

(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. F. PERKINS & C. S. GOODING.  
DRESS FORM.

No. 463,343.

Patented Nov. 17, 1891.

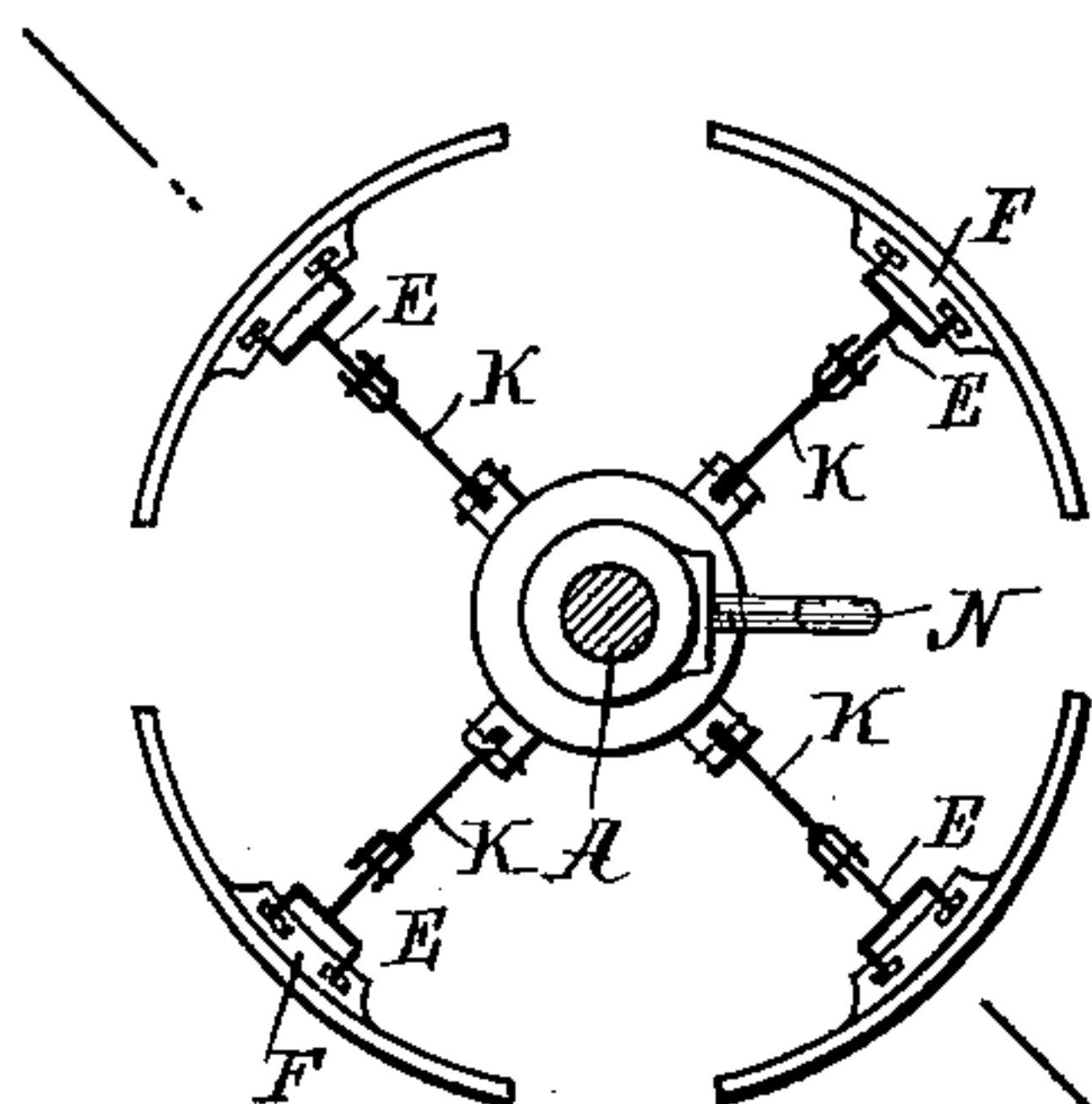


Fig. 1.

