

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HAT-HOLDER.

968,899.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LYDIA A. TYLER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Spokane, in the county of Spokane and State of Washington, have invented a new and Improved Hat-Holder, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved hat holder, more especially designed for use in millinery establishments, stores and other places, for supporting ladies' hats to the best advantage and without danger of tearing or otherwise injuring the hat and lining.

For the purpose mentioned, use is made of a stem having spring arms, each supporting at its upper end a skeleton frame, having a segmental clamping member, and a hat rim support, of which the clamping member engages the lining of the hat while the hat rim support extends outwardly from the lower end of the clamping member and is adapted to receive and support the rim of the hat.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the hat holder and showing a hat in position thereon, part of the hat being broken out; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the hat holder; Fig. 3 is a cross section of the same on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional side elevation of the stand and the stem of the hat holder in position therein.

The upper end of a stand A, of any approved construction, is provided with a socket B, for the reception of a stem C, made of spring wire bent to form the stem members C', C², terminating at their upper ends in integral arms D, D', crossing each other and extending upwardly and outwardly in opposite directions, as plainly shown in the drawings. The upper terminals D², D³ of the arms D, D', connect with the middle of skeleton frames E, E', likewise made of wire, and each forming a clamping member E² and a hat rim support E³. The hat rim support E³ of each frame E, E' consists of two segmental parallel pieces of wire E⁴, E⁵, connected with each other at their ends by end wires E⁶, and the said wires E⁴, E⁵ are attached at their mid-

dle to the terminal D² or D³ of the corresponding arm D or D'. The clamping member E² is segmental and is provided with angular end arms E⁷, extending downward and joined at their lower ends to the inner corners of the hat rim support E³, that is, at the junction of the wire E⁵ and the end wires E⁶. By the arrangement described, the clamping member E² is located a distance above the wire E⁵, which latter and the clamping member E² extend in the same vertical plane.

In using the hat holder, the operator takes hold with one hand of the arms D and D', and presses the same toward each other, so that the skeleton frames E and E' move toward each other, to allow the operator having hold with the other hand of the hat F, to pass the same downward over the frames E and E', until the rim of the hat F is over the rim supporting wires E⁴, and then the operator releases the arms D and D', so that the latter swing outward by their own resiliency, thus carrying the frames E and E' in a like direction for the clamping members E² to engage the lining on the inside of the crown of the hat, thus clampingly engaging the lining to securely hold the hat F in position on the frames E and E'. It will be noticed that the clamping member E², owing to its segmental shape, conforms to the inside of the crown of the hat, and as it presents no sharp edges or projections, it is evident that the said clamping member E² is not liable to injure the hat lining in the least. By making the frames E and E' of spring wire, the members of the said frames readily bend and likewise the arms D and D', to conform to the shape of the hat F to be supported, thus permitting the use of the hat holder for hats of various shapes and forms with a view to display the hat to the fullest advantage, at the same time securely holding it in place without danger of injury to the lining or accidental displacement of the hat on the holder.

When it is desired to remove the hat, the operator takes hold with one hand of the arms D and D' and presses the same toward each other, thus disengaging the clamping members E² from the lining of the hat F, and thereby allowing the operator to remove the hat from the holder.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the hat holder is self-adjusting and fits any

size hat, owing to the resilient arms moving the skeleton frames outward until the same engage the hat irrespective of the inner diameter thereof. It will also be noted
5 that the lower rim protects the lining, by holding the holder in place so that it cannot slip up into the crown of the hat and tear the lining, and it also protects the facing of the hat.

10 Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

15 A hat holder, comprising a stand provided with a socket, a stem of spring wire bent to form two members engaging said socket, arms extending from the said stem members and crossing each other, hat rim

supports each formed of segmental pieces of wire connected with each other at their ends by end wires, and connected at their 20 middle with the upper end of the corresponding arm, and clamping members each formed of a segmental piece of wire having depending end wires joined at their lower ends with the inner corners of the corre- 25 sponding rim support.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LYDIA A. TYLER.

Witnesses:

GRANT DYER,
W. D. WILSON.