

(No Model.)

J. W. FLETCHER.  
CLOTHES DRIER.

No. 429,023.

Patented May 27, 1890.

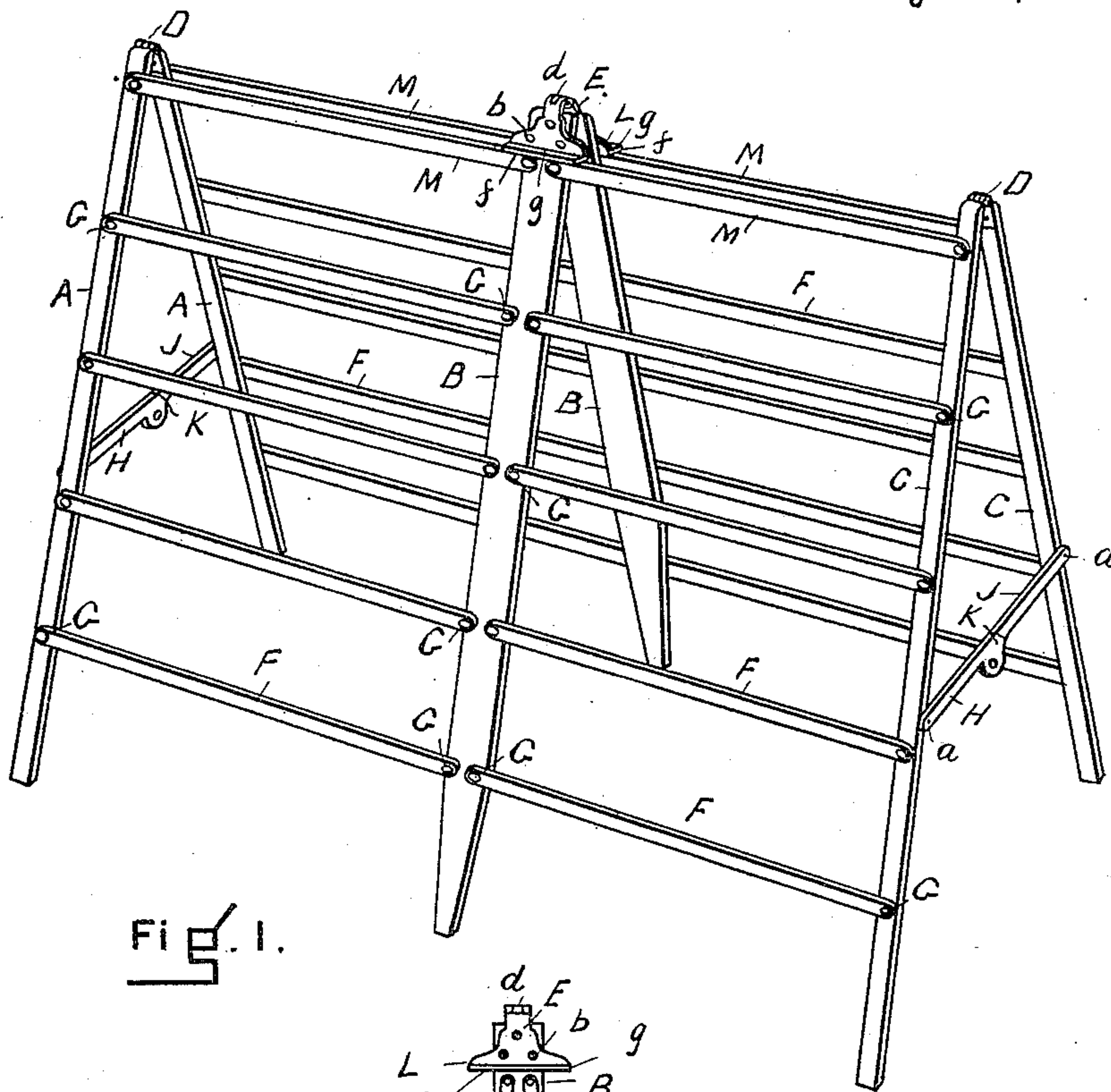


Fig. 1.