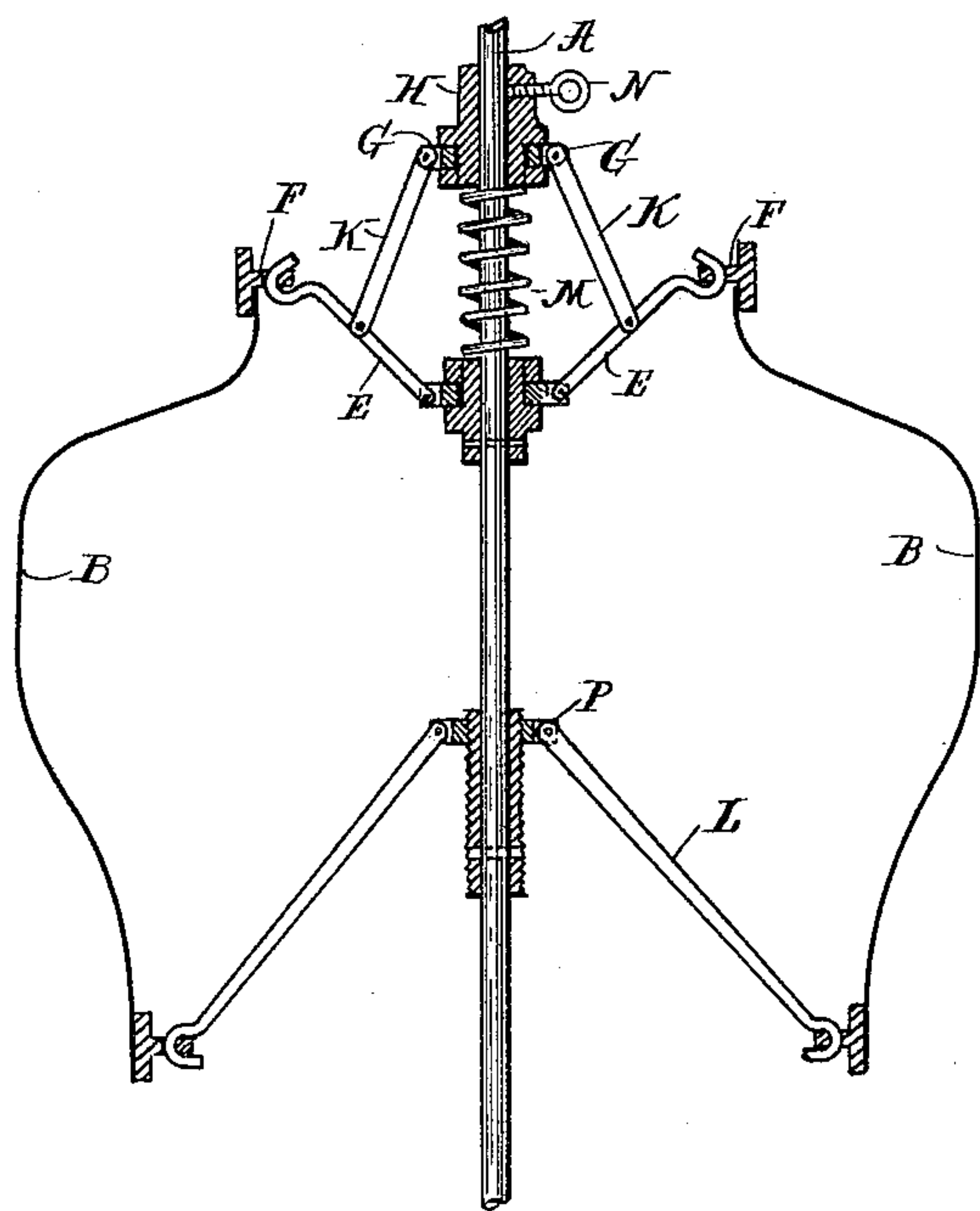
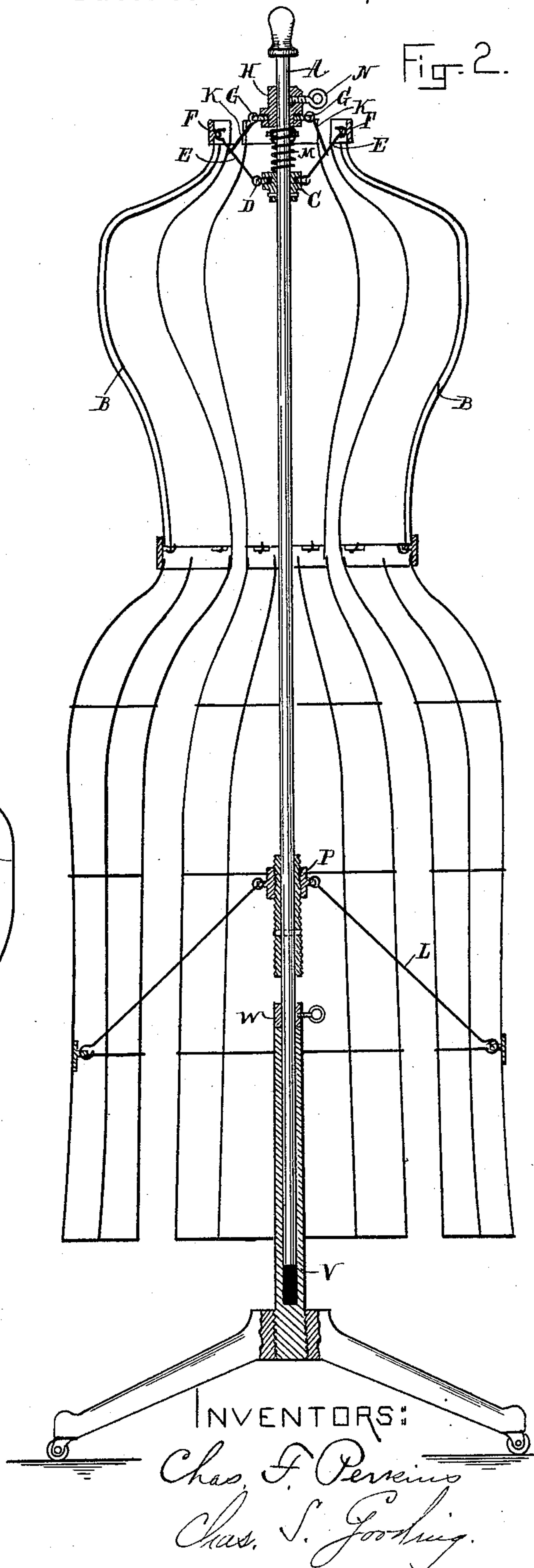


