

No. 670,227.

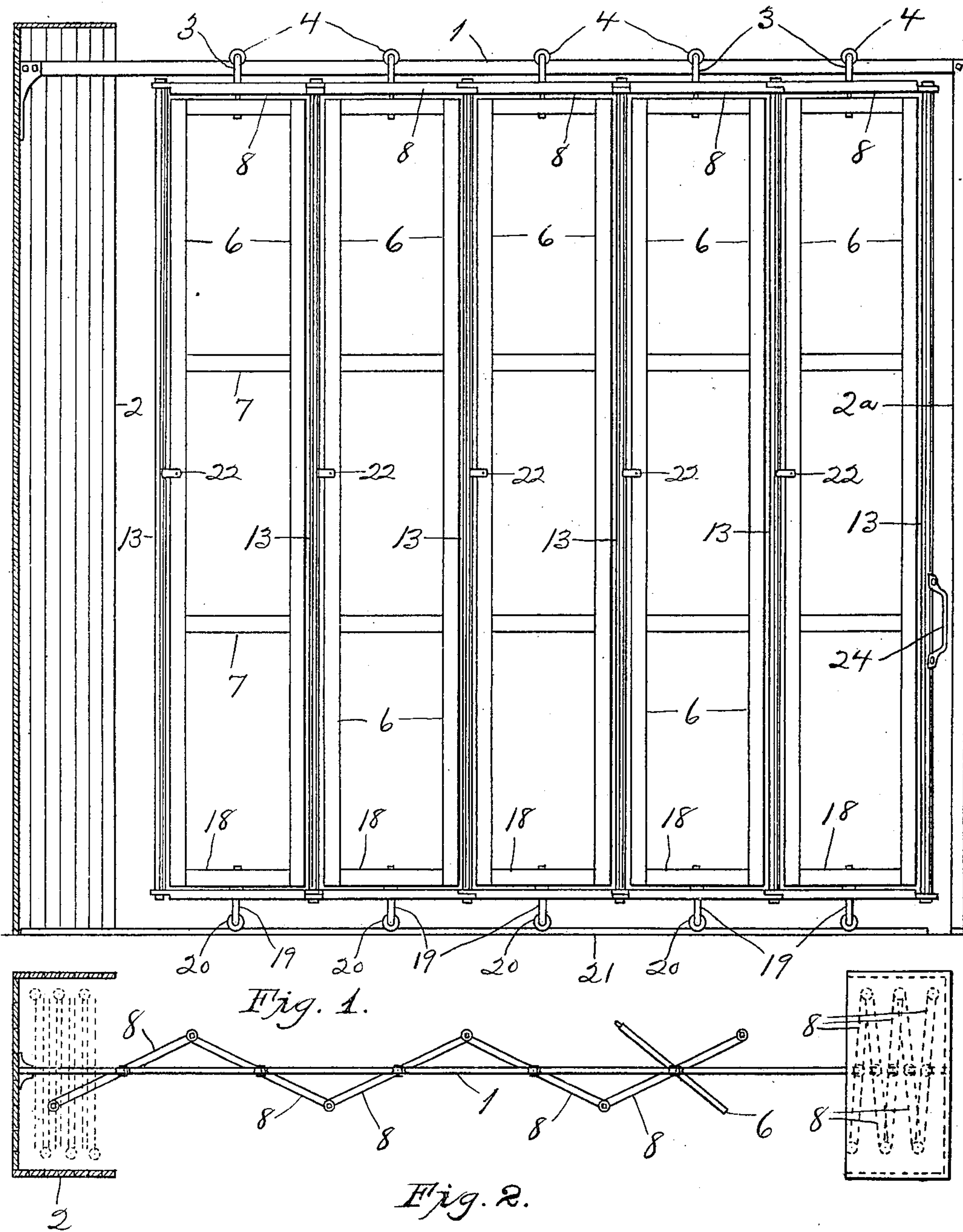
Patented Mar. 19, 1901.

