

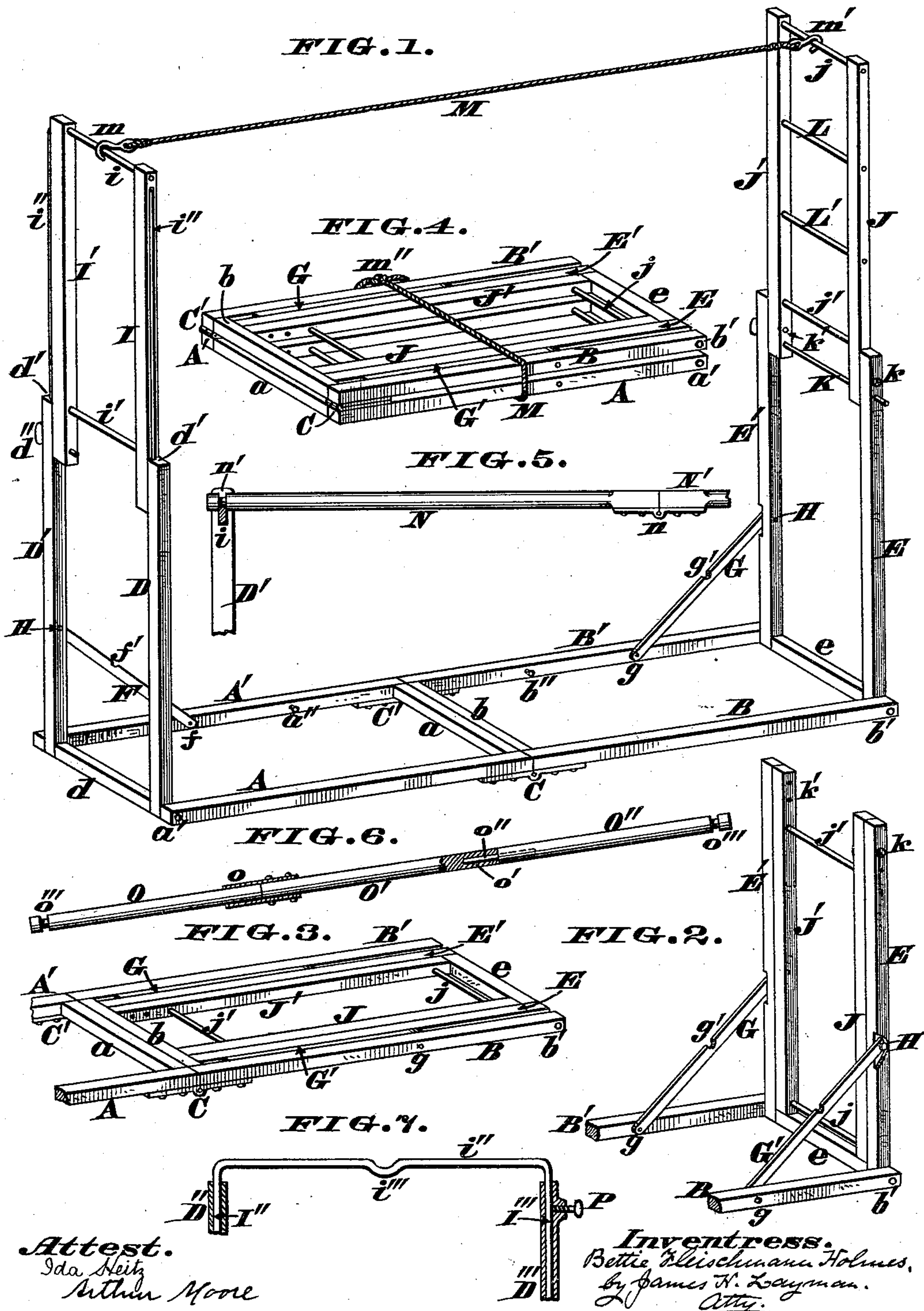
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

B. F. HOLMES.
CLOTHES DRIER.

No. 543,020.

