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H. O. WOODS

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CLOTHESPIN

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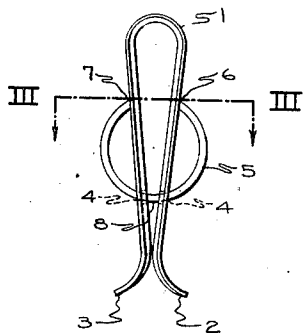


Fig. 1

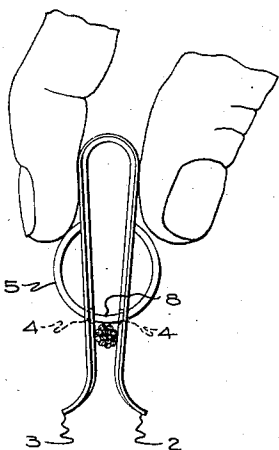


Fig. 4



Fig. 2

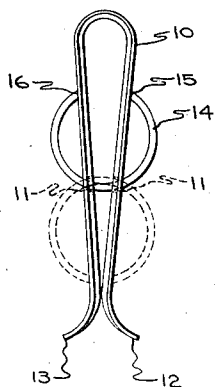


Fig. 5

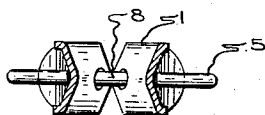


Fig. 3

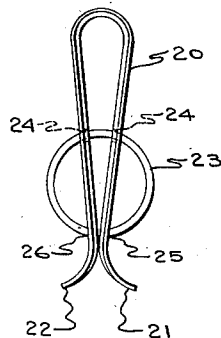


Fig. 6

HOLLAND O. WOODS ^{Inventor}

By *Beaman & Langford*

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CLOTHESPIN

Holland O. Woods, Jackson, Mich.

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6 Claims. (Cl. 24—137)

This invention relates to clothespins and more particularly to metal clothespins particularly adapted for use on delicate fabrics, such as silk stockings and the like.

5 The ordinary wood clothespin is highly unsatisfactory for delicate fabrics such as silk stockings and the like for the reason that the rough surfaces thereof frequently catch and tear the fabric. The present invention contemplates the use of a smooth metal clothespin, which may be used without danger of harm to the most delicate of fabrics.

An object of the invention is to provide a smooth surfaced metal clothespin.

15 Another object of the invention is to provide a spring metal clothespin having an auxiliary spring to supplement the inherent resiliency of the pin and to provide at the same time a hand grip and a stop for limiting the distance between the arms of the pin that an object may pass.

20 A further object of the invention is to provide a spring metal clothespin having a concave cross-section throughout a substantial portion of its length.

25 These objects will be apparent from the following specification when taken with the accompanying drawing, in which

Fig. 1 discloses a side elevation of a preferred form of the invention,

30 Fig. 2 is an edge elevation of the form of Fig. 1, Fig. 3 is a cross-section on line III—III of Fig. 1,

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the form of Fig. 1, in use,

35 Fig. 5 discloses another form that the invention may take, and

Fig. 6 discloses still another form that the invention may take.

Referring to the drawing, the reference character 1 indicates a return bent metal strip having a concave cross-section, as disclosed particularly in Fig. 3, throughout the entire length thereof with the exception of the outwardly flaring free ends 2 and 3, at which portions the strip is substantially flat. While I find that the cross-sectional form of the invention shown in Fig. 3 is very satisfactory, it will be clear that other cross-sectional forms may be used. In the pin at a place between the ends thereof is a transverse opening 4 extending through both legs of the pin. Disposed in the opening 4 is a spring wire ring 5, which is split and has the split ends thereof bearing against the outside of the pin at points 6 and 7. It will be understood that the split ring 5 supplements the inherent

resiliency of the strip 1. Furthermore, it will be seen that the ring 5 provides at the portions thereof at outside of the pin a hand grip, as will be clear from Fig. 4, to prevent the fingers of a user of the pin from slipping downwardly over the pin when applying it to a garment or the like on a clothesline. Furthermore, the portion 8 of the ring 5 between the legs of the pin provides a stop to limit the distance inwardly between the legs which an object such as a clothesline with a garment thereon may travel.

