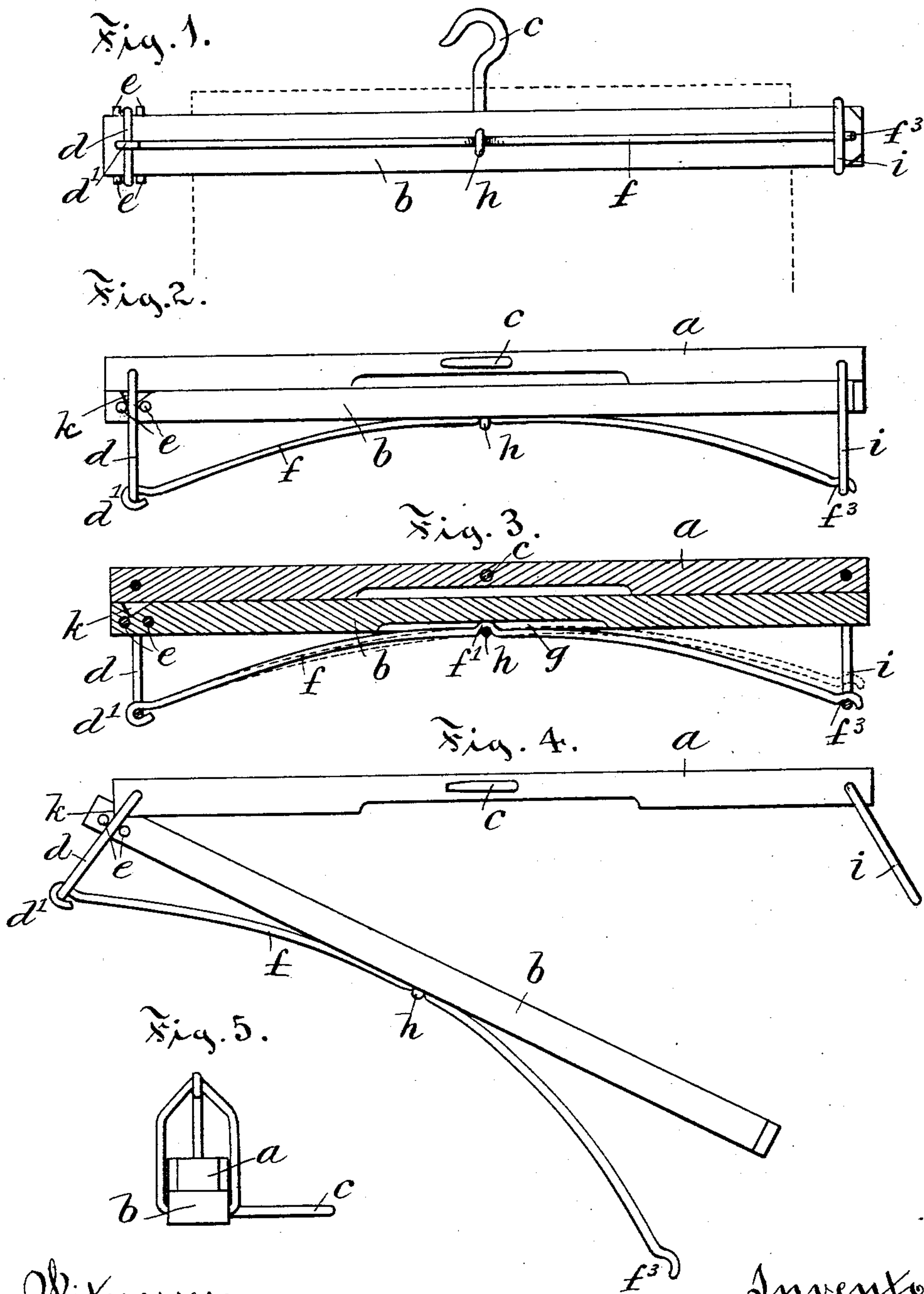


(No Model.)

F. S. SMITH.
TROUSERS HANGER.

No. 541,293.

Patented June 18, 1895.



Witnesses:

J. A. Cantin
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Inventor:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED S. SMITH, OF HARTFORD, ASSIGNOR TO IRA DIMOCK, OF WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

TROUSERS-HANGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 541,293, dated June 18, 1895.

Application filed July 27, 1894. Serial No. 518,763. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED S. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Hartford, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trousers-Hangers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, whereby any one skilled in the art can make and use the same.

10 The object of my invention is to provide a simple, cheap and compact device by means of which a pair of trousers may be suspended from a hook in such a manner and position as to best preserve their shape.

15 To this end my invention consists in the details of the several parts making up the hanger as a whole and in the combination of such parts as more particularly hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

20 Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of the device. Fig. 2 is a top view of the hanger. Fig. 3 is a view in central lengthwise section of the hanger. Fig. 4 is a view of the device with the clamps open. 25 Fig. 5 is an end view of the hanger closed.

In the accompanying drawings the letters *a b* denote the clamps or holders which are preferably made of wood and of a length sufficient to extend beyond the edges of the leg 30 of a pair of trousers or pants when the latter are folded flat, as illustrated in dotted outline in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

One of the clamps, as *a*, is provided with a hook or eye *c* by means of which the device 35 may be suspended from a nail, peg or hook in a closet or other convenient place for hanging the trousers when not in use.

