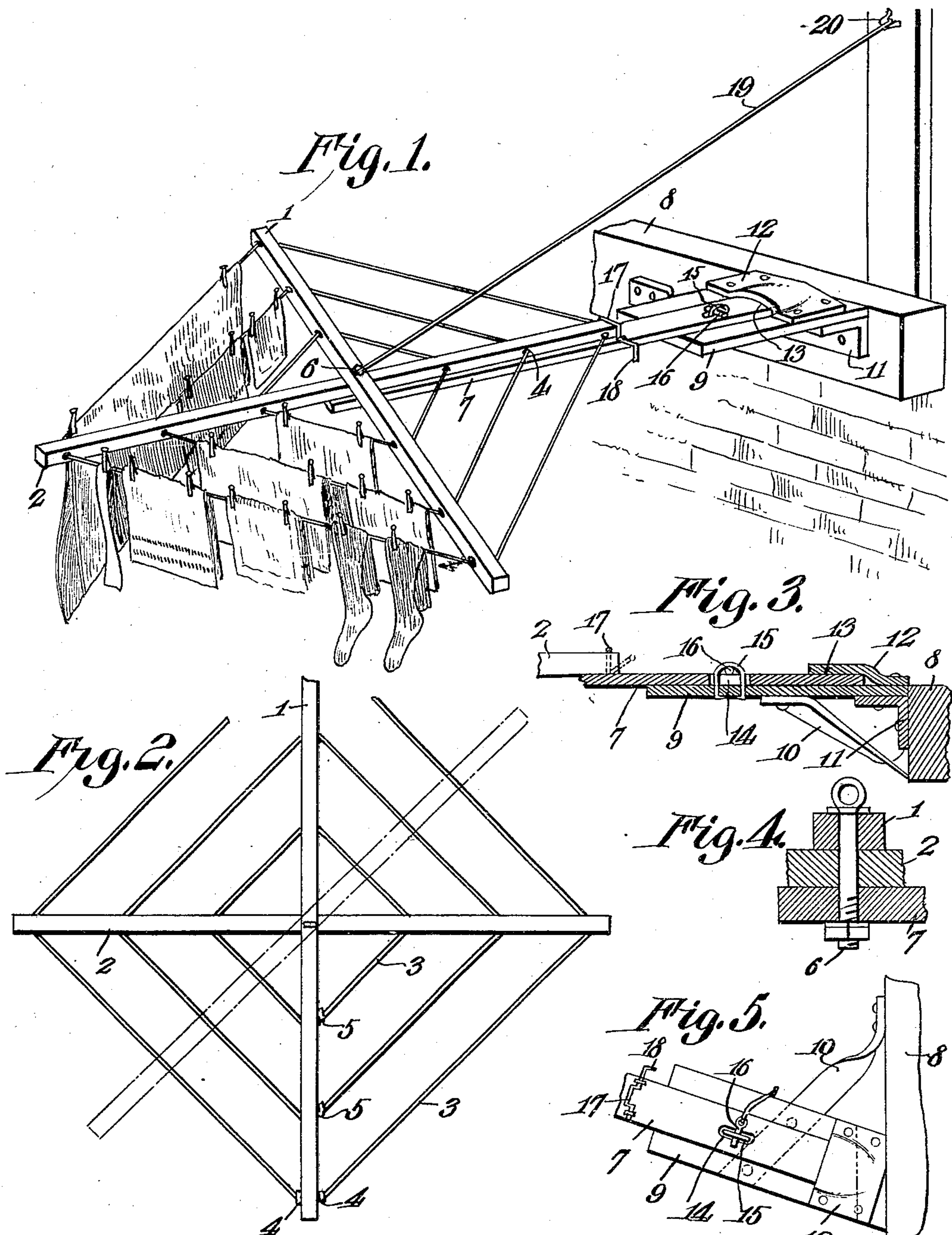


E. M. BLANCK.
FOLDING CLOTHES RACK.
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936,080.

Patented Oct. 5, 1909.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE M. BLANCK, OF PERKIOMENVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

FOLDING CLOTHES-RACK.

936,080.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE M. BLANCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Perkiomenville, in the county of Montgomery and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Folding Clothes-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

The purpose of this invention is the provision of a rack which is both portable and foldable and of such construction as to be easily handled and manipulated so as to be turned when in use to admit of articles being applied to the lines and to admit of the rack being conveniently stored when not in use so as to be out of the way and not exposed to the deteriorating effects of the weather.

The object of the invention is to supply novel mountings for the rack whereby the same may be quickly placed in position when required for use or disconnected so as to be stored when not required for immediate service.

The invention also contemplates a unique form of rack which may be folded or extended as desired.

For a full understanding of the invention reference is had to the following description and the drawings hereto attached.