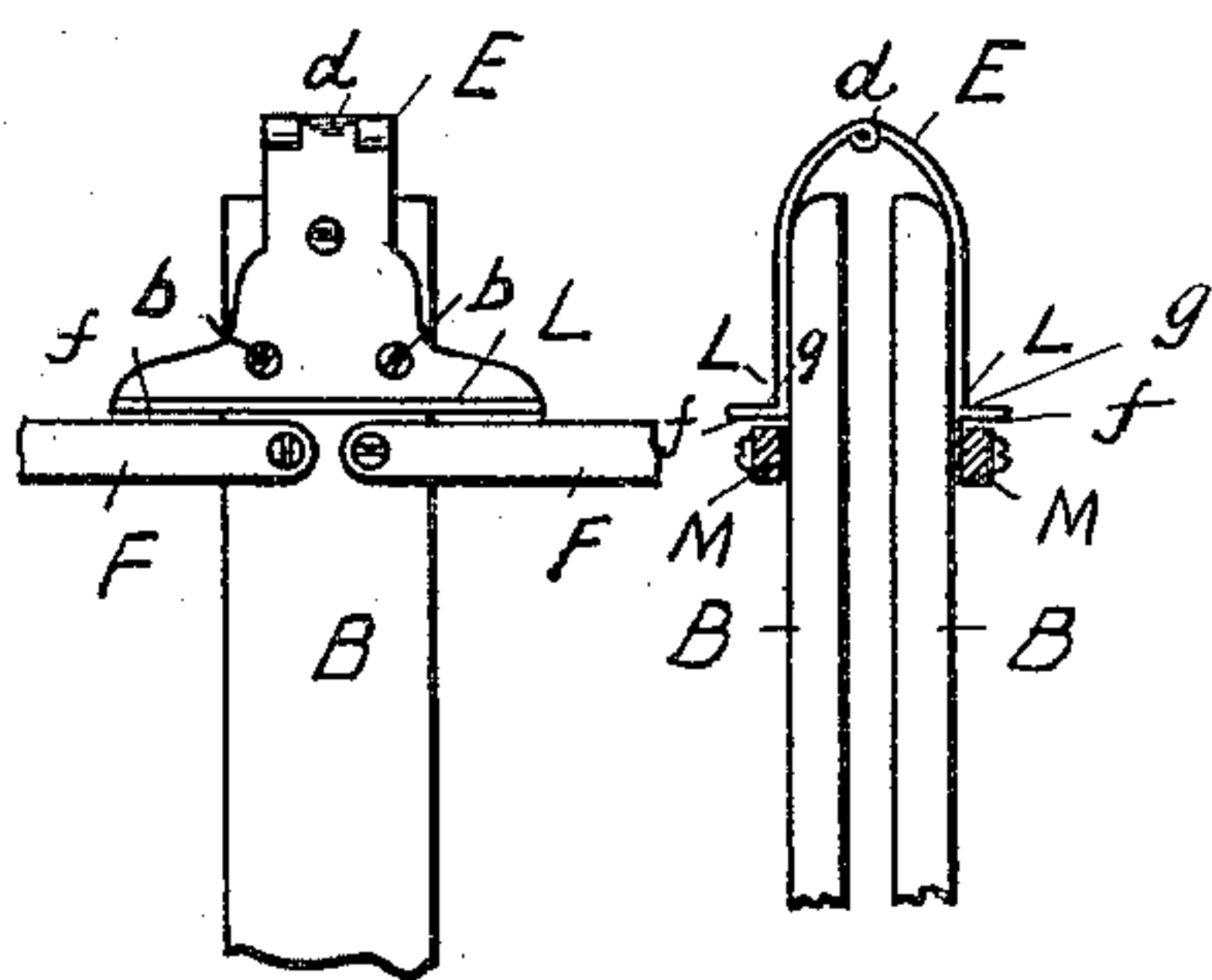


Fig. 3. Fig. 4.

