

No. 630,150.

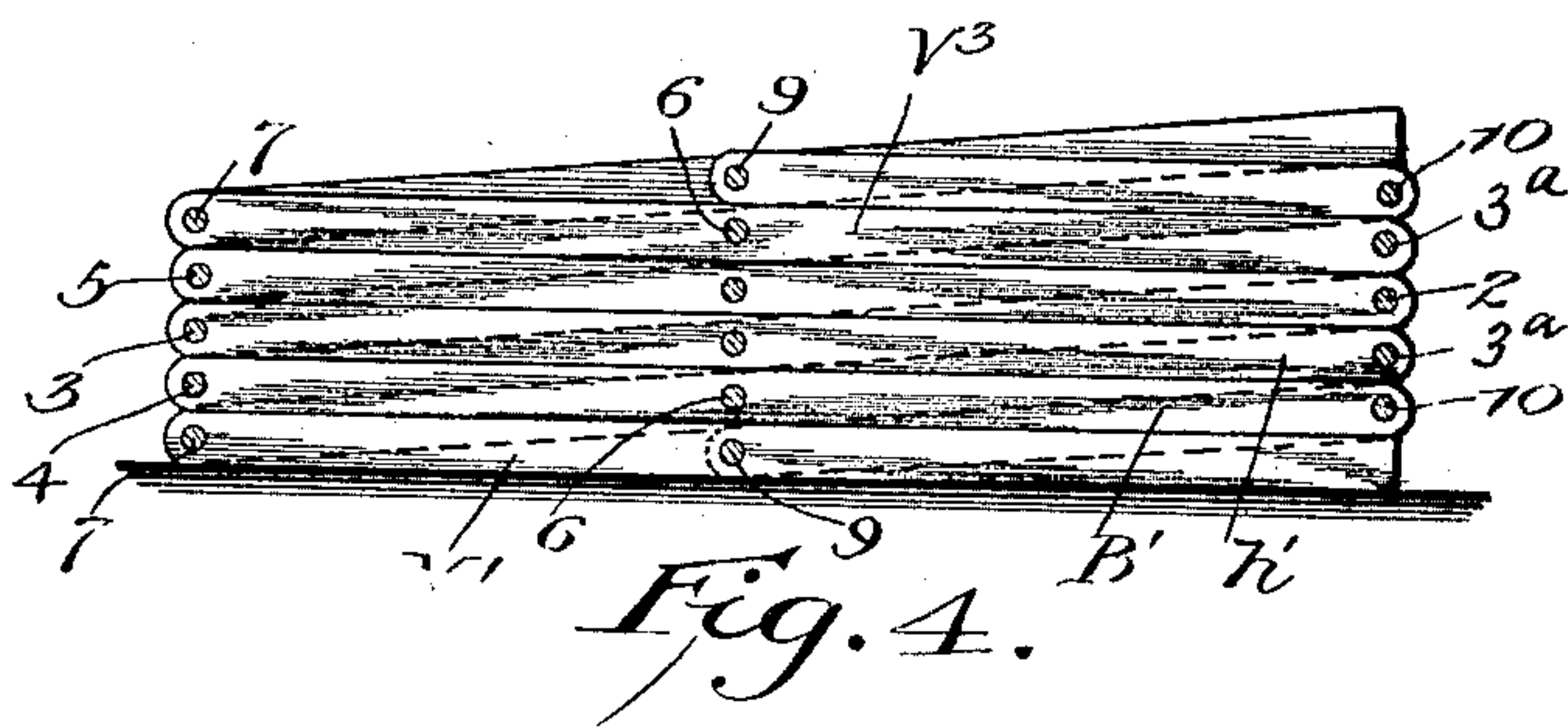
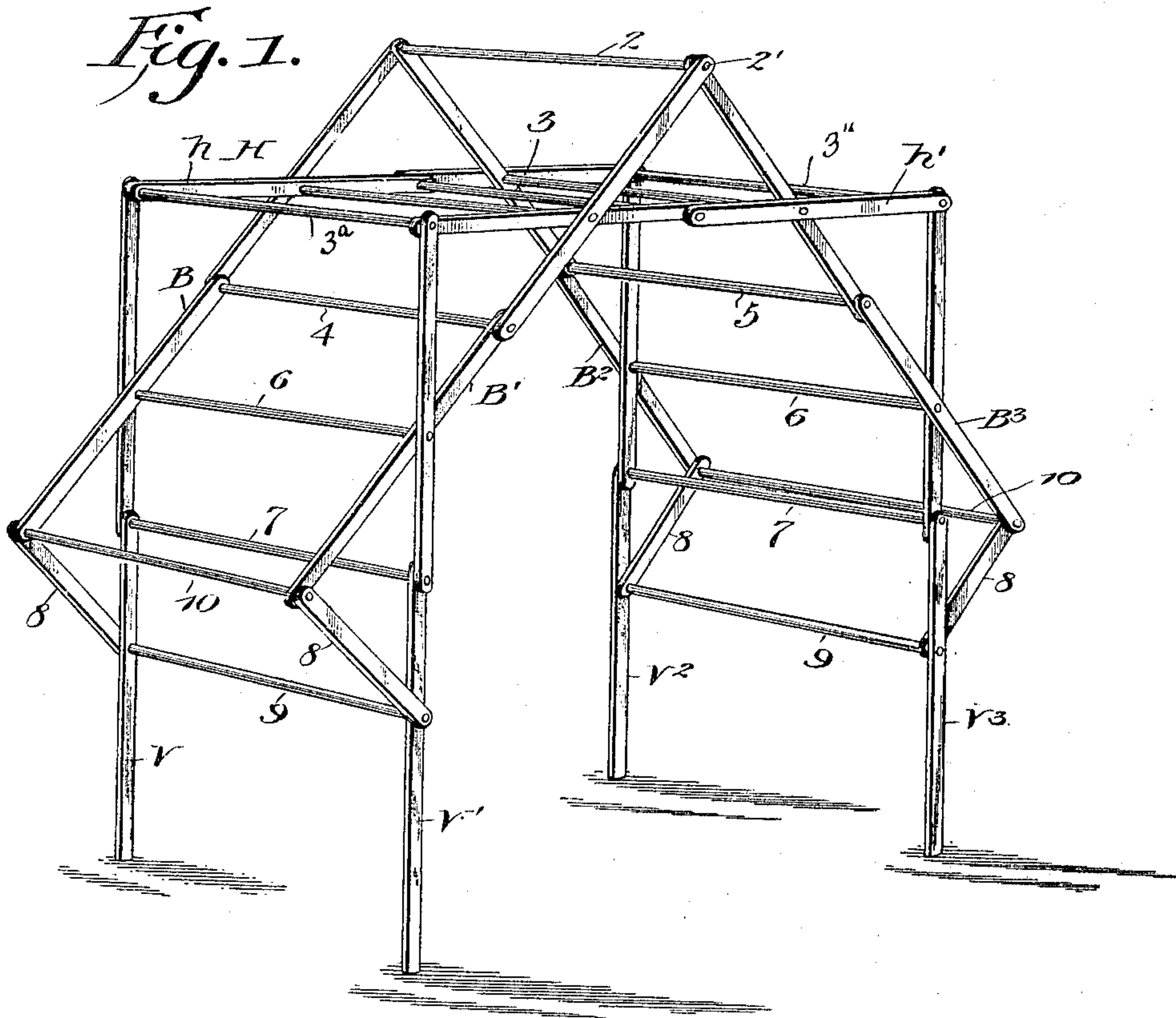
Patented Aug. 1, 1899.

