

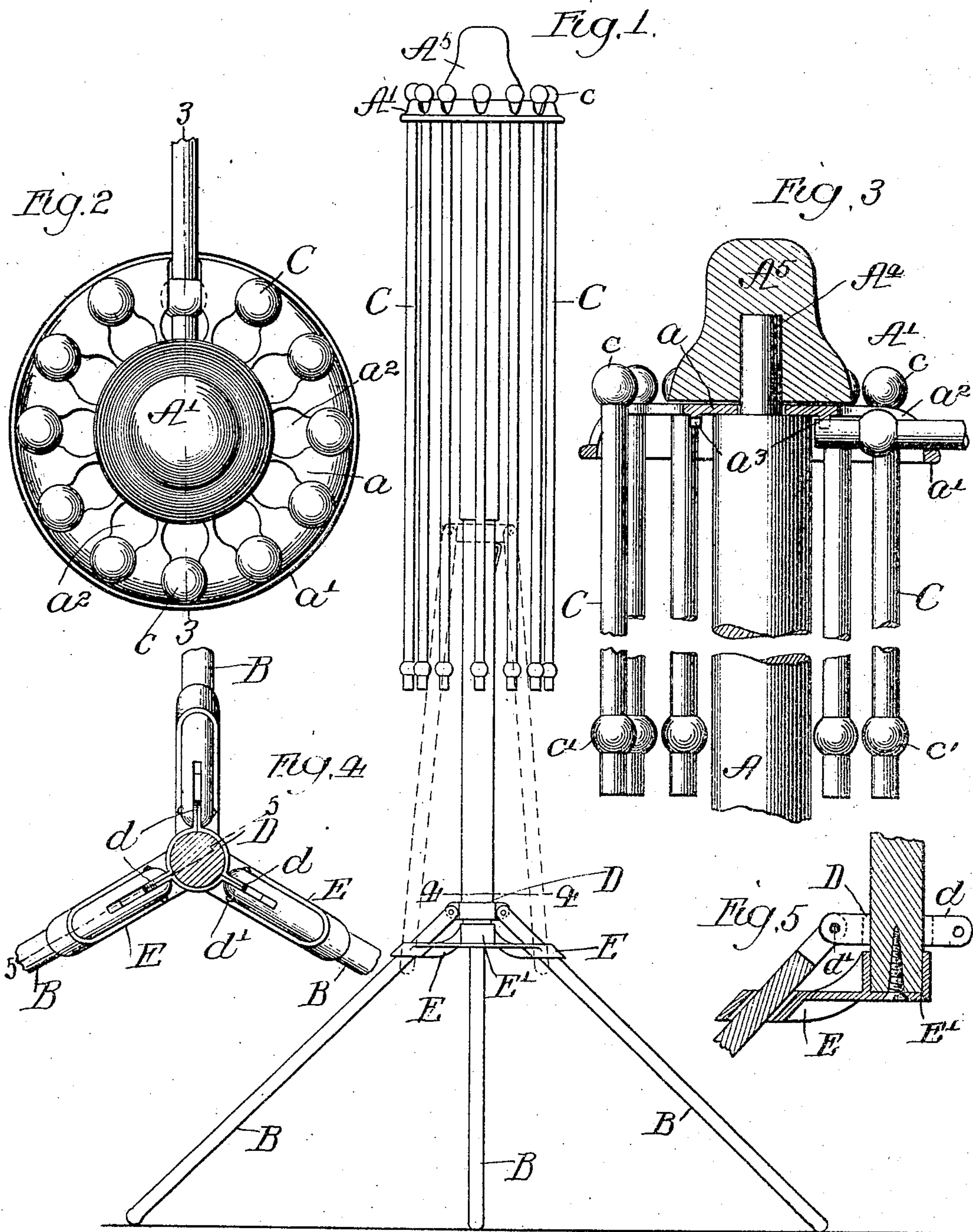
No. 773,788.

