

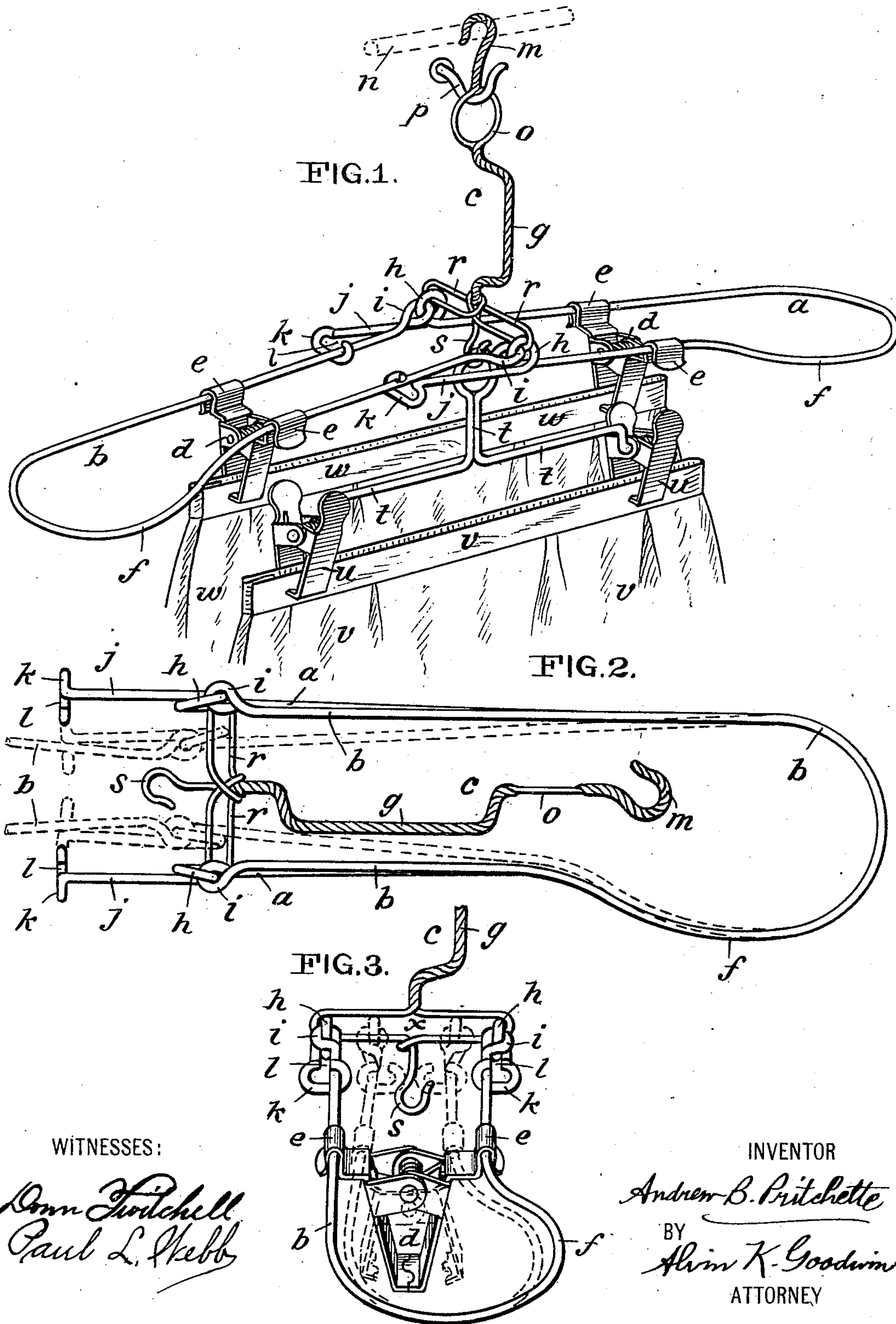
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A. B. PRITCHETTE.
GARMENT HANGER.

(Application filed Sept. 25, 1900.)

(No Model.)



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GARMENT-HANGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 680,356, dated August 13, 1901.

Application filed September 25, 1900. Serial No. 31,038. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW BROOKS PRITCHETTE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Elizabeth, in the county of Union and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Hangers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has for its object to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient device adapted to suspend men's or women's garments—such as coats, vests, trousers, jackets, cloaks, and skirts—and keep them in smooth and good condition.

