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A. K. ANDERSON.

HAT DISPLAY STAND.

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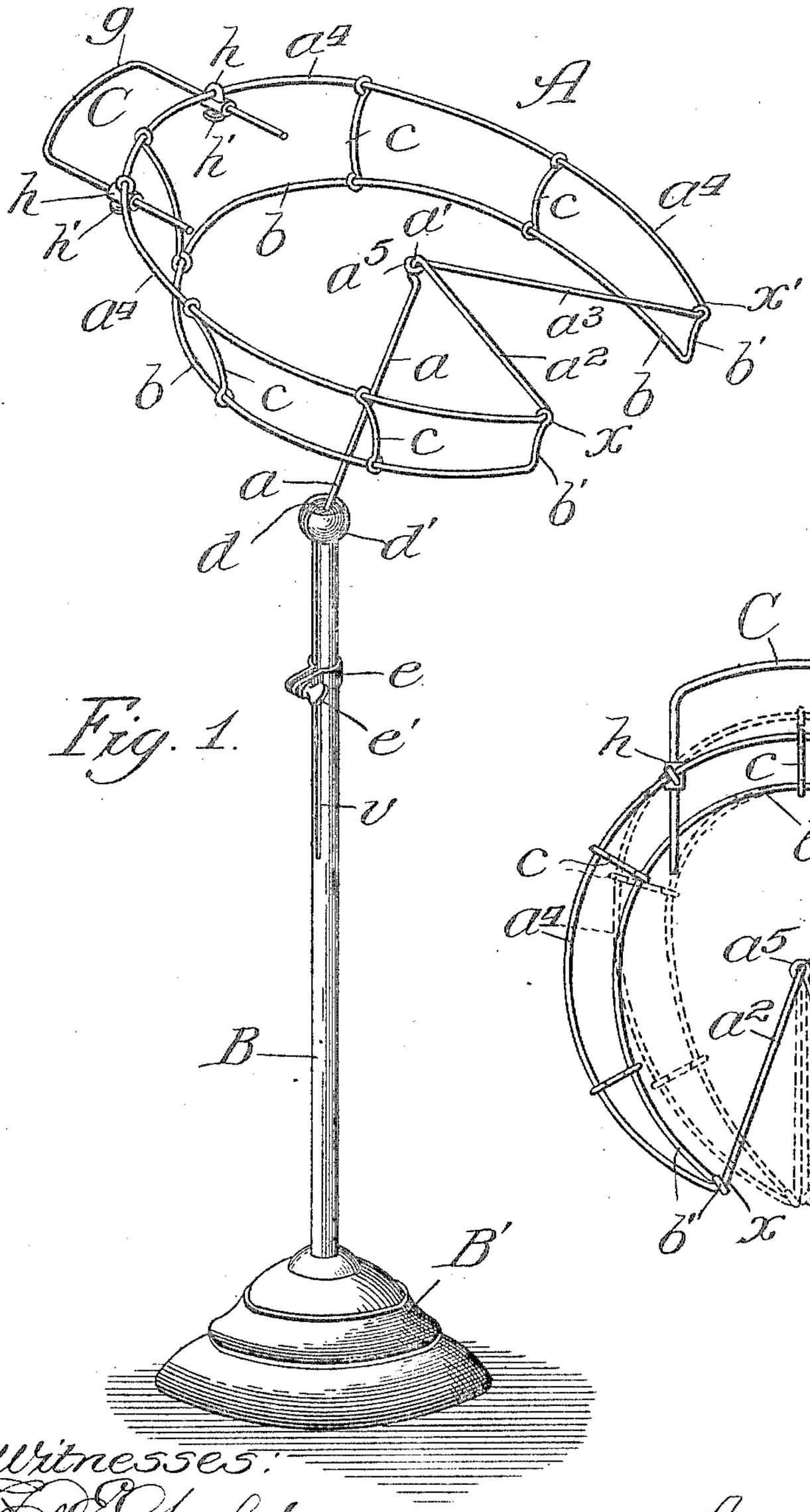

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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HAT-DISPLAY STAND.

No. 797,833. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 22, 1905.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNA K. ANDERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ishpeming, in the county of Marquette and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hat-Display Stands, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in the class of stands employed in millinery establishments for supporting under display ladies' hats and provided to that end with a resiliently-compressible head or frame on a standard adapted to enter the crown of the hat to be displayed and to expand therein for engaging it to hold the hat against being accidentally knocked or blown off and permit examination thereof by customers without handling, thus to avoid the soiling tendency of such handling.

My object is to provide a novel construction of hat-stand in the class referred to which shall render it inexpensive to manufacture, durable, and convenient to manipulate for adjusting a hat upon it and for showing a hat adjusted thereon.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved hat-stand; and Fig. 2, a plan view of the head, showing by dotted representation the condition to which it is reduced by compressing it preparatory to adjusting a hat upon it or removing the hat from the stand.

