

No. 881,784.

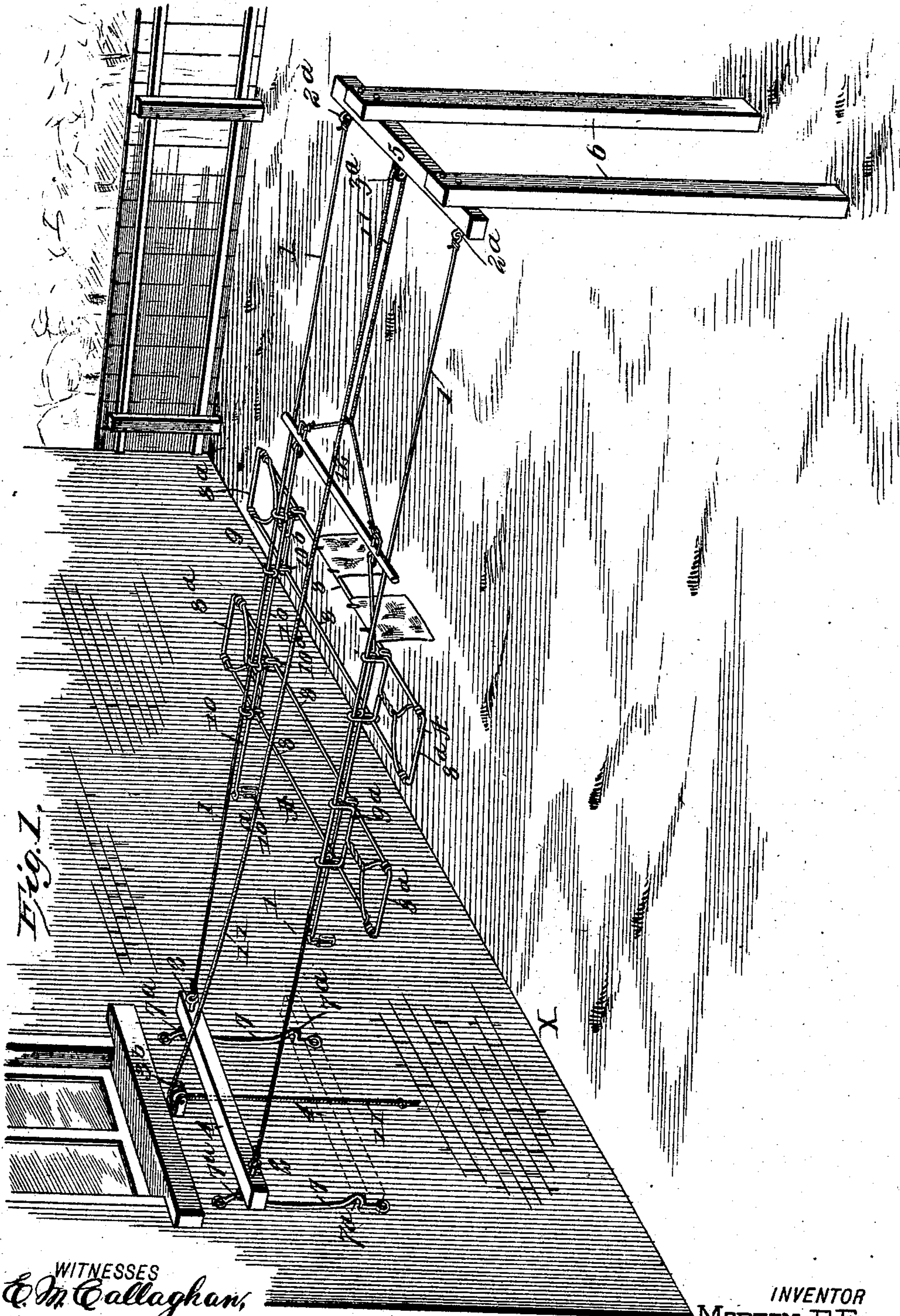
M. B. FITTS.

PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

CLOTHES DRIER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 19, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES  
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

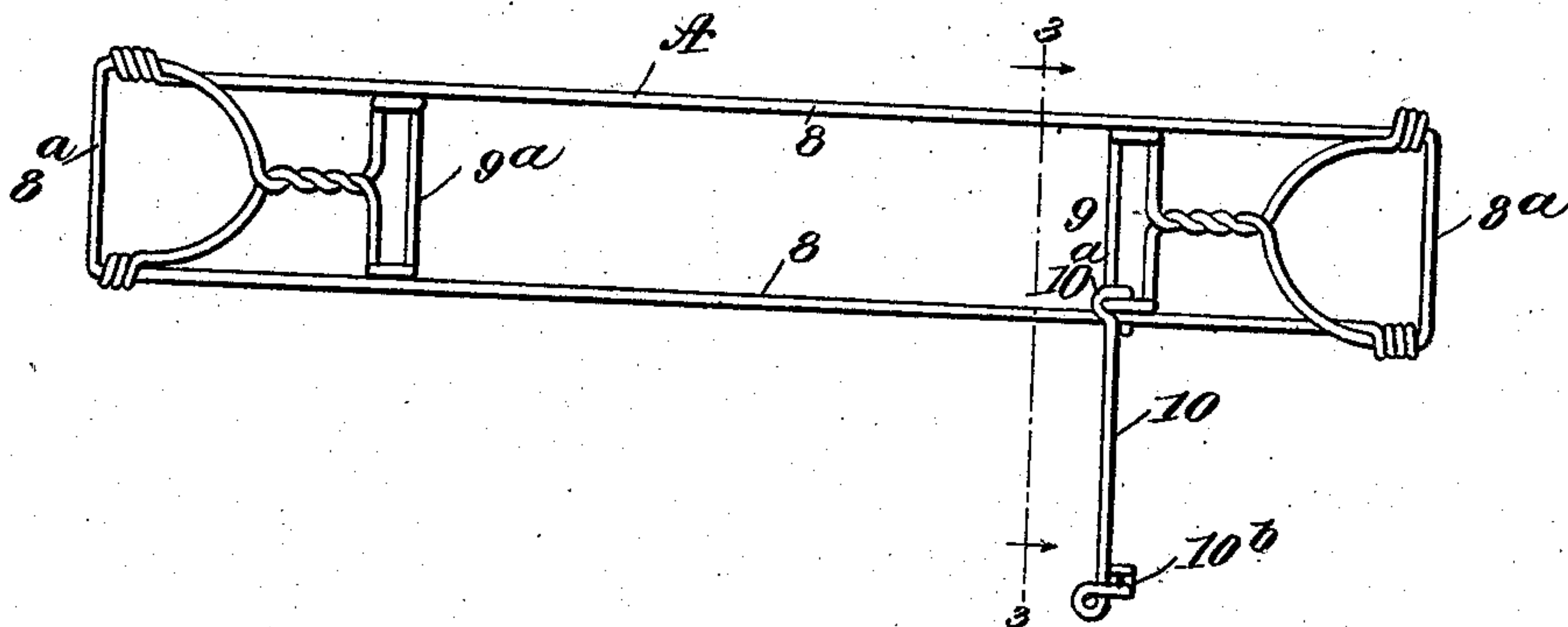


Fig. 3.