Fig. 3.

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Fig. 4.

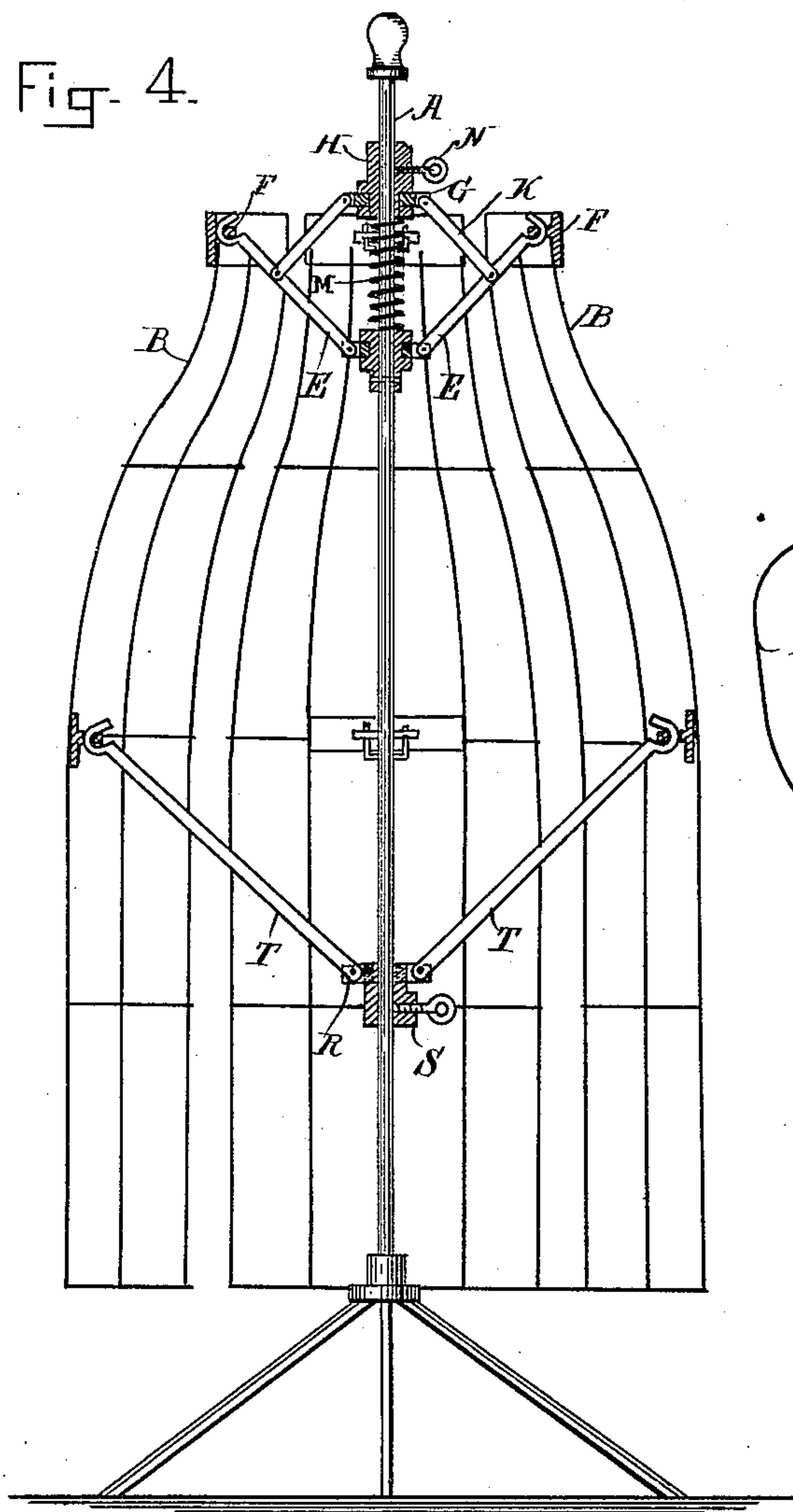


Fig. 5.

