C. H. RODERICK.
CLOTHES LINE REEL.
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Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 1

Inventor

Charles H. Roderick

Witnesses

E. Larson
Charles Wilson

By
Deceased

Attorneys
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Charles H. Roderick, a citizen of the United States, residing at Woodstock, in the county of McHenry and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Line Reels, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to automatic clothes-line reels and is designed to construct a reel of this nature which will automatically wind the clothes-line, and which will provide a means whereby the clothes-line may be drawn to the proper degree of tautness.

With the above and other objects in view, this invention consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, all as hereinafter more fully described, claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a reel constructed in accordance with the present invention, parts thereof being broken away;

Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the reel illustrating parts in elevation; Fig. 3 is a side elevation taken opposite to Fig. 1, parts thereof being broken away.

Reference being had to the accompanying drawings 10 indicates a support having secured thereto the bracket 11, said bracket having a transverse shaft 12 mounted thereon to which is pivoted the casing indicated in general at A, said casing being provided with a lug or ear 13 which surrounds the shaft or pin 12. This casing is formed in two sections, each section being provided with a pair of ears 14, one on each side thereof, through which a pin or screw 15 passes engaging the opposite ear. In the end of the casing opposite to the ear or lug is an opening 16 which is provided on each side thereof with the guiding flanges 17 which direct the rope to the reel as hereinafter more fully described.

On each side of the casing A and adjacent to the opening 16 is formed a sleeve 18 in which is rotatably mounted the shaft 19, said shaft having one terminal thereof faced.

A drum or reel 20 is mounted on the shaft 19 between the sleeves 18 and directly opposite to the opening 16, said drum being provided with the peripheral flanges 21 which are engaged by the inner surface of the flanges 17 adjacent to the opening 16, thus insuring the constant cooperation between the drum and the clothes-line. A ratchet wheel 22 is mounted on the shaft 19 adjacent to the faced portion thereof and is spaced from the casing, said ratchet wheel cooperate with the double pawl 23 pivoted to the casing and having a spring plate 24 secured thereto. This spring plate 24 cooperates with a catch 25 which is carried by the casing, said catch being adapted to retain either member of the double pawl in engagement with the ratchet wheel or to retain the pawl entirely from engagement with the ratchet wheel.

In the rear of the shaft 19 there is formed, in the side of the casing opposite to the ratchet wheel 22, a sleeve 26 which extends through the side of the casing and has mounted therein the shaft 27, the outer terminal of the shaft being faced. This shaft has mounted on the interior of the casing the hollow drum 28, said drum having a coiled spring 29 therein, one terminal of said spring being secured to the drum while the opposite end is attached to the shaft.

On the inner edge of the drum 28 is formed a gear 30 which is adapted to mesh with and rotate a gear 31 carried on the shaft 19 adjacent to the reel or drum 20. Thus it will be seen that as the spring 29 rotates the drum 31 the gear 31 and consequently the shaft 19 and the reel 20 will be rotated. A ratchet wheel 32 is mounted on the shaft 27 adjacent to the sleeve 26 and cooperates with a double pawl 33 mounted on the casing adjacent thereto.

From this construction it will readily be seen that as the clothes-line is drawn from the casing it winds the spring 29 about the axle 27 and when the clothes-line is released the spring will draw the same into the casing and thereby winding it about the reel or drum 20. When the clothes-line has been drawn from the casing and the free terminal thereof has been secured the pawl 33 may be thrown into engagement with the ratchet wheel 32, thereby retaining the spring 29 from operation. A crank 34 may then be placed upon the faced edge of the shaft 19 thereby drawing the clothes-line to the proper or required degree of tautness. By the provision of the faced end of the shaft 27 the tension of the spring may be regulated by the crank 34 being placed thereon. By pivoting the casing A to the support 10, 110
the same is permitted to take various angles dependent upon the direction in which the clothes-line extends from said casing.

Having thus fully described my invention, what is claimed as new is:

In a device of the class described, the combination with a sectional casing, each section having a semi-circular outlet opening, a main shaft mounted between said sections, a reel mounted on said shaft having guiding flanges formed thereon, flanges surrounding said outlet opening in the casing, a ratchet wheel carried on the exterior of the casing, a double pawl cooperating therewith, a crank mounted adjacent to said wheel and pawl, a spring actuated means whereby said shaft may be rotated independently of said crank, and means whereby said tension of said last named means may be regulated.

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

CHARLES H. RODERICK.

Witnesses:

LILLIAN SCHROEDER,

A. J. MULLEN.