

No. 721,424.

PATENTED FEB. 24, 1903.

J. D. CLARK.
DISPLAY RACK.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 10, 1902.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

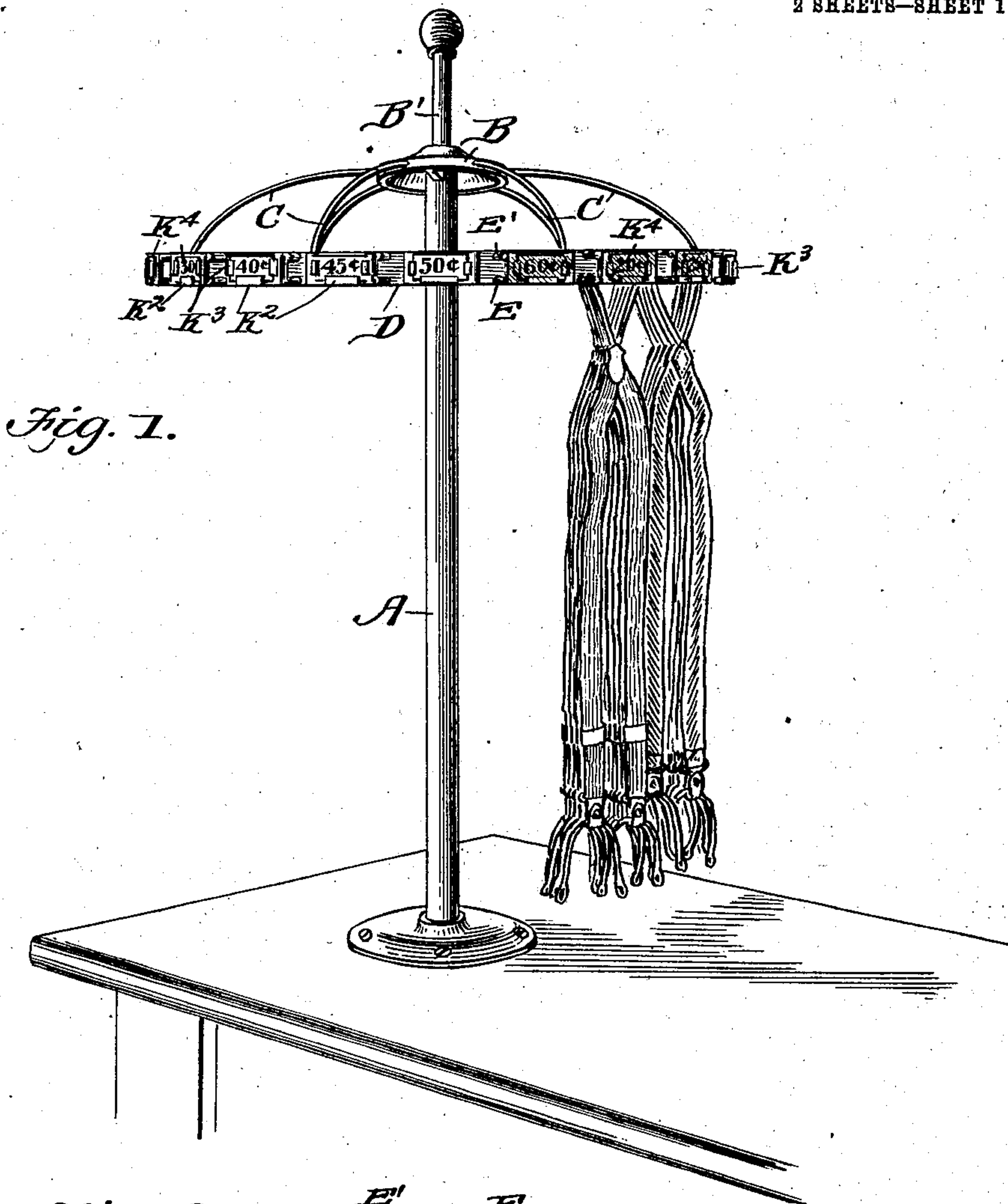


Fig. 1.