Patented July 23, 1895.



Attest.
Ida Neitz
Arthur Moore

Inventress.
Bettie Fleischmann Holmes,
by James H. Layman.
Atty.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2

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FIG. 8.

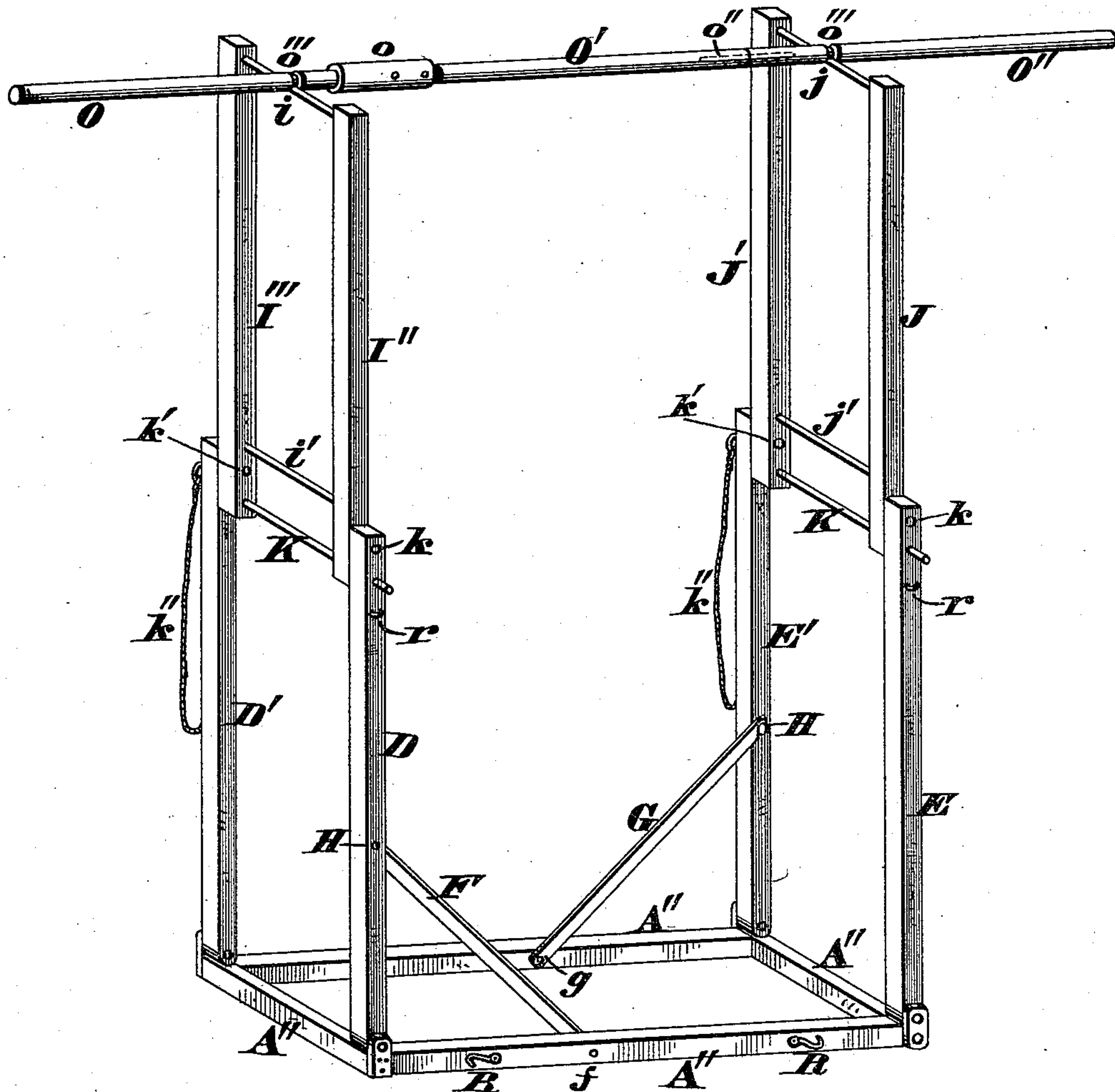
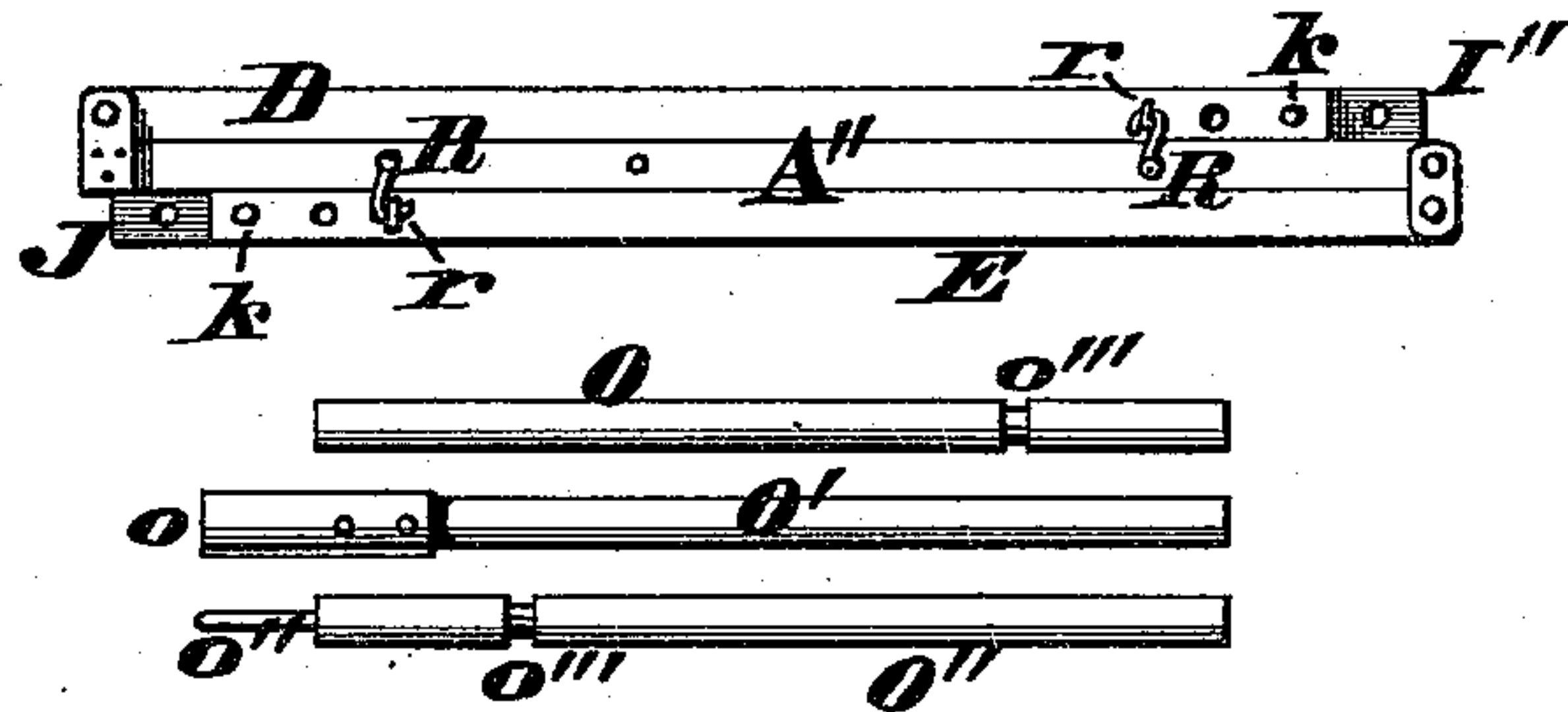


FIG. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BETTIE F. HOLMES, OF AVONDALE, OHIO.