E. T. GRAY.  
DISPLAY RACK.

(Application filed Dec. 11, 1900.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



WITNESSES:

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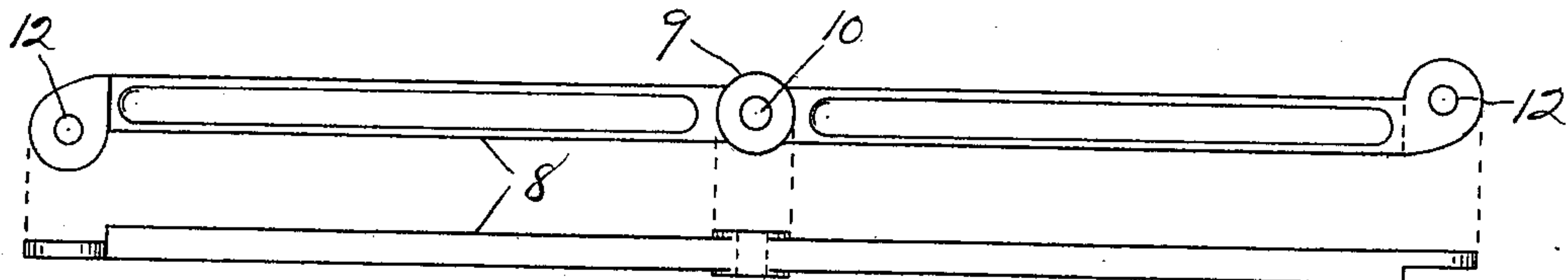


Fig. 3.

