

Jan. 27, 1953

G. R. POWELL
LINE-ATTACHING DEVICE

Filed Nov. 2, 1949

2,626,438

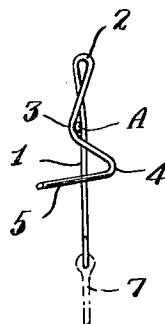
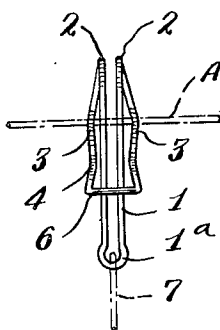
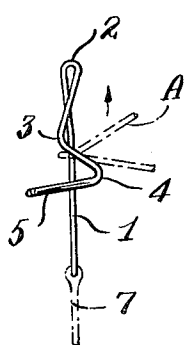
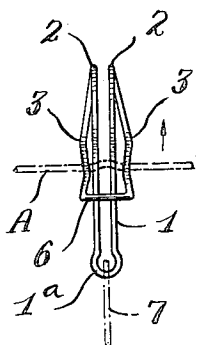
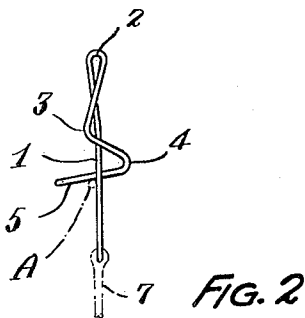
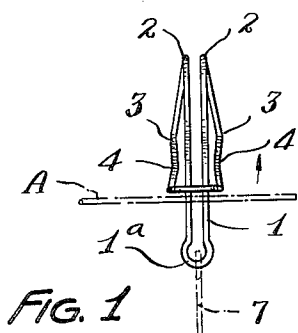


FIG. 3

FIG. 4

FIG. 5

FIG. 6

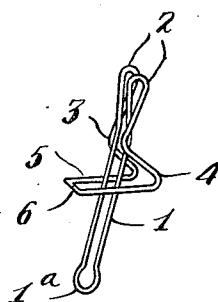
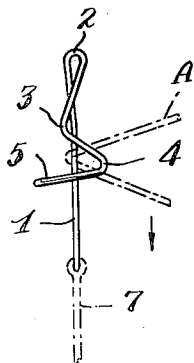
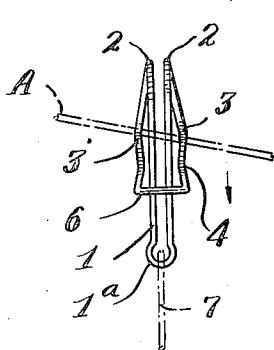


FIG. 7

FIG. 8

FIG. 9

INVENTOR.
GEORGE R. POWELL
BY
Millburn Millburn
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,626,438

LINE-ATTACHING DEVICE

George Ruffus Powell, Beaumont, Tex., assignor
of one-half to J. L. C. McFaddin, Beaumont,
Tex.

Application November 2, 1949, Serial No. 125,137

1 Claim. (Cl. 24—131)

1

This invention relates to an improved form of device for attaching one line to another.

Although my present device is capable of other uses, it is particularly well adapted for attaching a drop-line to a main support line or trot-line in the art of fishing.

The object of my present invention is to devise such an attaching means that is comparatively simple in structure and can be attached and detached in a simple, efficient and dependable manner and by the use of only one hand.

Other objects will appear from the following description and claim when considered together with the accompanying drawing.

Fig. 1 is an elevation of my present device, illustrating the initial position of the same with respect to the main supporting line when about to apply the same thereto;

Fig. 2 is another elevation of the same, taken at ninety (90) degrees to Fig. 1;

Figs. 3 and 4 are views corresponding to Figs. 1 and 2, respectively, and illustrate the manner of applying the device to the main supporting line;

Figs. 5 and 6 are views corresponding to Figs. 1 and 2, respectively, and illustrate the device in fully applied position upon the main supporting line;

Figs. 7 and 8 are views corresponding to Figs. 3 and 4, respectively, and illustrate the reverse order of procedure in removing the device from the main supporting line; and

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of my present device.

It is to be understood that the present form of disclosure is merely for the purpose of illustration and that there might be various modifications thereof without departing from the spirit of my invention as herein set forth and claimed.

My present device is in the form of a one-piece comparatively stiff wire-like body which comprises the straight parallel portions 1 with the intermediate loop connection 1a at their lower ends, as viewed in the present drawing, and having their upper ends bent downwardly and outwardly in S-like portions upon opposite sides thereof. That is to say, the upper ends of the straight portions 1 are bent upon themselves at the points 2 so as to extend angularly past the same and in a manner diverging from each other, thence angularly back to the first side of the straight portions 1 so as to provide the loops 3, and finally back past the plane of the straight portions 1 at a downwardly inclined

2

angle thereto, as at 5, so as to provide the loops 4 and to provide a gate for the entrance of the transverse line A into clamping engagement between the loop portions 3 and the straight portions 1 and its exit therefrom. The portions 5 are suitably connected at their ends so as to maintain uniform distance between the same; for instance, these ends may be welded together, thereby closing the unitary wire-like body and giving it a continuous form.

