(No Model.)

F. L. WRIGHT & E. N. KELSEY.

CLOTHES LINE REEL.

No. 565,064. Patented Aug. 4, 1896.

FIG. 1.

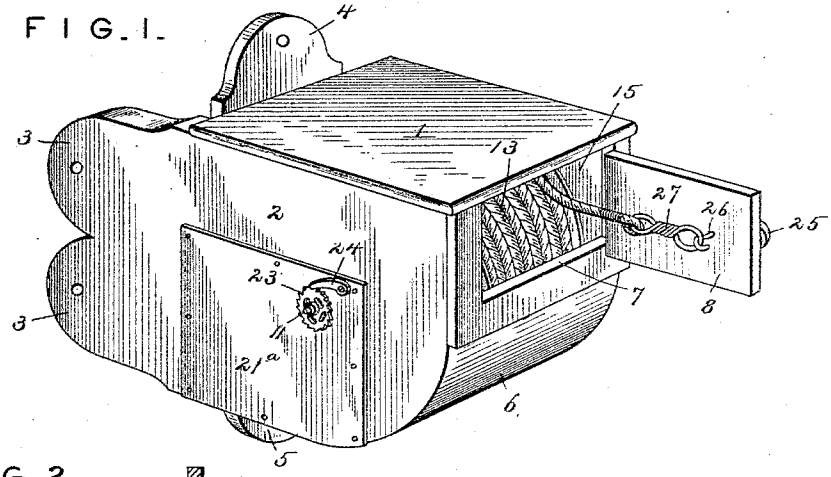


FIG. 2.

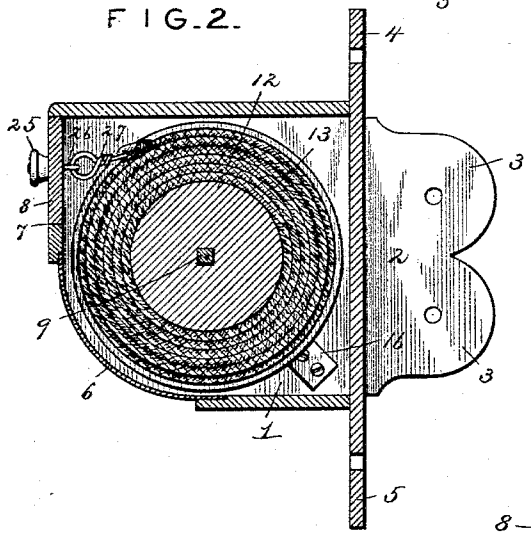


FIG. 3.

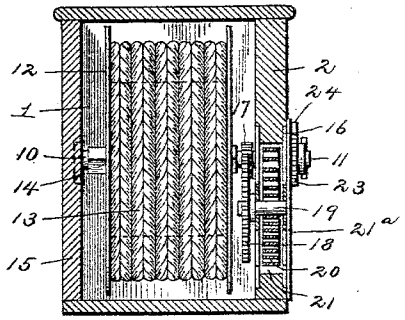


FIG. 4.

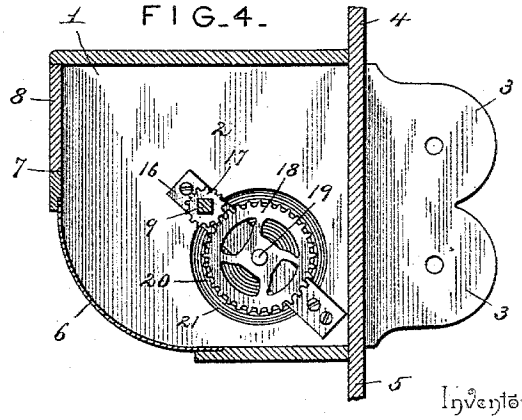
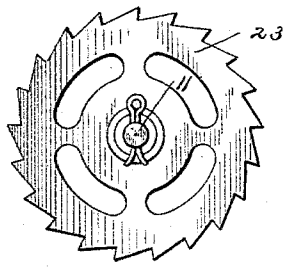


FIG. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK L. WRIGHT AND EVERETT N. KELSEY, OF WINFIELD, KANSAS.

CLOTHES-LINE REEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 565,064, dated August 4, 1896.