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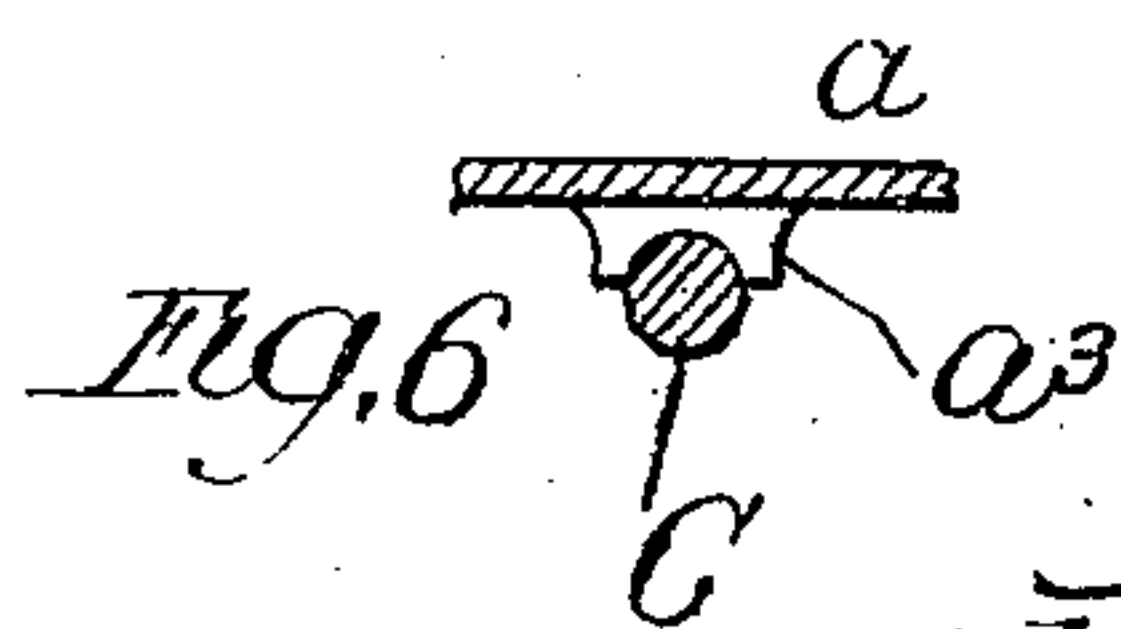
T. I. DUFFY.  
CLOTHES HORSE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 2, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses  
H. B. Bennett  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CLOTHES-HORSE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 773,788, dated November 1, 1904.

Application filed July 2, 1903. Serial No. 164,032. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS I. DUFFY, of New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and State of Louisiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Horses; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improved clothes horse or drier; and among the objects of the invention is to construct a device of this character which may be made very light, while possessing ample strength and durability, and which shall require but little storage space when not in use and at the same time which possesses a large capacity for receiving clothes or other articles to be dried or hung thereon. The invention consists in the matters hereinafter set forth, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a clothes-horse made in accordance with my invention, showing the same closed. Fig. 2 is a partial plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken on line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a transverse view taken on line 4 4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view taken on line 5 5 of Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a detail showing the manner of holding the arm in its horizontal or operative position.

As shown in the drawings, the frame of the drier or horse consists of a vertical standard A, a tripod-support embracing three tripod-legs B B B, hinged or loosely connected at their upper ends with a ring D, which slides on the standard, and radially-arranged hanging arms or bars C C, which are supported on a head. (Indicated as a whole in Fig. 1 by the letter A'.) Said head comprises a central or web portion  $a$  and a marginal downwardly-extending flange  $a'$ , in which are formed openings  $a^2$ , through which the hanging bars extend, said openings continuing almost to the margin of the flange. The bars or arms C hang downwardly, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, when not in use, and in order to bring them into their operative or horizontal positions

they are first drawn upwardly through the openings in the head and then swung outwardly to a horizontal position, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3. Said bars are provided at their ends with knobs  $c'$ , which prevent the bars from being accidentally withdrawn from the head, and the knobs  $c'$  at the lower ends of the bars are located a distance from said ends for a purpose hereinafter to be set forth. The head A' is provided on the under surface thereof, just in rear of each opening through which the bars extend, with a pair of laterally-separated lugs  $a^3$   $a^3$ , as more clearly shown in Fig. 6, between which the ends of the bars beyond the lower knobs  $c'$  fit when said bars are in their horizontal positions, the interlocking connection of said bars with the lugs serving to hold the bars stationary with respect to the head. The head is rotatively mounted on the standard A by being centrally apertured to fit over a reduced part or dowel A<sup>4</sup> at the upper end of the standard, and a cap A<sup>5</sup> is fitted over said dowel and over the head in the manner shown in Fig. 3, the parts being so arranged as to permit the head to rotate freely on the reduced upper end of the standard. The inner parts or ends of the openings  $a^2$  of the head are made of sufficient diameter to permit the knobs, which are preferably made integral with the bars, to pass therethrough when the bars are assembled on the head. The bars are so assembled before the cap A<sup>5</sup> is fitted to the head, and said cap is made of sufficient diameter to overlap at its margins the inner or enlarged parts of the openings  $a^2$ . The outer parts of said openings are made smaller than the inner parts, so that the knobs of the bars cannot pass therethrough, whereby it becomes necessary to shift the bars radially inwardly to the larger parts of the openings to remove the same. By reason of the overlapping engagement of the margin of the cap A<sup>5</sup> with the inner or enlarged parts of said openings it will be observed that when the cap is in place, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the bars cannot be removed, and that the said cap therefore constitutes a removable locking device on said head which normally prevents said knobs from being withdrawn through said openings, either when hanging



