F. F. MILLER.

CLOTHES LINE SUPPORT.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 17, 1918.

**1,303,491.**

Patented May 13, 1919.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

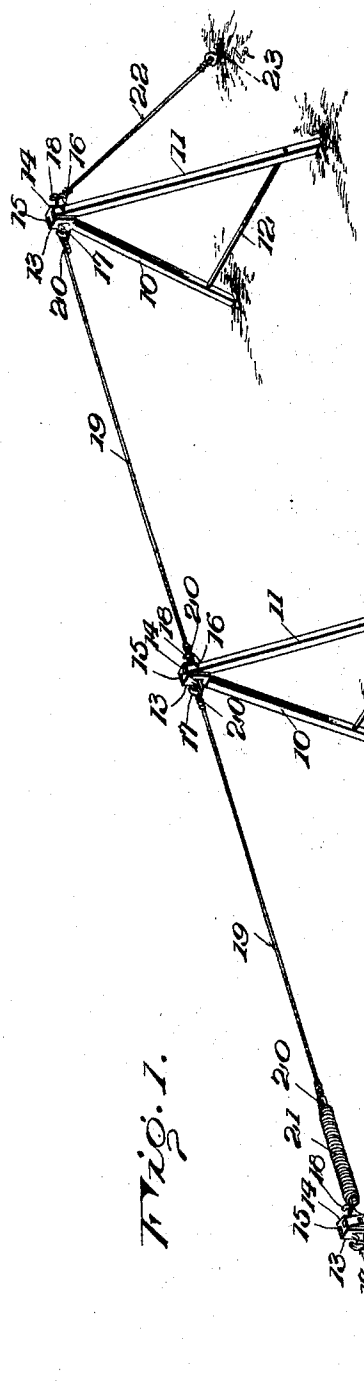


Fig. 1.

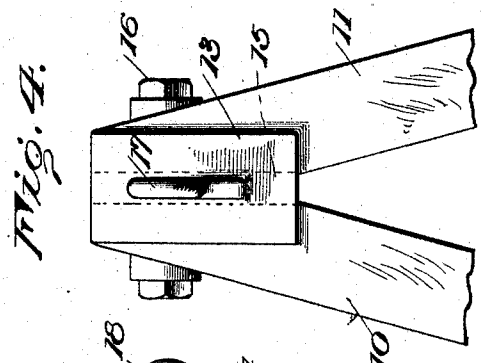


Fig. 4.

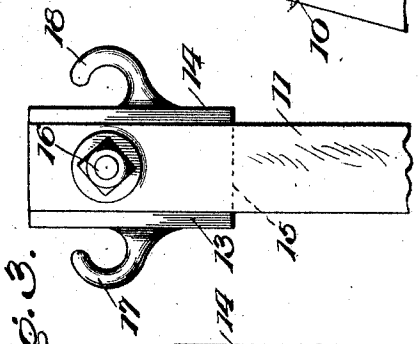


Fig. 3.

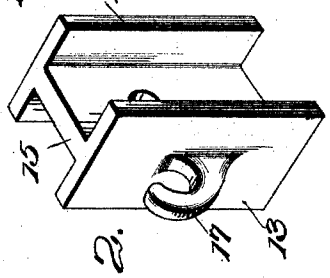


Fig. 2.

Inventor

F. F. Miller.

By Lacey & Lacey, Attorneys

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

F. F. MILLER.

CLOTHES LINE SUPPORT.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 17, 1918.

1,303,491.

Patented May 13, 1919.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 6.