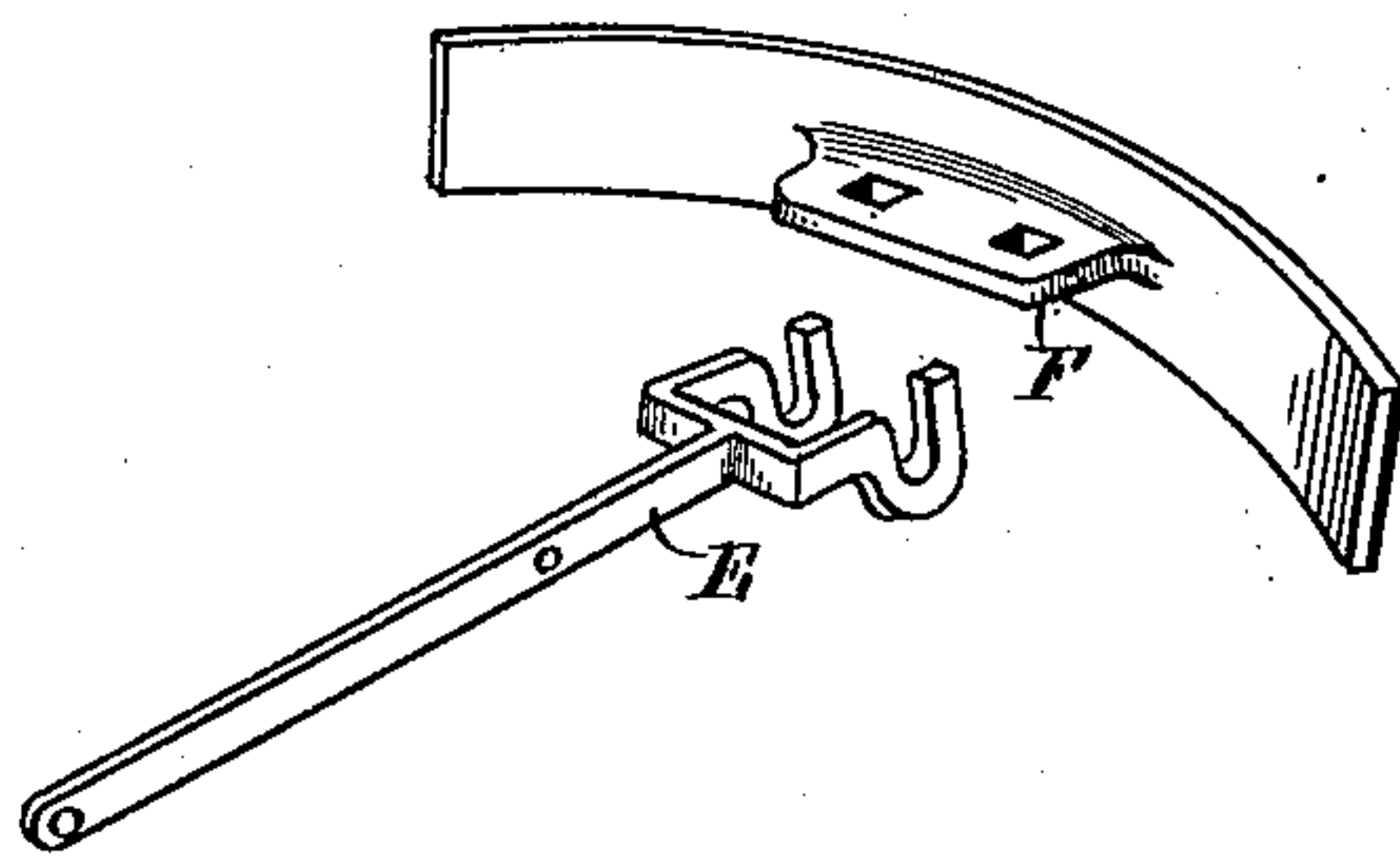