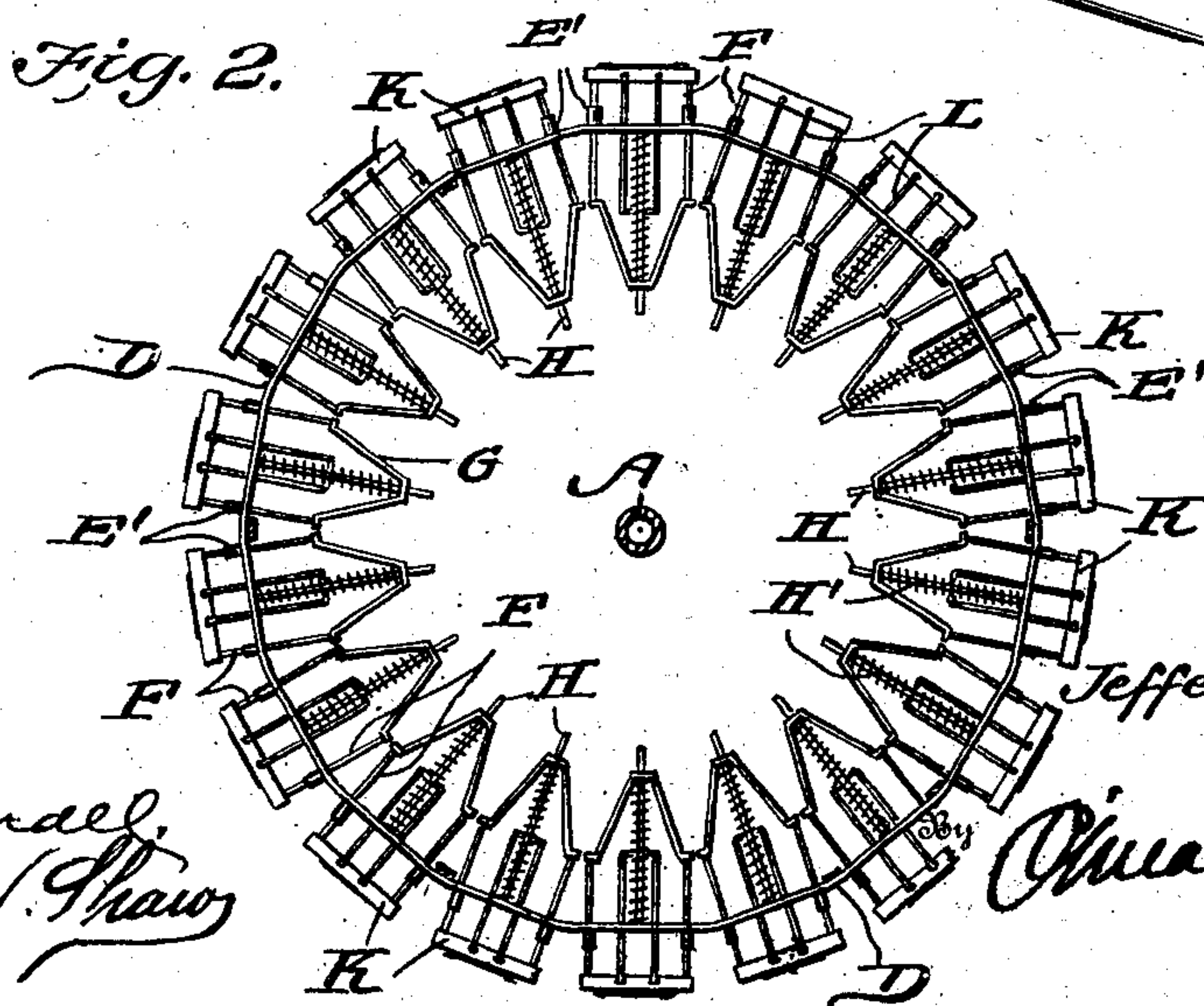


Fig. 2.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

