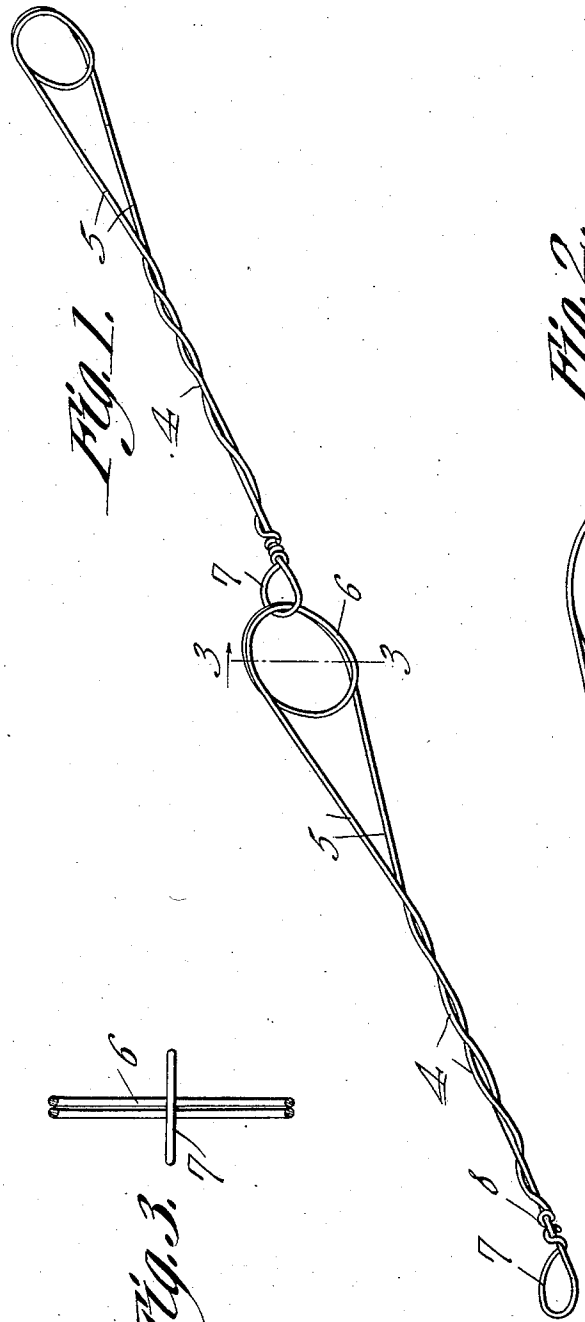
R. L. McMINN.

CLOTHES LINE.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 19, 1912.

1,054,704.

Patented Mar. 4, 1913.



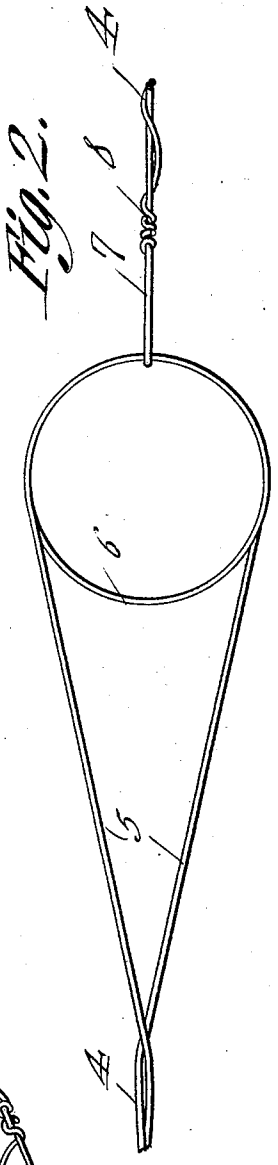


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

J. Gomez

S. Willson

R. L. McMinn,

Inventor

by C. A. Snow & Co.

Attorneys

COLUMBIA PLANOGRAPH CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT LEE McMINN, OF ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA.

CLOTHES-LINE.

1,054,704. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 4, 1913.

Application filed October 19, 1912. Serial No. 726,832.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT L. McMINN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Asheville, in the county of Buncombe and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Line, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention appertains to pinless clothes lines, and aims to produce a metallic clothes line constructed of a plurality of sections, each section being fashioned from a length of wire in a novel manner in order to receive and clamp the clothes and other textiles upon the line.

The present invention also contemplates the production of a clothes line link which shall be simple, durable, substantial and inexpensive in construction, and which shall be efficient, serviceable and convenient in its use, the various links of the line being adapted to fold compactly together, or within a small compass when the line is not in use.

With the above and other objects in view, which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed can be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

The preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein like reference characters have been employed to denote corresponding parts, and wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of two links of the clothes line. Fig. 2 is a fragmental side elevation. Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Referring specifically to the drawing, each of the links of the clothes line is fashioned from a suitable length of wire of proper gage and quality and suitably plated, galvanized or otherwise finished for purposes of protection and wear. This wire is bent to form a pair of intertwisted clamping strands 4 having long yielding turns, extended at one end into long straight diverging portions 5. These diverging ends 5 of the clamping strands are connected by a resilient coil 6 of one and one-half turns, this coil being of comparative large diameter and being tangent to the said ends 5. The other end of one of the clamping strands is bent back and wound upon itself to form an eye 7 for engaging the coil 6 of the adjacent link, and the other end of the other clamping strand is wound around the former strand, adjacent the eye, as designated by the numeral 8, to secure the latter ends of the clamping strands together.

In use, any number of the links may be employed in order to provide a clothes line of any desired length, as will be understood, and when the line is strung up between two supports, the clothes or textiles may be readily attached to the line without the employment of the usual clothes pins. The clothes are attached to the line, or rather to the various links thereof, by manually pushing together the diverging ends 5 of the clamping strands which will cause the turns of the clamping strands to separate, such separation of the clamping strands permitting the insertion of the clothes. When the ends 5 are released, the clamping strands will be brought together to tightly hold the clothes, it being noted that the clothes may be inserted in all of the links in the same direction. The diverging ends 5 also assist in guiding the clothes into the turns of the clamping strands, as well as serving to yieldably separate the clamping strands during such insertion of the clothes. The diverging ends in being connected by the resilient coil 6 provides effective means for normally swinging the clamping strands together, and the said coils 6 may also be employed for holding small articles of wearing apparel or other textiles, thus increasing the capacity of the clothes line. The coil 6 in being engaged by the eyes 7 of the adjacent links also permit the line to be folded compactly when not in use, the said coils being resilient will give a slight resiliency or flexibility to the clothes line as a whole, which is desirable. The provision of the coils 6 is therefore of importance, providing a a number of advantages or functions, particularly in connection with the diverging ends of the clamping strands to which the coils are attached.

In view of the foregoing, taken in connection with the drawing, the advantages and capabilities of the present clothes line will be manifest to those versed in the art, and it will be noted that the objects aimed at have

been carried out satisfactorily, the present line providing a desirable one for the purposes for which it is designed.

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

A clothes line link, fashioned from a length of wire and embodying a pair of intertwisted clamping strands, having long yielding turns, one of their ends being secured together and being provided with an eye and their other ends extending into long, straight and diverging portions, and a resilient coil tangential to and attached to the said portions.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT LEE McMINN.

Witnesses:
JOSEPH F. FORD,
M. C. KEELING.

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