No. 692,864. Patented Feb. 11, 1902.

C. J. LANTZ.

APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING AND OPERATING CLOTHES LINES.

(Application filed Feb. 2, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

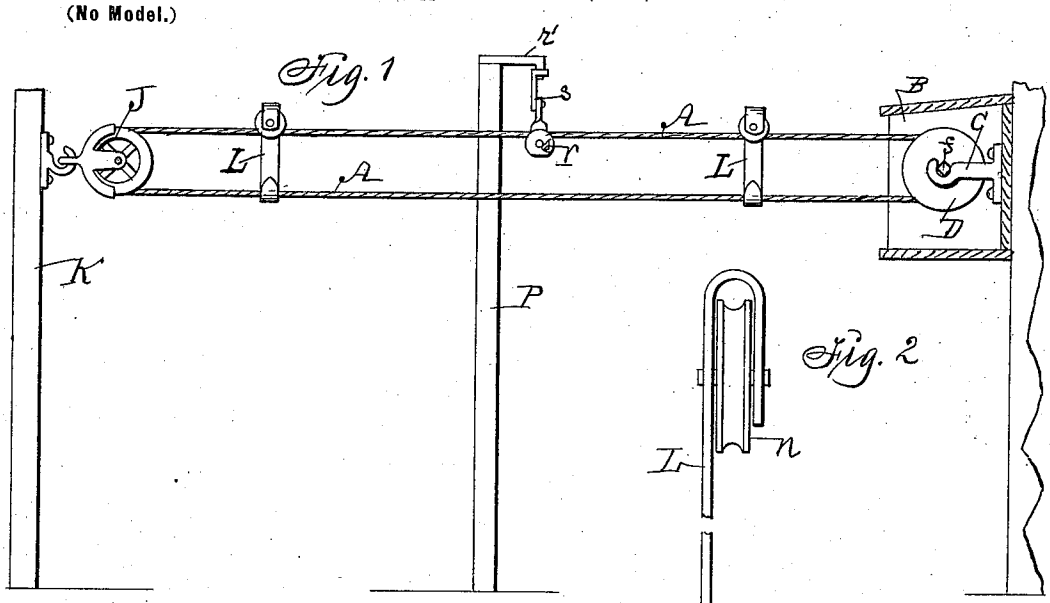


Fig. 2

Fig. 4.

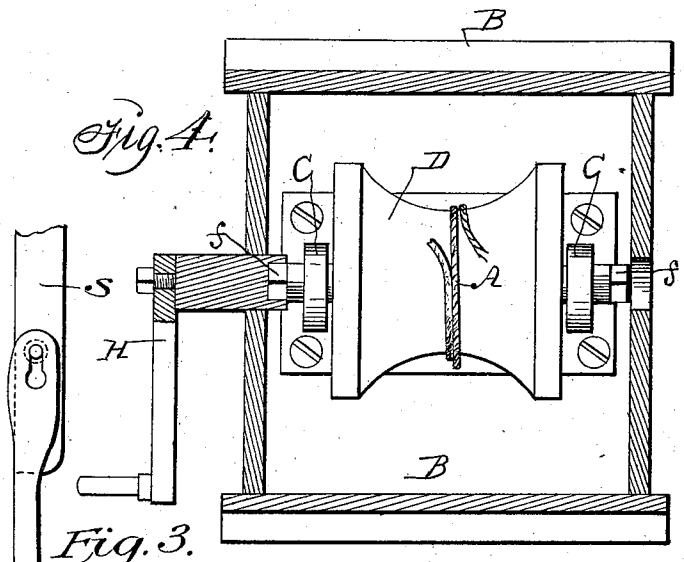
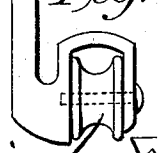


Fig. 3.



Witnesses: F. C. Stuart. R. S. Orwig.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES J. LANTZ, OF GOWRIE, IOWA.

APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING AND OPERATING CLOTHES-LINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 692,864, dated February 11, 1902.

Application filed February 2, 1901. Serial No. 45,697. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES J. LANTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gowrie, in the county of Webster and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Apparatus for Supporting and Operating Clothes-Lines, of which the following is a specification.

My object is to facilitate stretching and operating an endless clothes-line between two or more supports in such a manner that a person may put on and take off garments without walking back and forth along the length of the line.

My invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of an endless line, a roller in a box, pulleys, and traveling line-supports with a building and fixed posts distant from the building, as hereinafter set forth, pointed out in my claim, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows all the parts connected and in position as required for practical use. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of one of the traveling line-supports. Fig. 3 is an enlarged view of the pulley suspended from the central post shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 shows the roller mounted in the box that is adapted to be fixed to a building or other suitable support.

The letter A designates an endless clothes-line.

B is a box adapted to be permanently fixed against the wall of a building, preferably under a porch. Two bearings C, preferably cast integral with a flat plate adapted to be fixed to the inside face of the back of the box A, project forward to support the roller D, that has journals *f* at its ends, that can be placed in the bearings by passing the roller in through the front of the box. The extremities of the journals are angular, so that a wrench H may be extended through openings in the side walls of the box for rotating the roller.

J is a pulley in a block detachably connected with a fixed post K, located at a distance from the box B and roller therein. The line A is coiled once around the roller D and passed over the pulley J in such a manner that the clothes-line may be moved back and forth in the space between the roller and the pulley by rotating the roller in reverse ways by means of a wrench applied to one of the journals *f* of the roller.

A plurality of line-supports L, having hooks *m* at their lower ends and pulleys *n* in their doubled top portions, are suspended on the upper portion of the endless line A in such a manner that they will travel back and forth with articles of clothing suspended on the lower portion of the line when the line is put in motion by means of the wrench H and roller D.

While the upper and lower lengths of the line are always in the same vertical plane, the upper length can be connected with one or more fixed posts P, that are not in alinement with the roller D and pulley J, upon which the line is supported. To aid in supporting the line in a horizontal plane when stretched and as required to prevent sagging, pulleys *r* are suspended from arms *r'*, extended from the tops of intermediate posts P by means of hangers *s*, fixed to the said arms, as shown in Fig. 1, or in any suitable way.

In practical use when a person is under the line A and the box B articles of clothing can be readily hung on the lower portion of the line successively and moved with the line until the line is full and the articles suspended in the space between the box and the distant pulley J as required to expose them to the sun and atmosphere to dry, and when dry they can be successively taken off the line by a person at the box by a reverse motion of the roller and line.

Having described the construction, function, and operation of each element, the practical utility of my invention will be understood by persons familiar with the art to which it pertains, and what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

An apparatus for supporting and operating a clothes-line, comprising a fixed box, a roller journaled in bearings fixed in the box, openings in the parallel walls of the box, the journals of the roller having angular extensions at their free ends that extend outward beyond the bearings and in alinement with said openings, a fixed post distant from the fixed box, a pulley connected with said fixed post, a fixed post located between the box and said pulley

and an arm projected horizontally from its top, a hanger connected with the said arm and a pulley at the lower end of said hanger, a line coiled around the roller and extended over the pulleys connected with the fixed posts and a plurality of line-supports having pulleys at their tops and hooks at their lower ends, arranged and combined to operate in the manner set forth for the purposes stated.

CHARLES J. LANTZ.

Witnesses:
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