The invention will first be described and then will be particularly defined in claims hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the main garment-hanger with a skirt held in its two clasps and also shows how an auxiliary smaller hanger device may be combined with the main hanger and in the same space. Fig. 2 is a plan view of my improved hanger in folded condition and with the clasps removed, and Fig. 3 is an end view of the hanger having a modified form of lateral support for its hinged folding arms.

In its preferred form the hanger comprises two hinged main arms *a b*, a suspension device *c*, and two suitable clasps *d d*, which are preferably self-closing spring-clasps and may slide on the arms *a b* to accommodate the size of the garment to be held by the clasps. I prefer to provide these clasps with two hooks *e e*, whereby they are supported adjustably and removably on the main arms, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings. Each part *a b c* is preferably made from one piece of elastic wire. The bends of arms *a b* are preferably bulged forward at *f*, next the front of a coat or waist to be hung over the arms, and the suspension device *c* is bulged or bent forward at *g* to give room for the garment-collar.

In making the arm *a* I bend its opposite sides near each end to form opposite eyes *h*, to which are hinged the end loops *i* of the arm *b*. From these hinges the sides of arm *a* extend at *j*, and at the ends of parts *j* are formed loops *k*, which are open at the top at *l* and preferably at the center to allow opposite sides of the other arm *b* to enter the loops

through openings *l* and be overlapped by the loops at either side of the openings.

In making the device *c* I double the wire and twist it upon itself to form a top open hook *m*, permitting suspension of the hanger from a closet or other rod *n*, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1. Below hook *m* the wire strands are opened to form a loop *o*, permitting suspension of the hanger from a hook or nail *p*. The wire strands then are twisted together to form the main portion, having the forwardly-bent collar-receiving part *g* above mentioned. Below part *g* the strands are separated and, as in Fig. 1, are bent upon themselves to the front and rear to form two loops *r r*, each of which receives the hinge-eye *h* of one side of the hanger-arm *a*. Where loops *r r* meet, one of the wire strands after being carried around the twist of the wire is extended downward to form a hook *s*. Upon this hook *s* may be supported a smaller auxiliary wire hanger *t*, having end clasps *u u*, from which a skirt or other garment *v* may be hung in front of another garment, *w*, hanging from the clasps *d d* of the main hanger device and entirely within the space occupied by the main hanger.

Instead of using the two loops *r r* I may bend the wire strands to form one open loop *x*, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings. Either the two loops *r r* or the single loop *x* make a lateral support on which the hinges *h i* of the arms *a b* may slide toward or from each other. The two loops *r r* (shown in Figs. 1 and 2) are preferred, because they permit direct support of the hook *s* from the stronger twisted body portion of the suspension device *c* and also strengthen the lateral support to sustain at the arm-hinges *h i* any heavy garment or garments.

Fig. 1 of the drawings shows how the unfolded hanger sustains the garment *w* by the clasps *d d*, which may slide away from each other down the sloping arms *a b* to stretch the garment between them, while it is stretched vertically by its own weight. The sides of hanger-arm *b* normally rest on the bottoms of the loops *k* of the arm *a* and normally and elastically lock under the inner ends of said loops to prevent accidental folding upward of the arms during adjustment of a garment to and over these arms. The loops *k*, receiving the sides of arm *b*, thus sustain the weight

of the garments, and said loops also maintain parallelism of those portions of both arms on which the clasps *d d* are adapted to slide.

To remove the garment *w*, it is only necessary to press the opposite sides of arms *a b* toward each other at the hinges *h i*, which can be done by one hand while the other hand holds the garment. This pressing movement instantly opens both clasps *d d* at once to release the garment, which thus may be removed without disturbing a coat or vest or waist which may be hung from and over the main arms *a b* in the usual manner and which it is not thought necessary to illustrate. A garment may as easily be replaced in the clasps without removing the coat or waist. As the arm-hinges *h i* are pressed toward each other for opening the clasps *d* the sides of arm *b* will pass along the loops *k* of the arm *a* and will lock under the opposite or outer ends of said loops as the clasps open and as clearly indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 3 of the drawings.