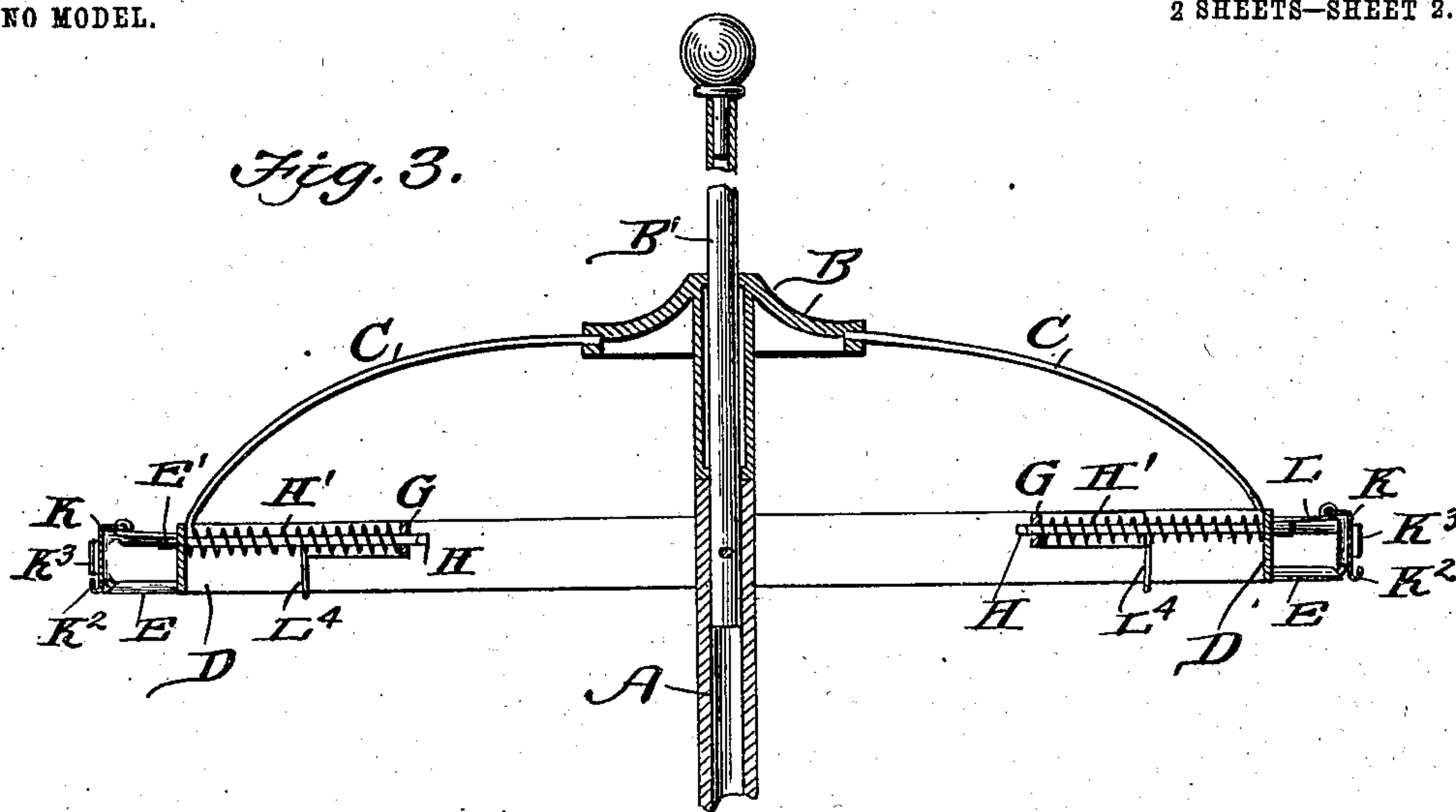


Fig. 4.