CLOTHES-DRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 543,020, dated July 23, 1895.

Application filed April 17, 1895. Serial No. 546,166. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BETTIE FLEISCHMANN HOLMES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Avondale, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Clothes-Racks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, reference being had to the annexed drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention comprises a light frame consisting preferably of six distinct coupled sections, which can be folded together in a very compact condition and stowed away in an ordinary trunk; but when said sections are opened and properly fastened together they afford a commodious rack capable of holding a number of dresses and other articles of wearing-apparel, as hereinafter more fully described.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my clothes-rack when completely opened and ready for use. Figs. 2 and 3 are perspective views showing the successive steps of folding together one-half of said rack. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the rack when completely closed and ready to be packed within a trunk. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 represent three different modifications of the invention. Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a rack, the base of which is composed of a single frame and its top united by a rider composed of three separable parts or sections. Fig. 9 is a side elevation showing this form of rack folded together, the three sections of said rider being seen under said rack.

The lower section of my rack is composed of two counterpart frames or sills $A A' B B'$ united at their inner ends by transverse stretchers $a b$ and so hinged or coupled together at $C C'$ as to be readily opened to the position seen in Fig. 1, thereby affording an extended horizontal base for the entire structure. Pivoted to the outer ends of these sills, as at $a' b'$, are main upright sections composed of standards $D D' E E'$ united at bottom by stretchers $d e$ and capable of being maintained in an erect position by inclined braces $F G$ or otherwise. These braces are preferably of metal, are hinged to the sills at $f g$, and their free ends are notched to engage

with pins H that project from the standards, as more clearly seen in Fig. 2. Furthermore, these braces are notched at $f' g'$ to engage with pins $a'' b''$ of the sills when the rack is folded together. The object of these main upright sections is to carry extension-sections capable of increasing the height of the rack, said extension-sections being composed of side rails $I I' J J'$ of practically the same length as the standards $D D' E E'$.

$i i' j j'$ are stretchers that unite the upper and lower ends of the rails, so as to preserve them in their proper parallel positions with reference to each other. The extensibility of these sections may be obtained in a number of different ways, the rails $I I'$ (seen in Fig. 1) being provided with longitudinal tongues i'' that traverse similar grooves d' of the standards $D D'$ and being held in place by a pin d'' ; but the other section $J J'$ is pivoted to the standards $E E'$ at $k k'$ and is held in place by a pin K , which may pass completely through said rails and standards and thus serve as a means for suspending towels and other small articles.

Again, in addition to the stretchers $i i' j j'$, the side rails may be provided with a number of extra rounds, as seen at $L L'$, thereby increasing the capacity of the rack without rendering it much heavier.

M is a wire cord or other flexible suspender having hooks $m m'$ at its opposite ends to engage over the stretchers $i j$.

When my rack is completely opened and ready for use, the braces $F G$ preserve the standards $D D' E E'$ in a position at right angles to the horizontal base $A A' B B'$, and the pins $d'' K$ retain the extension-sections $I I', J J'$, vertically in line with said standards, while at the same time the cord or line M unite the upper ends of said sections, thereby affording a very commodious structure, upon which dresses and other garments can be readily hung.

The line M will hold a number of dresses and skirts, and by using another similar line, coupled to the stretchers $i j$, the capacity of the rack will be nearly doubled, and a still greater range of utility will be afforded by the rounds $L L'$ of the extensible sections.