The connections of the S-like portions with the upper ends of the straight parallel portions 1 may be of a resilient nature at the points 2 so as to permit the device to accommodate larger lines A without binding or kinking.

The main transverse line A may have its ends suitably anchored so as to permit the same to extend across the desired expanse of water; and there may be attached thereto as many of the present devices as desired according to the number of suspended or drop lines to be placed. The conventional form of attachment for the drop line may be connected to the lower end 1a if so desired, as illustrated at 7.

The S-like portions, beginning at the points 2, diverge gradually more and more from the parallel portions 1 to the points of the loops 3 and thence the S-like portions are spaced from the parallel portions 1 at approximately a uniform distance upon the two sides thereof. The spacing between the lower parts of the S-like portions and the parallel portions 1 will permit insertion of the transverse line upwardly within the double S-like portions and about the parallel portions 1; and, by applying the line to the left side of the parallel portions, as viewed in Fig. 4 of the present drawing, for instance, it may be moved upwardly into firm gripping or pinching engagement between the parallel portions 1 and the loop portions 3, as seen in Fig. 6.

In actual practice, this device will be applied downwardly with respect to the trot-line, the lower transverse portions 6 engaging upon the trot-line at the left of the parallel portions, as viewed in the present drawing, and the trot-line will be looped around the sides of the parallel portions 1, that is towards the right as viewed in the drawing, until there will be effected pinching engagement of the trot-line between the loop portions 3 and the left sides of the parallel portions 1, as indicated in Fig. 6 of the present drawing. Whereas, up to this point in the process of attaching this device to the trot-line, that portion of the trot-line immediately adjacent this device has been slackened about the parallel

3

portions 1, the trot-line will be permitted to assume straight, taut condition again, as indicated in Fig. 5, as soon as it has been clamped in the manner just described. Such clamping engagement will be secure because of the pinching of the trot-line between the loop portions 3 and the straight portions 1, such action being of a double character and hence most dependable in its holding action. In fact, the greater the force with which this device is pulled downwardly or in a side-wise direction upon the trot-line, the more securely will the trot-line be squeezed between the loop portions 3 and the parallel portions 1, as each S-like or loop portion has converging relation with respect to its parallel portion 1, as indicated in Figs. 1, 3, 5 and 7 of the present drawing. Thus, the greater the downward or side-wise pull upon the drop-line, the stronger the connection to the trot-line becomes; and this will be true whether the trot-line be wet or dry. Also, with my present device, there will not occur any sliding or cutting of the support line A.

Or, this device may be applied to the support line A by means of only one hand. In this case, the device will be held by the user at the point 1a so that it will extend in a horizontal manner across and on top of the line A, with one loop 4 down and the other loop 4 up, and with the S-loop entirely upon the far side of the support line A. Then the device is so manipulated by the one hand as to pass the line A through the gate of the lower loop 4; following which, the device is rotated with portion 6 describing an arc downwardly so as to place the other loop 4 down and so that a simple pull at the point 1a will force the line A through the other loop 4 of the gate and thus complete the engagement. Upon release of the device, it will assume normal upright position upon the line A, as indicated in Fig. 6.

In order to remove this device from the trot-line there will be followed the reverse procedure from that above described, as illustrated in Figs. 7 and 8 of the drawing. My present device permits a drop-line to be attached to or detached from a trot-line easily and quickly; and the connection afforded thereby is most dependable.

Other practical advantages will readily suggest themselves to those who are familiar with the art to which the present invention relates.

4

What I claim is:

A line-attaching device comprising a unitary endless form of wire-like body having two substantially straight stiff parallel portions connected at their one ends so as to provide means for connecting a line thereto and continuing at their other ends in duplicate portions looped outwardly and integrally back upon themselves and thence in duplicate angular portions extending resiliently therefrom slightly across the plane of said straight portions in laterally diverging spaced relation thereto, thence bent back angularly and continuing to a substantial extent across the plane of and in spaced relation to said straight portions and thence bent back and extending transversely across the plane of said straight portions at a point substantially removed from said one ends of said straight portions and being connected together at their ends, with the two aforesaid bent-back parts thereof upon opposite sides and outside of said straight portions, so as to provide a substantially S-shape across the plane of said straight portions, the first-named of said bent-back parts being adapted to receive another line transversely thereof and to serve as a resilient clamping means with said straight portions for holding such other transverse line, and the other of said bent-back parts being of sufficient extent and rigidity to maintain said transversely extending portions in position across the plane of said straight portions at all times during normal operation of the same and being adapted to serve as a gate for entrance of the transverse line into and its exit from such clamping engagement.

GEORGE RUFFUS POWELL.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
304,188	Eastman	Aug. 26, 1884
457,461	Francis	Aug. 11, 1891
581,848	Castle	May 4, 1897
985,288	Schade	Feb. 28, 1911
1,065,047	Hofstad	June 17, 1913
1,066,949	Richards	July 8, 1913
1,322,655	Townley	Nov. 25, 1919
2,564,260	Houser	Aug. 14, 1951