

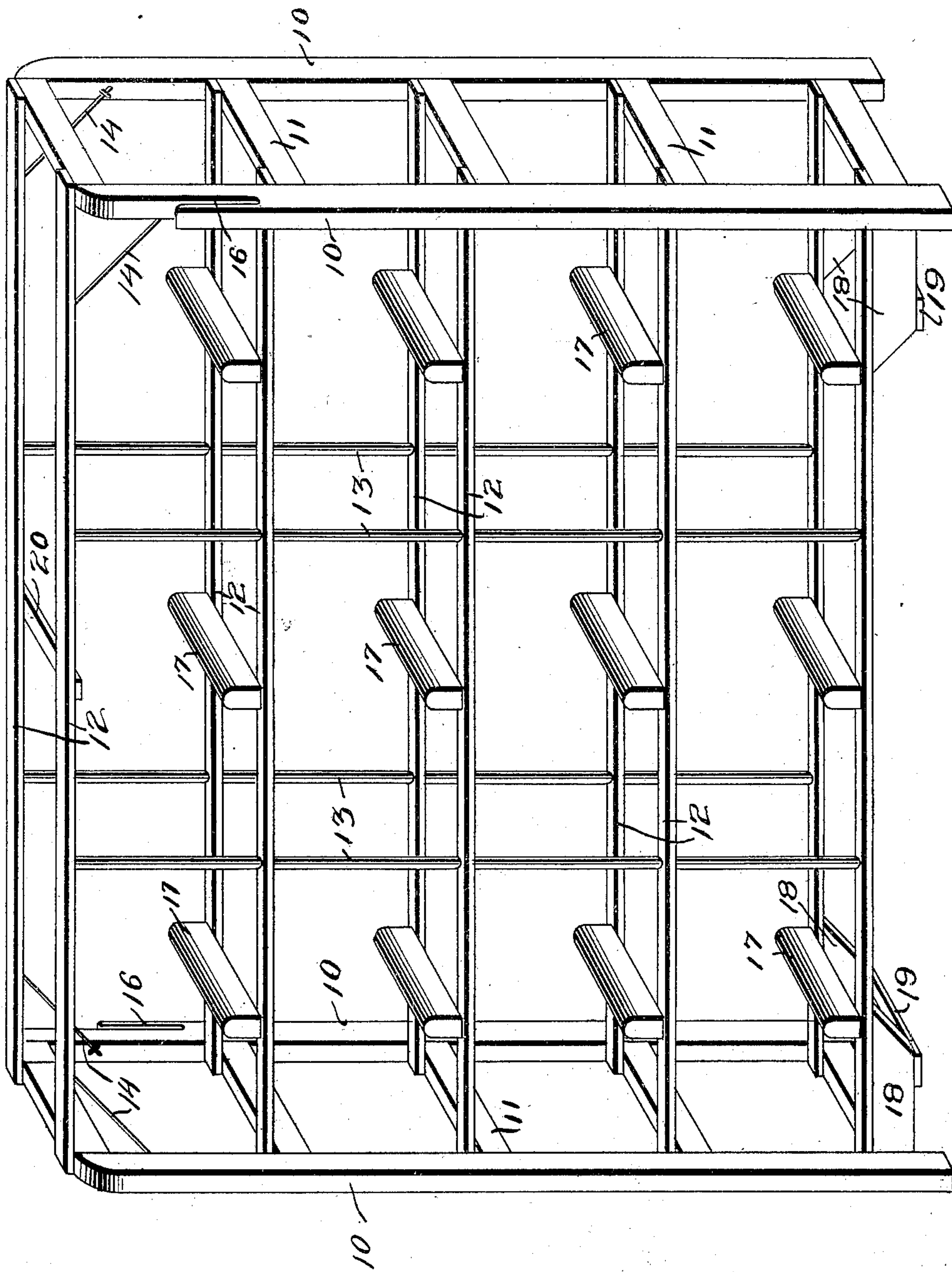
No. 726,527.

PATENTED APR. 28, 1903.