J. F. WHITE.
CLOTHES RACK.

(No Model.)

(Application filed Mar. 1, 1899.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses

A. Roy Appenmao

Hesth Sutherland

By *his* Attorneys.

John F. White, Inventor.

CA Snow & Co.

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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 3.

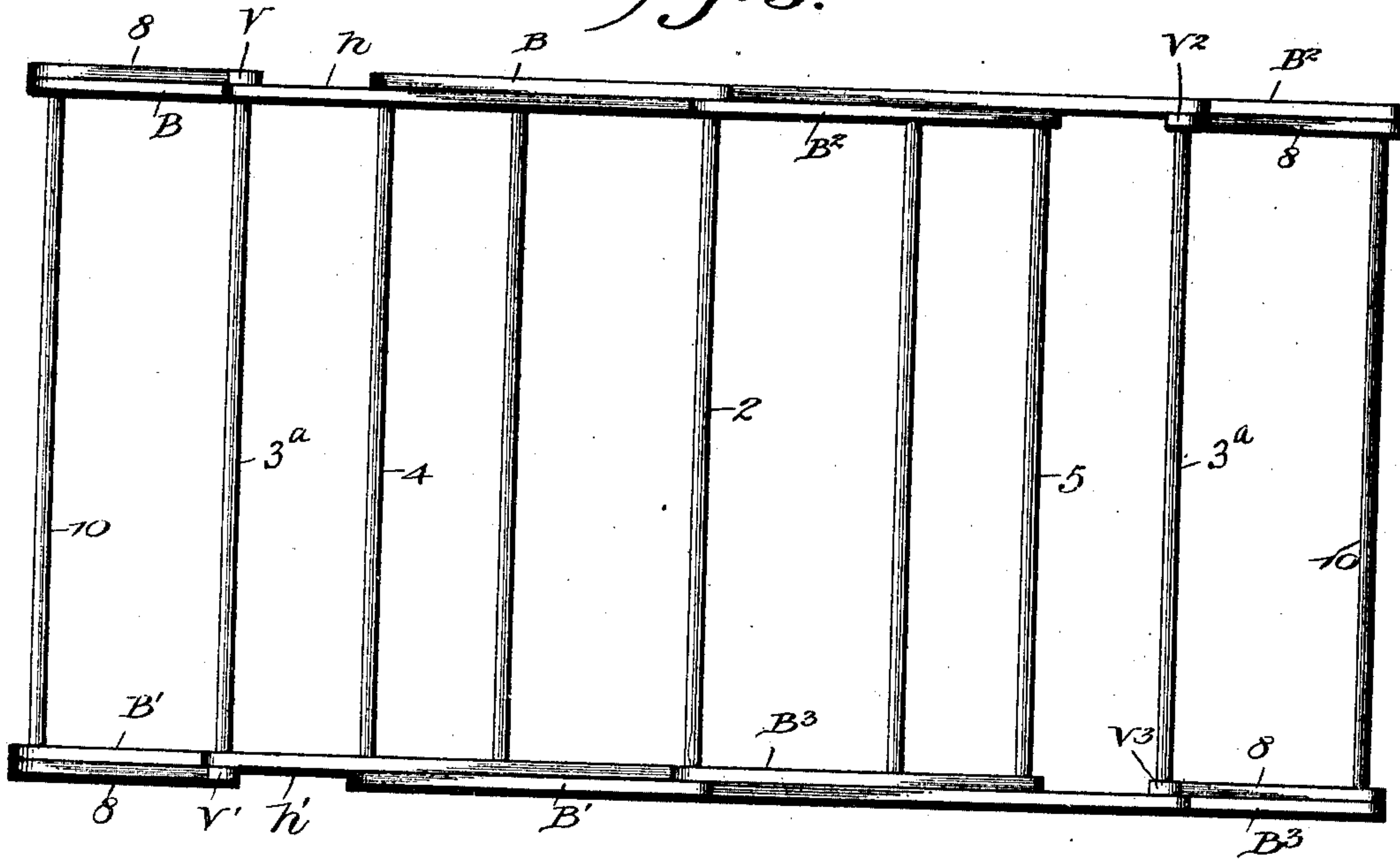
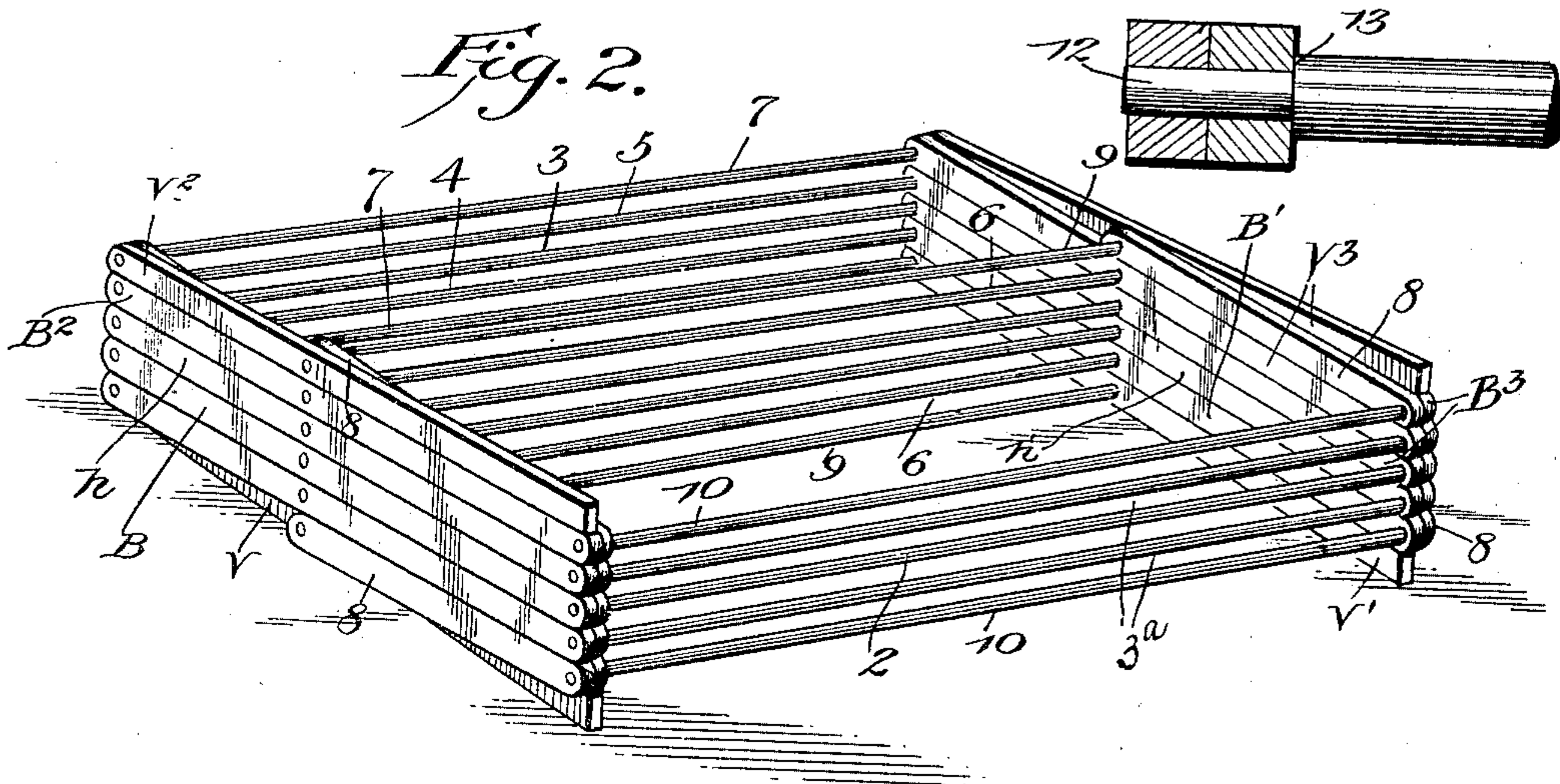