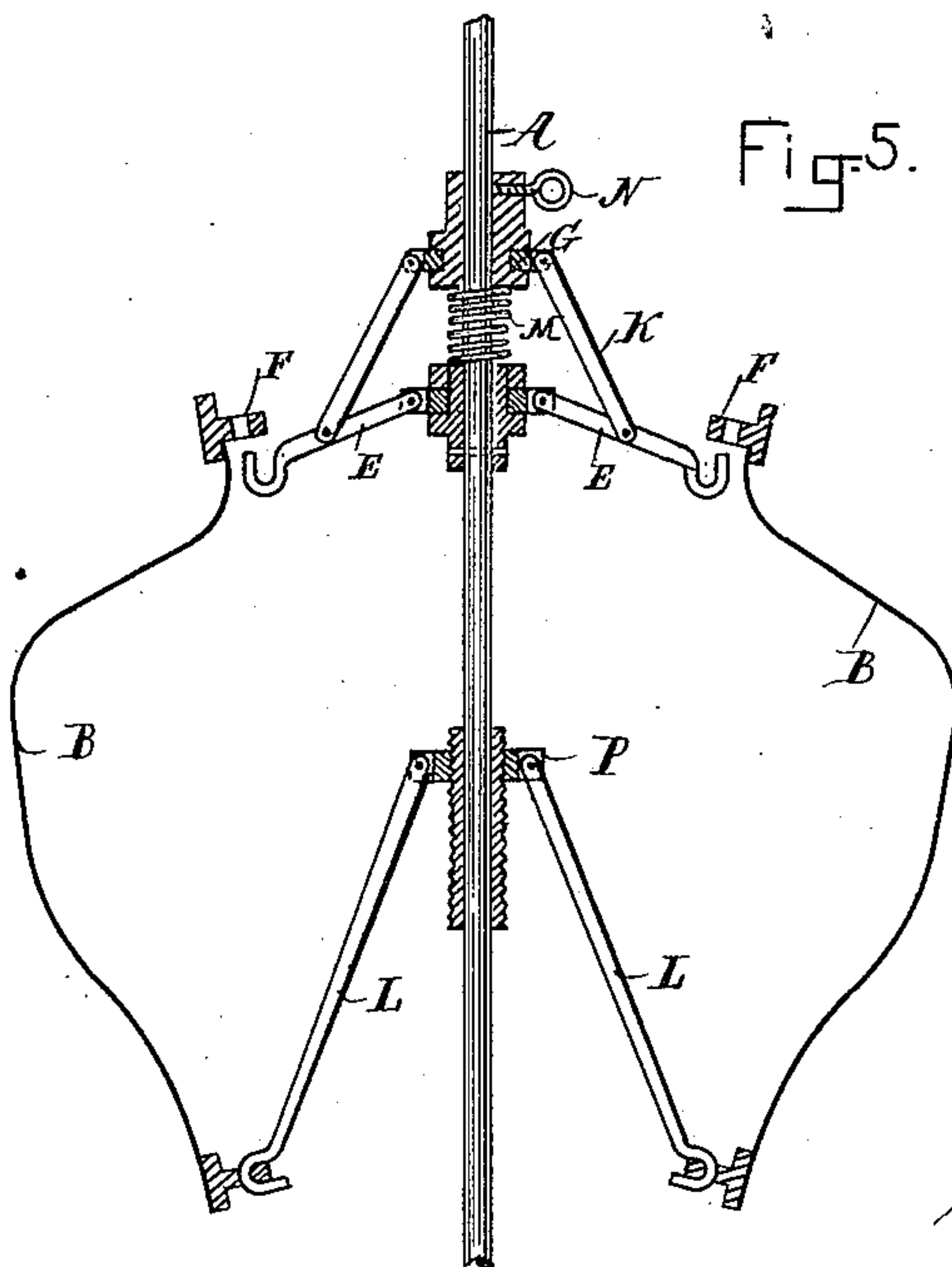


