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W. H. DAVIS

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FASTENER OR CLOTHESPIN

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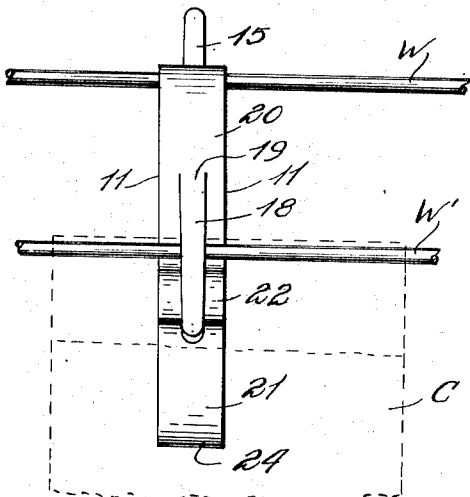


Fig. 1.

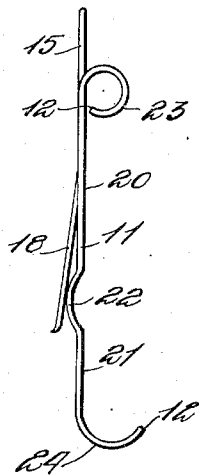


Fig. 2.

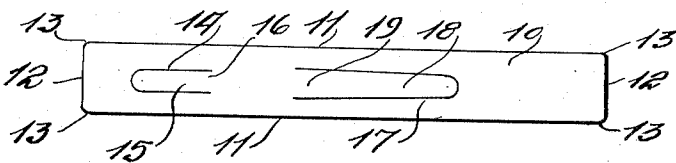


Fig. 3.

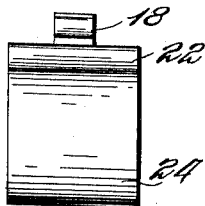


Fig. 4.

Inventor

William H. Davis,

L. V. Hillier
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FASTENER OR CLOTHESPIN

William H. Davis, Miami, Fla.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 24—137)

This invention relates to fasteners or clothespins and has special reference to a one piece fastener or clothespin.

One important object of the invention is to provide a novel form of fastener or clothespin which can be cut and formed from a strip of spring metal with a minimum of waste and by few forming operations.

A second important object of the invention is to provide a novel form of clothespin of this character wherein the pin is permanently suspended in position to be applied to a clothes supporting wire.

A third important object of the invention is to provide a novel clothespin of this character wherein the pin has a finger grip whereby it may be conveniently grasped to draw the pin into clothes grasping position.

A fourth important object of the invention is to provide a novel clothespin of this character having a novel finger grip for moving the clothespin laterally into position over the clothes to be secured.

With the above and other objects in view as will be hereinafter apparent, the invention consists in general of certain novel details of construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawing like characters of reference indicate like parts in the several views, and:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the clothespin showing it associated with a pair of wire clotheslines.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the pin.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the blank from which the clothespin is formed.

Figure 4 is an enlarged view of the clothespin from the lower end thereof.

The blanks for the clothespins forming this invention are cut from a narrow strip of thin metal having suitable resiliency. These blanks are of uniform width throughout and the ends of the blanks are at right angles to the side edges. Such a blank is shown at 10 in Figure 3 and has parallel side edges 11 and parallel end edges 12 at right angles to the edges 11. The corners 13 of the blank are rounded off in order that, when the pin is completed, there will be no sharp corners tending to injure hands or clothes. Adjacent one end, which afterward constitute the upper end of the pin, the metal is provided with a parallel sided U-shaped slit 14 providing a tongue 15 which has its root portion 16 integral

with the body of the blank and extends from the root portion toward the adjacent end edge 12. The blank is also provided with a divergingly sided U-shaped slit 17 providing a tongue 18 whose root portion 19 lies between the center of the blank and its upper edge 12. This tongue extends in a direction opposite the tongue 15 or downwardly.

This blank is formed into the pin by suitably bending certain portions, the finished pin having an upper body portion 20 and lower body portion 21 between which portions 20 and 21 the body is forwardly arched transversely of its length as at 22. This arched portion lies opposite the free portion of the tongue but is spaced slightly above the lower extremity of said tongue. The upper end of the blank, except for the tongue 15 which lies in the plane of the body portions 20 and 21, is bent rearwardly to form a loop or eye 23, the end edge 12 of this part of the blank being close to the body portion 20 so that the eye 23 is substantially closed. The lower end of the blank is also rearwardly curved to an extent somewhat less than a semi-circle so as to form a finger grip 24.

In use a number of pins such as have just been described are suspended on a line wire W by running the wire through the eye 23 of each pin. The wire W is vertically above and parallel to a clothes holding wire W', the distance between the two wires being such that the wire W' may engage on top of the arch portion 22 and between the tongue 18 and body portion 20. Thus when an article such as is shown in broken lines at C is positioned over the wire W' one or more of the pins may be grasped by their upstanding tongues 15, which form finger grips, and slid along the wire W until they are positioned opposite the article to be secured. The pins to be used are then successively raised to engage the article on the wire W' between the lower end of the tongue 18 and body portion 21 whereupon a finger is hooked on the grip 24 and the pin pulled down to spring the tongue 18 away from the body portion and allow the wire W' to take position as in Figure 1.

There has thus been provided a simple and efficient device of the kind described and for the purpose specified.

It is obvious that minor changes may be made in the form and construction of the invention without departing from the material spirit thereof. It is not, therefore, desired to confine the invention to the exact form herein shown

and described, but it is desired to include all such as properly come within the scope claimed.

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

- 5 A fastener or clothespin and the like consisting of a strip of metal having a body and pair of tongues extending in opposite directions, said pin having a rearwardly and upwardly curved finger engageable bend at its lower end, said pin
10 having a substantially circular and rearwardly

disposed line engaging loop at its upper end, one of said tongues extending from said body upwardly above said loop and providing means engageable by a finger to slide the pin along the engaged line, the other of said tongue being inclined forwardly of the body and the body having forwardly projecting bends at opposite sides of the last mentioned tongue. 5

WILLIAM H. DAVIS. 10