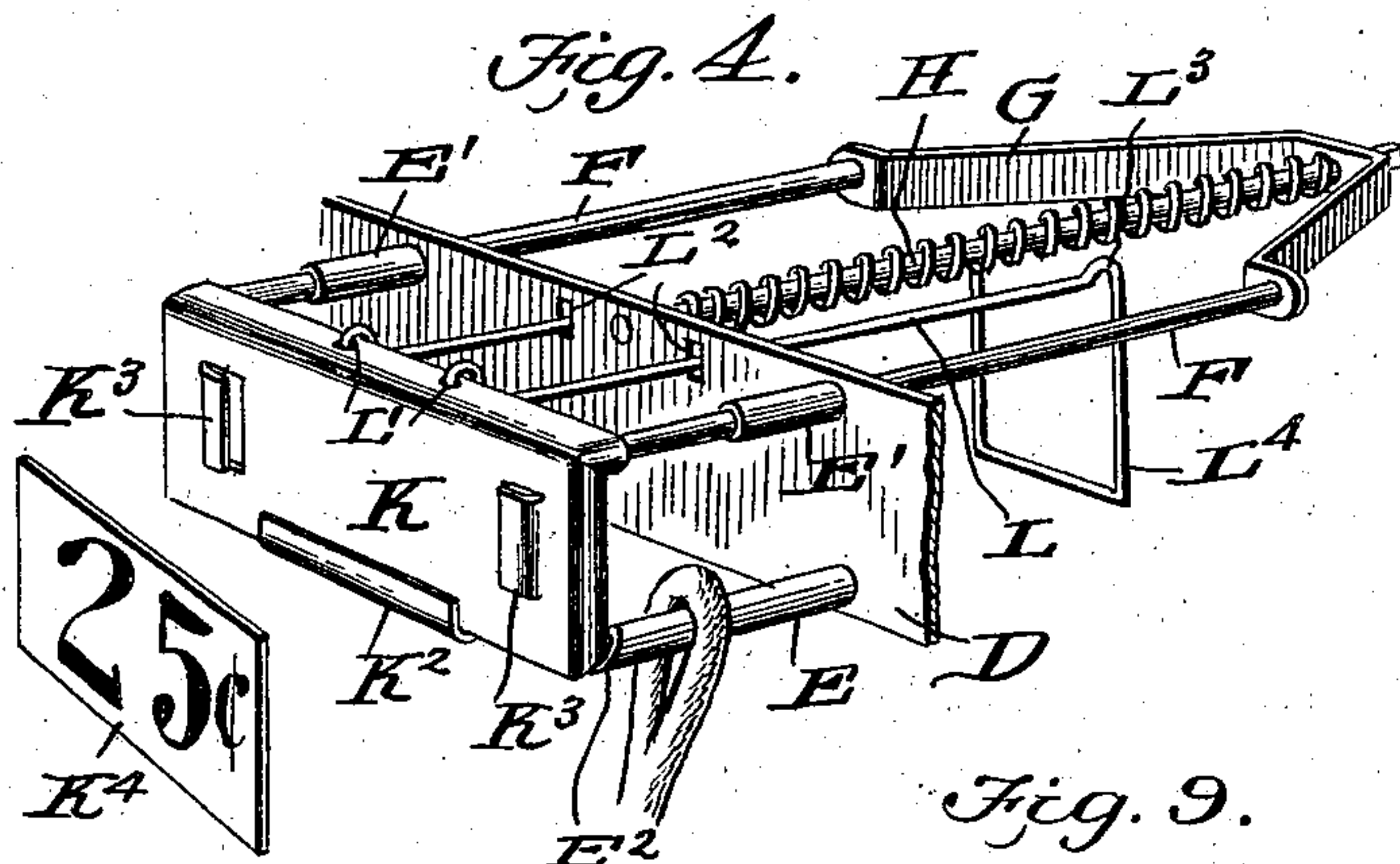


Fig. 6.

