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R. M. & H. M. BOWSER.

DISPLAY RACK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 7, 1905.

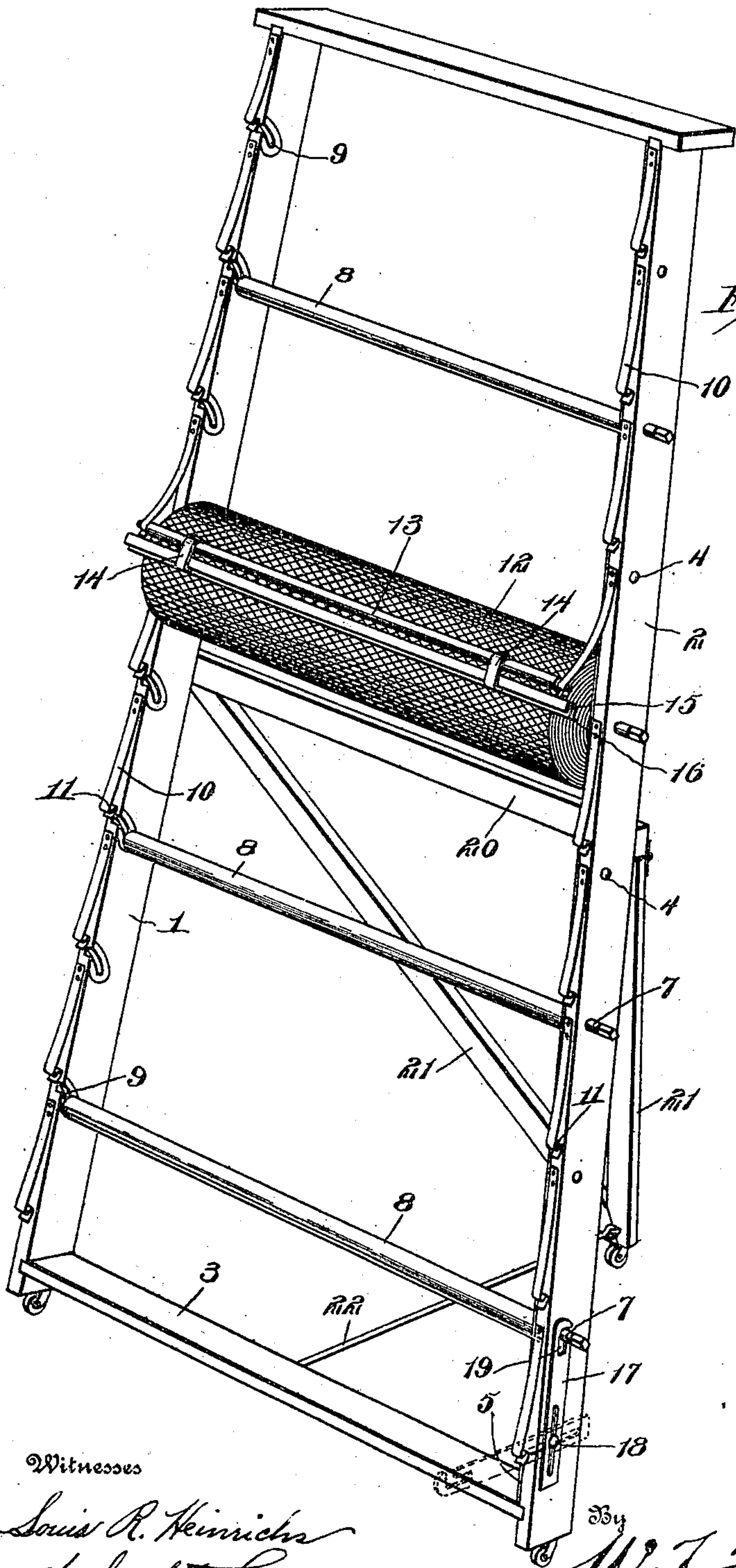


Fig. 1.