To pack up the rack, the hooks $m m'$ are first disengaged from the stretchers $i j$, and

the upper sections are then lowered. If these sections are arranged as seen at I I', the pin d'' is pulled out and said rails I I' are slid down between the standards D D' and al-
 5 lowed to rest upon the stretcher d , after which act the brace F is disengaged from one of said standards D'. These standards are then swung down to a horizontal position, so as to fit snugly between the sills A A', the brace F
 10 having first been turned over and supported upon the pin a'' ; but if the extension-sections are arranged as seen at J J' the pin K is first pulled out, the rails J J' turned down exactly parallel with the standards E E', as
 15 seen in Fig. 2, and the brace G is uncoupled from the standard E'. After this proceeding the standards are swung down to a horizontal position and confined between the sills B B' and the brace supported upon the pin b'' .
 20 This condition of the rack is seen in Fig 3. The next step consists in folding the base-section A A' and its coupled accessories in under the other base-section B B' and its connected adjuncts, which reduces the rack to the com-
 25 pact condition seen in Fig. 4, and the line M being now passed around the bundle and tied at m'' there is no danger of any of the parts becoming lost. The folded sections now occupy but very little space and can be
 30 readily packed in the bottom of any ordinary-sized trunk, and after arriving at its destination the rack can be unfolded and set up by any lady, and without being compelled to use screwdrivers, wrenches, or other unhandy
 35 implements. It will thus be seen that my rack is a very great convenience for travelers, as it enables a person to hang garments, &c., in rooms which are destitute of wardrobes and clothes-presses.
 40 The above describes the preferred form of my rack; but it is evident that the details of the same may be greatly varied, one modification being seen in Fig. 5, where a "rider" is substituted for the clothes-line M. This rider is
 45 composed of two sections N N', hinged together at n , and having near its end a groove n' , adapted to engage over the stretcher i ; but in Figs. 6 and 8 the rider consists of three sections O O' O'', the central section O' be-
 50 ing provided with a tubular socket o to receive the end section O. This central section may also have a longitudinal bore o' to admit a dowel-pin o'' , projecting from the other end section O, the three-part rider thus
 55 produced being capable of connecting the tops of the extensible sections by means of grooves o''' , that engage over the stretchers $i j$.

In another modification (seen in Fig. 7) the standards D'' D''' are tubular, and the side pieces I'' I''' and stretcher i''' of the same are
 60 made of a single piece of wire or light rod, the stretcher being bent in its center, as at i''' , to afford a convenient place for attaching the line M or rider N. After the extensible section I'' I''' has been raised to the desired
 65 height it is retained in place by a set-screw P.

Again, Fig. 2 shows that the inclined brace G may be duplicated, as at G'.

In another modification of my invention (seen in Figs. 8 and 9) the base of the rack is
 70 composed of a single frame A'', having the standards D D' E E' applied to its opposite ends, while the three-part rider O O' O'' is supported upon the upper stretchers $i j$ of the extension-sections I'' I''' J J' and projects
 75 horizontally some distance beyond the ends of the structure. Fig. 8 shows, also, that the extension-section I'' I''' may be applied to the standards D D' in the same way the op-
 80 posite section J J' is applied to the other standard E E'. Furthermore, this illustration shows that the removable pins K may be connected to the standards D' E' by cords or light chains k'' .

R r represent, respectively, hooks and staples wherewith the folded rack is securely
 85 fastened together.

I claim as my invention—

1. A folding clothes-rack consisting of a base; main sections coupled to the outer ends
 90 of said base; devices for maintaining these main sections in place; extensible sections applied to said main-sections; devices for maintaining these extensible sections in place; and a coupling that unites their upper ends, in the
 95 manner described, and for the purpose stated.

2. A folding clothes-rack consisting of a pair of base sections A A' a , B B' b , hinged together at their inner ends, as at C, C'; main upright-sections D D' d , E E' e , coupled to
 100 the outer ends of said base sections, as at a' , b' ; braces F, G, that maintain said main sections in place; extensible-sections I I' $i i'$, J J' $j j'$, applied to said main sections; pins for maintaining said extensible-sections in place;
 105 and a connection engaged with the stretchers $i j$, of said extensible-sections, all as herein described and for the purpose stated.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

BETTIE F. HOLMES.

Witnesses:

JAMES H. LAYMAN,
 C. R. HOLMES.