The invention consists of the novel features, details of construction and combinations of parts as more fully set forth hereinafter, pointed out in the claims and shown in the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a clothes rack embodying the invention showing the same in operative position. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the rack, a portion being broken away, the dotted lines showing the same partly folded. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of the mountings for the rack. Fig. 4 is a detail section of the center portion of the rack and the support therefor showing the connecting means. Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the mountings.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The rack proper comprises two bars 1 and 2 pivotally connected at a central point, and a series of lines 3 passed loosely through openings 4 formed transversely of the bars 1 and 2. When the rack is adjusted for operative position, the bars 1 and 2 are disposed relatively at a right angle as indicated by

the full lines in Fig. 2 and the several lines 3 assume a square form. The outermost line 3 is provided with a pair of knots 4 to embrace opposite sides of the bars. The remaining lines 3 have knots 5 at one side of the bar confined between the pair of knots 4. This construction admits of folding the bars 1 and 2 or unfolding the same by drawing upon the outermost line in one direction or the other as will be readily understood. The bars 1 and 2 are placed one upon the other to admit of their relative turning. A fastening 6 pivotally connects the bars 1 and 2 and is passed through vertical openings formed therein. The fastening 6 may consist of an eye bolt as shown most clearly in Fig. 4 and in addition to pivotally connecting the bars 1 and 2 also pivotally connects the rack with a support 7.

Inasmuch as the rack is designed for outdoor use for drying clothing and sundry articles after being laundered it is shown as located exterior to the window of a dwelling and attached to the window sill 8. A board 9 is secured at its inner end to the window sill and extends outwardly therefrom in a horizontal direction. A brace 10 connects the board 9 with the window sill and an angle iron 11 arranged beneath the inner end of the board 9 connects the same to the window sill. A plate 12 is secured to the top side of the board 9 at the inner end thereof and has a portion intermediate of its edges raised to form a socket 13 in which the inner end of the support 7 is fitted.

The support 7 consists of a bar or strip of wood and is provided near its inner end with an opening 14 to receive a staple 15 secured to the board 9. A pin 16 is adapted to secure the support 7 in the located position and passes through the upper end of the staple 15. A fastening 17 is applied to the support 7 and is adapted to engage with one of the bars of the rack to hold the same in an adjusted position. The fastening 17 consists of a rod having an intermediate portion crimped or bent into the form of a crank so as to engage over the inner end of the bar resting upon the support 7 so as to secure the rack in the required adjusted position. One end of the rod forming the fastening 17 is bent to provide an operating handle 18 which is grasped when operating the fastening either to release or to secure the rack. Staples or like securing means connect the fastening to the support 7 and receive end

portions of the rod at the sides of the crimp or crank portion. A cord or like connection 19 forms a brace or stay for the outer end of the support 7 and is attached to the eye of the fastening 6 and is adapted to engage with a hook 20 provided upon a portion of the window frame at some distance above the sill.

When the rack is not required for use the bars 1 and 2 may be relatively turned so as to rest one upon the other and the support 7 may be disconnected from the socket 13 and the board it being understood when the parts are so folded they occupy a small place and may be conveniently handled or stored in any space so as to be out of the way. When the rack is set up for use, the inner end of the support 7 is inserted in the socket 13 and the staple 15 extends through the opening 14, the pin 16 being slotted through the projecting end of the staple to hold the support 7 in the required position. The bars 1 and 2 are turned so as to occupy a position about at a right angle to each other and the loose end of the cord or like connection 19 is engaged with the hook 20 thereby holding the rack in proper position. After the portions of the lines within convenient reach of the window have been supplied with articles to be dried or exposed to the air and sun, the rack may be given a one-quarter turn to bring a new portion of the lines in position to be supplied with other articles to be exposed either for drying or other purpose. The rack is held in an adjusted position by the fastening 17 which is turned so that the crimp or crank portion engages the inner end of the bar resting upon the support 7 as indicated most clearly in Figs. 1 and 3. The handle 18 is pendent and serves as a weight to hold the fastening in operative position as will be readily understood.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, the advantages of the construction and of the method of operation will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains, and while I have described the principle of operation of the invention, together with the device which I now consider to be the best embodiment thereof, I desire to have it understood that

the device shown is merely illustrative, and that such changes may be made when desired as are within the scope of the claims appended hereto.

What is claimed is—

1. A folding rack comprising superposed bars having corresponding transverse openings and a series of lines passed loosely through the openings and adapted to assume a square form when the bars are turned so as to occupy a position relatively at a right angle to each other, one of the lines having positive connection with one of the bars and the remaining lines passed loosely through the openings of the bars to admit of the folding and infolding of the rack, substantially in the manner specified.

2. In combination, a support, means for suspending said support in operative position, a folding rack comprising crossed bars and a series of lines having loose connection with the bars to admit of their folding, a fastening pivotally connecting the bars to each other and to the said support, and a stay connecting said fastening to a supporting structure.

3. In combination, a support, a rack pivotally mounted upon the support and comprising a series of bars, and a fastening mounted upon the support and adapted to secure the rack in an adjusted position, said fastening comprising a rod having an operating handle and a crank portion to engage over the end of one of the bars of the rack.

4. In combination, a board arranged to form a horizontal support, an outwardly facing socket at the inner end of the board, a bar having its inner end removably inserted in said socket, fastening means between the board and bar for securing said bar upon the board with its inner end in the socket, a rack pivotally mounted upon the outer end of said bar, and means mounted upon the inner portion of the bar for securing the rack thereto in the required adjusted position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EUGENE M. BLANCK.

Witnesses:

ROBERT G. MOHR,
JOS. E. BLANCK.