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

A. Roy Appleman

Heath Luthersland

By this

John F. White,
Attorneys.

Inventor.

C. A. Snow & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN F. WHITE, OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

CLOTHES-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 630,150, dated August 1, 1899.

Application filed March 1, 1899. Serial No. 707,302. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN F. WHITE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bloomington, in the county of McLean and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to clothes-racks; and the object is to provide a simple and efficient device of this character which is so constructed as to receive a very large quantity of clothes and upon which starched clothing can be spread and dried without danger of crumpling, and the device is also foldable, it being of such a nature that when not in use it can be easily and quickly folded and placed out of the way, and when in such condition it occupies a very small space, although when unfolded it is adapted to sustain considerable weight without possibility of any of the joints flexing.

The rack constituting the present application comprises a horizontal portion consisting of two side sections, each including a pair of jointed bars, a series of legs or standards located at the corners of said horizontal portion and disposed at right angles thereto, and each leg or standard consisting of a pair of jointed bars and four braces disposed in pairs at opposite sides of and connected, respectively, with said horizontal portion and vertical legs, the respective pairs of braces being jointed at a point above said horizontal portion and diverging from said point and extending across and connected to the horizontal portion and to the legs, and the lower ends of said braces being located at a point above the lower extremities of said legs and connected with the latter by auxiliary braces, and in conjunction with these parts I provide cross-bars, which are disposed between the braces, the horizontal portion, and the legs, and as a means for obtaining simplicity in the structure I prefer to utilize each of these cross-bars as a pivot for connecting certain of the elements of the structure, and so that the latter may occupy a minimum amount of space the rods or bars constituting the braces, horizontal portion, and legs are disposed in two alined sets at opposite sides of the rack.