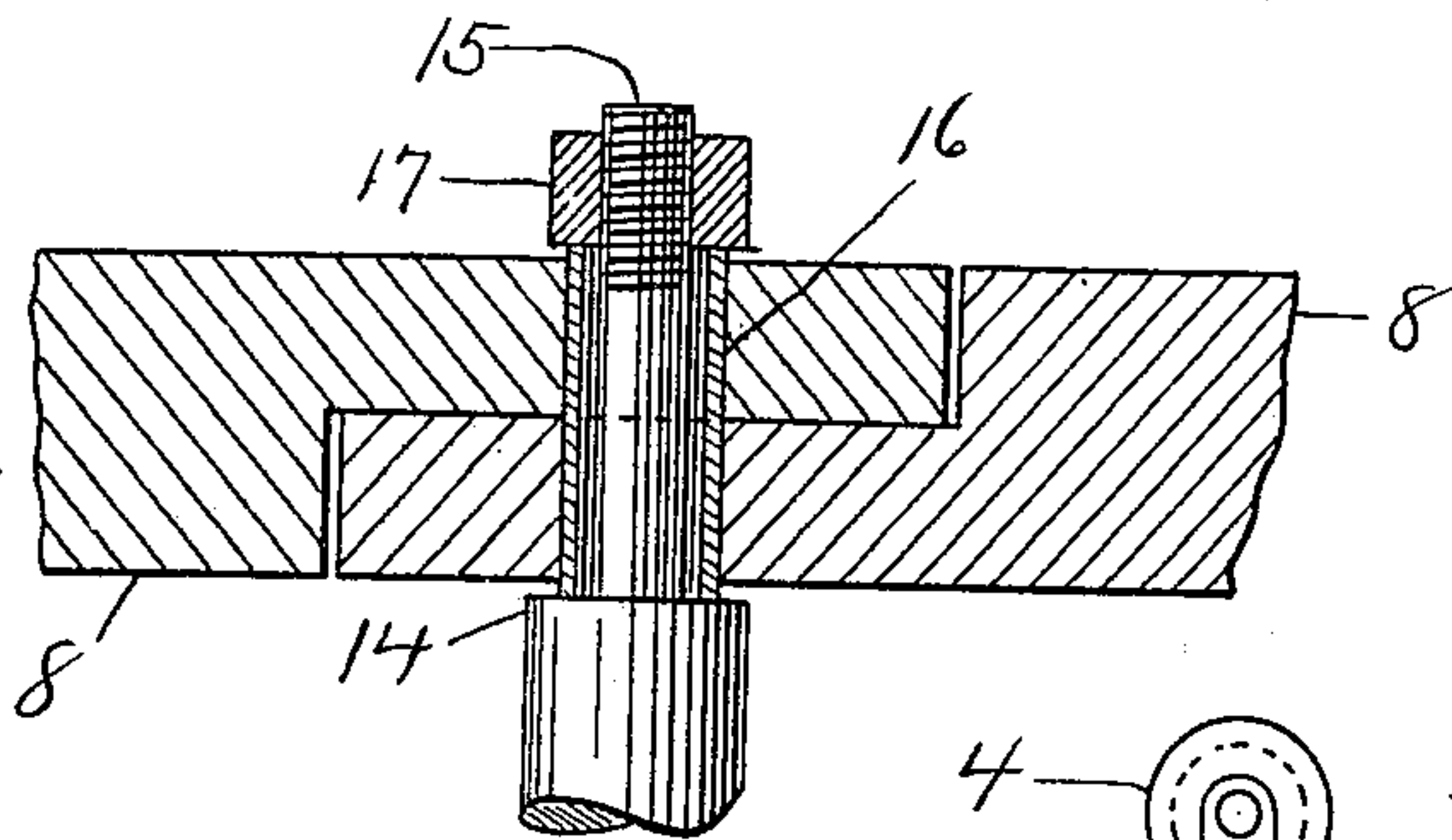
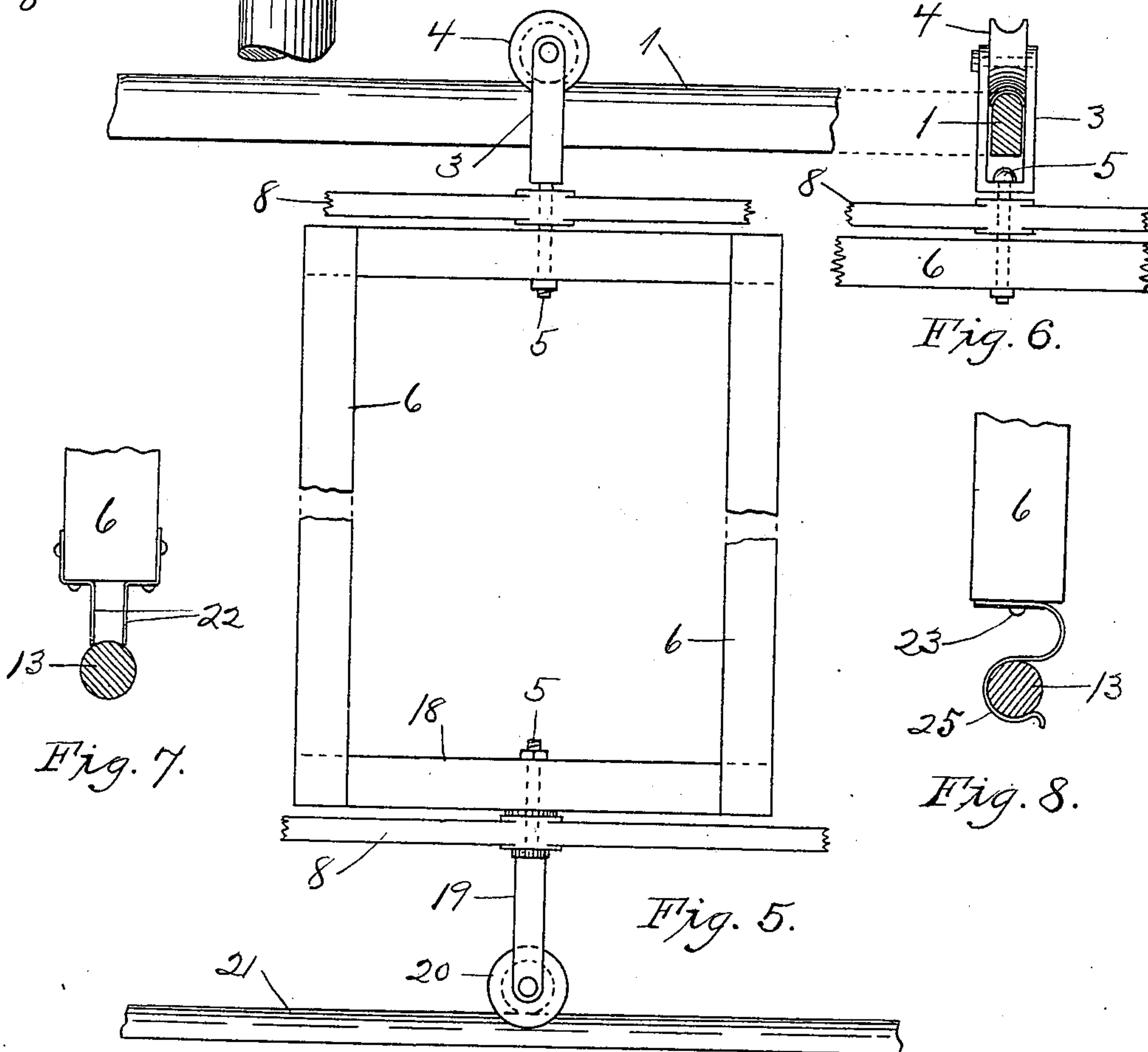