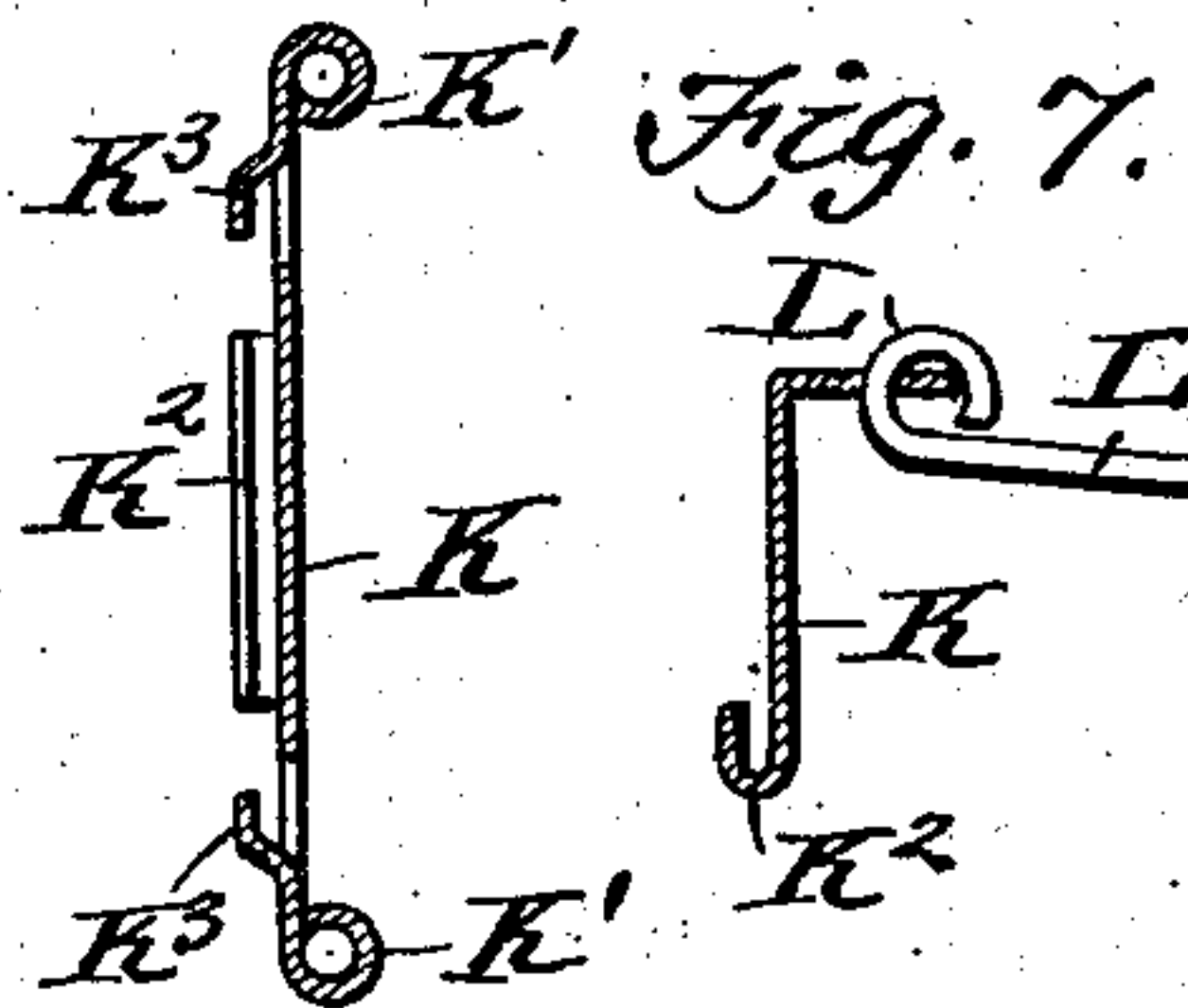


Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

