

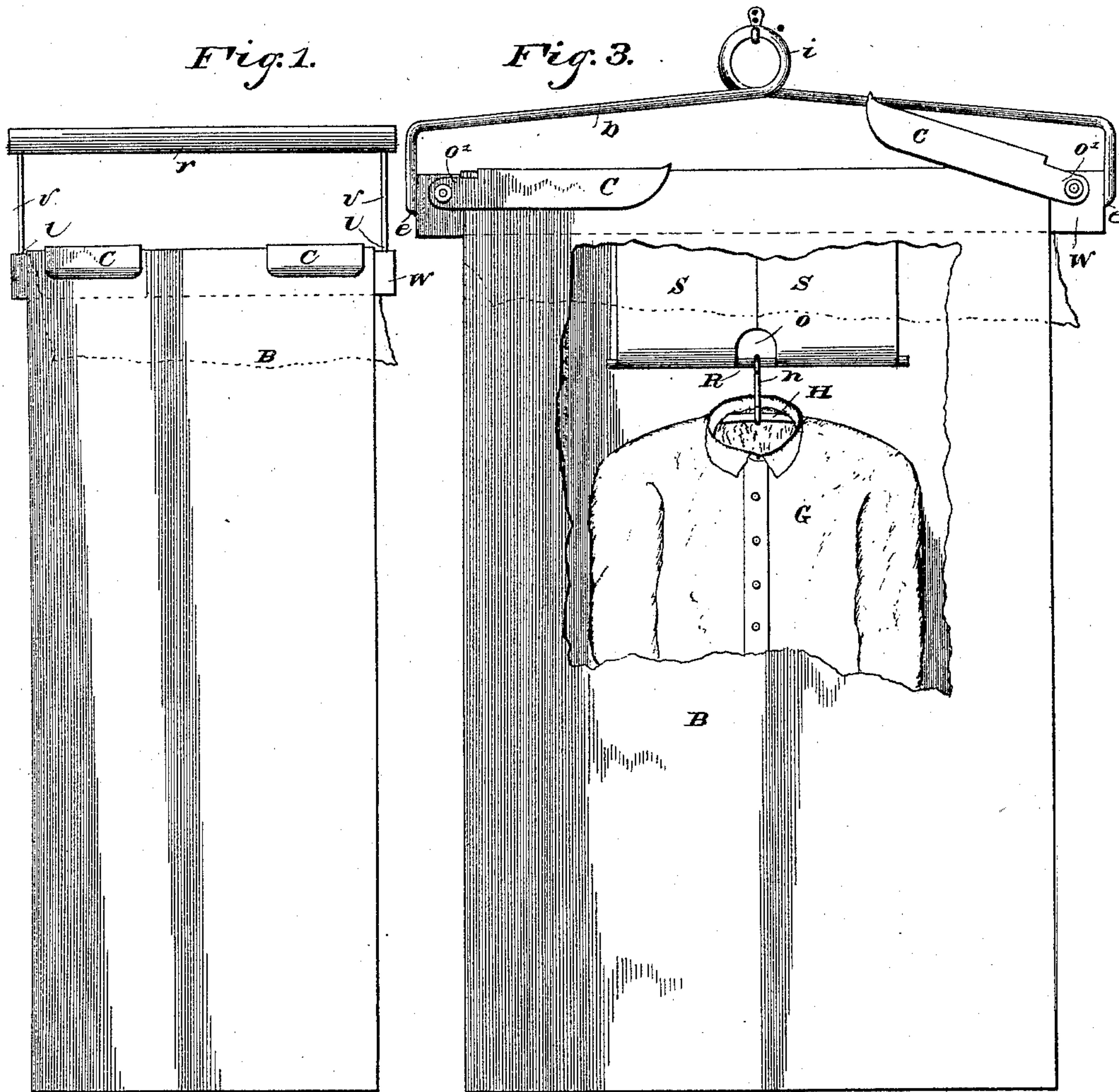
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. D. SMITH.
BAG FASTENER AND SUPPORT.

No. 473,969.

Patented May 3, 1892.



Witnesses

B. S. Ovan

Inventor

Walton D. Smith,

By his Attorneys,

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C. A. Snow & Co.

(No Model.)

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Fig. 2.

