

R. J. STUART.
COAT HOLDER.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT J. STUART, OF NEW HAMBURG, NEW YORK.

COAT-HOLDER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT J. STUART, of New Hamburg, in the county of Dutchess and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Coat-Holder, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in coat-holders or devices intended to be used for holding coats or similar articles while the wearer is putting them on.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my device. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional side elevation on the line 3 3 in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the bar which is connected to the supporting post. Fig. 5 is a top plan view of a slightly-modified form of the device; and Fig. 6 is a section of the same, taken on the line 6 6 of Fig. 5.

My device is intended to assist people who are troubled with rheumatism or who for any cause find it difficult to put on their overcoats or similar articles of wearing-apparel.

It consists, essentially, of a bar A, which is adjustably supported in a suitable holding device and which is provided at its upper end with two sets of clamping-fingers, between which the coat is placed before putting the same on the wearer. In the form shown in the drawings this post A is supported upon a bracket A', which is attached to the wall or any suitable place. The post A slides vertically in the bracket A' and is clamped at any height by a set-screw a'. A separate stand having an upright to receive the post A may be used instead of the bracket, if desired.

To the upper end of the post A is secured the base B of a horizontally-extending bar D. This base B has a front section B', connecting the same with the horizontal portion D, and in addition has two sections B², slightly separated from each other and connecting the base with the rear side of the bar D.

The bar D, as shown in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, is made of a general semicircular cross-section and has recesses d at each end of less diameter than the bore of the body of the bar, the bases of said recesses being con-

caved to form bearing-surfaces. At each end of the bar D are forwardly-projecting fingers D'. A second bar E, which coöperates with the bar D, is placed within the hollow of the bar D and has journals engaging with the bearing-surfaces d. At each end the bar E is also provided with forwardly-extending fingers E', coöperating with the fingers D' to engage and hold a coat.

The forward ends of the fingers D' are provided with yielding pads by placing over the same short sections C of rubber tubing. The horizontally-extending portion of the bar E lies beneath the corresponding portion of the bar D, while the fingers E' lie above the fingers D'. At the center of the bar E is a rearwardly-extending arm e, which arm projects through the slot b between the two sections B², connecting the base B and the body of the bar D. This prevents end movement of the two bars relative to each other. A spring G, which is shown as a spirally-coiled spring, is placed between the under surface of the arm e and the upper surface of the base B. I have shown a pin F as extending through the center of this spring and engaging the hole in the post A, which is shown as being formed of a section of pipe. This pin will maintain the spring in place and prevent accidental movement thereof. This same result may be obtained by numerous other means—as, for instance, a projecting pin formed as a part of the arm e and entering the coils of the spring. The particular construction described enables the two bars D and E to be cast each in a single piece with their connections. It also enables the bar E to be inserted through the hole between the front and rear sections B' and B² of the base B.

To the rear end of the arm e is attached a link or rod H, which is provided with a clamp adjustably connected thereto by a set-screw h. To the rod or link is attached a cord H', which at its lower end is connected to a treadle or lever I, adapted to be depressed by the foot.

In using my device the fingers D' and E' are separated by placing a foot upon the treadle I. The coat is then inserted between the ends of the fingers and the spring G allowed to close the fingers thereon. The arms are then inserted in the sleeves of the coat, and when the coat is in place the foot is

placed upon the treadle I to open the fingers and release the coat. The device may be adjusted to people of different height by raising and lowering the bar A in its support and by adjusting the set-screw and clamp *h* upon the link or rod H.

Figs. 5 and 6 show a slightly-modified construction of my device, but one which is substantially the same as that shown in the previously-described figures. In this form I employ a narrow bar D^2 , which has lugs d' extending to the rear and curved so as to form hooks passing over the bar E. These lugs d' correspond to the bearing-surfaces d of the device, as shown in Fig. 4. The bulk of the bar D^2 between the ends has been cut away, leaving only a narrow bar, as shown. This bar is otherwise similar in its construction to that shown in the other figures, excepting that the rear sections B^2 , connecting the base and the bar, have been omitted. This construction facilitates the assembling of the two parts of the device. The spring G, inserted in the manner shown in my device, serves to hold the lower bar D^2 securely in its bearings on the bar E and at the same time to clamp the fingers D' and E' together.

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

1. A coat-holder having two horizontally-extending bars pivoted one upon the other, one of said bars having curved pivot-bearings open on one side and extending about journals on the other, two pairs of cooperating arms or fingers attached to the ends of each bar and extending forwardly, a rearwardly-extending arm upon the inner one of said bars, and a spring acting on said bar to close the fingers and to hold the pivots of the bars in engagement, substantially as described.

