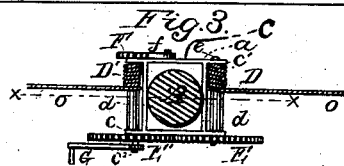
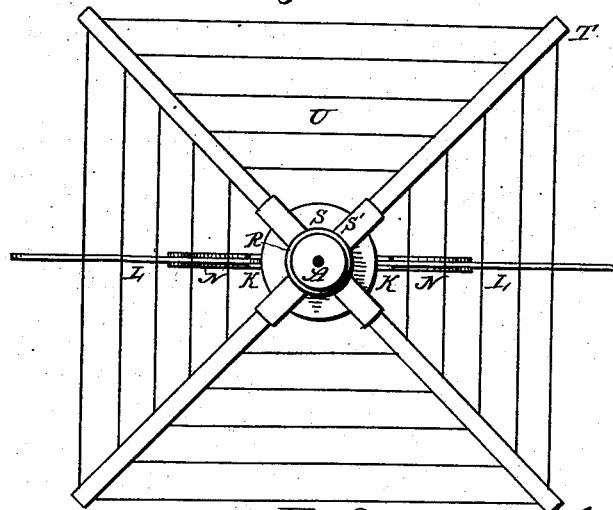
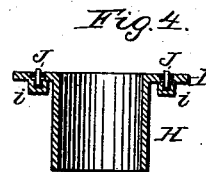
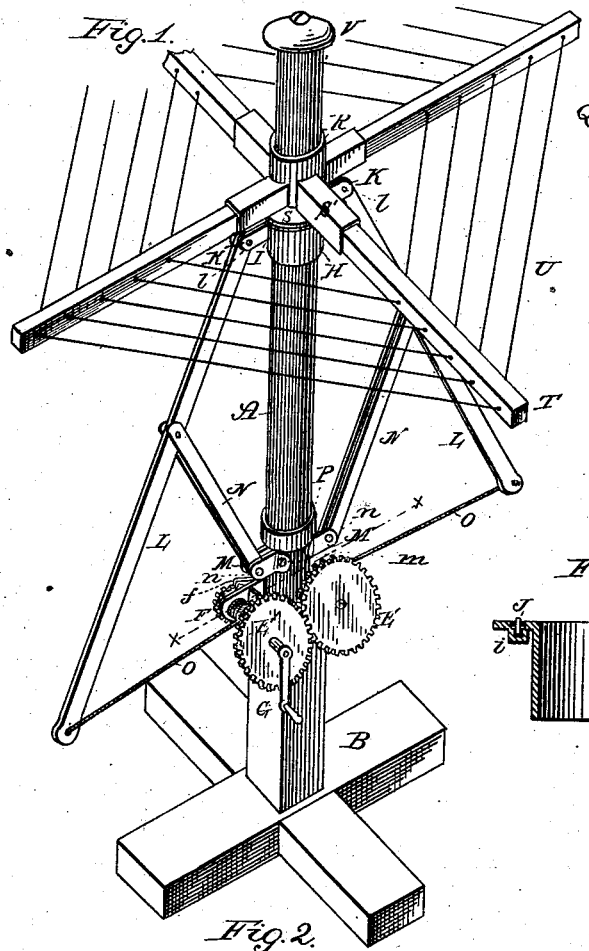


(No Model.)

G. W. HOUDLETTE.
CLOTHES REEL.

No. 260,296.

Patented June 27, 1882.



Witnesses:

J. W. Garner
E. B. Harris

Inventor:

G. W. Houdlette
By J. O. W. Cleary
His Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. HOUDLETTE, OF SAGINAW, MICHIGAN.

CLOTHES-REEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 260,296, dated June 27, 1882.

Application filed March 31, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. HOUDLETTE, of Saginaw, in the county of Saginaw and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Reels; and I 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 pertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to clothes-driers, and more particularly to that class of driers known as "clothes-reels," the object being to provide a clothes-reel of such construction that the reel proper may be raised and lowered upon its supporting-standard with as little effort as possible on the part of the operator, and also to furnish a device which will be simple and economical in its construction.

The invention consists in the combination, with the standard and vertically-adjustable reel, of lever-arms, cords, and operating-reels and gear-wheels of the construction hereinafter described.