G. C. HAGER.  
HAT RACK.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 26, 1902.

NO MODEL



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE C. HAGER, OF DANBURY, CONNECTICUT.

## HAT-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 726,527, dated April 28, 1903.

Application filed March 26, 1902. Serial No. 100,124. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. HAGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Danbury, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Hat-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to racks for supporting hats in stores and other localities where it is required to support the hats separately and in position to be individually accessible; and the invention consists in certain novel features of the construction, as hereinafter shown and described, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In the drawing illustrative of the invention the figure is a perspective view of the device.

The device consists of an oaken oblong framework composed of corner-posts 10, each opposite pair of posts at the ends connected by transverse bars 11, each set of posts 10 and bars 11 forming the ends of the framework. The ends are connected by longitudinal bars 12, corresponding in number to the transverse bars 11 and united to the latter next to the posts 10, as shown.

The frame may be of any height or length, but will be limited in width to conform to the sizes of hats, so that the distances between the opposite pairs of the longitudinal bars 12 will be about equal to the longest interior diameter of the largest size of hat to be supported.

Five of the sets or pairs of the bars 12 are shown, providing for four "shelves" for the hats, but any number may be employed, so that a greater or lesser number of hats may be supported, as may be required, and I do not wish to be limited to any particular size or capacity of rack. Connecting the longitudinal bars 12 at intervals are vertical brace rods or bars 13, each passing through all the bars 12, which are in vertical alinement on each side of the rack, as shown, and rigidly secured therein. These brace-rods will be inserted at as frequent intervals as may be required to adequately support the rack-frame, but will generally be arranged between each vertical row of the hats. At the upper corners of the rack diagonal wire braces 14 are arranged to connect the corner-posts 10 and the upper pair of longitudinal bars 12, as shown, to strengthen the rack. One or more

of the corner-posts 10 are formed with apertures or "slits" 16 to provide for holding display or price tags or other similar articles. 55

The bars 12 of each shelf, on which the hats are placed and by which the hats are supported, are connected together by guard-blocks 17, which are on the upper sides of said bars, are of suitable height and length, and are disposed a suitable distance apart. The hats are placed upon the bars or shelves 12 over the said guard-blocks, so that the latter enter and retain the hats against movement longitudinally or transversely of the shelves, so that the hats are kept appropriately spaced apart and are prevented from slipping or being shaken from the shelves; but the hats may be readily removed by lifting them. 70

The whole frame is very lightly and strongly formed, each part contributing to its proper support, but with no superfluous parts.

The rack is open from all sides, so that the hats can be inspected from every point without handling them and each hat maintained in its proper individual position and in position to be independently removed or inserted. 75

The blocks 17 are an important feature of the invention, as they not only furnish an adequate and secure support to the individual hats, but at the same time form additional braces to the framework. 80

At the lower side of the rack, beneath the lowermost pair of the longitudinal bars 12, are disposed side braces 18, connected across beneath their inner ends by transverse brace-bars 19 to form additional supports to the rack and stiffen and strengthen it. At the upper end a central transverse brace-bar 20 will be disposed to connect the uppermost of the longitudinal bars 12, as shown. 85 90

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A hat-rack having a shelf and supporting means therefor, the shelf comprising longitudinally-disposed spaced slats, and guard-blocks arranged on, projecting above, and disposed transversely with relation to the slats, said guard-blocks being adapted to enter hats placed thereon, and being appropriately spaced apart to hold the hats out of contact with each other. 95 100

2. A hat-rack comprising vertical corner-

posts 10, cross-bars 11, connecting them together in pairs, longitudinally-disposed slats 12, having their ends attached to the said corner-posts and cross-bars, and guard-blocks, 5 on, projecting above and disposed transversely with reference to and connecting the said slats, said guard-blocks being adapted to enter the hats placed on the "shelves" formed by the slats 12, and being appropriately spaced apart to keep the hats from con-

tacting with each other, 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.

GEORGE C. HAGER.

Witnesses:

CLINTON FOSTER,  
EBER A. HODGE.