A is the head, consisting of an approximately circular frame composed of springy wire. The body of the frame is formed of two bowed upper and lower wires, with spacing-braces *c* at intervals between them. The upper wire proceeds as a straight stem *a* from a ball *d* to a loop *a'*, formed in it, whence it is bent to extend a length, forming an arm a^2 at a right angle to the stem, to the point *x*, from which the wire describes a bow a^4, preferably in the arc of a circle, to the point *x'*, from which it proceeds as a straight arm a^3 to the loop *a'* on the inner end of the arm *a*, being provided on its extremity with an eye a^5, which engages the loop. The lower wire is fastened at its ends to the upper wire at the points *x x'*, from which it extends at angles forming the brace-sections *b' b'*, and between these sections it describes a bow *b*, narrower than the bow a^4 and of somewhat oval shape, and at intervals between the bows they are connected by the brace-wires *c*, fastened in place, as by soldering them to the bow-wires.

B is the hollow standard, rising from a suitable base B' and terminating at its upper end in a socket *d'*. The standard is split longitudinally throughout a portion of its length, as represented at *v*, the slit extending through the socket to render it resiliently expansible when released from the clamping effect of a split flanged collar *e*, surrounding the standard and provided with a thumb-screw *e'*, working in the flanges for clamping and loosening the collar about the standard. The ball *d* on the end of the frame-stem *a* fits in the socket *d'* and forms therewith a ball-and-socket joint to adapt the frame A to be turned, as by manipulating the stem, to move it to any desired position for convenience in inspecting a hat upon it, and by releasing the collar *e* the incidental expansion of the socket *d'* enables the ball to be taken out of it for removing bodily from the standard the head A, thus to enable the frame to be handled alone and a hat to be carried to any desired point, as for convenience of inspection, without requiring the standard to be carried with it.

To apply my improved device, the user grasps the arms a^2 a^3 in one hand to bring their diverging ends toward each other or together, thereby contracting the body of the head A toward or to the condition in which it is represented by dotted lines in Fig. 2 for the purpose of reducing its diameter to that required for permitting its ready insertion into the crown of a hat (not shown) to be displayed, and when the head has been so introduced the operator releases the arms, when the resilent quality of the head will expand it against the inner side of the crown to hold the hat stably in place. The arms a^2 a^3 are similarly compressed for the same purpose for releasing a hat preparatory to removing it from the head A.

On the bow a^4 is shown to be provided an adjustable extension C for increasing to any desired extent the operative dimensions of the frame A, thereby to adapt it to hold hats having crowns larger in diameter than that of the frame in its normal condition of expansion. The extension comprises a wire *g*, bent into yoke shape, having its legs releasably confined by set-screws *h'* in bearings *h* provided on the bow a^4. This construction of extension enables it to be moved longitudinally in its bearings in either direction for lengthening the frame A.

The primary characteristic of my improved frame is that afforded by the described construction of adapting both bows to be readily

contracted by compressing either the upper larger one, which substantially conforms in shape to the inner circumference of a hat-crown, or the lower narrower one, thereby to facilitate manipulation of the frame in adjusting upon or removing from it a hat.

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

1. A hat-display frame consisting of an upper bow of resilent wire normally conforming in shape substantially to that of the inner circumference of a hat-crown, a narrower lower bow of resilient wire, and braces connecting said bows at intervals in spaced relation to each other and adapting both bows to be contracted by compression of either.

2. In combination, a standard, a hat-display frame consisting of an upper bow of resilient wire normally conforming in shape substantially to that of the inner circumference of a hat-crown, a narrower lower bow of resilient wire, and braces connecting said bows at intervals in spaced relation to each other and adapting both bows to be contracted by compression of either, and a flexible-joint connection between said standard and frame.

3. In combination, a standard, a hat-display frame consisting of an upper bow of resilient wire normally conforming in shape substantially to that of the inner circumference of a hat-crown, a narrower lower bow of resilient wire, and braces connecting said bows at intervals in spaced relation to each other and adapting both bows to be contracted by compression of either, and a ball-and-socket joint separably connecting said standard and frame.

4. In combination, a hat-display frame consisting of resilient wires forming bows connected together to occupy different planes and adapted to be contracted by compression, and a frame extension adjustably supported on one of said bows.

5. A hat-display frame comprising, in combination, a resilient wire forming a bow provided on its ends with arms converging toward the center of the bow and connected together where they meet, a stem extending from one of said arms, a resilient wire forming a narrower bow, and spacing connections between said bows.

6. In combination, a hat-display frame consisting of a resilient wire forming a bow provided at its ends with arms converging toward the center of the bow and connected together where they meet, a stem extending from one of said arms, a resilient wire forming a narrower bow, spacing connections between said bows, a hollow split standard provided with a clamping-collar and terminating in a socket, and a ball on the end of said stem confined in said socket.

7. A hat-display frame comprising, in combination, a resilient wire bent to form a stem terminating in a loop, an arm extending from the loop and a bow extending from said arm and terminating in an arm with an eye on its end engaging said loop near the center of said bow, a resilient wire bent to form a bow and connected with said first-named bow near its ends, and spacing-wires extending at intervals between said bows.

8. A hat-display frame comprising, in combination, a resilient wire bent to form a stem terminating in a loop, an arm extending from the loop and a bow extending from said arm and terminating in an arm with an eye on its end engaging said loop near the center of said bow, a resilient wire bent to form a bow and connected with said first-named bow near its ends, spacing-wires extending at intervals between said bows, and a yoke-shaped wire extension adjustably supported in bearings on said first-named bow.

ANNA K. ANDERSON.

In presence of—
CARL TELLEFSEN,
JOHN G. B. ASTRUIUS.