The clamps *a, b*, are connected, or hinged together at one end by a loop *d* pivoted to the 40 part *a* and connected to the part *b* by a spring arm which preserves the function of the hinge while permitting a separation of the adjacent faces of the clamps a distance sufficient to receive the folded ends of both legs of a pair of 45 trousers.

The side parts of the loop *d*, which is preferably of wire, are but slightly wider apart than the thickness of the clamps, and guides *e* on the part *b* and on opposite sides of each 50 arm of the loop inclosing the clamp are so ar-

ranged as to allow the clamp *b* to move freely along the length of the loop but prevent any movement across it.

The two clamps *a b* are forced together with a yielding pressure by means of the spring *f* 55 which is preferably of wire secured to the outer face of the clamp *b* in a lengthwise groove *g*, by means of a staple *h*, and of a length about equal to that of the clamps. The center of the spring has a bend *f'* which forms a ful- 60 crum on which the spring has as a whole a slight rocking movement which allows the resiliency of its whole length to be utilized at both ends, but serves also as a socket into which the staple projects far enough to hold 65 the spring loosely against any lengthwise movement.

One end of the spring *f* is bent around the outer end of the loop *d*, as at *d'*, and pivotally connected to it, while the other end has a hook 70 *f³* to receive the end of the loop shaped latch *i* which is pivoted to the clamp *a* at the end opposite the loop hinge. This latch *i* is readily disengaged from the hook *f³* on the spring arm which allows the two clamps to be opened 75 apart as illustrated in Fig. 4, so that the ends of the trousers legs may be conveniently introduced.

The clamp *b* in opening slides along the clamp *a* until the notch *k* is reached and the 80 corner of the clamp *a* entering it forms with it a spring lock which holds the parts in angular relation to each other under the tension of the spring to facilitate the introduction of 85 the ends of the trousers legs.

The peculiar construction and arrangement of the spring enable the desired degree of yielding pressure of the clamps upon each other to be obtained without unduly creasing 90 the trousers legs.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a trousers hanger, in combination, a clamp *a*, a loop *d* pivoted to the clamp *a*, the clamp *b* projecting through the loop with guides *e* located on opposite sides of each arm 95 of the loop embracing the clamp *b* whereby movement of the clamp lengthwise of the loop but not crosswise is permitted, a spring secured to the clamp *b* and having one end secured to the loop *d*, and a latch *i* pivoted to 100

clamp *a* and adapted to engage the socket *f*³ in the end of the spring *f*, all substantially as described.

2. In a trousers hanger in combination, a
5 clamp *a*, a loop *d* pivoted to the clamp *a*, the
clamp *b* projecting through the pivot loop and
attached thereto by means permitting a move-
ment of the clamp lengthwise of the loop but
10 holding it against crosswise movement of the
loop, a notch in clamp *b* arranged to engage
the end of the clamp *a* when the clamps are
set at an angle, a spring secured to clamp *b*
and having one end secured to the loop on the
15 clamp *a* whereby a lengthwise sliding move-
ment of the clamps one upon the other is per-
mitted to cause the notch on the one part to
be engaged by the angular end of the oppo-
site clamp part, and the latch pivoted to the
20 clamp *a* and adapted to engage the opposite
end of the spring, all substantially as de-
scribed.

3. In a trousers hanger in combination, a
clamp *a*, a loop pivoted to the clamp, a clamp
25 *b* projecting through the loop and having a
lengthwise movement thereof, the pins for pre-
venting a movement of the loop lengthwise of
the clamp, a spring secured in a groove in the
clamp *b* and having a fulcrum bearing therein,
and with one end secured to the loop pivoted
30 to the clamp *a* whereby one end of each of the
clamps are held in contact but allowing a slid-
ing movement one on the other, the locking
notch located in the clamp *b* and adapted to
engage the end of the clamp *a*, and the latch
35 pivoted to the clamp *a* and adapted to engage

the end of the spring, all substantially as de-
scribed.

4. In combination in a trousers hanger,
clamping parts pivotally connected to each
other at one end and with proximate holding
40 faces, a spring loosely connected to one of the
clamping parts at or near its center portion
and extending along it, said spring being con-
nected to a loop at one end and a latch at the
other whereby the spring action of the length
45 of the wire on both sides of its support is ob-
tained, the loop connecting the spring to the
clamp at one end and the latch connecting the
spring to the clamp at its other end, all sub-
stantially as described. 50

5. In combination in a trousers hanger,
clamping parts pivotally connected to each
other at one end, and with proximate holding
faces, a groove in the outer face of one of the
clamps, a spring having a bent portion form-
55 ing a fulcrum located in the groove and loosely
secured to the clamp at that part, a loop piv-
otally connecting one end of the spring to the
other clamping part, and a latch pivotally con-
necting the opposite end of the spring with
60 the clamping parts whereby the two clamps
are held together with a yielding pressure by
the force of the spring and the whole length
of the latter utilized for that purpose, all sub-
stantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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