in the position shown in Fig. 3 or when being drawn upwardly preparatory to being brought into their horizontal positions. It will be observed that when said arms are in their horizontal positions they are supported just outside the knobs  $c'$  thereof on the marginal part  $a'$  of the head and by engagement of the extreme ends thereof with the lugs  $a^3$  and that when in their inoperative positions they hang around the post or standard on the knobs  $c$  and engage with the outer or narrower parts of the openings in the head.

By the use of the construction described, whereby the knobs may be inserted through the openings in the head in the manner described and thereafter locked therein from accidental displacement, I am enabled to provide the bars with integral knobs. This is a great advantage over bars made with knobs separate therefrom and attached thereto, inasmuch as in the latter construction considerable time is required to fit the knobs to the bars and there is great liability of the knobs becoming accidentally detached.

The legs B are connected with the standard A through the medium of a ring D, which slides endwise of the standard and is provided with lugs  $d$ , to which the upper ends of the legs are pivoted, said upper ends of the legs being slitted and the lugs fitted within the slits and being loosely connected therewith or hinged thereto by means of transverse pins  $d'$ . Attached to the standard below the ring D is a guide, provided with a plurality of radial guide-arms E E. A central socket  $E'$  is fitted over the lower ends of the standard. Said guide-arms are provided with openings through which the legs B slide. The guide is attached to the standard in any suitable manner by which it is secured non-rotative and rigidly thereto, so as to hold the legs when in their open positions firmly with respect to the standard. When the ring D is raised upwardly, the lower ends of the legs are brought together in the manner indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1, and when said ring is depressed to its lowermost position, said legs are thrown outwardly by reason of their engagement with the guide in the manner shown in full lines in Fig. 1. It may be observed that the connection of the standard with the legs, whereby the same are made capable of being folded upon the standard in the manner shown, may be varied, inasmuch as the details of this part of the structure constitute no part of the present invention. The general arrangement of the manner of connecting the legs with the part which slides endwise on the standard A, whereby said legs may be folded upwardly against the standard, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1, is of considerable importance, however, when con-

sidered in connection with the features of construction whereby the hanging bars hang downwardly around the standard when in their inoperative or unused positions, inasmuch as such construction renders it possible to collapse the device when not in use into a space but little longer than the standard. It may be observed that the standard in practice may be made shorter than shown in Fig. 1—that is to say, a little longer than the hanging arms themselves. The device when folded therefore requires but little room for storage, and this is an important consideration both in the home of the user and in the store of the merchant. At the same time the device has great capacity for receiving clothes or other articles to be dried or hung thereon.

So far as the general construction of the head and means for locking the hanging bars therein is concerned, it will be obvious that the same advantages as before mentioned obtain whether or not the head be rotative or whether or not it be made a full circle.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of a head provided with a plurality of openings, a plurality of bars engaging said openings and having knobs at their ends, said bars when in their inoperative positions being adapted to hang downwardly from said head and supported by their upper knobs and being adapted to be supported in horizontal positions on said head in radially-disposed order, said openings of the head being made sufficiently large to permit the knobs to pass therethrough, and a movable locking device on said head normally restricting said openings in a manner to prevent the withdrawal of the knobs there-through.

2. A clothes-horse comprising a vertical standard, a head thereon, a plurality of bars, which, when in their inoperative positions, hang downwardly from said head in circular order around the standard with their lower ends free, means for supporting said bars horizontally in radially-disposed order around the head, supporting-legs connected with the lower end of said standard and inclined downwardly and outwardly therefrom when open and means whereby said legs when closed or folded are moved into the space between the vertically-hanging bars and said standard.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 12th day of June, A. D. 1903.

THOMAS I. DUFFY.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM L. HALL,  
GERTRUDE BRYCE.