Fig. 6.

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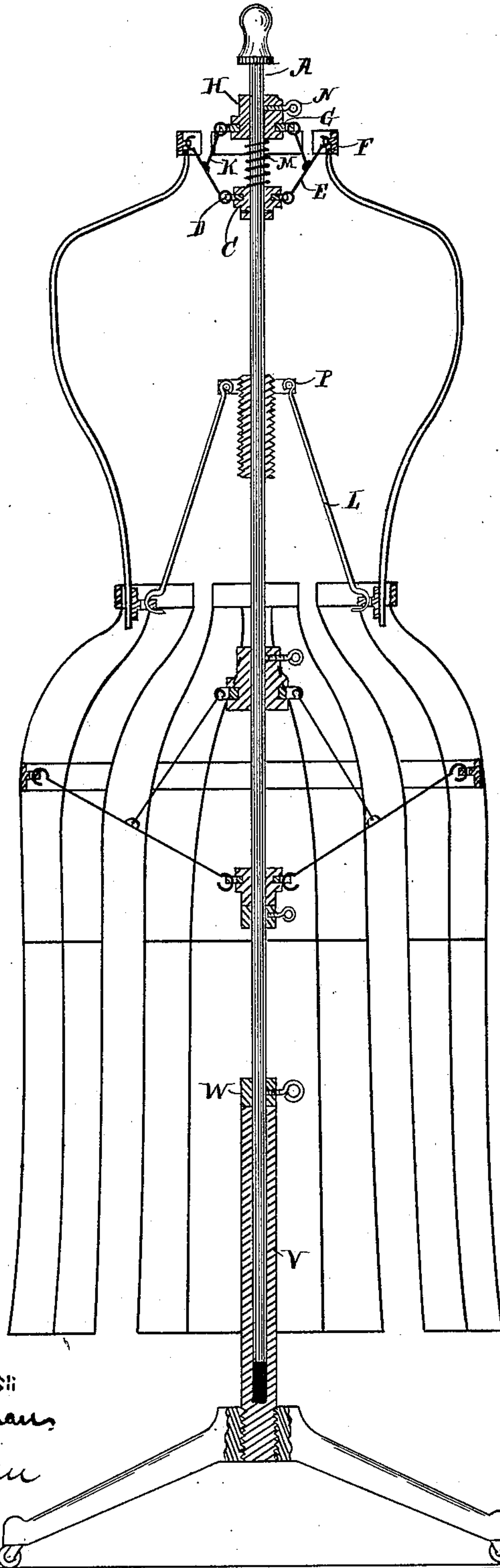


Fig. 7.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES F. PERKINS AND CHARLES S. GOODING, OF BROOKLINE,  
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## DRESS-FORM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 463,343, dated November 17, 1891.

