(No Model.)

E. LEGER.

HAT HOLDER.

No. 571,772. Patented Nov. 24, 1896.

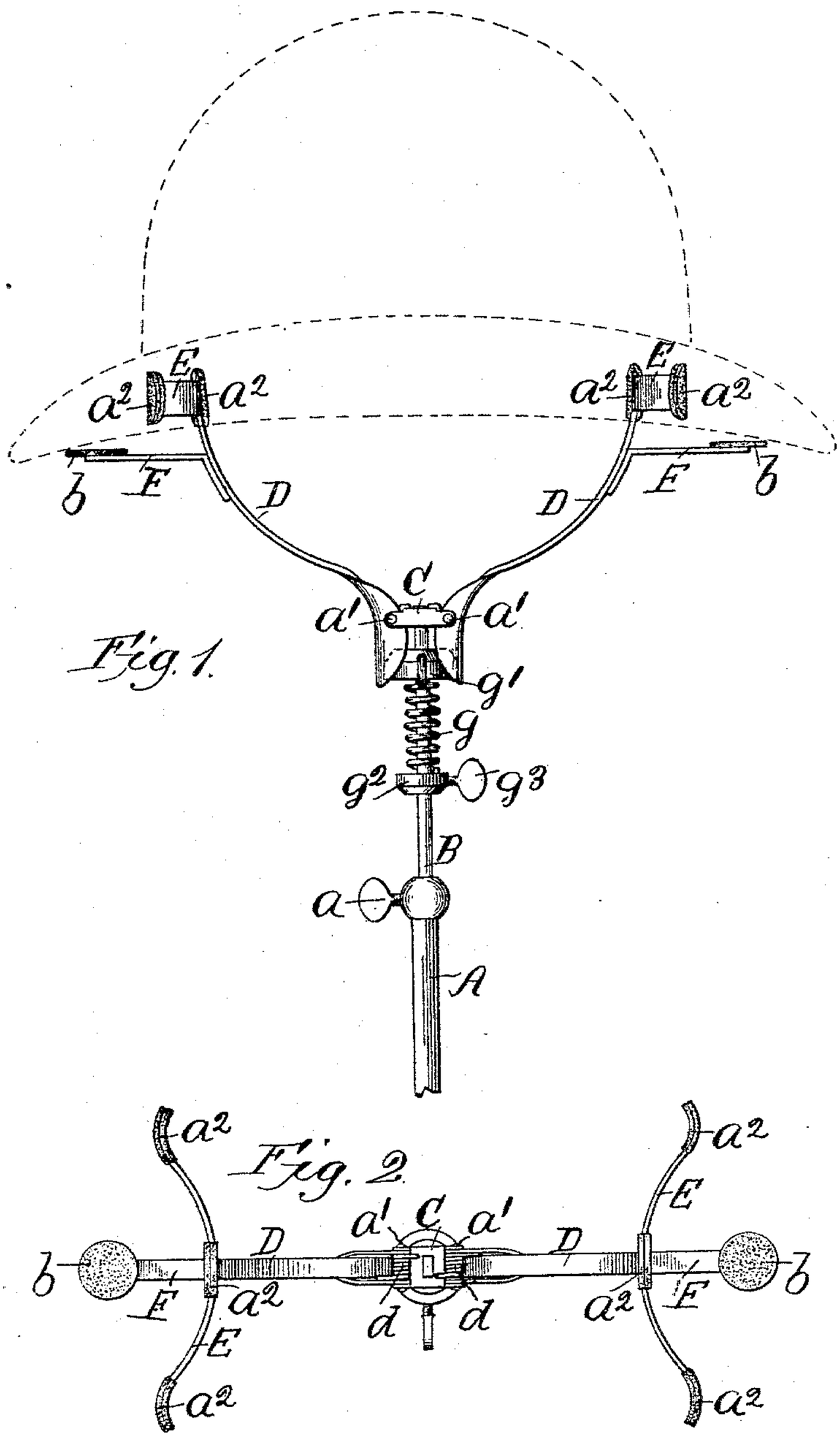

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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HAT-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 571,772, dated November 24, 1896.

Application filed December 29, 1894. Serial No. 533,330. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD LEGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hat-Holders; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to an improved attachment for show-fixtures or display-racks, and has for its object to provide a simple device of this character that is more especially intended for displaying hats, supporting them in such a manner as to prevent them from being damaged or shop-worn.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation, the dotted lines indicating the relative position of a hat; and Fig. 2, a plan.

A may represent a broken-away tubular bar of a display-rack, the rod B of the hat-supporting device having a telescopic connection therewith and being adjustably retained in relation thereto by means of a set-screw *a*. A plate C is mounted on the upper end of rod B. The lower curved ends of companion lever-arms D D are connected to plate C on opposite sides by pivot-pins *a' a'*. From this point the arms D widely diverge and have spring-arms E E secured to the upper ends thereof, and which project from each side in a horizontal plane, as shown. The ends or bearing-surfaces of the spring-plates are covered by soft pads a^2, which have contact with and prevent injury to the article supported thereon. Bracket-plates F F are secured to and project outwardly from lever-arms D D at a point below the spring-arms, extending at right angles thereto. The outer ends of the bracket-plates are covered with pads *b b*, upon which the rim of the hat will rest, as indicated in Fig. 1. The lever-arms are held in their normal expanded position by means of springs *d d*, coiled on pivot-pins *a' a'*. A spring *g* is coiled on rod B between the sliding collars *g' g²*, which are loosely mounted on said rod. The upper end of spring *g* is attached to collar *g'*, which seats in between the lower curved ends of the lever-arms and serves the purpose of contracting the upper or outer ends of the lever-arms against their spring-pressure in accordance with the size of the hat and the pressure it is intended to exert in holding the same. The lower end of spring *g* rests on collar g^2, which may be locked in any position it is capable of being adjusted to by a set-screw g^3. By this means the tension on spring *g* and collar *g'* is regulated, as the raising or lowering of collar g^2 serves to increase or diminish the tension or pressure, as may be required.

The raising of collar *g'* has the effect of contracting the upper ends of the lever-arms against their spring-pressure.

When a hat or other article is placed in position for display, the spring-arms bear against the inner circumferential surface, the rim resting on the bracket-plates and thus conveniently holding the hat without injuring the same.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a hat-holder of the class described, the combination of the bar A, the rod B, having a telescopic connection therewith, the set-screw, *a*, the plate C, the companion lever-arms D D, the pivot-pins, *a' a'*, the spring-arms, E E, the bracket-plates, F F, the springs, *d d*, the springs, *g*, the sliding collars, *g' g²*, and the set-screw, g^3, substantially as described.

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

EDWARD LEGER.

Witnesses:
L. M. FREEMAN,
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