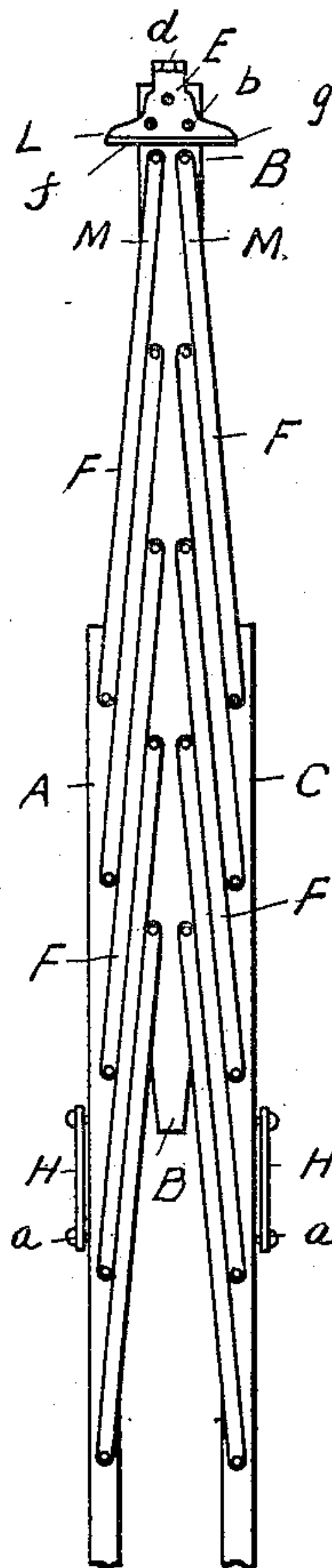


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. FLETCHER, OF CHELSEA, MASSACHUSETTS.

## CLOTHES-DRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 429,023, dated May 27, 1890.

Application filed December 20, 1889. Serial No. 334,387. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN W. FLETCHER, of Chelsea, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Horses, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention consists of a clothes-horse more especially for house use, constructed and arranged for operation all substantially as hereinafter fully described, reference being had to the accompanying sheet of drawings, in which is illustrated a clothes-horse having this invention applied thereto.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the clothes-horse in its open position, and Fig. 2 an end view in its closed position; Figs. 3 and 4, detail views, enlarged, of the parts more particularly relating to this invention.

In the drawings, A A, B B, and C C represent uprights or legs in pairs, each pair being hinged together at their upper ends by hinges D and E, so that they can be opened from and closed upon each other, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 more particularly. The several uprights are connected together, as shown by cross bars or rods F, as usual, on which the clothes or other articles are hung, which bars or rods are secured to their respective uprights by screws G, forming pivots on which they can swing up and down, so that after the uprights are closed upon each other by their hinges the end uprights A and C can be swung down into the position shown in Fig. 2, by which the horse is put in a close and compact condition for putting away when not in use or for convenience in transportation.

To prevent the uprights opening from each other too far when the horse is open and in use, two rods H J are pivoted to the end uprights A C at *a* and to each other by a butt hinge-joint K, which prevents downward movement of the rods beyond substantially a horizontal plane, so that the horse is held in its proper open position, and yet can be easily folded when desired, all of which is well known, and therefore in itself does not con-

stitute the present invention, which relates more particularly to the construction of the hinges E in relation to the cross-bars, as will be now described.

The hinges E, connecting the middle uprights, are formed of two leaves, but are bent, as shown more particularly in Fig. 4, so as to be secured to the outside of the uprights by screws *b*, the joint *d* being centrally above the top of the uprights. Each leaf is preferably widened to extend at its free end each side and beyond the sides of the upright to which it is secured to form a bar or brace L, and in such position on the upright and in relation to the upper cross-bars M that when the clothes-horse is opened out and extended for use, as shown in Fig. 1, the upper cross-bars will abut and bear against the lower sides or edges *f* of the bar or brace portion of each leaf of the hinge, preventing farther upward movement of the cross-bars, so that the horse will be held in proper open position for use. The leaves of these hinges E are preferably made of sheet metal to make them light and of little cost, and the lower edge of each leaf is bent or projects outward at a right angle or substantially at a right angle to form a flange or rim, as shown at *g* in Fig. 4, more particularly to present, when the hinge-leaf is made of thin material, a broad shoulder or bearing for the upper cross-bars when the horse is open.

The hinge, with its bearing edges *f*, can be secured in any suitable manner and can be made of any suitable material and shape—for instance, by casting them from any suitable metal and with or without the flange or rim or angular projection, as desired; but it is preferable, however, to make it as described, as it can be made easily, striking it up out of the sheet metal and produced at a trifling cost; also, if desired, only one leaf of the hinge need have the bearing portion *f*; but it is preferable to have both leaves so constructed, especially when there are upper cross-bars M on each side of the horse.

The rest or brace portion of the hinge should extend sufficiently each side of the



upright to present a length of bearing-surface for the cross-bars to hold the clothes-horse firmly in position when open.

The hinge can be nickel-plated or ornamented in any suitable manner.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

In a clothes-horse, the combination, with the uprights and the cross-bars suitably pivoted thereto, of a hinge connecting two of

the uprights at their upper ends and adapted to form a rest or bearing for the cross-bars, for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN W. FLETCHER.

Witnesses:

EDWIN W. BROWN,  
CARRIE E. NICHOLS.