Application filed November 29, 1890. Serial No. 373,016. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, CHARLES F. PERKINS and CHARLES S. GOODING, citizens of the United States, residing at Brookline, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Dress-Forms, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention consists of an adjustable form for supporting and giving shape to ladies' dresses, which is made in four longitudinal sections or ribs, each of which is connected to a central standard or post by means of hinged or pivoted braces. The four ribs as combined correspond to the general shape of a lady's dress. They may be used for the entire dress or for the waist or skirt separately. The inner ends of these braces are pivoted to collars on the standard and their outer ends are connected with the sections or ribs. The outer extremities of the braces are so shaped that when the braces are in the position required for actual use they will not become detached from the ribs, but may be disconnected by throwing them into an unusual position such as they do not occupy when in use. By this construction the ribs may be readily disconnected from the braces for the purpose of transportation, and as the ears upon the ribs with which the braces are connected project but slightly from the inside surface of the ribs the ribs may be nested or packed closely one with the other, so that several complete forms will occupy no more space in transportation than formerly was occupied by one. The kind of dress-form to which our invention especially relates is that which is composed of only four sections. Heretofore forms of this kind have been crated one at a time and the expense of transportation has been greatly disproportionate to the price of the article.

There are many forms of mechanism in which our invention may be embodied, and we do not limit ourselves to the precise means which we have herein shown to illustrate it.

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the upper portion of a form containing our invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of a form for an entire dress embodying our invention. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of a form for a dress-

waist, showing our invention. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of a form for a dress-skirt, showing modifications of the lower braces employed in Fig. 3. Fig. 5 shows the braces in a position to disconnect them from the ribs. Fig. 6 is an enlarged view of the hooked ends of the braces and the ears on the ribs, with which they are connected. Fig. 7 shows a separate waist-form embodying our invention combined with a separate skirt-form.

The waist and skirt of Fig. 7 are considered as two distinct forms, although they may be used together, as shown. The waist and skirt portions of the form shown in Fig. 2 cannot be used separately, and we treat them as one form. The corresponding parts of the double or opposing braces and their connections used in the upper part of each form are indicated by like letters. The corresponding parts of the braces and their connections shown in the lower portion of the forms are indicated by like letters, with the exception of those shown in Fig. 4, where the formal difference in the construction of those parts is represented.

A is a post or standard fitted into a socket V, supported on feet or in any suitable way. The height of the post may be regulated by the vertical adjustment of the collar W thereon.

B B are four longitudinal sections of a dress-form, each possessing such shape that when suitably arranged together they bear the general shape of a lady's dress.

C is a grooved collar, pinned or fixed to the standard, upon which is a collar D free to revolve, to which are hinged bifurcated braces E, extending to each section or rib B of the form. The outer ends of the braces form hooks, the points of which are directed toward the post or standard when the braces E incline upwardly, as in Figs. 2, 3, and 4. When the braces E incline downwardly, as in Fig. 5, the points of the hooks are directed upward. In this latter position they can be inserted into the holes in the ears F on the ribs of the form when said ribs are in a vertical position; but when the braces are restored to the position shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4 and incline upwardly it is obvious that their hooks cannot be entered into or removed



from the ears. When the form is in use, the braces E always incline upwardly and there is no occasion for or liability of their being in any other.

5 Pivoted to a collar G, free to revolve on a vertically-adjustable grooved collar H, is a series of braces K, which are pivoted to the braces E, and which incline at such an angle with reference to the braces E that they prevent a collapse of the form.

10 To detach the ribs from the braces the set-screw N in the collar H should be released and the latter pushed down upon the standard until the braces E assume the position shown in Fig. 5. Each rib can be then unhooked from the braces E by lifting it slightly, and can be unhooked from the lower braces L by throwing the top of the rib outwardly until the whole rib is in a horizontal position, or  
20 by raising the rib to a height which will cause the braces L to incline upward. To set up the form the operation is reversed—that is to say, the ribs are first hooked upon the lower braces L, then upon the upper braces E, and  
25 then the collar H is raised and returned to its first position.

The size of the form is varied by a vertical adjustment of the collars to which the braces are pivoted; but it will be observed that at  
30 the maximum expansion of the form the hooks are in a position which will prevent a disconnection of the ribs from the braces.

The adjustment of the upper portion is obtained by raising or lowering the collar H, thereby spreading the sections or ribs B apart more or less, as may be required. A spiral spring M is provided between the collars H and D to overcome the weight of the ribs, in case the thumb-screw N is not set against the  
40 post. This a mere detail to guard against the results of carelessness of the operator.