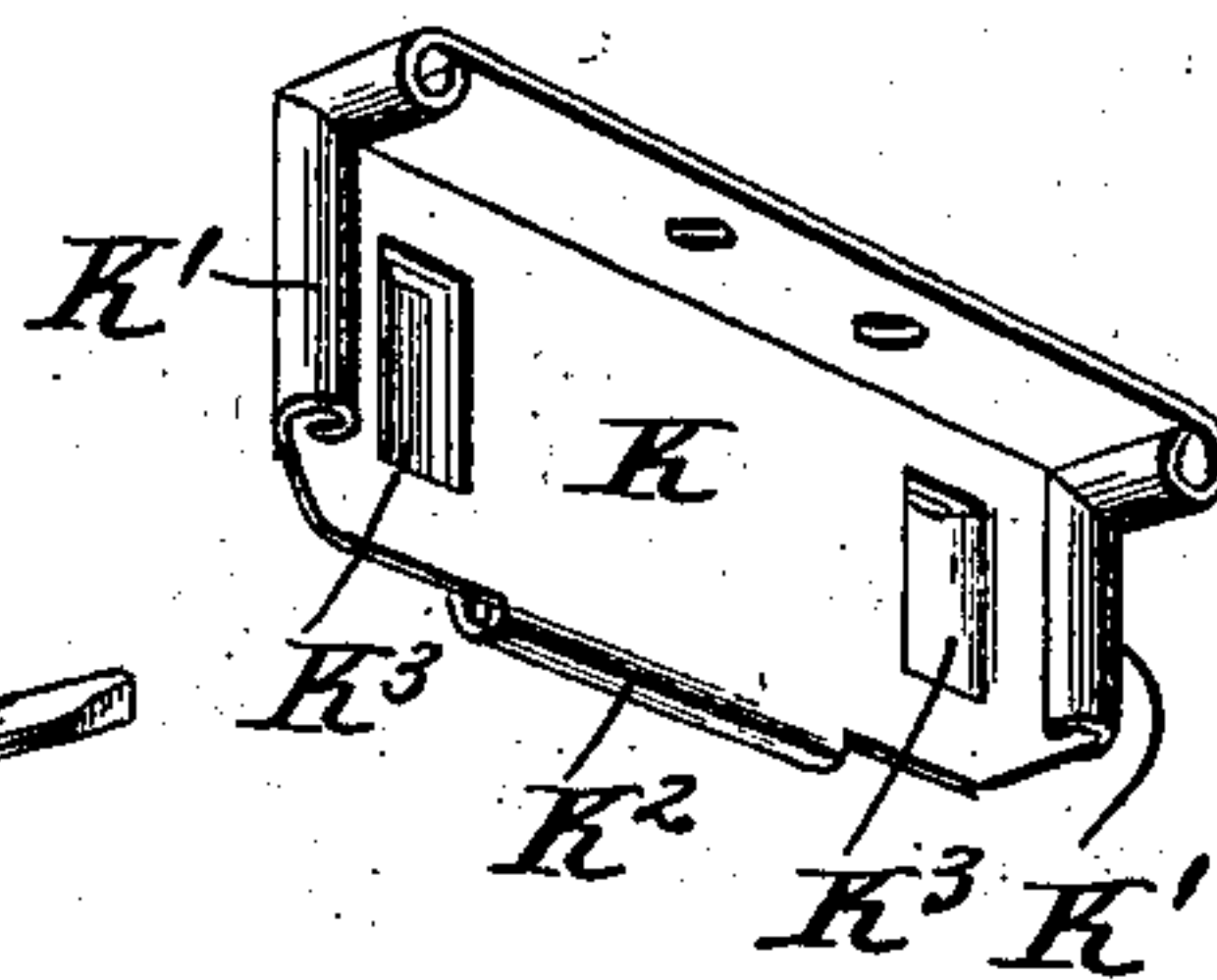
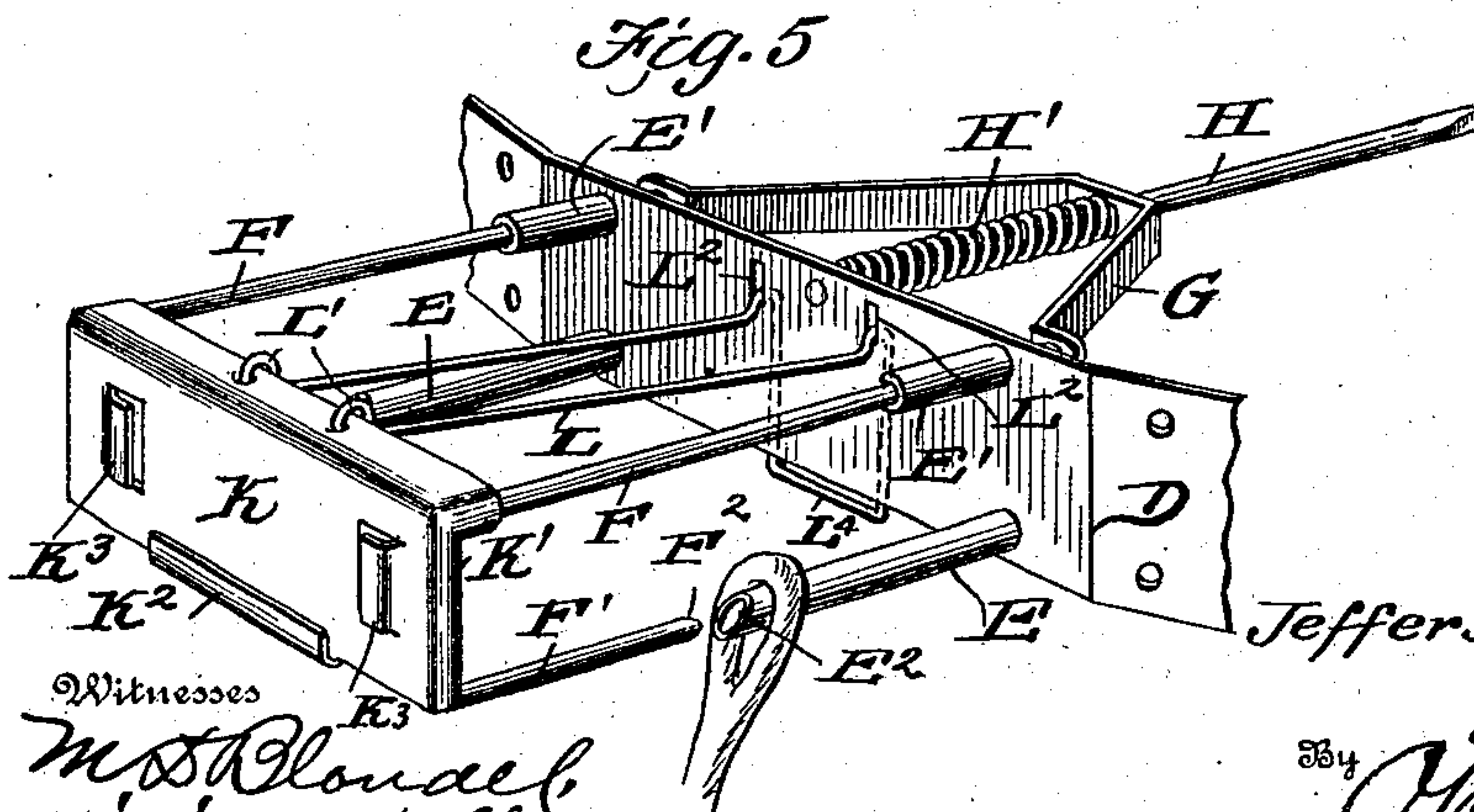


