

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DISPLAY-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 671,576, dated April 9, 1901.

Application filed June 29, 1900. Serial No. 22,072. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. BARNETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kahoka, in the county of Clark and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Display-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to display-racks, and has for one object to provide an improved device of this character which is especially designed for supporting rolled goods—such as carpet, oil-cloth, bolts of cloth, and the like—so that the same may be readily unrolled and drawn out for the inspection of a customer and also conveniently rewound upon the roll without removing the latter from the supporting rack or frame. It is furthermore designed to provide improved means for supporting the free end of the material, so that it may be in convenient position for taking hold thereof, so as to unwind the roll and also to guide the material as it is being rewound.

A further object resides in the provision of means for preventing a sudden or too-rapid unwinding of the rolls, so as to prevent the material from becoming loose and uneven when rewound.

With these and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly set forth in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a display-rack constructed and arranged in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is an end elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the means for mounting one end of a roll and the supporting device for the free end of the rolled material. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the means for retarding and preventing a too-rapid unrolling of the roll.

Corresponding parts are designated by like characters of reference in all of the figures of the drawings.

Referring to the drawings, it will be seen

that the frame of the rack is rectangular in form and comprises the end and intermediate bases 1, which are connected by means of the longitudinal sills 2 and from which rise the respective standards or uprights 3, the upper ends of the latter being connected by means of a transverse beam or bar 4. The intermediate uprights are arranged comparatively close together and are connected by means of suitable blocks 5, interposed between the uprights, so as to stiffen and brace the latter. By this arrangement the frame is divided centrally into opposite sections, and each section is provided with independent means for mounting the rolls 6 of carpet or other material. Into each end of each roll there is driven a pin 7, which is provided intermediate of its ends with an annular flange or shoulder 8 to engage against the adjacent end of the roll, and thereby limit the inward insertion of the pin. This pin is in the form of a flat-pointed blade, so that it may be conveniently inserted between the innermost folds of the rolled material, and extending longitudinally inward from the flange 8 is a rib 9, one on each flat face of the pin, so as to prevent the latter from twisting or turning within the roll, whereby the latter and the pin are fixedly connected, so as to turn together as one piece. Projecting longitudinally outward from the center of the disk-like flange 8 is a rounded spindle 10, the outer end of which is reduced and made angular, as at 11, so as to form a stem for the reception of a removable crank for turning the roll in its bearings. The rolls are located between the respective intermediate and outer uprights of the frame, and each spindle is supported by means of a bracket 12, which is secured to the outer face of the upright and is provided with an outwardly-directed and upturned hook-shaped lug or projection 13 to form a bearing-seat for the reception of the spindle. As indicated in Fig. 1 of the drawings, it is not necessary nor desirable to have the inner spindles provided with the angular crank-stems, as the intermediate uprights would interfere with the operation of the crank, and thus the stems are provided for the outer spindles only. Each roll is provided with a longitudinal guide rod or bar 14, which is disposed in front of the

roll and between the longitudinal axis thereof and the bottom of the roll. To support the rod upon the frame, there is provided the opposite arms 15, the inner end of each arm being provided with an upstanding projection or lug 16, while its outer end is provided with a transversely-disposed sleeve or eye 17 for the reception of the adjacent end of the guide-rod, as best shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings. At the inner end of the sleeve there is provided an upstanding ear 18 to form a guide or stop for engagement with the adjacent edge of the material which is supported upon the rod. Secured to the upright or standard and below the roller-bracket 12 is another bracket 19, which is provided with an intermediate enlargement 20, that has a substantially L-shaped socket or recess 21, one branch of which opens horizontally outward through the front face of the enlargement and the other branch extends vertically upward, so as to form a pendent shoulder or projection within the socket or recess. The horizontal branch of the socket is of a size to permit of the inner end of the arm 15 being inserted therein until the lug or projection 16 passes into the upright branch of the socket, when the outer end of the arm is permitted to rock or incline slightly downwardly upon the outer edge of the socket as a fulcrum, so that the lug 16 may enter behind the shoulder formed by the L-shaped socket, whereby the arm is detachably held to the standard. As the sleeves 17 of the arms are open at opposite ends, the rod 14 may be placed therein before or after the arms are placed upon the frame, and each sleeve is provided with a perforation for the reception of a fastening 22 to prevent endwise displacement of the rod.

As best indicated in Fig. 2, the roll of material is arranged so that the free end thereof unrolls outwardly from the bottom of the roll and is passed upwardly and over the rod 14 as a support, so that the free extremity of the material is always in convenient position for pulling outwardly to display the material. After the material has been unrolled it may be conveniently rewound upon the roll by means of any suitable crank, (not shown,) which is to be fitted to the angular winding-stem 11. It will now be apparent that the opposite ears 18 engage the opposite longitudinal edges of the material and guide the latter, so that it is wound evenly and straight upon the roll, and the rod holds the free portion of the material, so that there is no looseness thereof and it is rewound tightly upon the roll.

When a roll is being unrolled by pulling upon the free end of the material, a sudden jerk will cause a rapid rotation of the roll without the material being pulled outwardly over the supporting-rod, which merely results in a looseness of the rolled material. To obviate this difficulty, there is provided a

brake device, comprising a substantially U-shaped shoe 23, as best indicated in Fig. 4, which is disposed laterally, so as to receive the inner spindle and the bearing-seat of the adjacent bracket between the opposite arms of the shoe. The lower arm is provided with a set-screw 24, which is to be set against the under side of the bearing-bracket, so as to frictionally bind the upper arm upon the spindle, and thereby retard the rotation thereof. By this means a roll can unroll at a uniform rate only, and a sudden jerk will not have the same effect as if the spindle was free. It is preferable to have this friction device at the inner end of the roll, as it is then out of the way and does not have to be made to also receive the winding-stem, as would be necessary if it were placed upon the outer end of the roll; also, this brake-shoe prevents accidental upward displacement of the journal from the bearing.

What is claimed is—

1. In a display-rack for rolled goods, a frame, having opposite journal-bearings, which are open at their upper sides, roll-journals mounted in the bearings, and a detachable frictional brake-shoe, having a part underlying one of the bearings, and another part frictionally embracing the upper side of the adjacent journal, said brake-shoe also providing means for preventing accidental upward displacement of the journal.

2. In a display-rack, the combination with a supporting-frame, having opposite journal-bearings, and journals mounted therein, of a detachable and substantially U-shaped frictional brake-shoe disposed longitudinally of one of the journals, the lower arm of the shoe underlying the adjacent bearing, and the upper arm frictionally embracing the upper side of the journal, and a set-screw carried by the lower arm of the shoe and engaging the bearing, said shoe also forming means to prevent accidental upward displacement of the journal.

3. In a display-rack for rolled goods, the combination with a supporting-frame, having opposite journal-bearings, of a guide and supporting rod located in front of the frame and below the bearings, opposite supporting-arms, having the guide-rod connected to the outer ends thereof, and upstanding projections at the inner ends thereof, and opposite brackets secured to the frame and below the bearings, each bracket having a substantially L-shaped socket or recess for the reception of the inner end of the adjacent supporting-arm.

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

GEORGE W. BARNETT.

Witnesses:

B. S. CRAWFORD,
G. E. MCHUGH.