The invention further consists in the details of construction and combinations of parts pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improvement. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the sliding sleeve.

A represents the standard of the reel, supported by any suitable base, B. The standard is preferably rectangular in cross-section from its base to a point approximating one-fourth of its height, while the remaining portion is of cylindrical form. The upper edge of the rectangular portion of the standard is cut away to form a shoulder, *a*, upon which rests a frame, C, consisting of the parallel bars *c* and *c'*, projecting at each end beyond the standard, and the bars *dd*, connecting the bars *cc'*. This frame is rigidly secured to the standard by screws or otherwise, and the projecting ends of the bars *c* and *c'* are perforated to form bearings for the journals of cord-reels D and D'. One of the journals, *e*, of the reel D is headed to secure it in place, while upon the opposite journal of said reel is mounted a gear-wheel, E, adapted to mesh with a similar gear-wheel, E', of the reel

D'. Upon the opposite journal of the latter is mounted a toothed pinion, F, with which a gravity-pawl, *f*, pivoted to the bar *c'*, is adapted to engage. Upon the projecting journal *e'* of the reel D' is mounted a crank, G.

H represents a sleeve adapted to slide upon the standard A, and provided at its upper edge with an annular flange, I, formed at a right angle to the sleeve. The flange I is provided with slots or depressions *i*, within which are journaled anti-friction rollers J. The sleeve H is also provided with two laterally-projecting perforated lugs or brackets K, arranged diametrically opposite each other, and each adapted to receive the inner end of a lever, L. The latter are pivoted to said lugs by pivots *l*, and extend outwardly on either side of the standard A.

M M represent brackets, secured by screws *m* to the standard at diametrically-opposite points and in the same vertical plane with the lugs K of the sleeve slightly above the reels D and D'. Within each of these brackets is pivoted by pivots *n* a pair of braces, N, the opposite ends of the latter embracing and being pivoted to the levers L at a point on the inner side of the center of the latter.

To the outer end of each of the levers L is secured a cord, O, the opposite end of which is secured to the adjacent reel D and D'. A collar, P, is secured upon the standard A below the sleeve H to limit the downward movement of the sleeve.

Q represents the reel proper, having the hub R adapted to slide upon the standard A, and provided at its lower edge with an annular flange, S, adapted to bear upon the anti-friction rollers J of the flange I and the radial bearings S', adapted to receive arms T, the latter being perforated to receive the series of clothes-lines U.

Upon the upper end of the standard A is secured a cap, V, which gives a finished appearance to the device, and also prevents the removal of the reel Q.

By the construction thus described the reel Q may be lowered to the position shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1, and after the clothes are hung on the lines U the reel is raised by turning the crank G, which winds the cords upon the reels D and D' and draws down the outer

end of the levers, which are fulcrumed on the
braces N. By this means a great leverage is
obtained and the labor incident to raising the
reel is materially lessened. The pawl *f* en-
gages with the pinion F to prevent the reels
D and D' from unwinding. The friction-roll-
ers J of the sleeve afford a bearing for the reel
which may be freely revolved thereon.

It will be apparent that many slight changes
in the details of construction of my improve-
ment may be resorted to without departing
from the spirit of my invention. Hence I
would have it understood that I reserve to
myself the right to make all such changes and
modifications in the form and construction of
my device as may properly fall within the
scope of my invention.

Having fully described my invention, what I
claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters
Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the standard and
the reel adapted to receive the clothes, of a

sliding sleeve arranged below said reel and
provided with levers pivoted in lugs of said
sleeve, and fulcrumed on braces pivoted in
brackets of the standard, the outer ends of
said levers being connected by cords to wind-
ing-reels, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the standard hav-
ing the collar P and shoulder *a*, of the frame
C, secured upon said shoulder and supporting
the cord-reels D and D', the gear-wheels E
and E', toothed pinion F, pawl *f*, and crank
G, the clothes-reel Q, sliding sleeve H, levers
L, braces N, and cords O, substantially as set
forth.

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

GEORGE W. HOUDLETTE.

Witnesses:

LUCIUS LACEY,
HERMAN PISTORIUS.