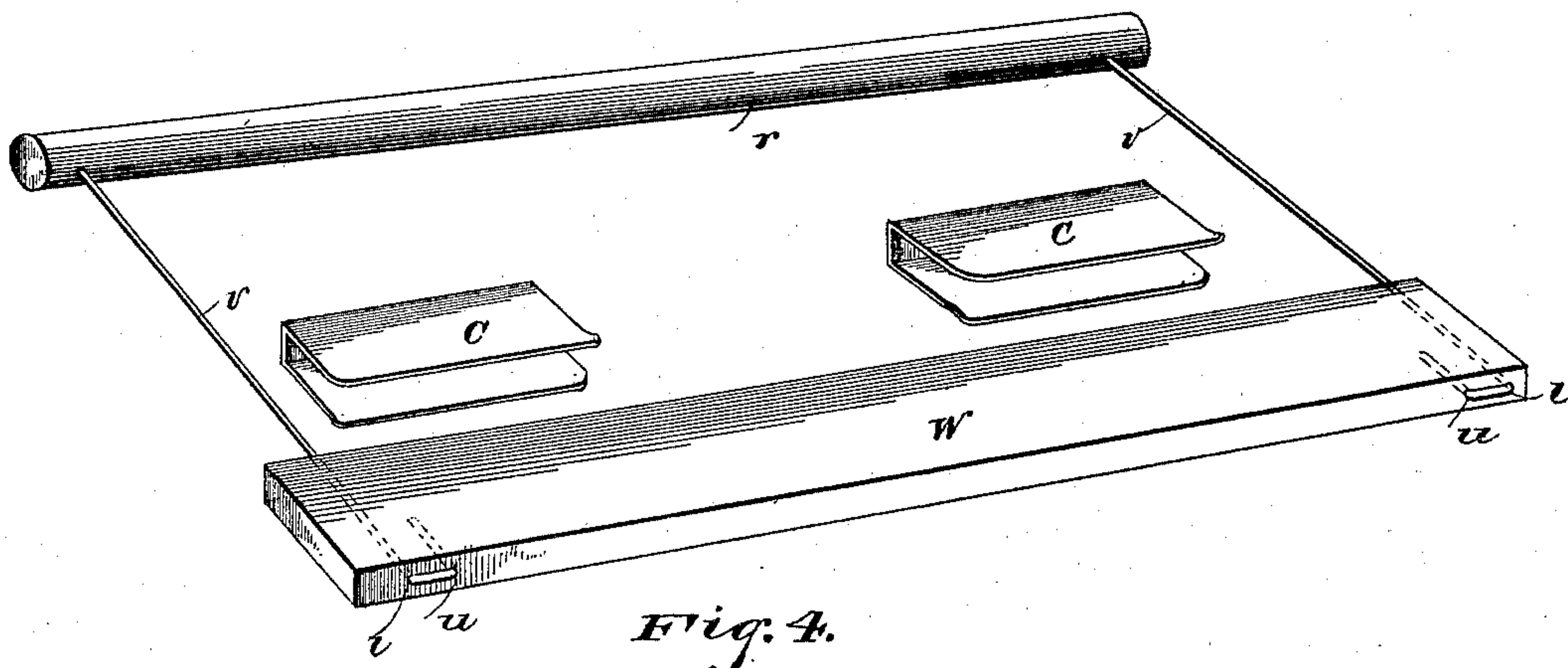


Fig. 4.

