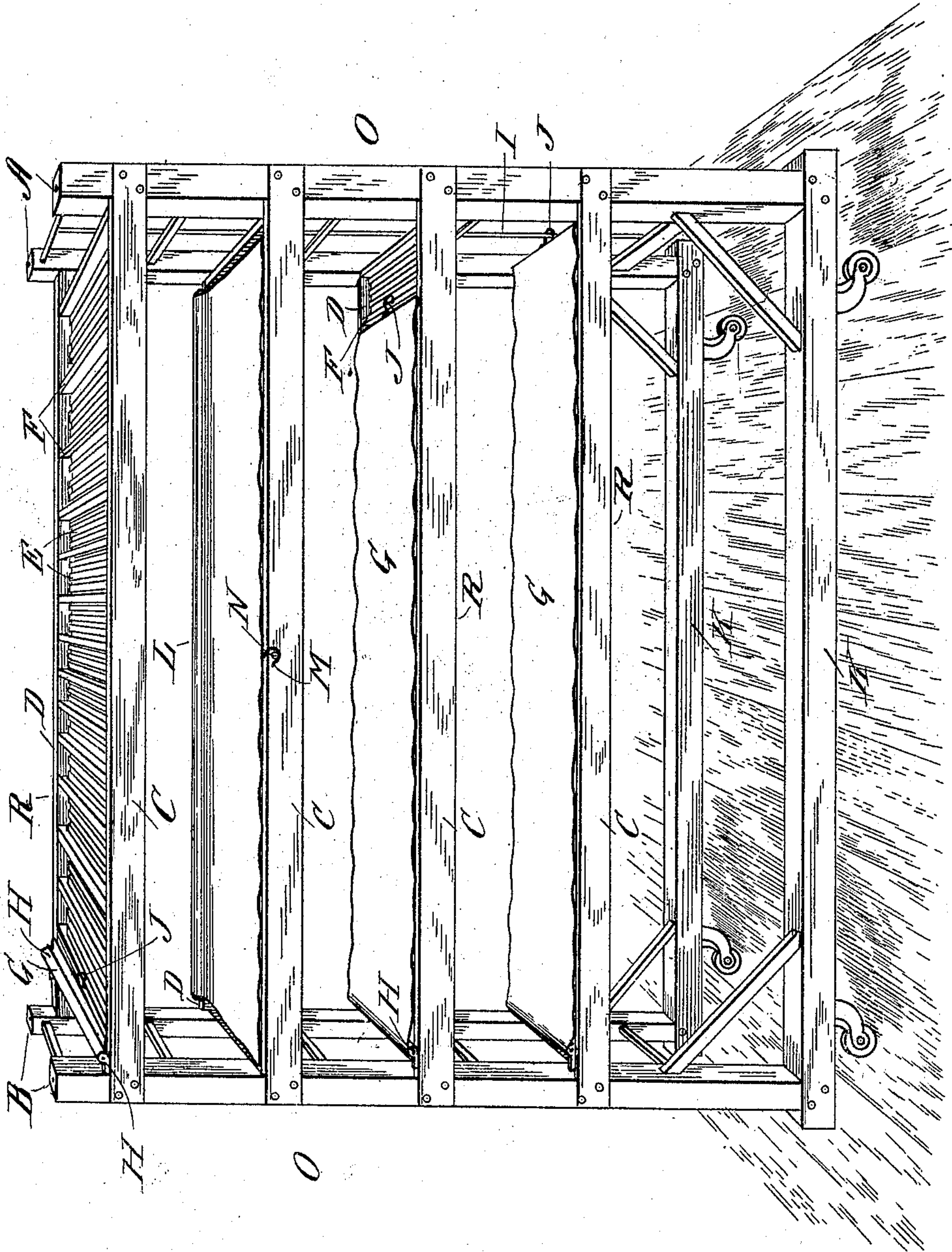


No. 815,932.

PATENTED MAR. 20, 1906.

P. J. PORTER.  
COVERING FOR SHOE RACKS.  
APPLICATION FILED JULY 15, 1904.



Witnesses:  
R. Gallagher.  
A. Kinnick Jr.

Inventor:  
Peter James Porter  
by Garrison Dunham  
his attorney.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER JAMES PORTER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## COVERING FOR SHOE-RACKS.

No. 815,932.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

Application filed July 15, 1904. Serial No. 216,754.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PETER JAMES PORTER, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Boston, Suffolk county, Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coverings for Shoe-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in shoe-racks, such as are used in shoe-factories for holding "an order of work" in convenient position for an operator, for transporting the shoes from one operator to another, and for exposing the shoes for drying and other purposes. My invention is concerned particularly with means in connection with such racks for preserving the shoe on the rack from soiling due either to the dripping of the shoe-dressing from the shoes on an upper to those upon a lower tier or from contact with the soiled rack itself. I accomplish these objects by mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein the figure is a perspective view of my invention arranged with a rack.

O is a rack of usual form and dimensions and comprises generally the supporting-posts A and B, the base K, and the rack-boxes or shelves R. The rack-boxes R are formed, preferably, of the front and rear supporting-strips C and D, the gratings E, and the ribs P, which serve as partitions for the rack-boxes to separate the shoes supported thereon.

The features constituting my improvement comprise the spring-roller H, which may be conveniently mounted either at the ends or at the rear of the boxes or shelves R. These rollers each carry a covering or protecting member G, which may be of any suitable material, and is provided at its free end with a fastener of any desired form adapted to engage with a convenient part of the rack opposite the roller—such, for example, as the uprights I or the partitions P, as shown on the first and second shelves from the bottom, respectively, or with the front strip C, as shown on the third shelf, or to pins or other

suitable fastening members on these parts, if desired.

When tan or colored shoes are to be placed upon the rack for the purpose of drying or otherwise, the curtain or covering G may be drawn over the boxes or shelves and the shoes placed thereupon, whereby said shoes are preserved not only from contact with the soiled rack, but also are protected from the drippings, if any, from the shoes above. When the racks are to be used merely for transportation or for holding black shoes, the fastener J may be released and the coverings G rolled upon their carriers, and thus themselves preserved from exposure to dirt and dust.

It is obvious that the coverings may be extended over but a part of each shelf, if desired, having their ends in such case secured to the ribs F, whereby the rack may be used simultaneously for a "split" order of black and colored shoes.

Many changes may be made in the construction and relative arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit or scope of my invention.

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

The combination with a shoe-rack comprising a plurality of grated shelves or boxes, of covering members for said shelves adapted respectively to be extended above and supported by each shelf, whereby articles supported by each of said covered shelves will rest upon said covering member and be protected thereby from contact with the shelf means mounted on the perimeters of said shelves automatically to retract, and to carry, said members, in retracted position, and means to secure the free ends of said members when at various degrees of extension.

Signed at Boston this 13th day of July, 1904.

PETER JAMES PORTER.

Witnesses:

H. DUNHAM,

HARRY MENDELSON.