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEFFERSON DAVIS CLARK, OF SCRANTON, MISSISSIPPI.

DISPLAY-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 721,424, dated February 24, 1903.

Application filed May 10, 1902. Serial No. 106,835. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEFFERSON DAVIS CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Scranton, in the county of Jackson and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Display-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates generally to display-racks, and more particularly to a device adapted for displaying suspenders and similar articles.

Heretofore great difficulty has been encountered in properly displaying suspenders, and suspending devices for this class of goods have been found defective, for the reason that considerable time and labor are expended in properly arranging, removing, and rearranging suspenders before and after each and every purchase.

The object of my invention is to provide an exceedingly simple and compact device capable of supporting a large number of suspenders, any pair of which can be quickly and easily removed without disturbing the others.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient device for holding suspenders and similar articles and simultaneously displaying a price card or ticket opposite each particular set or series of articles.

With these objects in view the invention consists in the special construction of the several parts and the novel manner of combining and arranging same, all of which will be fully described hereinafter and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a display-rack constructed in accordance with my invention, two sets of suspenders being arranged thereon. Fig. 2 is a sectional plan view. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view taken through the upper portion of the device. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the suspending devices, the parts being closed and in their normal position. Fig. 5 is a similar view showing the parts open for filling or to permit the removal of the suspenders. Fig. 6 is a sectional view of the price card or ticket holder. Fig. 7 is a sectional view illustrating the connection between the trigger and the said price card or

ticket holder. Fig. 8 is a perspective view of said holder, taken from the inner side. Fig. 9 is a detail view of the guide-rod.

In carrying out my invention I employ a tubular standard A, which supports a revolving hub B at its upper end, said hub being centered by means of a smaller tube B', which exactly fits inside the standard A and which passes therethrough down into and is fastened into the upper end of the standard A. Radiating from the hub B are a series of spokes C, which support at their outer ends the rim or band D, the said rim or band being adapted to support the number of suspenders the rack is intended to display. Supporting-tubes E are attached to the rim or band D and project outwardly therefrom, said tubes being preferably arranged in pairs, each pair being intended to receive the rear buttonhole-loops of the suspenders.

Directly above the supporting-tubes E are the guide-tubes E'. Passing through the said guide-tubes are the rods F, the rear ends of said rods being connected by means of a yoke, the forward ends of said rods being bent downwardly and then rearwardly, as shown at F', the rearwardly-projecting end F' being pointed, as shown at F², and adapted to enter the forward end of the supporting-tube E, and it will be noted that the said forward end is beveled, as shown at E², by means of which the suspenders slide more readily back upon these tubes after being pulled out on the forward suspender-supporting rods when selling from the rack. Were it not for these beveled and tapered ends, the suspenders would be likely to hang or catch on the top edges of the tubes and the rack fail to close automatically.

A guide-rod H is attached to the rim or band D and projects inwardly, said guide-rod passing centrally through the yoke G, and surrounding said guide-rods, between the rim or band D and the yoke G, is a coiled spring H', the purpose of which is to throw the yoke G inwardly, and consequently draw the rods F inwardly, thereby projecting the ends F' into the supporting-tubes, thus preventing the displacement of the suspenders. This guide-rod is flattened at the outer end on two sides and screw-threaded at the opposite end, so that the said guide-rod can be quickly and easily removed whenever it becomes neces-

sary to replace a damaged or impaired spring. The downwardly-bent portions of the rods F are connected by means of a plate K, the edges K' being turned around the rods, as most clearly shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6. The lower edge of the plate K is turned upwardly, as shown at K², K³ indicating guide-tongues projecting outwardly from the plate and adapted to receive the price-ticket K⁴ between them, said ticket resting upon the upturned portion K², thus forming an ingenious price-ticket holder into which a price-ticket may be slipped with the greatest facility and be securely and conspicuously supported in the front of the suspending device for the purpose of indicating the price of that particular set of suspenders. By means of this device a price-ticket is so securely held that it cannot be blown down or out by the wind or become curled or bent over by damp weather, as is the case with other display-racks or exhibitors where the price-ticket is simply held by one corner or edge. It will thus be seen that this plate serves three purposes—namely, as a holder for a price card or ticket, as a connection between the sliding rods, preventing them from twisting or wobbling, and also as a support for the forward ends of the trigger.