Application filed October 5, 1894. Serial No. 525,030. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FRANK L. WRIGHT and EVERETT N. KELSEY, citizens of the United States, residing at Winfield, in the county of Cowley and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Line Reel, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in clothes-line reels.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of clothes-line reels, and to provide a simple and inexpensive one which will rewind a clothes-line after the same has been used.

A further object of the invention is to provide a clothes-line reel in which the spring for rewinding the line will operate to hold the door of the casing closed to protect the clothes-line from the weather, and, when the door is open, to cause the clothes-line to be carried outward from the casing and to be held within convenient reach of the operator to obviate any difficulty in finding readily the end of the line.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claim hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a clothes-line reel constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view. Fig. 4 is a sectional view illustrating the construction of the gearing. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the ratchet-wheel.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a box or casing constructed of wood or other suitable material and designed to be secured to the corner of a building or to a post, and having its side 2 extended rearward to form ears 3, which are perforated for the reception of fastening devices, and the back or rear wall of the box or casing is extended above and below the same to form upper and lower ears 4 and 5, which are also perforated for the reception of suitable fastening devices. The lower front portion of the box or casing is rounded at 6, and the upper portion is provided with an opening 7, at one side of which is hinged a door 8, adapted to be closed when the line is not in use, to protect the same from the weather.

The box or casing has journaled in it a transverse shaft 9, having rounded ends 10 and 11, and a central squared portion receiving a spool or drum 12, on which a clothes-line 13 is wound. The shaft has one end journaled in a washer 14 and the adjacent side of the box or casing, and the washer 14 is set into the side 15 of the box or casing and has its face flush with the inner face of the same. The other end 11 of the shaft is extended through the side 2 of the casing and has bearing in openings of inclined braces or bearing-bars 16. The shaft 9 has fixed to it a pinion 17, which meshes with a cog-wheel 18, keyed or otherwise secured to a stub-shaft 19, and the latter is also journaled in the bearing-bars or braces 16, and has attached to it one end of a barrel-spring 20. The barrel-spring 20 is arranged in a circular opening 21 of the side 2 of the box or casing. Its inner end is attached to the stub-shaft 19, and its outer end terminates in an eye which is secured by a suitable fastening device to the braces or bearing bars or plates 16, whereby, when the line is paid out, the spring will be wound up and will, after the line has been used, actuate the spool or drum for rewinding the clothes-line.

The circular opening of the side 2 of the casing and the adjacent parts are concealed by a plate 21^a, secured to the outer face of the box or casing.

The extended end of the shaft 9 has keyed to it a ratchet-wheel 23, which, after the line is in position for use, is engaged by a pivoted pawl 24 to prevent any more line being unwound from the reel, and the line may be readily tightened by pulling it in the direction of the box or casing, the spring operating to take up all slack. In rewinding the line it is first drawn in the direction of the casing or box sufficiently to slack it slightly, so that the pivoted pawl may be readily disengaged, and after the line has been released from the post it will be automatically wound up by the spring, the operator walking in the direction of the box or casing and holding the end of the line, whereby the clothes-line may be prevented from coming in contact with the ground.

The hinged door 8 is provided at its outer side with a knob 25, and it has on its inner face a hook 26, which is adapted to have linked into it an eye of a double ring or link 27, which consists of a pair of eyes or rings arranged at right angles to form a stop for the line, to prevent the end of the latter from being carried inward by the spool or drum. One of the rings is attached to the line and the other engages the hook 26, whereby the spring for rewinding the line operates to hold the door 8 closed.

It will be seen that the clothes-line reel is simple and comparatively inexpensive in construction, that it may be readily attached to a corner of a house or a post, and that it is adapted to rewind the clothes-line automatically. It will be seen that the spring for rewinding the line operates to hold the door closed to protect the clothes-line from the weather, and that the clothes-line, by being connected with the door, will, when the door is opened, be drawn outward and held in convenient reach of the operator to avoid any difficulty in finding the end of the line.

Changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

What we claim is—

In a clothes-line reel, the combination of a casing having a hinged door, a spring-impelled drum mounted in the casing, a line arranged on the drum, and means for detachably connecting the free end of the line to the hinged door, whereby the spring of the drum will hold the door normally closed, and the line will always be in convenient reach of the operator when the door is swung open, substantially as described.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

FRANK L. WRIGHT.
EVERETT N. KELSEY.

Witnesses:
F. W. DOANE,
J. E. JARVIS.