Fig. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN TARVIN GRAY, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

## DISPLAY-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 670,227, dated March 19, 1901.

Application filed December 11, 1900. Serial No. 39,474. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWIN TARVIN GRAY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Display-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to folding display-racks for displaying wall-paper or the like; and the objects of my invention are to facilitate the work of the salesman, to save time to the purchaser, and to save floor-space. In order to effect these objects, I provide a plurality of frames, covered on both sides with samples of wall-paper, and suspend these frames from an elevated horizontal bar. I further provide pivotal connections between the frames, whereby the frames may be slid along the bar and folded or packed closely together when not in use. The ceiling or border pattern of the paper is fastened to the upper portions of the frame, and the side-wall patterns occupy the remainder of the frames, thus displaying the paper as it would appear on the wall of a room.

I will now proceed to describe my invention by referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of an apparatus constructed in accordance with my invention, comprising five vertical frames and a cabinet for receiving the same when not in use, the cabinet being shown in section. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of two sets of display-frames and a cabinet for each set, one set being partly extended and the other set being folded inside of its cabinet. Fig. 3 is a combined side and edge view of one of the connecting-bars, enlarged. Fig. 4 is a sectional detail view showing the manner of pivoting the connecting-bars together and securing them to the ends of the vertical rods. Fig. 5 is a broken-away detail view showing the upper and the lower portion of one of the frames and the manner of mounting the frame on the track-bars. Fig. 6 is a broken-away detail view showing the upper track-bar in section. Fig. 7 is a detail view showing one form of spring-clip to be secured to the side of each frame for engaging one of the vertical

rods. Fig. 8 illustrates another form of spring-clip which I may employ for the same purpose.

The upper track-bar 1 may be supported, as shown in Fig. 1, with one of its ends secured to the back of a suitable cabinet 2 and its opposite end secured to any convenient support, as 2<sup>a</sup>, or each end of the track-bar 1 may be secured to a cabinet, as shown in Fig. 2. Each cabinet has one of its sides open, as shown, for the reception of the display-frames, to be described hereinafter.

A series of yokes 3 is hung from track-bar 1 by means of grooved rollers 4. Secured to each yoke 3 is a depending bolt 5. Each bolt 5 passes through and supports, by means of a nut or other device, the upper cross-piece of a narrow rectangular frame 6. Each frame is provided with two or more intermediate cross-pieces 7.

Above each frame 6 is a bar 8, (see Fig. 3,) having a central boss 9 and perforations 10. The bolts 5 pass through perforations 10 for the purpose hereinafter stated. The ends of bars 8 are extended oppositely, as shown, and are recessed oppositely at these ends and provided with perforations 12.