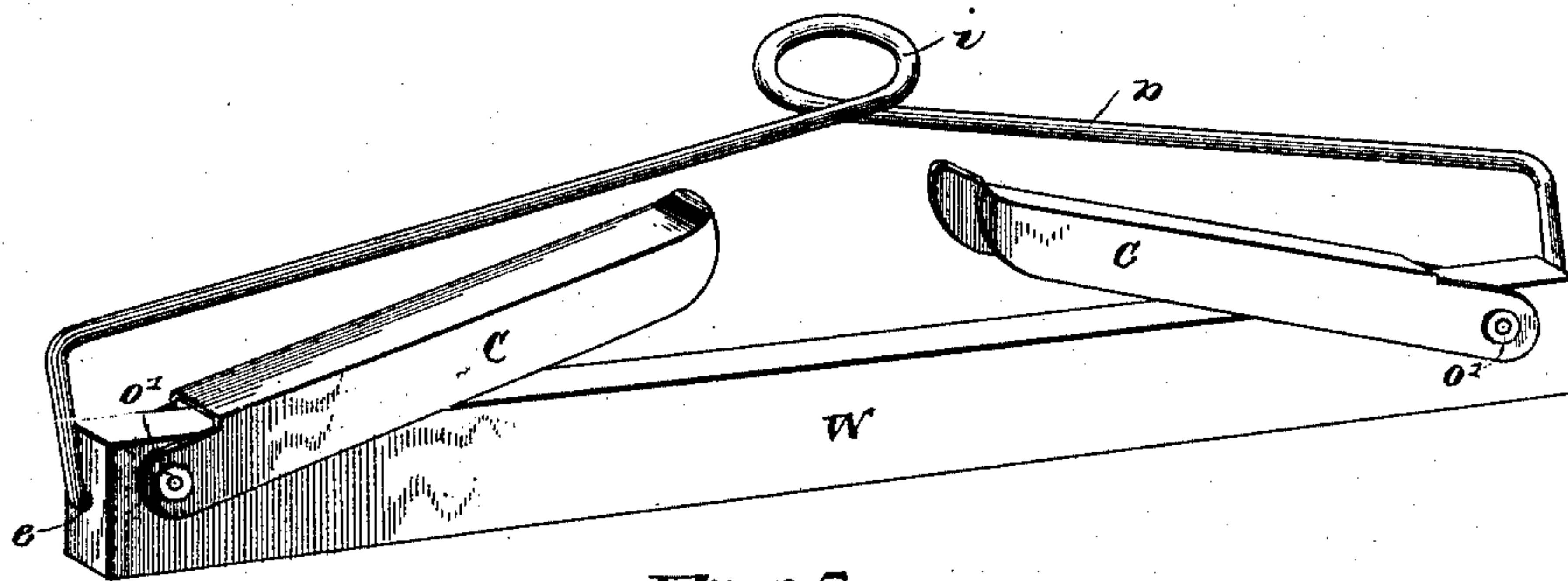
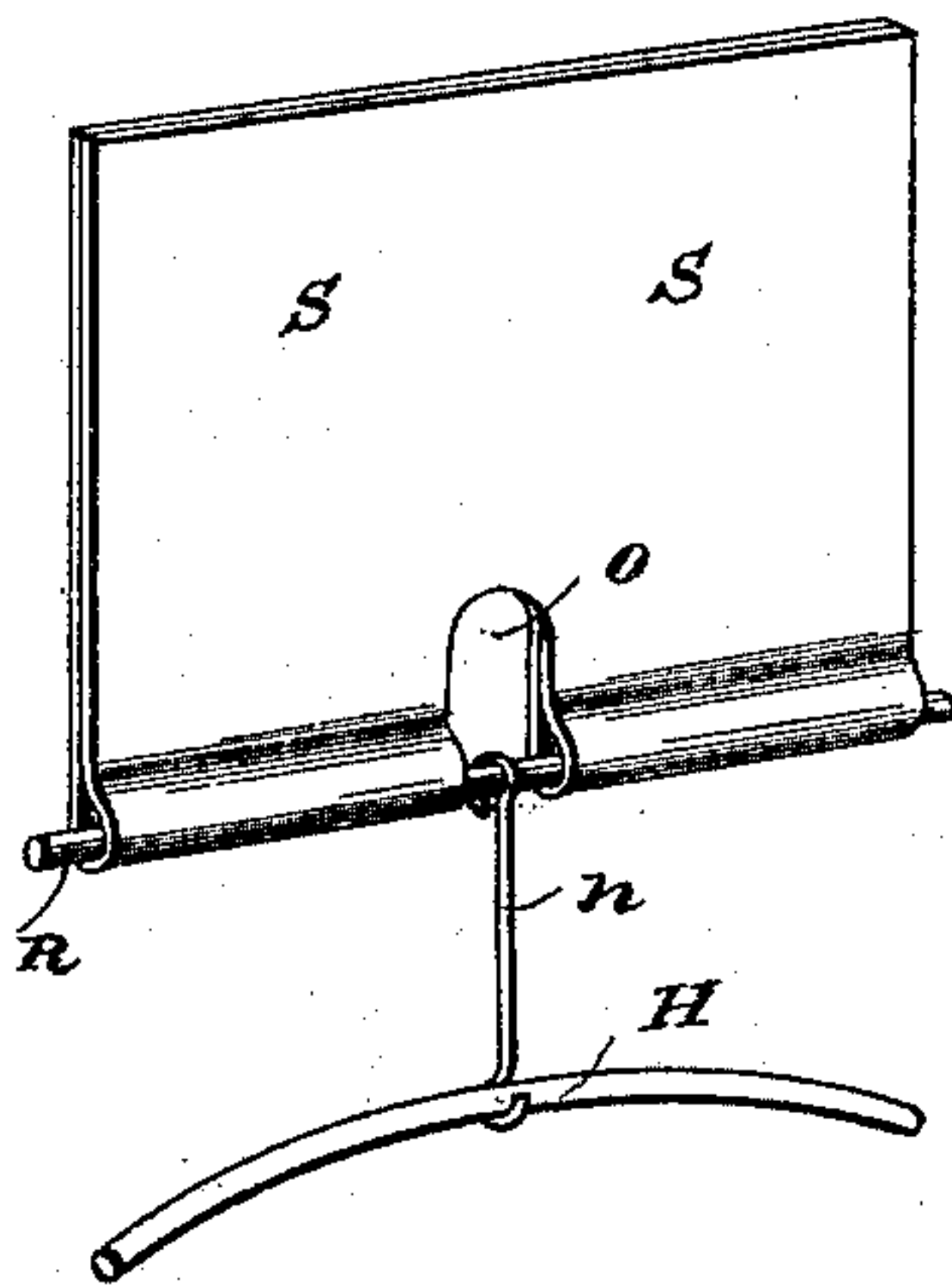


