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D. L. LASH & C. P. MOCK.

CLOTHES LINE.

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WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL LEWIS LASH AND CHARLES PONDEXTER MOCK, OF ALVA, OKLAHOMA.

CLOTHES-LINE.

No. 879,390.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, DANIEL LEWIS LASH and CHARLES PONDEXTER MOCK, citizens of the United States, residing at Alva, in the county of Woods, Oklahoma, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Line, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to clothes lines and has for its object to provide means for supporting the line and adjusting the slack of the same.

A further object of the invention is to provide a plurality of spaced posts or standards adapted to be embedded in the ground and to which are connected a series of clothes lines, one of said posts being provided with a winding reel having an operating handle whereby the rotation of the reel will simultaneously adjust the slack in the several lines.

A still further object of the invention is to generally improve this class of devices so as to add to their utility and durability as well as to reduce the cost of manufacture.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification: Figure 1 is a perspective view of the clothes line and reel constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the lower portion of one of the supporting posts or standards. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the upper portion of the same post. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the reel showing the manner of attaching the clothes lines.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawings.

The improved device consists of a plurality of posts or standards 5, 6 and 7, the latter being embedded in the ground and spaced apart to form supports for the clothes lines 8 and 9. One end of the line 8 is anchored to the ground by a suitable peg 10 while the opposite end thereof passes through an opening 11 in the post 5 and thence over the roller or pulley 12 on the post 6 and terminates in a loop 13. The line 9 is anchored

to a similar peg 14 and extends through an opening in the post 7 and thence over a roller 15 seated in a recess 16 in the post 6, the end of the line being extended parallel with the adjacent end of the line 8 and provided with a similar loop 17. The loops 13 and 17 are connected by a hook 18' carried by a wire cord or other flexible medium 18 secured to a winding reel 19 so that by rotating the reel the slack in both clothes lines may be simultaneously adjusted. The reel 19 is seated in a recess 20 in the post 6 and is mounted for rotation in suitable supporting brackets 21, said reel being provided with an operating handle 22 and having a pair of spaced disks or plates one of which has its peripheral edge toothed or serrated to form a ratchet wheel 23.

Communicating with the recess 20 is an inclined groove or slot 24 and pivoted at 25 in said slot is a locking pawl 26 the handle of which extends laterally beyond the general longitudinal plane of the post so that the pivoted end of the pawl may be moved into and out of engagement with the teeth on the ratchet wheel.

The roller 12 is disposed at right angles to the roller 15 and is mounted for rotation in a bracket 27 secured to one longitudinal edge of the post 6 and preferably arranged slightly below the roller receiving recess 16, both rollers being preferably provided with guiding grooves as shown, to prevent accidental displacement of the clothes lines.

In order to reinforce and strengthen the post 6 the latter is provided with lateral braces or stay rods 28 one end of each of which is fastened to an anchor 29 while the opposite ends of the rods are twisted to form loops which engage notches or recesses cut in the edges of the post at the top thereof, as shown.

In operating the device the clothes lines are lowered to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 by rotating the operating handle in the direction of the arrow and in which position the carpets, clothes or other articles may be conveniently attached thereto. The handle is then rotated in the opposite direction which winds up the slack on the reel 19 thereby stretching the clothes lines and rendering the latter taut.

Attention is called to the fact that by having the clothes lines formed with the terminal loops, said lines may be quickly attached to or detached from the reel by re-

leasing the hook 18' while by having one end of each line anchored in the ground it forms a brace for the adjacent post or standard and serves to relieve the post from excessive strains incident to stretching the clothes lines. If desired, however, the clothes lines may be attached directly to the winding reel with their opposite ends secured to the adjacent posts or standards instead of being anchored to the ground.

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

1. The combination with a plurality of spaced standards arranged in substantially tri-angular form two of which constitute line anchoring standards and the third a reel supporting standard, of a winding drum mounted for rotation on the reel standard and provided with an operating handle, clothes lines secured to the anchoring standards and having their free ends extended through the reel standard and provided with terminal loops, and a flexible medium secured to the winding reel and provided with a hook for detachable engagement with the terminal loops of both lines.

2. The combination with a plurality of spaced standards arranged in substantially tri-angular form, two of which constitute line anchoring standards, and the third a reel supporting standard, said reel standard being provided with guide rollers and having a seating recess formed therein, of a winding reel mounted for rotation in said recess, clothes lines each having one end there-

of secured to the adjacent anchoring standard and its opposite end extended over the adjacent roller and provided with a terminal loop, and a flexible medium carried by the reel and provided with a terminal hook for detachable engagement with the loops of both lines, the space between the line anchoring standards being unobstructed.

3. The combination with a plurality of spaced standards arranged in tri-angular form, one of said standards being formed with a seating recess and provided with angularly disposed guide rollers, there being an inclined groove formed in one side of said standard and communicating with the seating recess, a winding reel mounted for rotation in said recess and provided with a ratchet wheel, clothes lines each having one end thereof secured to the adjacent standard and its opposite end extended over the adjacent roller and twisted to form a terminal loop, a wire cable secured to the winding reel and having its free end bent to form a hook for detachable engagement with the terminal loops of both lines, and a pawl pivotally mounted in the inclined groove and adapted to engage the ratchet wheel.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own, we have hereto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

DANIEL LEWIS LASH.

CHARLES PONDEXTER MOCK.

Witnesses:

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