I provide at each side of each frame a vertical rod 13, having shoulders 14 near its ends, and a smaller extension 15, screw-threaded, as shown in Fig. 4. Each extension passes through a sleeve 16, previously inserted in one of the perforations 10 of bars 8, and a jam-nut 17 is run up securely against the outer end of each sleeve 16. The ends of bars 8 are thus pivotally secured to one another and to the vertical rods 13. As stated before, a series of bars 8 is also secured to the lower ends of rods 13 in the manner described. Bolts 5 pass through the lower cross-bars 18 of the frames 6 and through the central holes in bars 8 and are secured to yokes 19, in which are mounted grooved rollers 20. These rollers rest upon a suitably-shaped rod, bar, or molding 21, secured to the floor directly under and parallel to the overhead track-bar.

The yokes 3 and 19 are so adjusted that the weight of the frames 6 is divided between the two track-bars 1 and 21.

It will be understood from the foregoing



description that each frame is pivotally supported by the bolts 5, so that the salesman may turn it around or reverse it in order to show the wall-paper on both of its sides without any movement of the observer.

In order to hold the frames 6 parallel to the bars 8, I secure to one side of each frame one or more springs 22, the ends of which are suitably shaped and adjusted for engaging one of the rods 13, as shown in Fig. 7 or Fig. 8.

The spring 25 (shown in Fig. 8) should be mounted pivotally at 23, so that it may engage a rod 13 when swung in either direction. The form shown in Fig. 7 would require no such adjustment.

A handle 24 is preferably secured to the outer vertical rod 13 for pulling the apparatus out from the cabinet and pushing it back thereinto.

It will be evident that I may employ any desired number of frames 6 of any desired proportions or dimensions without departing from the construction shown and described.

When two cabinets are used in connection with a common pair of track-bars, it is obvious that either set of frames 6 may be drawn out between the cabinets 3 for the display of the wall-paper.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a display apparatus, an elevated track-bar, a roller resting thereon, a yoke secured to the spindle of the roller, a bolt secured to the yoke, a vertical frame having its upper cross-piece supported by the bolt, a yoke pivotally secured to the lower cross-piece of said frame, a lower track-bar parallel to said upper track-bar, and a roller carried by said lower yoke and resting on the lower track-bar, substantially as described.

2. In a folding display apparatus, an elevated track-bar a series of vertical frames, bolts secured to the upper ends of the frames, yokes pivotally secured to said bolts, rollers mounted in said yokes and resting on said track-bar, a lower track-bar below said frames, and parallel to the upper track-bar, bolts secured to the lower ends of said frames, yokes pivotally secured to said bolts, and rollers mounted in said yokes and resting on said lower track-bar, substantially as described.

3. In a folding display apparatus, an upper and a lower track-bar, a plurality of vertical

frames, bolts secured to the ends of said frames, yokes pivotally secured to said bolts rollers mounted in said yokes and resting on said track-bars, a connecting-bar above and below each frame, a central opening through each connecting-bar, said opening being traversed by one of said bolts, and pivotal connections between the adjacent ends of said connecting-bars, substantially as described.

4. In a folding display apparatus, an upper and a lower track-bar; a plurality of vertical frames supported between said track-bars; bolts secured to the middle points of the ends of said frames, yokes pivotally secured to said bolts; rollers mounted in said yokes and resting on the track-bars; connecting-bars of greater length than the width of said frames, pivoted centrally on said bolts, respectively, between said frames and said yokes; registering perforations in the adjacent ends of said connecting-bars; and vertical rods arranged between said frames and having their ends pivotally secured within the perforations in the ends of said connecting-bars, whereby said frames may be folded together in zigzag form by pushing them together, substantially as described.

5. In a folding display apparatus, an upper and a lower track-bar, a plurality of vertical frames supported between said track-bars, a series of horizontal connecting-bars secured pivotally to the ends of said frames, respectively, vertical rods between said frames, having their ends secured to the ends of said connecting-bars, and spring catches or clips secured to one or both sides of each frame, for engaging said vertical rods, respectively, substantially as described.

6. In a folding display apparatus, a pair of cabinets, each having an open side and arranged with said open sides facing each other, an elevated track-bar having its ends supported respectively by said cabinets, a lower track-bar directly below and parallel to said track-bar, and a series of vertical frames pivotally connected together and supported by said track-bars, substantially as described.

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

EDWIN TARVIN GRAY.

Witnesses:

K. M. IMBODEN,  
M. L. LANGE.