To fold the hanger, the clasps *d* will be removed from the arms *a b*, and the sides of arm *b* will be slipped upward through the openings *l* of the loops *k*, and both arms *a b* then may be folded flat as also may be the suspension device *c*, all as shown in Fig 2 of the drawings. The hanger thus folded may be packed in very small space in a drawer or trunk or traveling-bag, and it requires but a few moments to unfold and readjust the device for service, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

Any suitable laterally-extending rod or other support may be used on the suspension device *c* instead of the lateral loops *r r* or *x*, provided this lateral support sustains the opposite sides of the two hanger-arms, so as to permit the above-described adjustment of them relatively to each other, and has end stops preventing slipping of the arms from it. I prefer to use the loop form of lateral support, because it makes a very simple and strong pivot for the arm-hinges *h i* while permitting me to provide, preferably in one piece, a main suspension device *c*, having a hook *s* pendent from the loop-support and adapted to sustain the auxiliary hanger *t w*, as above described. According to that part of my invention relating to the clasps, it is immaterial whether the hanger have two hinged arms, as herein described, or have but one cross-head made with opposite sides receiving the clasps and permitting opening of them by pressing said opposite sides toward each other.

I claim as my invention—

1. A garment-hanger comprising a suspension device having a lateral loop formation, two folding arms hinged together and sustained at their hinge by said laterally-looped portion of the suspension device for adjustment of opposite sides of said arms relatively to each other, and means supporting one unfolded arm from the other arm, substantially as described.

2. A garment-hanger comprising a suspension device having a lateral support, two folding arms hinged together and sustained by said support for adjustment of their opposite sides relatively to each other; one of said arms having side extensions forming rests for the sides of the other unfolded arm, substantially as described.

3. A garment-hanger comprising a suspension device having a lateral support, two folding arms hinged together and sustained by said support for adjustment of their opposite sides relatively to each other; one of said arms having side extensions provided with open loop-rests supporting and normally overlocking the sides of the other unfolded arm, substantially as described.

4. A garment-hanger comprising a suspension device having a lateral support, two folding arms hinged together and sustained by said support for adjustment of their opposite sides relatively to each other; one of said arms having two side extensions provided with loop-rests having openings at their top central portions and supporting the sides of the other unfolded arm and adapted to overlock said arm at opposite ends of the loop-rests, substantially as described.

5. A garment-hanger comprising a suspension device having a lateral support, oppositely-extending arms on said support having opposite sides adjustable thereon relatively to each other, and clasps adapted to the arms and openable by pressing opposite sides of the arms toward each other, substantially as described.

6. A garment-hanger comprising a suspension device having a lateral support, oppositely-extending arms on said support having opposite sides adjustable thereon relatively to each other, and clasps adapted to the arms and adjustable thereon toward and from each other and openable by pressing opposite sides of the arms toward each other, substantially as described.

7. A garment-hanger comprising a suspension device having a lateral support, oppositely-extending arms hinged together and having opposite sides adjustable on said support relatively to each other, means sustaining one unfolded arm from the other arm, and clasps adapted one to the opposite sides of each arm and openable by pressing opposite sides of the arms toward each other, substantially as described.

8. In a garment-hanger, the combination of a suspension device having a lateral loop-support, and two arms *a, b*, having eyes hinging them together and sustaining them from said support; one arm having extensions provided with loops *k*, sustaining the other unfolded arm, substantially as described.

9. In a garment-hanger, the combination of a suspension device having a lateral loop-support, two arms *a, b*, having eyes hinging them together and sustaining them from said support; one arm having extensions provided

with loops *k*, sustaining the other unfolded arm; and clasps *d, d*, having hooks *e, e*, adapted to and adjustable along the arms *a, b*, substantially as described.

- 5 10. A garment-hanger comprising a suspension device having a lateral loop formation and a loop or hook above said looped portion, two folding arms hinged together and sustained at their hinge by said later-
10 ally-looped portion of the suspension device for adjustment of opposite sides of said arms relatively to each other, and means supporting one unfolded arm from the other arm, substantially as described.

11. A garment-hanger comprising a sus- 15
pension device having a lateral loop forma-
tion and a loop or hook both above and below
said looped portion, two folding arms hinged
together and sustained at their hinge by said
laterally-looped portion of the suspension de- 20
vice for adjustment of opposite sides of said
arms relatively to each other, and means sup-
porting one unfolded arm from the other arm,
substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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