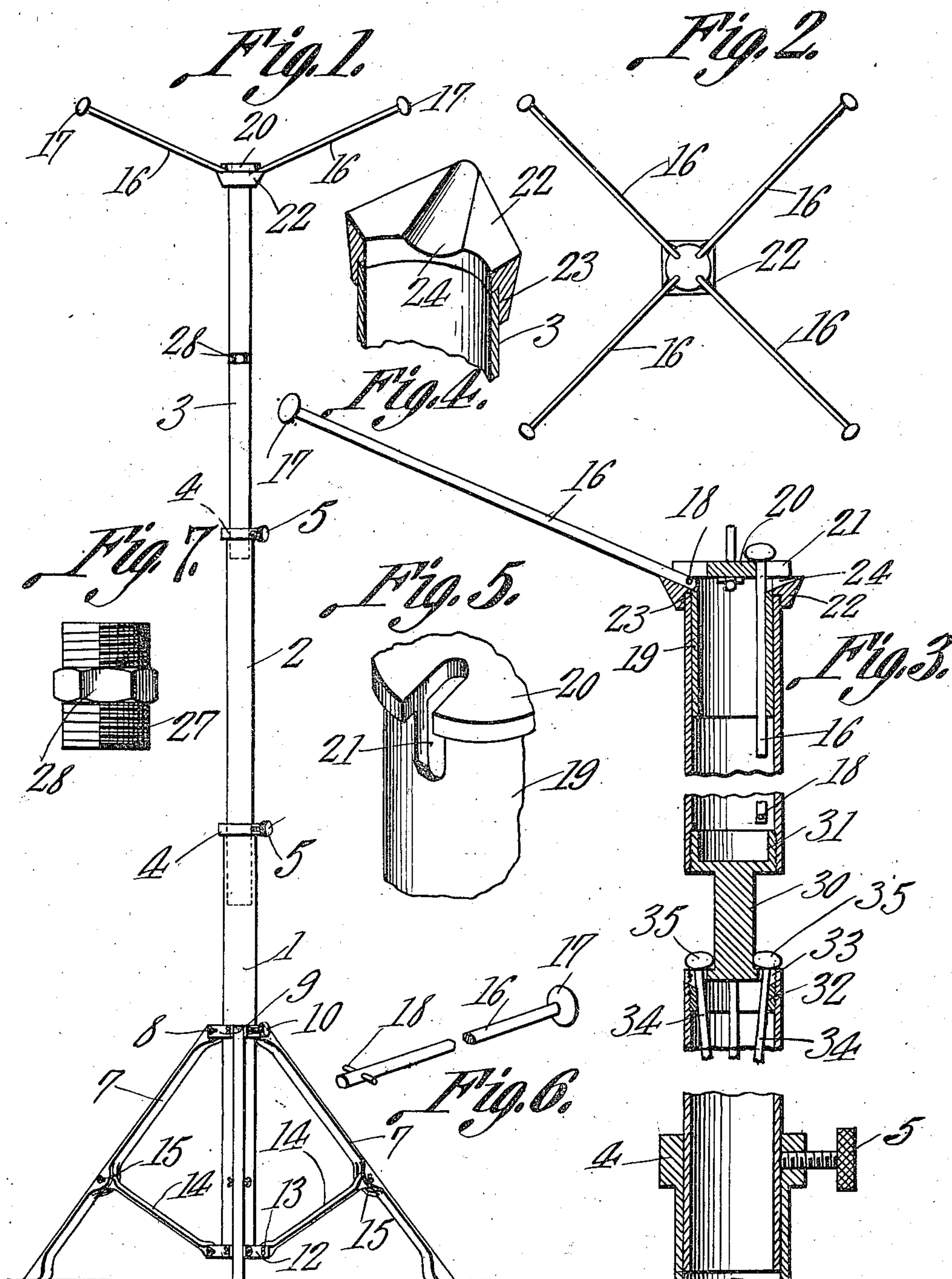


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FOLDING CLOTHES TREE.  
APPLICATION FILED JULY 25, 1910.

983,589.

Patented Feb. 7, 1911.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REETA WENDT, OF ALLEN, MARYLAND.

FOLDING CLOTHES-TREE.

983,589.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 7, 1911.

Application filed July 25, 1910. Serial No. 573,711.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, REETA WENDT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Allen, in the county of Wicomico and State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Folding Clothes-Tree, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to clothes trees.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a simple and comparatively inexpensive form of clothes tree which can be folded into such small and compact form that it can be readily carried in a suit case or trunk without occupying much more room than an ordinary telescope.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of invention herein disclosed can be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved clothes tree of the present invention in extended condition, the second series of arms being removed. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the upper end of the construction illustrated in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section through the upper end of the clothes tree showing the attachment for the second series of arms, one of the arms of the upper series being shown in extended position and all of the arms of the lower series being shown as folded inside the casing of the device. Fig. 4 is a perspective view, partly in section, of one of the corners of the supporting collar showing the grooved portion which serves to support the arm of the clothes tree. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of a portion of the sleeve member which carries the series of radial arms. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of one of the arms, the middle portion of the arm being broken away. Fig. 7 is a side elevation of an ordinary form of coupling adapted to be used when the second series of arms are removed from the device.

