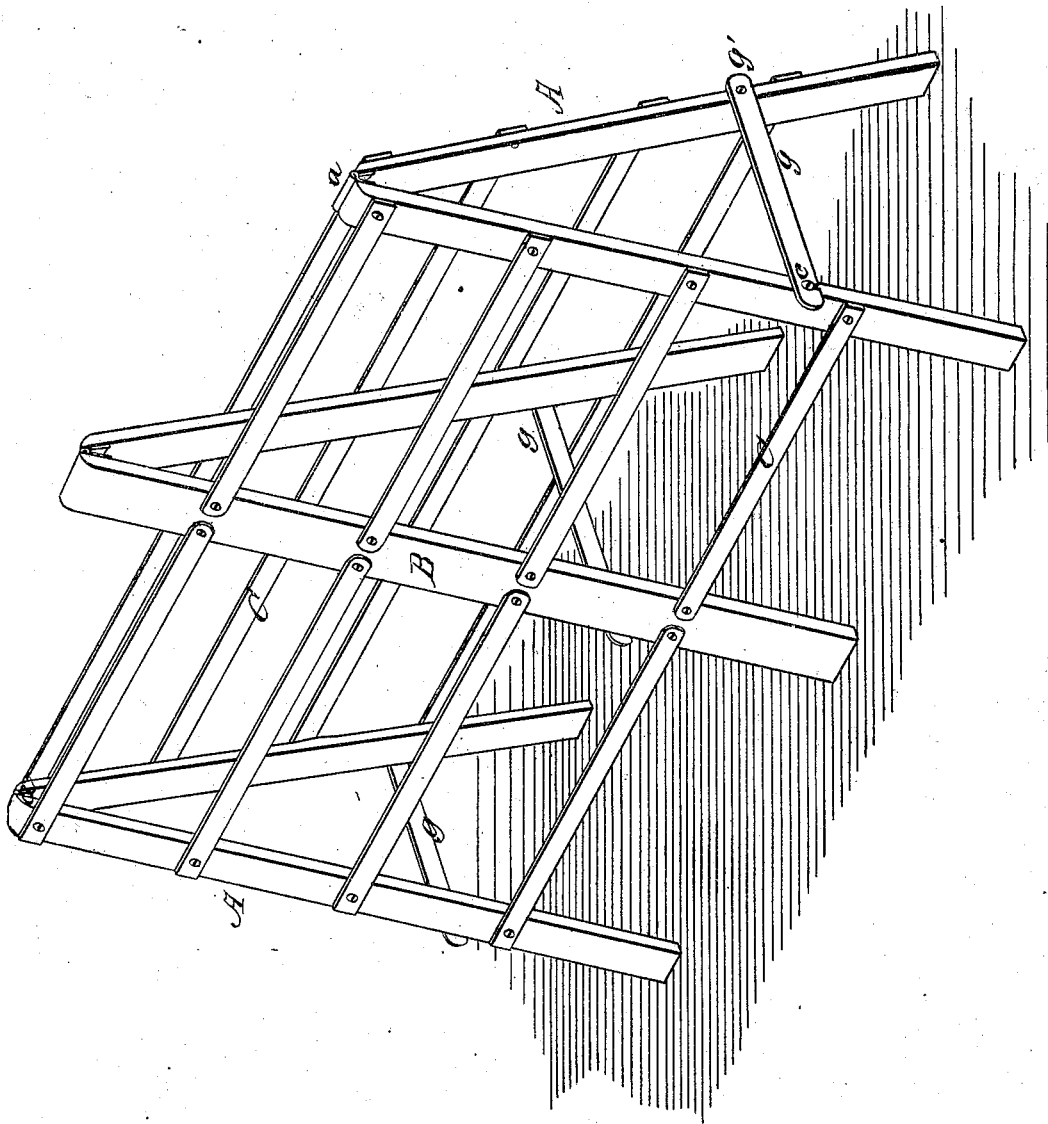


S. R. KIDDER.
Clothes-Drier.

No. 168,751.

Patented Oct. 11, 1875.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL R. KIDDER, OF BANTAM FALLS, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-DRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **168,751**, dated October 11, 1875; application filed August 28, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL R. KIDDER, of Bantam Falls, in the county of Litchfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Clothes-Driers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

The figure of the drawings is a representation of a perspective view of my clothes-drier.

This invention has relation to improvements in clothes-frames for drying clothes; and it consists in combining with hinged end uprights a central upright having its apex above that of the two end ones, whereby a means is provided for preventing the frame from spreading and throwing the clothes thereon on the floor, as will be hereinafter shown and described.

In the annexed drawings, the letter A designates the two end uprights of my improved clothes-frame hinged together, two and two, at their upper ends, and shown at *a*; and B designates the central uprights thereof, the lower ends of which are in the same plane with those of the two end uprights A. The uprights B are hinged together at their upper ends in a similar manner to those above described, and, being of greater length, they extend above the apexes of the said end uprights B when the frame is in position, by which means the frame is allowed to have greater spring, and will at the same time allow a greater number of articles to be hung thereon without falling. C designates transverse bars, arranged at a suitable distance apart, and pivoted at their ends to the end uprights B. These bars are intended to support the weight of clothing or other articles placed thereon, and are applied on both sides of these uprights, as shown in the drawings. By this means, when the frame is spread in the position shown in the drawings, by drawing apart the ends of the uprights A B the lower ends of

the said uprights are prevented from spreading beyond a certain point, thus causing the clothes-frame to fall upon the ground or floor, and under ordinary circumstances the frame, as thus constructed, will require no further brace or stay; but as, at times, very great weight, comparatively speaking, will be sustained by said transverse bars, I make use of hooks or catches *g*, pivoted to one upright, as shown at *g'*, and adapted to engage over a pin or bolt, *c*, on the opposite upright, by which means the hinges of the said uprights, but more especially that of the central ones, will be relieved of strain, thus doing away with the danger of breaking the said hinge or hinges, whereby the frame will be allowed to fall to the floor by the spreading of the uprights, soiling the clothes placed thereon. Cross-bars C being pivoted to those uprights, and the latter hinged in pairs together, to the frame when not in use, the uprights may be folded inward toward each other, and then caused to vibrate inward upon the central uprights, thus folding the frame in compact form for being conveniently stored away.

I am aware that a clothes-frame having hinged end uprights and central hinged uprights, all of the same length, has heretofore been employed, the uprights being connected by longitudinal bars, as shown in Letters Patent granted to L. Woodworth, dated January 22, 1867, and I therefore lay no claim to such invention.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a clothes drier the combination, with the hinged end uprights A and the pivoted bars C, of the central uprights B, having their hinged upper ends above those of the two end uprights, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL R. KIDDER.

Witnesses:

WILLIS WOODRUFF,
GEO. C. WOODRUFF.