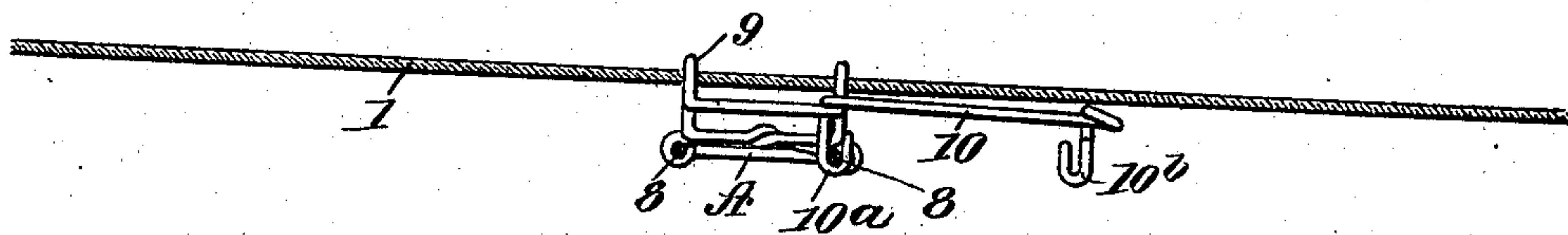
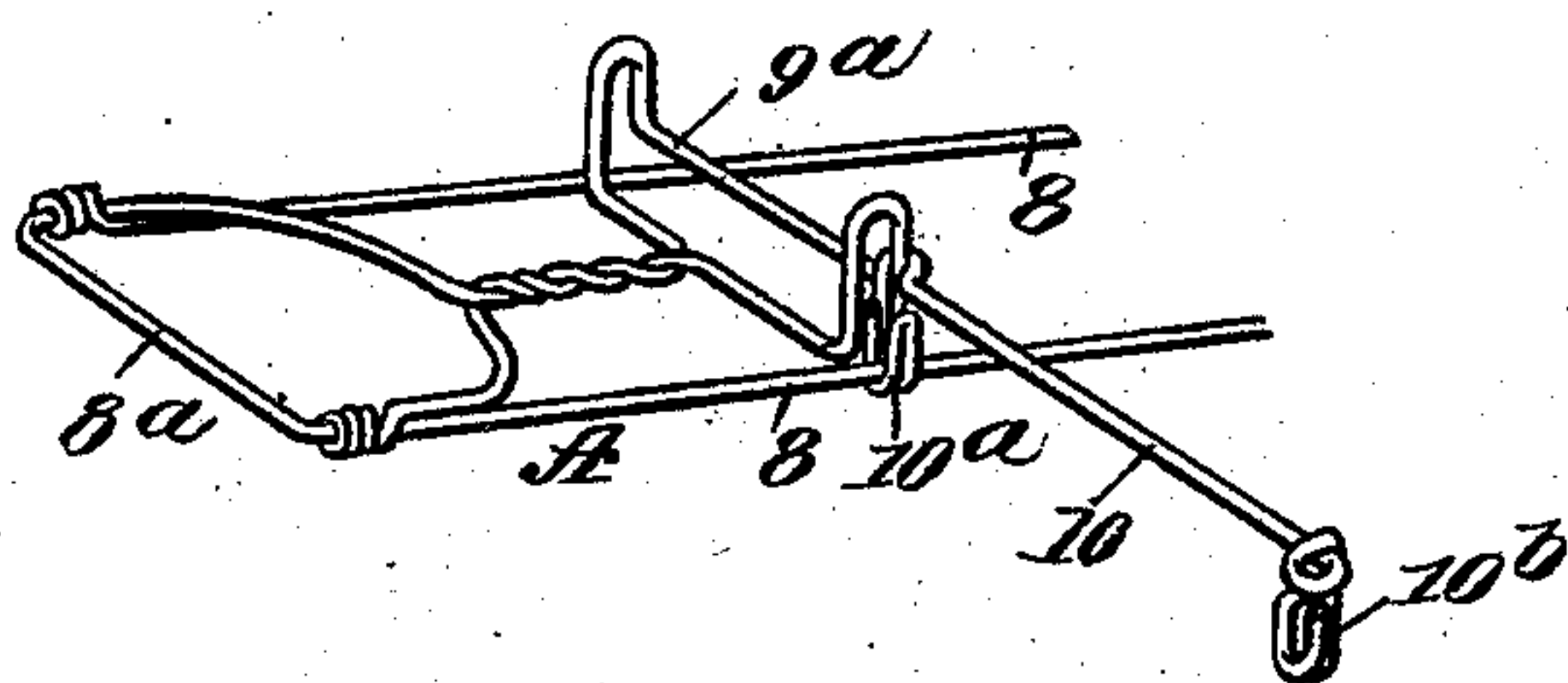


Fig. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORTON B. FITTS, OF MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS.

## CLOTHES-DRIER.

No. 881,784.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed June 19, 1907. Serial No. 379,746.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MORTON B. FITTS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Minneapolis, in the county of Ottawa and State of Kansas, have invented an Improved Clothes - Drier, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in clothes driers of that class in which a series of frames adapted to serve as clothes-hangers proper, are suspended from ropes or wires.

The invention is embodied in the construction of the clothes - hangers proper, in their attachment to and support on the ropes or wires, in means for detachably connecting the several hangers, means for moving the clothes - hangers outward, and means for lowering, raising, and securing the ropes or wires at one end of the same.

The details of construction, arrangement, and combination of parts are as hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating my improved clothes-drier as a whole. Fig. 2 is a plan view of one of the clothes-hangers proper. Fig. 3 is a cross section on the line 3-3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one end of a clothes-hanger proper.