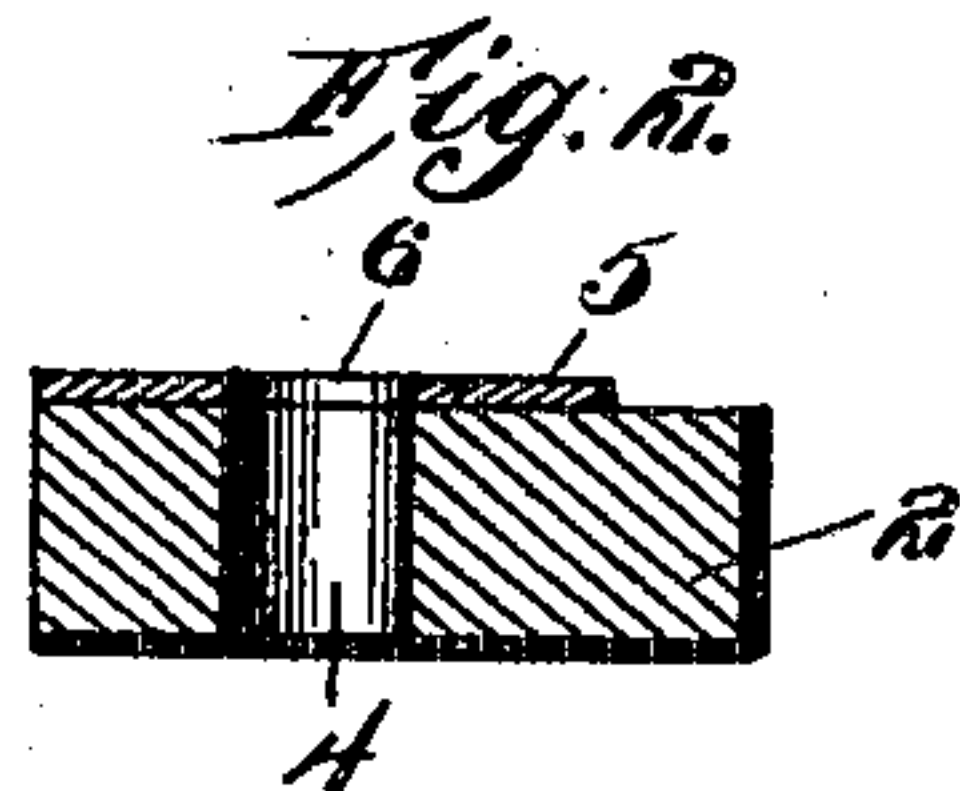


Fig. 2.

Witnesses

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DISPLAY-RACK.

No. 838,517.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 18, 1906.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ROSS MECKLING BOWSER and HARRY MILFORD BOWSER, citizens of the United States, residing at Renfrew, in the county of Butler and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Racks; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates to display-racks, and is more particularly a device for holding poultry-netting and other wire fabrics and heavy fibrous fabrics, such as linoleum, carpet, &c.

The object of the invention is to provide means for conveniently storing rolls of fabric in a compact space at points where they can be conveniently reached.

A still further object is to provide means for preventing the rolls from unwinding and for enabling the user to easily mark off upon the unrolled strip the point at which the same is to be severed.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of a frame suitably supported and having means whereby opposite sides thereof can be detachably engaged by rolls adapted to extend through rolls of fabric. Each of these rolls of the frame has means secured adjacent to it for preventing the fabric from unwinding, and a ruler or blade is also adapted to be supported upon each roll of material to enable the same to be marked off at proper intervals.

The invention also consists of certain other novel features of construction and combination of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings we have shown the preferred form of our invention.

In said drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device, showing a roll of fabric in position thereon. Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse section through one of the sides of the rack.

Referring to the figures by numerals of reference, 1 and 2 are side bars, connected at the top and bottom by cross-strips 3. The side bar 2 has apertures 4 therein at intervals, and a wear-plate 5 is mounted longitudinally upon the inner face of the strip 2 and also has apertures 6, which register with

the apertures 4. These apertures are adapted to receive the necks 7 of rolls 8, and the other necks of these rolls project into grooves 9, which are formed within the inner face of the side strip 1 and are spaced apart the same distances as are the apertures 4. Secured to the forward edges of the side strips 1 and 2 are spring-strips 10, terminating in hooks 11. These hooks are so disposed in relation to the rolls 8 that when a roll of fabric 12 is placed on any of the rolls 8 the hooked strips 10 will lie adjacent the ends of the roll 12. The hooks 11 of the strips constitute bearings for small retaining-rolls 13, which bear on the rolls 12, and from each roll 13 extend hooks 14, which project into a channeled blade 15, having an inwardly-extending flange 16, which is adapted to press on the roll 12. A longitudinally-slotted plate 17 is connected to the lower portion of each side strip 1 and 2 by means of a pin 18, which projects through the slot, and one end of each plate 17 has an angular slot 19 therein, which is adapted to receive the neck of the lower roll 8. A cross-bar 20 connects the side strips, adjacent the center thereof, and has a supporting leg or brace 21 hinged to it and adapted to be secured in proper relation to the bottom of the frame by means of a rod 22.

In using this rack a roll 8 is adapted to be placed in each aperture 4 and groove 9, and each roll may constitute a support for a roll of fabric, such as wire-netting, carpet, linoleum, &c. When the fabric-roll 12 is in position, it will be prevented from unwinding, because the strips 10 press the retaining-rolls 13 thereon. When it is desired to unwind a portion of the roll 12, the same is grasped at its free end and pulled with sufficient pressure to overcome the resistance offered by rolls 13, and after the proper length has been unwound a knife or pencil can be drawn along the flange 16 of blade 15, so as to properly mark the places where the fabric is to be cut.

Should the rolls 8 be too large to insert within a roll of fabric, a small rod can be placed within the roll of fabric and then the rod can be placed in engagement with the slotted ends of plate 17, which are adapted to be swung outward, as shown in dotted lines. The roll of fabric can then be unwound from the rod therein and upon one of the rolls 8. The roll of fabric, mounted between the plate

17, should of course be provided with a retaining-roll 13 and its supporting spring-strips 10 for retarding the unwinding of the roller. The flange 16 of blade 15 may, if desired, be in the form of a knife, whereby thin fabrics can be severed by pulling it there-against.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with the side strips grooved and apertured respectively, of rolls having one end in an aperture and the other end in a groove, spring-strips secured at their upper ends to the forward edges of the side strips and at their free ends having hooks forming bearings, retaining-rolls held in said hooks, hooks projecting from said rolls and a channeled blade into which the said hooks engage, said rolls and blade bearing against the fabric on the rolls.

2. The combination with the side strips grooved and apertured respectively, of rolls having one end in an aperture and the other end in a groove, spring-strips secured at their upper ends to the forward edges of the side strips and depending substantially parallel therewith and at their lower ends having hooks forming bearings, retaining-rolls held in said hooks, hooks projecting from said rolls, and a channeled blade into which the said hooks engage, said rolls and blade bearing against the fabric on the rolls, and the blade having an inwardly-extending flange.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

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Witnesses:

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