E. J. RICHARDS.

WIRE CLOTHES PIN.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 30, 1912.

1,066,949.

Patented July 8, 1913.

Fig. 1.

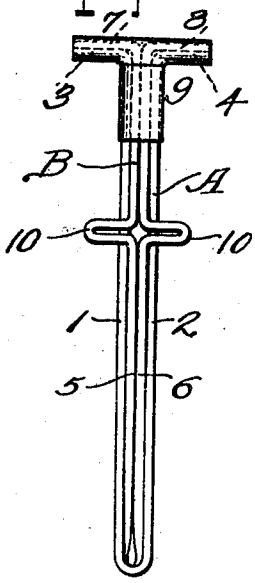


Fig. 2.

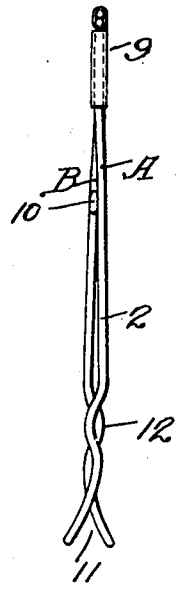


Fig. 3.

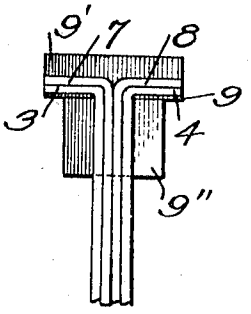
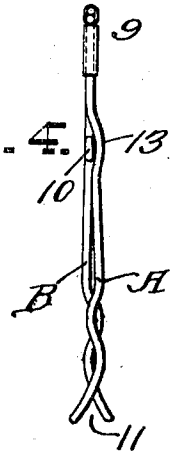


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

E. H. Wagner,

G. W. Kirkley

Inventor

E. J. Richards

By Burton Robb & Robb

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERNEST J. RICHARDS, OF VULCAN, MICHIGAN.

WIRE CLOTHES-PIN.

1,066,949. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 8, 1913.

Application filed April 30, 1912. Serial No. 694,174.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST J. RICHARDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Vulcan, in the county of Dickinson and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire Clothes-Pins, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a simply constructed clothes pin made from spring wire and consisting of a pair of clamping members so connected and formed as to possess sufficient resiliency for clasping articles on a clothes line, or the like.

An advantageous feature of my construction is the disposition of the terminals of the clamping members in such a manner as not only to afford the resiliency above mentioned, but to provide a suitable finger piece for manipulating the clothes pin in using the same.

In addition to the foregoing, it is contemplated to so form one of the clamping members as to supplement the resiliency obtained by the peculiar connection of the terminals of the clamping members aforesaid, by cooperation of the members when subjected to separating action.

For a full understanding of the present invention, reference is to be had to the following description and to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a clothes pin constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is an end elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail view partly broken away and showing the cap member for the upper terminals of the clamping members before it is clamped around the same. Fig. 4 is an end elevation showing a slightly modified form of construction of my invention.

Throughout the following detail description and on the several figures of the drawings, similar parts are referred to by like reference characters.

Specifically describing the clothes pin constituting my invention, A designates one of a pair of clamping members or jaws, said members each consisting of a single length of wire which is bent back upon itself with its side members 1 and 2 spaced from each other as most clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing. The upper terminals of the clamping member A are bent laterally in opposite directions, the bent portions 3 and 4 thereof being of any suitable length best suited for the purpose which will be hereinafter more fully disclosed.

The clothes pin also comprises the clamping or jaw member B which also consists of a single length of wire bent back upon itself with its side members 5 and 6 adjacent to each other so as to be received between the side members 1 and 2 of the clamping member A. Similarly to the terminals of the jaw member A, the ends 7 and 8 of the member B are bent laterally and preferably rest on the upper portion of the bent portions 3 and 4, as most clearly shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings. To firmly secure these jaw members A and B together, a cap 9, which is made from a blank sheet of metal cut preferably as shown in Fig. 3, is provided, and the upper portion 9′ thereof is adapted to be bent or clamped over the bent portions of the jaw members, while the lower portion 9″ is folded around the shanks of the jaw members. This cap is of sufficiently strong metal to firmly bind the clamping members in position and afford considerable resiliency thereto. Supplementing this action, and for other reasons, the side members 5 and 6 of the clamping member B are bent outwardly in opposite directions and backwardly so as to form the lateral projections 10—10. These projections normally rest against the side members 1 and 2 of the clamping member A and tend to resist the separation of the jaw members A and B in an obvious manner. They also prevent the member B, which is interposed between the sides of the member A from becoming displaced by being completely drawn therethrough. As will be apparent from the foregoing, when the cap is clamped around the upper ends of the jaw members, a finger piece is provided by means of which the clothes pin can be easily manipulated, such as in placing it in position on a clothes line.

In the customary manner in devices of this character, the lower portions of the clamping members are provided with crooks and the extreme end portions of said members bent outwardly in opposite directions so as to provide a mouth 11 which facilitates the application of the clothes pin in position. The clothes line is adapted to rest between the crook portions 12.

In Fig. 4 is shown a slightly modified form of clothes pin, comprising the essentials above described but having the jaw

member A provided with a slight bend 13 at the point where the projections 10 of the jaw member B contact therewith. The purpose of this bend is to permit of somewhat greater separation of the clamping members of the clothes pin, such as when the same is used on a rope, where the preferred form described above is used on smaller lines such as wire clothes lines.

The device herein described can be very cheaply manufactured and easily assembled, not requiring any difficult bending such as incidental to the construction of an article of this nature from a single piece of wire.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A wire clothes pin comprising a pair of clamping members, relatively immovable terminals of said clamping members being bent for providing a finger piece for the grasp of the operator, a casing inclosing said bent terminal and for retaining the terminals in the given position, and for resisting torsional stresses thereon when the clamping members are sprung apart, and additional means formed on one of the clamping members intermediate its ends adapted to abut against the other for supplementing the torsional tension.

2. A wire clothes pin comprising a clamping member consisting of a single length of wire bent upon itself into a loop with its side members in spaced relation and having its terminals bent laterally in opposite directions, a second clamping member consisting of a single piece of wire bent upon itself and having its terminals bent laterally in opposite directions, the second clamping member extending through the loop of the first clamping member, the second clamping member being bent laterally in opposite directions intermediate its ends to form projections abutting against the first clamping member for resisting torsional strains tending to separate the clamping members, and a casing inclosing the terminals of the clamping members and forming a cap therefor.

3. A wire clothes pin comprising a pair of opposing clamping members, the free ends of each of said members being bent laterally in opposite directions, a cap inclosing the ends aforesaid and the upper portions of the members, thereby affording a finger piece for the manipulation of the clothes pin and positively holding the ends of the members to impart resilient action thereto, one of said members being adapted to pass through the other and having projections formed intermediate its ends adapted to abut against the opposite member and tending to prevent separation of the clamping members.

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

ERNEST J. RICHARDS.

Witnesses:
CLARENCE KEARNS,
D. A. STEWART.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."