In Fig. 1, the numeral 1 indicates the parallel ropes which are attached by hooks 2 at one end to a vertically movable bar 4 and at the other by hooks 2<sup>a</sup> to a fixed bar 5 supported on posts 6. The bar 4 is slidably attached to vertical parallel metal bars 7 whose ends are secured to a building wall, or any other suitable fixed support. These bars 7 are provided near their upper and lower ends with outward bends 7<sup>a</sup>, the intervening body portions of the same lying close to the wall. The attachment of the cross-bar 4 to these supports 7 is effected by means of eyes. It is shown by full lines in elevated position, which is the one required to support the clothes-lines at the desired height. When, however, clothes are to be applied to or removed from the hangers, the bar 4 is pulled down, to the lower position shown by dotted lines, where it engages the lower bent portion 7<sup>a</sup> of the vertical bars 7. It will be understood that the tension and elasticity of the lines or ropes 1 enables them to hold the bar 4 in the uppermost position when so placed. The hangers proper A—see Figs. 1 and 2—are formed of stout wire, the middle portions

8 being straight and parallel and duly spaced apart and connected at their ends. To the end portions are attached wire loops 9 and 9<sup>a</sup> so constructed as to be adapted to hang on the ropes 1 and thus suspend the hangers A below them. To form the loops 9 and 9<sup>a</sup>, wires are bent and twisted into proper form and secured to the body portions 8, and the loops project upward and inward from the ends of the body as clearly shown in Figs. 1-4. It will be seen by reference to Fig. 4 that both the loops 9, 9<sup>a</sup>, are so constructed that the hangers A may be readily attached to and detached from the suspending ropes 1, it being only necessary, for example, in order to disengage a hanger, to lift the ends of the same vertically, in which case the ropes 1 pass out of the loops. I provide the loops 9 with a laterally extended hook 10 by which a series of clothes-hangers may be connected at both ends. The hooks are permanently secured to one of the loops and also provided at the same end with a vertical pendent hook 10<sup>b</sup> that engages and serves as a support for the adjacent body wire 8 of a hanger. The free end of the hook 10 has also a similar hook 10<sup>a</sup>—see Fig. 3. As shown in Fig. 1, the clothes to be dried may be attached to and suspended not only from the central parallel portions 8 of a hanger, but also the end portions 8<sup>a</sup>.

As a means for moving the hangers proper outward on the suspending rope 1, a supplemental rope 11—see Fig. 1—is connected with a wooden bar 12 which is in turn connected with the outermost hanger A, by hooks 10. Said rope passes over the pulley 3<sup>a</sup> attached to bar 5, and thence backward and through pulley 3<sup>b</sup> which is attached to the wall above the middle of bar 4, Fig. 1, the free end of the rope hanging within easy reach of the operator.

The operation of my improved clothes-drier will now be readily understood from the following statement. Let it be supposed that clothes are to be applied to a series of hangers. In such case the operator stations himself or herself at *x*, Fig. 1, or close to the wall and beneath the bar 4, the latter being first pulled down to the position indicated by dotted lines, so as to support the hangers at a convenient height. The operator then applies a hanger A to the ropes 1, which, as before indicated, is easily and quickly effected by simply passing the loops 9, 9<sup>a</sup>, over



the parallel portions of the ropes. The loops may be so constructed as to grip the ropes with a slight degree of pressure, and thus cause the hangers to retain their selected place on the ropes. Clothes are then hung on the suspended hanger A and it is carried outward on the ropes 1. This is effected by pulling on rope 11, whereby it draws the hanger, now full of clothes, outward as far as the operator may desire. The operator then applies another hanger to the ropes 1 and connects it with the first hanger by means of the hook 10, as indicated in Fig. 1. When the second hanger has been filled with clothes, the operator again pulls on the rope 11, and the two filled hangers are consequently advanced as before; and thus the operation goes on until all the clothes have been hung on the hangers, or the ropes 1 shall have been entirely filled with hangers. The operator then, as a last step, pushes the bar 4 upward to the position shown in full lines, Fig. 1, so that the ropes 1 and the hangers A suspended from them are supported at due height and in horizontal position. I thus provide hangers that may be easily and quickly attached to, or detached from, the suspending ropes 1, and are caused to travel outward thereon as fast as they are filled with clothes; and a series of such hangers may be readily connected detachably by means of the hooks.

I claim:

1. The combination with bars 7 and a fixed object to which they are secured, said bars being arranged vertically and having an outwardly bent portion 7<sup>a</sup> at the top, a transverse bar 4 which is slidably connected with the bars 7, and a clothes-supporting line connected with said bar 4, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with suspending ropes, of a clothes-hanger proper comprising a wire body having parallel side portions and end loops that lie above the plane of the body, and hooks attached to and extending laterally from said loops and adapted for engagement with the loops of the adjacent hanger, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with parallel suspending ropes of a hanger proper formed of wire having parallel side strands 8, and end portions projecting upward and inward and provided with loops for attaching them to the hangers and suspending them from the said ropes, and pendent hooks 10<sup>a</sup> connecting such loops with the body strands or loops, and supporting the latter substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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