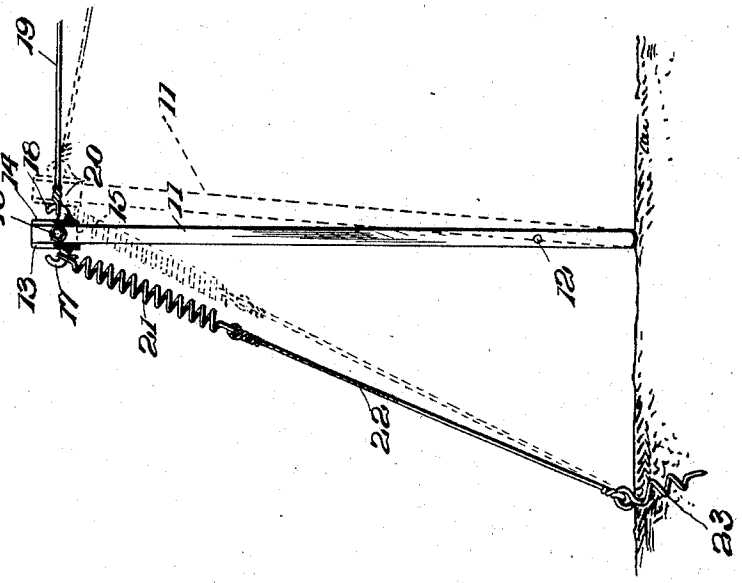
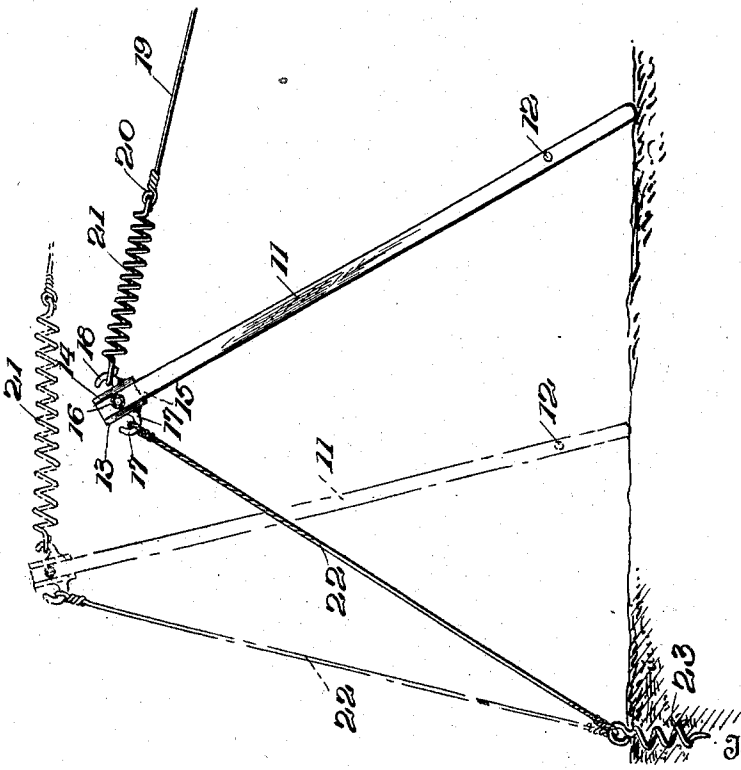



Fig. 5.




Inventor

F. F. Miller.

By Lacey & Lacey, Attorneys

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK F. MILLER, OF SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA.

## CLOTHES-LINE SUPPORT.

1,303,491. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 13, 1919.

Application filed June 17, 1918. Serial No. 240,477.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK F. MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sioux Falls, in the county of Minnehaha and State of South Dakota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Line Supports, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in clothes line supports, and has for one of its objects to improve the construction and produce a simply constructed device whereby any required tension may be applied to the clothes line and thus obviate the necessity for employing clothes props of the ordinary construction.

Another object of the invention is to provide a clothes line support which will support the line under normal conditions and which will yield when abnormal strains are applied and thus avoid breaking the line.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character including one or more intermediate supports for lines which are abnormally long.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction, as hereinafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claims; and in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved device in its simpler form,

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detached perspective view of one of the head members of the supports,

Fig. 3 is a side elevation, and

Fig. 4 is an end elevation enlarged, of the upper portion of one of the supports, illustrating its construction,

Fig. 5 is a side elevation of one of the supports illustrating the manner of applying strain to the line,

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5 illustrating a slight modification in the arrangement of the strain applying elements.