When it is desired to remove any particular pair of suspenders from the rack, it is only necessary to grasp the pair wanted and those in front of it, raise the hand slightly and pull outwardly on them until the ends of the rods F' are withdrawn from the supporting-tubes E far enough for the trigger L to operate automatically, and hold the said rods in such open position. Then by simply exerting a slight outward and downward pull upon the pair of suspenders desired they can be quickly and easily removed, the suspender-ends slipping through the opening produced between the ends of the tubes and rods. Immediately that this is done release the trigger by a slight upward pressure of the thumb of the other hand, when the rack will instantly and automatically close and return the unsold suspenders remaining on the rods to their proper places on the tubes ready for the next customer.

As before stated, the parts are automatically locked by means of a trigger L, which is preferably formed of a single piece of wire connected at its ends, as shown at L', to the upper edge of the plate K and passing through the openings L², produced in the rim or band D, adjacent to its lower end, and the said trigger is formed with bends L³, which are adapted to engage the openings L², thereby holding the rack locked in an open position. The central loop portion L⁴ is for the purpose of releasing the trigger by a pressure of the thumb, thus exerting a slight upward movement of the trigger, the said movement serving to disengage the bends or hooked portions L³ from the openings L². A string-tag may also be suspended from this looped end on which to mark the cost and selling-price

in private mark of the articles displayed. The standard is provided with a suitable base, by means of which it can be attached to the counter or other suitable object.

It will thus be seen that I provide an exceedingly simple and efficient display-rack particularly adapted for supporting suspenders; but it will of course be understood that other articles may be also supported and displayed.

In order to fill the rack, the rods are drawn outwardly by pulling upon the front plate until the rods are separated from or drawn out of the supporting-tubes, and when the rods have been drawn forwardly to their full limit the trigger will automatically drop, holding the rack open. The suspenders are then placed upon the hollow tubes, and when the rack is full the trigger is released by a slight upward pressure and the rack will close automatically. After the rack has been filled the suspenders can be easily examined, being held in a most advantageous position for such purpose, and inasmuch as they are locked upon the tubes it will be impossible to lose or dislocate any pair of suspenders when pulling upon them to test the rubber in them. The price card or ticket is also arranged at the front of each rack, thereby indicating the price of the suspenders held thereon.

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

1. A display-rack comprising in combination a revolving rim or band suitably supported, hollow tubes projecting from said band, spring-actuated rods adapted to enter said tubes, and a plate connecting said rods in pairs and adapted to hold a price-card.

2. A device of the kind described, comprising in combination a revolving rim or band having the supporting-tubes attached thereto, the rods passing through the rim or band and bent to enter the supporting-tubes, said rods being connected at their rear ends, a spring operating upon said rear connection, a card or ticket holder connecting the rods at their forward ends, and a trigger attached to the card or ticket holder and adapted to automatically engage the rim or band, substantially as shown and described.

3. The combination with the revolving rim or band suitably supported, of the supporting-tubes projecting therefrom, the guide-tubes attached also to the rim or band, the rods passing through the said guide-tubes and bent at their forward ends to enter the supporting-tubes, the plate connecting the said rods at their forward ends, the guide-rod and spring, and the trigger connected to the plate and adapted to engage the rim or band, substantially as shown and described.

4. The combination with a standard, of a revolving hub arranged at the upper end thereof, the radiating spokes, the rim or band supported by said spokes, the supporting-tubes, the spring-actuated frame, the ends

of which are adapted to enter the supporting-tubes, the ticket-holder connected to said spring-actuated frame, and the trigger pivotally connected thereto and adapted to automatically engage the rim or band, substantially as shown and described.

5 5. A device of the kind described, comprising a rim or base, having supporting-tubes projecting therefrom, and spring-actuated rods adapted to slide into the said support-

ing-tubes and hold articles suspended thereon, and means for automatically holding the rods out of engagement with the tubes when withdrawn a predetermined distance, substantially as shown and described.

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