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTON DUANE SMITH, OF PROPHETSTOWN, ILLINOIS.

BAG FASTENER AND SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 473,969, dated May 3, 1892.

Application filed August 10, 1891. Serial No. 402,301. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTON DUANE SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Prophetstown, in the county of Whiteside and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Bag Fastener and Support, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to packing and storing vessels, and more especially to the closures of bags such as are of paper or similar material; and the object of the same is to produce an improved closure and support for the bag and for its contents.

To this end the invention consists in the closure proper, the bail, and the garment-support, each and all constructed substantially as hereinafter more fully described, and as illustrated on the two sheets of drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of one form of this device, showing the mouth of a bag as closed thereby. Fig. 2 is a perspective detail of the parts of this closure separated, the bag being omitted. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of a slightly-different form of this device with one of the clamps raised, showing the mouth of a bag as closed thereby and also showing the face of the bag broken away to illustrate the manner of mounting a garment on the support. Fig. 4 is an enlarged perspective detail of the parts of this closure in their open position. Fig. 5 is an enlarged perspective detail of the garment-support removed from the bag.

Referring to the said drawings, the letter B designates a bag, which is preferably of moth-proof paper, although it may be of any flexible material. When of moth-proof paper, the bag is adapted to contain a garment, which may be stored away without danger of injury from moth or other insects or from dust. In this case strips S, preferably of paper, are formed into loop shape and inclose a rod R, a space being left between the two strips at the center of the rod, or there being but a single strip with an opening O at the center, as seen in Fig. 5. The strips are doubled upon themselves, and their ends are secured, as by pasting or riveting, within the body of the bag B, so that the rod R shall stand horizontal. The garment G is mounted on a garment-holder H of well-known pattern, and

the hook *h* of the latter is passed through the opening O and engaged over the rod. By this means the garment will be suspended entirely within the bag and need not be folded or doubled, so as to wrinkle it, as is usual in storing clothes away, and if the bag be tightly closed at its mouth and be suspended the garment may be taken out at any time and will be found to be in good condition.

The means I employ for closing the mouth of the bag are described below; but it is to be understood that such closure does not necessitate the employment of the bag as a garment-holder, because the bag can be used to contain anything else desired without departing from the spirit of my invention. Thus, for instance, my closure and bail can be sold in quantities to merchants, such as grocers, and whenever the latter sell an article it is put into a bag and one of my closures applied thereto, the latter serving to seal up the mouth of the bag and as a handle by which the purchaser can carry home his purchase.

The letter W designates a bar, preferably of wood and slightly longer than the width of the bag. The upper end of the latter is turned over this bar, as seen in Figs. 1 and 3, and spring-metal clamps C are borne downwardly onto the turned-over portion, so as to firmly clamp or clasp the bag onto the bar W, thereby effectually sealing the mouth of the bag against the entrance of dust or insects. The clamps are of U shape in cross-section, and their outer ends O' are preferably formed into tongues pivoted to the sides of the bar W, although, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, they may be entirely independent of the bar, if preferred. When applied, the sides of their bodies yield outwardly slightly and their spring force causes such sides to clamp tightly on the paper.