With these ends in view the invention con-

sists in the novel combination of elements and in the construction and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

To enable others to understand the invention, I have illustrated the preferred embodiment thereof in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a clothes-rack constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a similar view of said rack folded. Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the rack open. Fig. 4 is a side elevation showing the rack closed or folded. Fig. 5 is a detail view upon an enlarged scale, showing the pivotal connection between two of the bars or rods of one of the elements.

Like characters denote like and corresponding parts in each of the several figures of the drawings.

My clothes-rack consists of the horizontal portion H, the vertical legs or standards V, V', V², and V³, and the diagonal braces B, B', B², and B³, which are disposed in pairs at opposite sides of the rack, as indicated clearly in Fig. 1, and are joined at the top at a point somewhat above the horizontal portion H by the connecting-bar 2, extending entirely across the rack and constituting a pivot for each pair, the ends of the connecting-bar being reduced, as at 2', and fitting within suitably-formed journal-openings in the ends of the braces. Said braces meet at a point above the horizontal portion and diverge downward therefrom, extending across the opposite side sections *h* and *h'* of said horizontal section and across the legs or uprights V, V', V², and V³ and stop at a point above the lower extremities of the legs.

Each of the side sections *h* and *h'* of the horizontal portion H consists of a pair of rods jointed at their inner ends by the connecting-bar 3 to each other and at their opposite ends to the vertical legs or uprights V, V', V², and V³ by the horizontal bars 3^a.

Each of the braces aforementioned consists of a pair of rods jointed at their inner ends by the connecting rods or bars 4 and 5 and also jointed to the sections *h* and *h'* of the horizontal portion H, and the upper members

of these braces are connected, as hereinbefore set forth, at a point above said horizontal portion by the connecting-bar 2. The lower rods of these braces are jointed, respectively, to the upper rods of the vertical legs or standards, the connecting-bars 6 being employed for this purpose, while the connecting-bars 7 are utilized to connect the upper and lower sections of the four legs.

10 Upon an inspection of the drawings it will be seen that each of the portions of the rack when the latter is in its working position constitutes a toggle the centers of which are in line, by reason of which the structure is rendered strong and not liable to flexure at any of the joints when sustaining a large weight, and it will be obvious that the connecting-bars not only serve to join the several rods, but constitute convenient devices upon which clothing can be hung.

As a means for holding the legs or standards in an upright position the lower ends of the braces B, B', B², and B³ are connected with the lower rods of the legs by auxiliary braces, as 8, jointed thereto by the connecting-bars 9, and the upper ends of the braces 8 are connected to the lower ends of the main braces by connecting-bars 10. As will be understood, each of the connecting-bars constitutes a pivot for connecting two elements at each end thereof, and the extremities of the several connecting-bars are reduced, as at 12, thereby producing shoulders, as at 13, which fit against the structure when the reduced portions are fitted in openings in the rods, thereby maintaining the proper relation of the parts.

To fold the device, the topmost bar 2 is grasped and the legs V and V' and V² and V³ swung outward, thereby breaking the joints and permitting the several rods to be readily folded upon one another, and the rods at opposite sides of the rack will be located respectively in two different planes or in alternating arrangement, as indicated in Fig. 2, where-

by when said rack is folded it will occupy but a minimum amount of space.

Changes in the form, proportion, size, and the minor details of construction within the scope of the appended claims may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination of a horizontal portion consisting of sections provided with jointed bars, legs located at the corners of the horizontal portion and composed of jointed bars, braces disposed at opposite sides of and connected with the horizontal portion and with the legs and jointed at a point above the said horizontal portion and diverging downwardly, supplemental braces connecting the said braces with the legs, and cross-bars between the braces and legs and forming pivots for the same, substantially as described.

2. The combination with a horizontal portion consisting of side sections each comprising jointed bars, of legs or standards located at the corners of said horizontal portion and each leg or standard consisting of jointed bars, braces located at opposite sides of and connected respectively with said horizontal portion and vertical legs and jointed at a point above said horizontal portion and diverging therefrom and extending across and jointed to the legs, the ends of said braces being located at a point above the lower extremities of the legs, a brace connection for the ends of the said braces and cross-bars between the braces and the legs, substantially as described.

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

JOHN F. WHITE.

Witnesses:

JAMES W. TAVENNER,
A. M. DUFF.