

J. W. FINCH.  
CLOTHES CLAMP.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 4, 1910.

991,290.

Patented May 2, 1911.

Fig. 1.

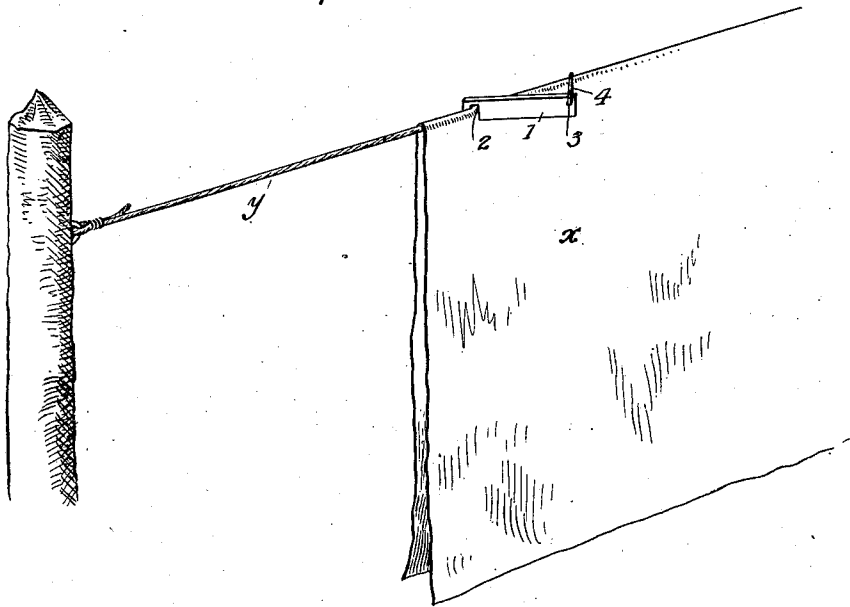


Fig. 2.

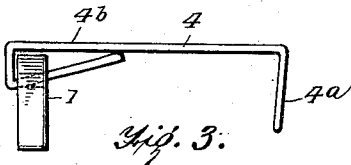
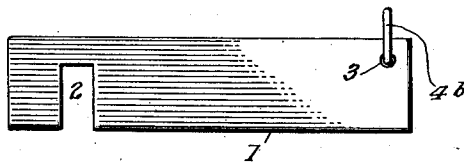
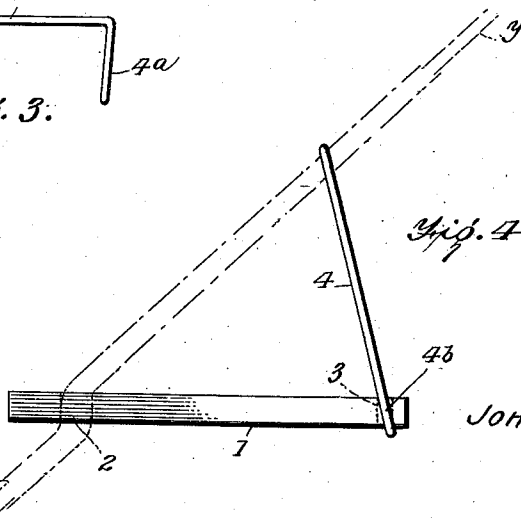


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. FINCH, OF BENTONIA, MISSISSIPPI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO J. L. SIBLEY,  
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## CLOTHES-CLAMP.

991,290.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 2, 1911.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN W. FINCH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Bentonia, in the county of Yazoo and State of Mississippi, have invented certain Improvements in Clothes-Clamps, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an efficient and preferred substitute for the ordinary split clothes-pin.

The invention is embodied in the form, construction, and combination of parts hereinafter described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the practical use of the invention. Fig. 2 is a face view of the device. Fig. 3 is an end view. Fig. 4 is a plan view further illustrating the practical use of the device.

The body of the clamp is a flat, rectangular, oblong plate 1 which may be constructed of various materials, such as wood or metal. This plate is provided in one edge and near one end with a rectangular notch or open slot 2, and at the other end, adjacent to the opposite edge, with a transverse hole 3. The other member of the clamp is a wire hook 4 having its free end formed as a prolonged prong 4<sup>a</sup> bent slightly inward, and constructed at the other end in the form of a triangular loop 4<sup>b</sup>—see Fig. 4. The loop is made of sufficient size to adapt the hook for attachment to the plate 1 by passing the same through the hole 3, as shown in Fig. 4.

The manner of using the clamp will be understood by reference to Figs. 1 and 4. The fabric or article of clothing, *x*, having been applied to a line *y*, the clamp is then applied by placing it in the position shown, by which the notch or slot 2 in the plate 1 receives both the piece *x* and the line. The plate 1 is then pressed into an acute angle with the line *y*, and the hook 4 is passed over the line and piece *x*. By this means,

the edges of the plate at the notch 2 engage and twist the line and piece *x*, as shown in Fig. 4, thus holding them firmly clamped together, as will be understood, the line being deflected or kinked, as shown. In order to detach the clamp, it is obviously only necessary to knock-up the hook 4.

It will be seen that by providing the hole 3 at the point indicated, that is to say, at one end of the plate and in a plane above the notch 2, the effect of torsion or leverage of the device with the line *y* is counteracted so that the plate cannot be easily turned or twisted upon itself or around its longer axis, and thus become detached, as would otherwise be the case. In other words, by the arrangement of the hole 3 and the form and attachment of the hook in the manner described, the torsion or twist of the plate on its longer axis is effectually resisted, and the clamp thereby made entirely effective and successful in use, also the inward bend of the free end of the hook is necessary in order to adapt it to hold securely on the clothes-line.

What I claim is:—

The improved clothes-line clamp comprising a flat oblong plate provided in one edge and near one end with a rectangular notch, or open slot, adapted to receive a line with clothes attached, and provided at the other end with a transverse opening which is located near the opposite edge and thus above the plane of the notch, and a hook having one end constructed in triangular form and passing through the hole in the plate, whereby it is adapted for preventing turning of the plate on its longer axis when the clamp is in use, the hook having its free end bent inward, as shown and described.

JOHN W. FINCH.

Witnesses:

HENRY W. HENDERSON,  
J. H. LEEPER.