The arrangement of opposing braces E and K locks the neck portion at any given size, in connection with which a single series of braces, such as L, placed in a lower portion of the form, will adjust the entire form at any required size. We do not claim any particular form of lower braces and means for operating them. There are many varieties in use. A  
50 nut P, having braces L pivoted to it and operated by a screw-thread on the standard, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 5, is one well-known mode of construction. Another form consists of a sliding collar R, set-collar S, and braces  
55 T, as shown in Fig. 4. In all these arrangements the essential feature is the construction of the outer ends of the braces, so that they may be readily connected to and detached from the ribs without any liability of separating from them when the form is in use. It is obvious that the braces which connect with the ribs, either at the upper portion or elsewhere, may be made to incline either upwardly or downwardly when in use. If  
60 the direction is changed from that shown in the drawings, the hook must of course be formed in the reverse direction. If, for in-

stance, the braces E should be made to incline downwardly when in use, the hook would be formed by bending the point downward instead of upward, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4.

There are also several varieties of opposing pivoted braces in use which are well-known equivalents for those herein shown, and may be substituted therefor without affecting the principle of my invention. There is in use a class of dress-forms in which the braces to which the ribs are secured extend and swing from the standard in a horizontal plane instead of a vertical plane, as shown in the  
80 drawings, and to which our invention may be applied.

When applying our invention to a waist-form to be used in connection with a separate skirt-form, as shown in Fig. 7, we recommend that the ribs be made of sufficient length to extend below the waistband, as shown, so as to admit of variation in the length of the waist by raising or lowering it upon the standard, which will adapt it to persons of different figures.

Any form of construction of the braces and the ears or parts to which they are connected on the ribs, whereby the relative positions of the parts when in use tend to prevent the disconnection of the ribs from the braces, but whereby they may be disconnected by forcing the parts into other positions, is covered by our invention.

We are aware that dress-forms have been made in sections, said sections being supported from a sleeve movable on a central standard by means of arms hinged to the sleeves and to the sections, and do not claim such device.

It is characteristic of our improvement that the connection of the braces with the sections is such that they are not normally detachable, but such that they can be readily detached without other change than a simple adjustment or arrangement of the relative position of the braces and dress-form sections, said adjustment being preferably one not within the range of ordinary adjustments for practical use.

What we claim as our invention is—

1. A dress-form consisting of several longitudinal sections B, corresponding to the shape of a lady's dress, combined with a post and a collar thereon and with a series of arms or braces E, having their inner ends pivoted to a collar on said post and having their outer ends provided with hooks adapted to fit into ears F upon the said sections, the points of said hooks being directed toward the post and non-detachable when the form is in an operative position and adapted to be turned into a removable position by moving the braces to an abnormal position on their pivoted connections with the standard, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of a central post A, a series of sections B of a dress-form supported upon said post by a series of braces E, pivoted



at their inner ends to a collar D thereon, said  
braces being provided with hooks at their  
outer ends, the points of which hooks are di-  
rected toward the post and non-detachable  
5 when the form is in operative position and  
adapted to be turned in a removable position  
by moving the braces to an abnormal position  
on their pivoted connections with the post,  
said hooks fitting into ears F upon said sec-  
10 tions, and a second series of braces K, pivoted  
at their inner ends to a collar G on the post,  
said braces K being pivoted at their outer  
ends to said braces E, one of said collars being  
adjustable upon the post A and both provided  
15 with means for fixing them thereto, substan-  
tially as set forth.

3. A dress-form composed of several sec-  
tions B and supported upon a central post A  
by means of two series of braces E and L, one  
20 above the other, the outer ends of each series

of braces being provided with hooks fitting  
into ears upon the said sections, said hooks  
being non-detachable when the form is in op-  
erative position and adapted to be turned in  
a removable position by moving the braces 25  
to an abnormal position on their pivoted con-  
nections with the post, the inner ends of said  
braces being pivoted to collars D and P, re-  
spectively, combined with a third series of  
braces K, pivoted at their outer ends to the 30  
braces E and at their inner ends to the collar  
G, all of said collars being adjustable upon  
the post and capable of being fixed thereto in  
any desired relation to each other, substan-  
tially as set forth.

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