In Fig. 5 another form that the invention may take is disclosed which is particularly adaptable where a pin of greater resiliency is desired. In this form of the invention the resilient spring strip 10 of concave cross-section is provided with an opening 11 therethrough corresponding to the opening 4, the opening 11, however, being disposed considerably further inwardly from the outwardly flaring free ends 12 and 13 of the strip 10 than in the form of the invention disclosed in Fig. 1. A split ring 14 corresponding to the ring 5 of Fig. 1 is disposed in the opening 11 and has the free ends thereof bearing against the outside of the pin at points 15 and 16. Should it be desired to convert the form of the invention disclosed in Fig. 3 into a more stiff form, the ring 14 may be moved to the position shown in dotted outline in Fig. 3, thereby being effective adjacent the free ends 12 and 13 of the strip 10.

In Fig. 6 still another form of the invention is disclosed. This form is similar to the form disclosed in Fig. 1 except that the auxiliary spring ring bears against the outside of the pin adjacent the free ends thereof rather than adjacent the closed end thereof. As in the other forms of the invention, the pin comprises a strip 20 of spring metal of concavoconvex cross-section, the strip at the free end portions 21 and 22 thereof flaring outwardly. A split ring 23 is disposed in a transverse opening 24 through the legs of the strip 20 and has the split ends thereof bearing against the outside of the pin at points 25 and 26 adjacent the free ends 21 and 22.

In comparing the forms of the invention disclosed in Figs. 1 and 4, for instance, it will be observed that the stop provided by the resilient ring 23 is positioned considerably further inwardly from the free ends 21 and 22 than the corresponding free ends of the pin disposed in Fig. 1. In each of the forms of the invention, the free ends of the split ring supplementing the inherent resiliency of the strip are disposed in the concave or channel portion of the strip, as disclosed par-

ticularly in Fig. 3, thereby securing them against accidental removal. While it is preferred that the spring strip and the resilient split ring be of stainless steel, it will be understood that any suitable spring metal may be employed.

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

1. A clothespin, comprising a return bent strip of spring metal, said pin having an opening there-
10 through between its ends, and a split ring disposed through said opening and having the split ends thereof separated and bearing against the outer sides of said pin to supplement the inherent resiliency of said strip.

15 2. A clothespin, comprising a return bent strip of spring metal, said strip having a channeled cross-section throughout a substantial portion of its length, said pin having an opening extending therethrough between its ends, and a split resilient ring disposed through said opening and hav-
20 ing the split ends thereof spaced and bearing against the opposite sides of said pin to supplement the inherent resiliency of said pin, said ends of said split ring being disposed in the chan-
25 nels of said strip.

3. A clothespin, comprising a return bent strip of spring metal, said strip having a concave cross-section throughout a substantial portion of its length, and resilient means projecting from oppo-
30 site sides of said pin and bearing against the same to supplement the inherent resiliency of said strip and to provide a hand grip on the surface of the pin.

35 4. A clothespin, comprising a return bent strip of spring metal, said strip having an opening therethrough between its ends, and a split ring disposed in said opening and having the ends of

said split bearing against the opposite sides of said pin to supplement the inherent resiliency of said strip, said opening being so disposed with respect to the free end of said pin as to position the ring therethrough to provide a stop spaced
5 from the free ends of said strip.

5. A clothespin, comprising a return bent strip of spring metal, said strip having a channeled cross-section throughout a substantial portion of its length, said pin having an opening there-
10 through between the ends thereof, and a split resilient ring disposed in said opening and having the free ends thereof bearing against the opposite sides of said pin to supplement the in-
15 herent resiliency of said strip, the free ends of said ring being disposed in the channels of said strip, said opening being disposed inwardly from the free ends of said strip to position said ring to provide a stop spaced from the free ends of said strip, said ring providing a hand grip on the out-
20 side of said pin.

6. A clothespin comprising a return bent strip of spring metal, said strip having a concave cross-section throughout a portion of its length, the re-
25 turn bent portions thereof being inclined toward each other toward their outer ends, and their outer ends being flared outwardly, whereby an object to be associated with said clothespin is directed between said return bent portions by said out-
30 wardly flared ends, and having passed said outwardly flared ends, is urged inwardly by said inclined portions and restrained against separating movement with respect to said clothespin, and
35 auxiliary spring means associated with said strip for supplementing the inherent resiliency of said strip.

HOLLAND O. WOODS.