2. A coat-holder, comprising two horizontally-extending bars having forwardly-projecting fingers on each end, one of said bars lying within and pivoting upon curved bearings or hooks projecting from the other, and a spring acting upon the inner of said bars to hold the same in its bearings and to clamp the fingers together, substantially as described.

3. A coat-holder, comprising two horizontally-extending bars having forwardly-extending clamping-fingers at each end, one of said bars having a curved bearing-strip extending partially around the other, a rearwardly-extending arm attached to the inner bar, a spring acting thereon to clamp the fingers together, a standard or support connected to the outer bar, consisting of a base having one front standard and two separated rear standards connected at their upper ends with the body of the bar, whereby the inner bar may be inserted and removed at will, substantially as described.

4. A coat-holder, comprising two horizontally-extending bars having forwardly-extending clamping-fingers at each end, one of said bars having curved bearing-strips ex-

tending partially around the other, a spring acting upon said bars to clamp the fingers together, a standard or support connected to the outer bar, consisting of a base having one front and two separated rear standards connected at their upper ends with the body of the bar, whereby the inner bar may be inserted and removed at will, substantially as described.

5. A coat-holder, comprising two horizontally-extending bars having forwardly-extending clamping-fingers at each end, one of said bars having curved bearing-strips extending partially around the other, a rearwardly-extending arm attached to the inner bar, a standard or support connected to the outer bar, consisting of a base having one front standard, two separated rear standards connected at their upper ends with the body of the bar, and a compressed spiral spring bearing against the under side of the rearwardly-extending arm and the base of the standard, substantially as described.

6. A coat-holder having two horizontally-extending bars pivoted upon one another, one of the said bars having curved pivot-bearings open on one side and extending about journals on the other, two pairs of cooperating arms or fingers attached to the ends of each bar and extending forwardly, a rearwardly-extending arm upon the inner one of the said bars, a compressed spiral spring engaging the under surface of the rearwardly-extending arm and the base of the arm-supports, and a retaining-pin passed therethrough, substantially as described.

7. A coat-holder, comprising two horizontally-extending bars having forwardly-projecting fingers on each end, one of said bars lying within and pivoting upon curved bearing hooks or strips projecting from the other, a spring acting upon the inner of said bars to hold the same in its journals and to clamp the fingers together, and a foot-lever and connections to said bars to open the clamping-fingers, substantially as described.

8. A coat-holder, comprising two horizontally-extending bars having forwardly-projecting fingers on each end, one of said bars lying within and pivoting upon curved bearing hooks or strips projecting from the other, a spring acting upon the inner of said bars to hold the same in its journals and to clamp the fingers together, a foot-lever and connections to said bars to open the clamping-fingers, and means for adjusting the height of said fingers, substantially as described.

9. A coat-holder, comprising two horizontally-extending bars having forwardly-extending clamping-fingers at each end, one of said bars having a curved bearing-strip extending partially around the other, a rearwardly-extending arm attached to the inner bar, a spring acting thereon to clamp the fingers together, a standard or support connected to the outer bar consisting of a base having one front standard, two separated rear stand-

ards connected at their upper ends with the body of the bar, whereby the inner bar may be inserted and removed at will, and means for adjusting the height of the said fingers, substantially as described.

10. A coat-holder, comprising two horizontally-extending bars having forwardly-extending clamping-fingers at each end, one of said bars having a curved bearing-strip extending partially around the other, a rearwardly-extending arm attached to the inner bar, a spring acting thereon to clamp the fingers together, a standard or support connected to the outer bar consisting of a base having one front standard, two separated rear standards connected at their upper ends with the body of the bar whereby the inner bar may be inserted and removed at will, a foot-lever and connections to said bars to open the clamping-fingers, substantially as described.

11. A coat-holder, comprising two horizon-

tally-extending bars having forwardly-extending clamping-fingers at each end, one of said bars having curved bearing-strips extending partially around the other, a rearwardly-extending arm attached to the inner bar, a standard or support connected to the outer bar consisting of a base having one front standard, two separated rear standards connected at their upper ends with the body of the bar, a compressed spiral spring bearing against the under side of the rearwardly-extending arm and the base of the standard, a foot-lever, connections to said bars to open the clamping-fingers, and means for adjusting the height of the said fingers, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

THOS. H. STUART,
NATHANIEL STUART.