Like reference numerals indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

The clothes tree of the present invention

preferably consists of a plurality of telescopic sections 1, 2 and 3, the section 2 being adapted to telescope within the section 1 and the section 3 being adapted to telescope within the section 2. Each of the sections 1 and 2 is provided at the upper end thereof with a collar 4 through which extends a set screw 5 by means of which the parts of the clothes tree may be locked either in extended or in telescoped condition.

The means for supporting the clothes tree in upright position preferably consists of a plurality of legs 7 each of which is pivotally connected at 8 with a collar 9 which is slidable upon the lowermost section 1. For the purpose of locking the collar 9 against sliding movement so as to hold the legs 7 in proper position, a set screw 10 is mounted in said collar and is adapted to be tightened against the section 1. Mounted at the lower end of the section 1 is a collar 12 which is fixed on the section in any suitable manner and has pivotally connected therewith at 13 a plurality of radially extending links or arms 14 which are pivotally connected at 15 with the supporting legs 7. When it is desired to fold the clothes tree into small compass, the set screw 10 is loosened and the collar 9 is adjusted upward upon the section 1. This causes the legs 7 to be folded close inward against the section 1.

At the upper end thereof, the clothes tree is provided with a plurality of inwardly movable arms 16 preferably, although not essentially, four in number. Each of the arms 16, as illustrated clearly in Fig. 6, is provided at its outer end with an enlargement or head 17 and at its inner end with a cross piece or dowel pin 18. The four arms 16 are slidably mounted in a sleeve member 19 which, as shown in Fig. 5 of the drawing, is provided at the upper end thereof with a disk or closure 20 the edges of which project out beyond the sleeve member 19. The arms 16 extend through slots 21 which are cut so as to extend downward in the sleeve member 19 and radially inward in the disk or cover piece 20. The sleeve member 19 with the four arms 16 mounted therein and held against withdrawal by means of the cross pins 18, is inserted downward into the upper end of the section 3 as shown clearly in Fig. 3 of the drawing, and is held against movement therein by friction, the disk 20 resting at its upper end against a square col-



lar 22 best shown in Figs. 2 and 4 of the drawing. The square collar 22 is rabbeted as indicated at 23 and is fitted downward over the upper end of the uppermost section 3. Each corner portion of the square collar or ring 22 is cut away or grooved as indicated at 24 so as to provide a rest or support for the arms 16 when in extended position as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawing.

In view of the fact that it is sometimes desirable to use two sets of supporting arms 16, the upper section 3 of the clothes tree is formed in two sections, namely, an upper and lower section. The two portions of the member 3 are normally connected with each other by means such as a sleeve 27 shown in Fig. 7 and having reversely threaded upper and lower ends, separated from each other by a collar 28. When it is not desired to use the second set of supporting arms, the upper and lower sections of the member 3 are screwed onto the reversely threaded ends of the sleeve 27 and are thus held in proper relation to each other as illustrated clearly in Fig. 1 of the drawing. When it is desired to use a second set of arms, the sleeve 27 is removed and the member 30 illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawing is employed. This member 30 is in substantially the shape of a spool and consists of a reduced middle portion and enlarged upper and lower ends 31 and 32, said enlarged ends 31 and 32 being reversely threaded so that they can be screwed into the upper and lower sections of the member 3 of the clothes tree as shown. The lower end 32 of the member 30 is cut away or slotted as indicated at 33, in the same manner as the slot 21 of the sleeve 19 shown in Fig. 5, so as to provide means for receiving the second set of supporting arms 34 said arms being provided with enlarged heads 35. When it is not desired to use the lower set of arms, they are folded inside the member 3 as shown in Fig. 3. Said member 3 can

then be telescoped downward within the member 2 without having the upper ends or heads 35 of the arms 34 interfere in any manner with the folding up of the clothes tree. The lower set of arms 34 can be extended in the same manner as the upper set of arms.

The clothes tree of the present invention is exceedingly strong, simple, durable and inexpensive in construction as well as thoroughly practical and efficient in use. By reason of the fact that it can be folded into small compass, and carried in a suit case or trunk, it can be readily carried from place to place by travelers.

What is claimed as new is:

1. A folding clothes tree having inner and outer telescopic members, the inner member being formed in two sections, a substantially spool shaped member connecting said sections with each other, and having slots through its lower portion, and arms slidably mounted in said slots, said spool shaped member being small enough to slide inside said outer telescopic member.

2. A folding clothes tree having inner and outer telescopic members, the inner member being formed in upper and lower sections, a spool shaped member detachably connecting said upper and lower sections, a set of arms slidably connected with the lower portion of said spool shaped member and projectable outwardly from the contracted middle portion of said spool shaped member, and a second set of arms slidably connected with the upper end of said upper section.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

REETA WENDT.

Witnesses:

MARY C. BUTCHER,  
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