The handle by which this device may be supported or carried consists either of a wire bail *b*, having its ends *e* turned in and pivoted in the ends of the bar W, or it consists of vertical wires *v*, whose lower ends *l* pass downwardly through the ends of the bar, extend inwardly along the lower edge thereof, and are turned upwardly, as at *u*, as seen in Fig. 2, and in the former case the body of the bail constitutes the handle, while in the latter case the upper ends of the vertical wires *v* are connected by a wooden rod *r*, which constitutes

the handle. The latter construction is preferable where the bag is to be carried in the hand of the operator; but the center of the wire bail *b* may have an eye *i*, whereby the device can be supported, as shown in Fig. 3. All these modifications of details are interchangeable; but I prefer where the clamps *C* are pivoted to the bar *W* to have the ends of the bail also pivoted to said bar for the reason that the latter must be turned slightly under the bail before the clamps can be raised, whereas in the other construction shown the clamps can be withdrawn beneath the rod *r*.

From the fact that the upper end of the bag passes completely over the bar *W* it will be seen that the weight of the contents of the bag will tend rather to pull the bag over the bar than to dislodge the clamps, and hence it will be found that these clamps will support whatever may be put in the bags, provided they are of proper proportionate size. Obviously the material of which the bag is composed is not essential, provided that it is flexible and sufficiently thin to pass under the clamps, and obviously the closure could be used without a handle and the garment-support could be used without confining one's self to either form of clamp or of handle.

The invention is further susceptible of many other changes in its specific details of construction without departing from the spirit thereof.

What is claimed as new is—

1. The herein-described clasp for bags and the like, the same comprising a straight bar provided with a bail or handle standing above the bar and a spring-clamp of inverted-U shape at each end of the bar and adapted to tightly clasp the bag on the bar, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with a bag of flexible material, of a bar over which the mouth of the bag is passed, the bar being longer than the width of the bag, and a spring-clamp of inverted-U-shaped cross-section adapted to hold the bag on the bar, one end of the clamp having a notch forming two tongues passing astride the bar and pivoted to its sides, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination, with a bag of flexible material, of a bar over which the mouth of the bag is turned, the bar being longer than the width of the bag, spring-clamps removably holding the bag on the bar, and a handle connected to and rising from the ends of the bar, as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination, with a bag of flexible material, of a bar over which the mouth of the bag is turned, the bar being longer than the width of the bag, spring-clamps removably holding the bag on the bar, and a wire handle having inturned ends pivoted to the

ends of the bar, as and for the purpose set forth.

5. The combination, with a bag of flexible material, of a bar over which the mouth of the bag is turned, the bar being longer than the width of the bag, spring-clamps of inverted-U-shaped cross-section adapted to hold the bag on the bar, the outer ends of the clamps having tongues pivoted to the sides of the bar, and a wire handle having inturned ends pivoted in the ends of the bar, as and for the purpose set forth.

6. The combination, with a bag of flexible material and a garment-support, substantially as described, secured within said bag, of a bar over which the mouth of the bag is passed and a spring-clamp removably holding the bag on the bar, as and for the purpose set forth.

7. The combination, with a bar and a garment-support, substantially as described, secured within the same, of a closure for the mouth of the bag and a wire bail connected to said closure and having an eye, as and for the purpose set forth.

8. The combination, with a bag, doubled strips standing at slight distances apart and having both ends secured to one face of the bag, and a rod resting in their bends, of a closure for the mouth of the bag and a supporting-handle rising from the closure, as and for the purpose set forth.

9. The combination, with a bag of flexible material, doubled strips standing at slight distances apart and having both ends secured to the inner face of the bag, and a rod resting in their bends, of a bar over which the mouth of the bag is passed, a spring-clamp removably holding the bag on the bar and closing its mouth, and means for supporting said bar, as and for the purpose set forth.

10. The combination, with a bag, of a doubled strip of material having its ends secured adjacent to the mouth of the bag and having an opening at the center of the fold, a rod supported in the fold of said strip, and a garment-holder connected to said rod, substantially as described.

11. The combination, with a bag and a garment-support secured within the same, of a closure consisting of a bar, to which the top of the bag is applied, clamps removably fitted over said applied end of the bag and the bar, and means for suspending said closing devices, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WALTON DUANE SMITH.

Witnesses:

E. PORTER BROWN,
J. Q. PADDOCK.