two sections permanently hinged at their inner ends to the intermediate standard and at their outer ends fitted to engage the end standard, and a folding bottom bar composed of sections each hinged at one end to one of the standards and having at its other end a detachable engagement with another of the standards, substantially as herein described.

4. The combination of the telescopic end

standards, A, each having hinged to its lower section the base-bars C and the section D of the bottom bar, the adjustable collar C′ on each end standard and the folding braces C^2, connecting said collar with the base-bars C and the bar-section D, the intermediate telescopic standard, with the bottom of which the bar-sections D detachably engage, and the folding top bar, B, composed of sections hinged to the intermediate standard and detachably engaging the end standards, substantially as herein described.

SOLOMON WOLERSTEIN.

Witnesses:
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JOS. W. ROE.