No. 763,323. PATENTED JUNE 21, 1904.

W. H. REED.

LAUNDRY MARKER.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 25, 1903.

NO MODEL.

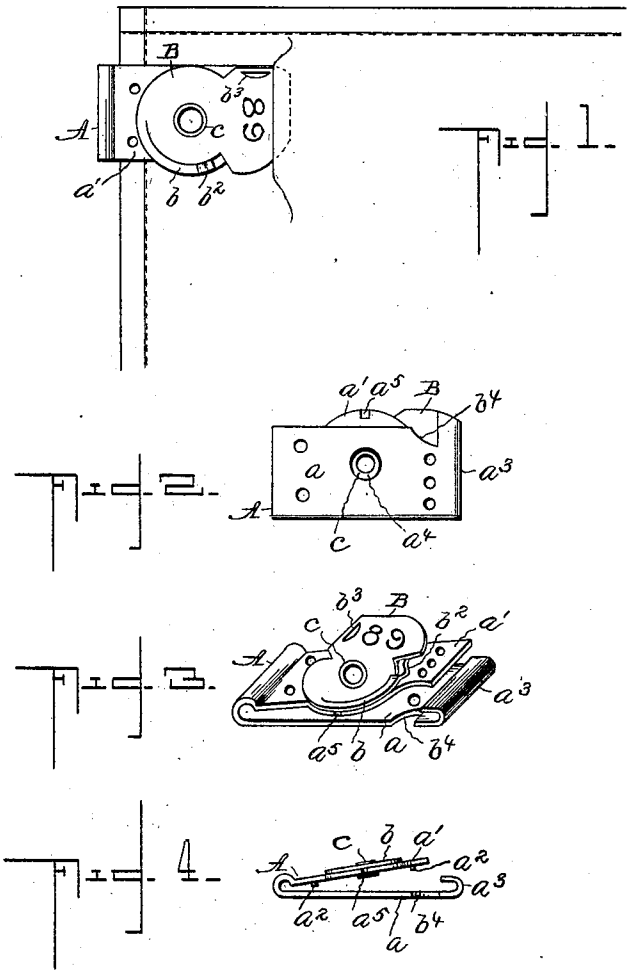

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

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Witnesses:-

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No. 763,323. Patented June 21, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HENRY REED, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

LAUNDRY-MARKER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 763,323, dated June 21, 1904.

Application filed August 25, 1903. Serial No. 170,750. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HENRY REED, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a Laundry-Marker, of which the following is a full and complete specification.

In laundries it is the common practice, for the purpose of assorting laundry, to mark the several articles of each patron with a distinctive mark, which is usually done with indelible ink, and in many instances these marks mar the appearance of the articles, and consequently are objectionable.

It is the object of my invention, therefore, to provide a simple little device for marking laundry which can be readily attached to and detached from the articles to be washed to thus avoid the necessity for any permanent marking or disfiguring of the articles.

My invention contemplates the provision of a number-plate with means for removably clamping the same to an edge of the article, the whole device being not much larger than an ordinary size button and held in place in such manner as not to injure the fabric of the article.

My invention consists in a device for the purposes mentioned comprising a number-plate and means for clamping to an article.

My invention further consists in the particular construction of the plate and its clamping means, all as hereinafter fully set forth and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a view showing the application of the invention. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the device with the catch thrown open and the clamping-plates slightly separated. Fig. 4 is an edge view.

Similar letters of reference indicate similar parts in the several views of the drawings.

Referring to said drawings, the letter A designates the clamp by which the device is secured to an edge of the article to be washed, and B designates the catch by which said clamp is locked in a closed position, the said catch-plate being of such size as to leave a space for numbers or other identifying-marks.

The clamp A consists of two members or plates a and a', integrally connected together at one end, being preferably made up of a single plate bent upon itself so that the free ends of the clamping members are normally separated a slight distance. One of the clamping members is provided with blunt spurs, as a^2, which enter corresponding openings in the companion clamping member, so as to secure a firmer grip upon the fabric clamped between said members. The free end of one of the clamping members is bent upon itself to provide a pocket or keeper a^3, adapted to receive the end of a catch-plate B, pivoted to the other clamping member, it being noted that the free end of the clamping member which carries the pivoted catch-plate terminates in front of the aforesaid pocket or keeper a^3. The catch-plate is connected to the member a' of the clamp by means of an ordinary eyelet c, which latter is located opposite an opening a^4 in the clamping member a, so that the projecting portion of said eyelet will further serve to grip the fabric.

In order to hold or lock the catch-plate in a closed position, the same is cut at one side to provide a spring-tongue b, having a bend or offset b^2 at its free end, adapted to engage a notch a^5 in the member a', to which the catch-plate is pivoted.

In attaching the device the catch-plate B is thrown to one side, freeing the members of the clamp, so that they may spring apart. An edge of the fabric is then inserted between the clamping members or plates a and a' and the latter brought together thereon, after which the catch-plate is swung upon its pivot to engage the keeper a^3 and is held by the spring-tongue b engaging the notch a^5 in the clamping member a'. The device is thereby held firmly clamped to the article and as it does not puncture the fabric will not in any way injure the same. The device being small will not interfere with the washing of the article.

In order to facilitate the operation of opening the catch-plate, the outer end of the latter is provided near one edge with a notch b^3 for the engagement of a finger-nail. This operation may be also effected by pushing upon the

edge of the pivoted plate opposite the notch b^3, and to facilitate this latter means of operation the clamping member a is cut away at b^4, and the clamping member a' above is correspondingly cut away, so that the end of the finger may enter and move the plate to a greater extent than otherwise.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A laundry-marker, comprising a number-plate, a clamp to one member of which said number-plate is pivoted, and a keeper with which the number-plate engages to hold the clamp closed upon the article to be washed.

2. A laundry-marker, comprising a number-plate, a clamp comprising companion members or plates to one of which said number-plate is pivoted, a keeper on the other of said clamping members with which the number-plate engages, and a catch for holding the pivoted number-plate in its locked position.

3. A laundry-marker, comprising a number-plate, a clamp comprising companion members to one of which said number-plate is pivoted, a keeper on the other of said clamping members with which the number-plate engages, and a spring-tongue engaging a notch for holding the number-plate in its locked position.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM HENRY REED.

Witnesses:
HOWARD E. FLEMING,
EDWARD REED.