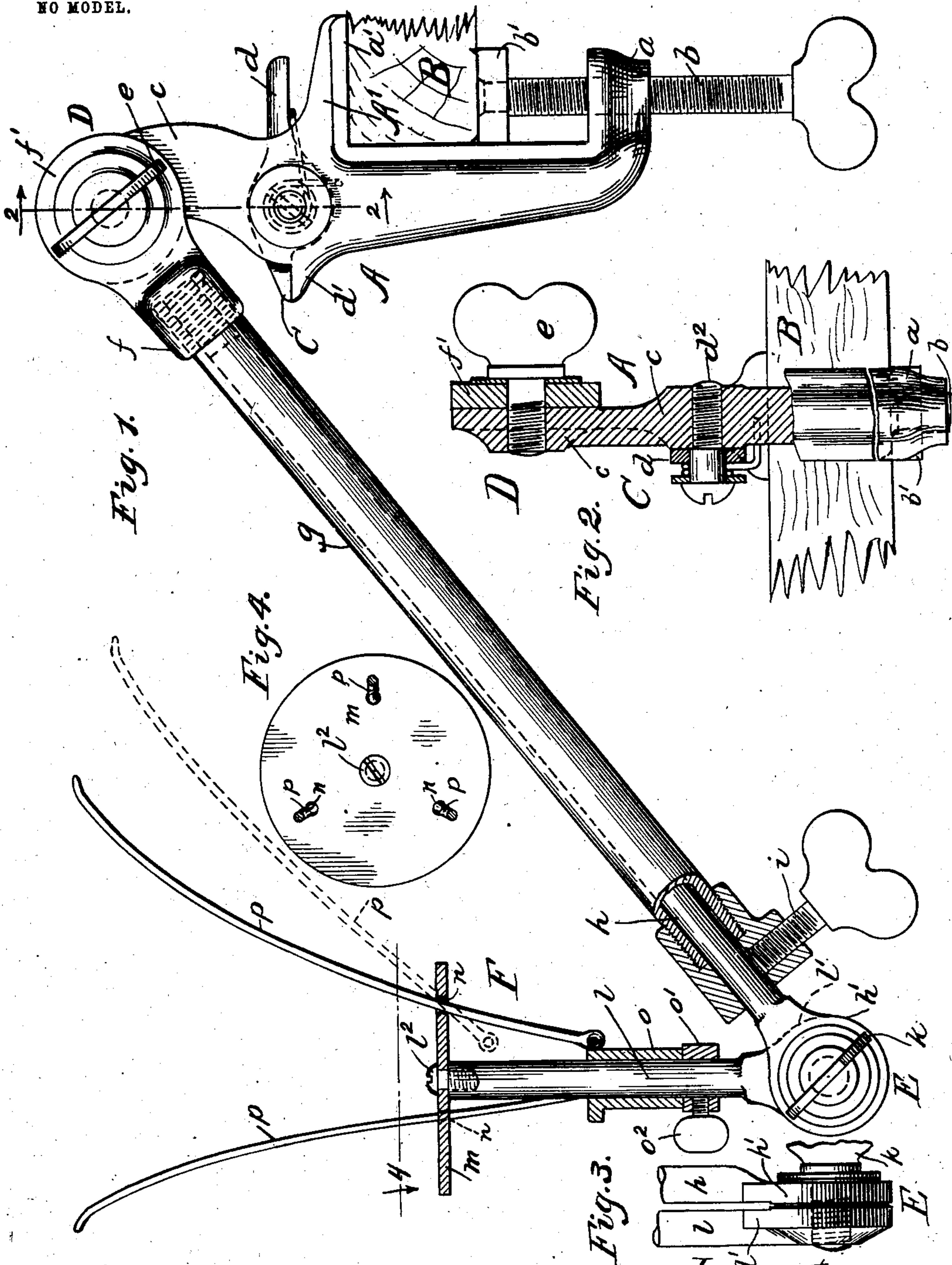


No. 729,451.

PATENTED MAY 26, 1903.

S. S. TORRANCE.
MILLINER'S HAT HOLDER.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 17, 1902.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:

Albert D. Bacci.

Inventor:

Sarah S. Torrance.

By Pyrenforth, Pyrenforth & Lee, Att'ys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SARAH S. TORRANCE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

MILLINER'S HAT-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 729,451, dated May 26, 1903.

Application filed November 17, 1902. Serial No. 131,701. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SARAH S. TORRANCE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Milliners' Hat-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The primary object of my invention is to provide an implement that will serve to facilitate the hat-trimming work of milliners by enabling them to support a hat while trimming it conveniently in the various positions required for its accessibility instead, as commonly heretofore, of requiring it to be supported on the knee of the worker during the trimming operation, with the disadvantages of discomfort, owing to the cramped position of the body, and inconvenience in working, besides the objection of a tendency to mar the work by getting it out of shape.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows my improved hat-holder in operative position by a view in elevation, partly sectional and partly diagrammatic. Fig. 2 is a broken view, mainly in vertical section, of the end of the holder by which it is supported attached to a suitable support, the section being taken on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1 and viewed in the direction of the arrows; Fig. 3, a broken view showing in edge elevation the pivotal joint between the extensible arm and hat-support members of the holder, and Fig. 4 a section taken at the line 4 on Fig. 1 and viewed in the direction of the arrow.