The improved device includes movable standards or supports at the ends of the line with one or more intermediate supports, guy members attached to the terminal supports, and a flexible element connected to one of the terminal supports to receive one end of the garment supporting line. By this means the line is maintained in its taut condition under the stress of a normal load, but will yield if an abnormal load is applied to the line, and thus avoid breaking the line, and will also restore the line to its normal condition when the load is removed. The supports are substantially alike and a description of one will suffice for all. Each support includes legs or side members 10—11 spaced at their lower ends and united by a tie rod 12 and converging at their upper ends and connected to a head block illustrated specifically in Fig. 2. Each of the head blocks includes side or bearing plates 13—14 and an intermediate connecting web 15. At their upper ends the members 10—11 are beveled and adapted to fit between the plates 13—14 and bear against the web 15 at opposite sides. The members 10—11 are coupled to the web 15 of the head member by a clamp bolt 16 or other suitable device. Each of the supports thus resembles the letter A in outline as illustrated in Fig. 1. Extending from the plate 13 is an open hook 17, while a similar hook 18 extends from the plate 14. The garment supporting line is preferably formed of wire and is represented at 19. The line 19 may be made in as many sections as required and is provided with eyes 20 at its ends to enable said line to be coupled to the hooks 17—18. At one end of one of the line sections a relatively strong coiled spring 21 is connected between the line and the adjacent hook 17 or 18 as the case may be. For the purpose of illustration three of the A supports are shown, but it will be understood that as many of these supports may be used as required, depending upon the length of the line. Relatively short lines will require only the terminal supports, but longer lines will require one or more of the intermediate supports. The outer hooks 17 or 18 as the case may be, of the terminal supports are provided with guy members 22, preferably of wire, and with eyes at the ends to be engaged respectively with the outer hook of the end supports and a supporting stake or pin at the other end. Preferably the supporting stake will be of the ordinary screw form, illustrated at 23 and commonly known as screw picket pins.

In erecting the improved device the terminal supports are first disposed in an outwardly inclined position as shown in Fig. 5, and after the lines 19 and the tension

spring devices 21, guys 22 and holding pins 23 are in position, the lower ends of the members 10—11 will be moved outwardly, or away from each other as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 5, to apply the requisite strain to the line. A very strong pulling force may thus be applied to dispose the line sections normally extending in a direct line between the terminal supports, and likewise through the intermediate supports, if any are employed.

In Figs. 1 and 5 the spring 21 is shown disposed between the adjacent section of the line 19 and the A support, and in Fig. 6 the spring is shown between the adjacent end of the guy member 22 and the adjacent support, but either arrangement may be employed, as may be preferred.

In Fig. 6 the spring 21 is arranged in the guy 22, or between the anchor 23 and the support 11. By placing the spring 21 between the guy device 22 and the support 11, the leverage on the spring is increased and considerable of the rigid strain is removed from the guy device and the anchor device. If the spring is not of sufficient strength or of too much strength, as the case may be, it can be adjusted from one position to another, and increase the pull on the line, without changing the pull on the anchor device. This is accomplished by oscillating the support as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 6.

The pull on the guy 22 equals four pounds on the line 19, and by placing the spring 21 where shown in Fig. 6, the guy is relieved of stresses when heavy loads are placed on the line or when the garments on the line are subjected to high winds or otherwise subjected to abnormal stresses.

When a heavy load is applied to the line the latter will sag as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 6.

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

1. A support for clothes lines comprising a head block including flat plates connected by an intermediate web and defining oppositely disposed recesses, there being a transverse opening formed in the web, hooks extending laterally from the outer faces of the plates, diverging legs fitting in the adjacent recesses of the head block, and a bolt passing through the upper ends of the diverging legs and through the opening of the web for securing the head block in position on the legs.

2. A clothes line support comprising a head block including flat plates connected by an intermediate web to form oppositely disposed recesses, hooks secured to the outer faces of the plates, diverging legs having their upper ends beveled and fitting within the recesses, a bolt passing through the beveled ends of the diverging legs and through said web and a tie rod connecting the lower ends of the legs.

3. A support for clothes lines comprising a head block including flat plates connected by an intermediate web arranged at substantially right angles thereto and defining oppositely disposed recesses, there being a transverse opening formed in the web, hooks extending laterally from the outer faces of the plates and disposed in alinement with the web with their bills extending upwardly, diverging legs having their upper ends beveled and fitting in the adjacent recesses and bearing against the plates, and a bolt passing through the beveled ends of the diverging legs and through the opening in the web for securing the head block in position on the legs.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANK F. MILLER. [L. S.]

**Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."**