A is the clamping-head of the device, comprising a jaw A', provided in its lower end with a thumb-screw b, carrying a follower b', between which and the upper end a' of the jaw the head embraces the edge of a table or other suitable support (represented at B in Fig. 2) and is fastened by the thumb-screw. Beyond the jaw portion of the head it is extended into a neck c, and at the junction of the neck with the head is formed on the latter at the side opposite the jaw a beak d', affording one member of a gripper C, the other member d of which is a spring-pressed lever fulcrumed between its ends by a screw d² on the base of the neck c to cooperate at one end with the beak d', the opposite end of the lever affording a handle. To the upper end of the neck c is fulcrumed by a thumb-screw e, to form a

pivotal joint D, a disk f' on the end of an internally-threaded socket f, into which is screwed one end of a tubular arm g. An extension-rod h, terminating at one end in a disk h', is adjustably confined telescopically in the tubular arm g by a thumb-screw i and has fulcrumed on its disk head by a thumb-screw k, to form a pivotal joint E, the disk head l' of a rod l, on the extremity of which is rotatably fastened by a screw l² a disk or plate m, forming part of an adjustable hat-carrier and provided eccentrically with openings n, of which three are shown in Fig. 4. A sleeve o loosely surrounds the rod l to slide and rotate freely thereon and is supported in its raised and lowered positions by a collar o', held by a thumb-screw o². On the upper end of the sleeve o are pivoted outwardly-curved fingers p, one of which passes freely through each opening n in the rotatable disk m.

To use my improved holder, it is fastened by the thumb-screw b at the jaw A' to an edge of a support B. On loosening the thumb-screw e to free the joint D the arm g may be adjusted in front of the operator up or down to any desired angle to bring the carrier F to a convenient height, and then tightening the thumb-screw e rigidly secures the parts in their positions of relative adjustment. The rod h may be drawn out to any desired extent and turned on its axis to set the carrier relative to the operator at any desired position and angle, where it is held by tightening the thumb-screw i. The pivotal joint E permits the hat-carrier to be adjusted to any desired angle lengthwise of the extension-rod h or into line therewith. With the parts adjusted to the desired relative positions a hat to be trimmed is so placed on the free ends of the fingers p as to cause them to enter the crown. Thereupon the sleeve l, which may be in its position nearest the joint E when the hat is first placed on the fingers, is slid toward the disk m to advance the fingers toward their respective positions, of which one is shown by the dotted representation at p in Fig. 1, wherein they are relatively spread at their free ends, which engage in lateral directions with the sides of the hat-crown. Obviously the greater the diameter of the crown of the hat to be held the greater the spread of the fingers,

which is gaged by being thus expansible and contractible in adjusting them to any crown by its diameter, and when adjusted the collar *o'* is made to abut against the adjacent end of the sleeve *o* and is fastened by the thumb-screw *o²* to hold the fingers against retraction. The gripper *C* affords convenient means, among other purposes, for holding a strip of lace or other trimming at one end while it is being applied to the hat.

In trimming the hat supported on the carrier *F* the operator may easily turn it about to gain convenient access to any portion of its circumference, because the disk *m* and sleeve *o*, carrying the fingers, are both freely and readily rotatable, and the joints *D* and *E*, with the arm *g* and telescoping rod *h*, afford a universally-jointed bracket for supporting the carrier and connecting it with the supporting-head *A*. This is the important object of my invention and is not dependent for its accomplishment upon the exact construction nor the details thereof herein shown and described. Hence I do not wish to be understood as limiting my invention to such particular construction and details. Moreover, I do not limit the use of my improved device to that of holding a hat merely while being trimmed, for the carrier *F*, mounted as shown and described on any suitable support, is useful for holding hats under other conditions, including those of display.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A milliner's hat-holder comprising, in combination with a supporting-head, a bracket formed of a tubular arm pivotally joined to said head, a rod telescoping with said tubular arm for its extension and contraction, a rod pivotally joined to said telescoping rod, and means for tightening said arm and rods in their adjusted positions, and a hat-carrier rotatably mounted on the end rod of said bracket.

2. A milliner's hat-holder comprising, in combination, a supporting-head, a gripper thereon, a bracket formed of a tubular arm pivotally joined to said head, a rod telescoping with said tubular arm for its extension and contraction, a rod pivotally joined to said telescoping rod, and means for tightening said arm and rods in their adjusted positions, and a hat-carrier rotatably mounted on the end rod of said bracket.

3. A milliner's hat-holder comprising, in combination with a supporting-head, a bracket formed of a tubular arm pivotally joined to said head, a rod telescoping with said tubular arm for its extension and contraction, a rod pivotally joined to said telescoping rod, and means for tightening said arm and rods in their adjusted positions, and a hat-carrier comprising a plate provided with openings and rotatably mounted on the end rod of the bracket, a sleeve loosely surrounding said end rod and means for fastening it in adjusted position thereon, and fingers pivotally connected with said sleeve and passing through said plate-openings.

4. A milliner's hat-holder comprising, in combination, a supporting-head provided with a jaw and set-screw fastening, a bracket formed of a tubular arm pivotally joined to said head, a rod telescoping with said tubular arm for its extension and contraction, a rod pivotally joined to said telescoping rod, and means for tightening said arm and rods in their adjusted positions, and a hat-carrier comprising a plate provided with openings and rotatably mounted on the end rod of the bracket, a sleeve loosely surrounding said end rod and means for fastening it in adjusted position, and curved fingers pivotally connected with said sleeve and passing through said plate-openings.

SARAH S. TORRANCE.

In presence of—

ALBERT D. BACCI,
W. B. DAVIES.