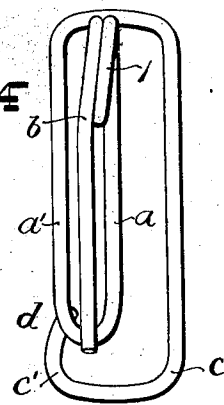
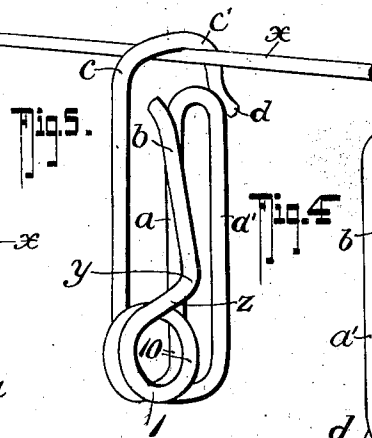
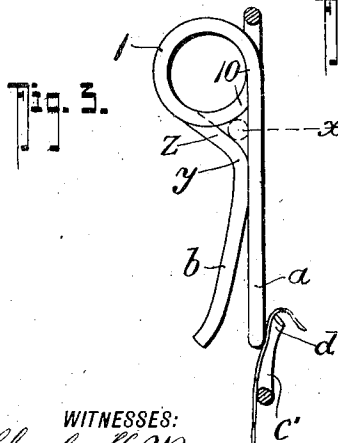
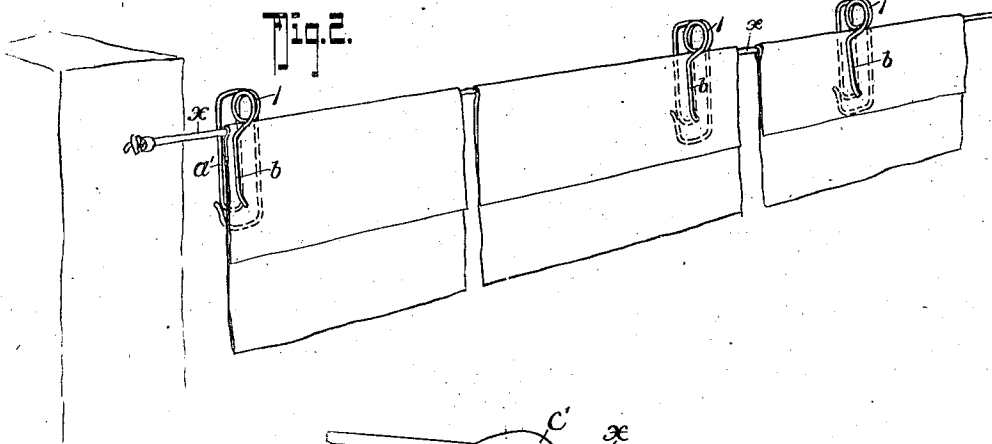
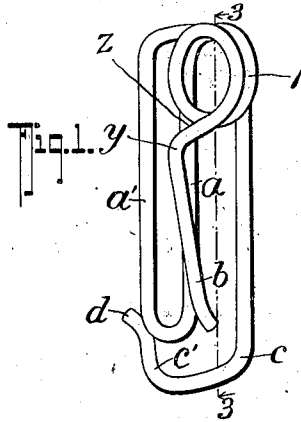


J. ERWIN.
CLOTHES PIN.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 30, 1910.

987,288.

Patented Mar. 21, 1911.



WITNESSES:

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JEWEL ERWIN, OF COALINGA, CALIFORNIA.

CLOTHES-PIN.

987,288.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 21, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEWEL ERWIN, residing at Coalinga, in the county of Fresno and State of California, have invented a new and Improved Clothes-Pin, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in that type of clothes pins formed of a single piece of spring wire, and it has for its object to provide a pin of the character stated, simple and inexpensive, and which is especially designed for being conveniently applied to the clothes line and in such manner that it will not be readily detached from the line by the pull strain of the clothes when fluttered by the wind or by handling.

My invention also has for its object to provide a bent wire pin in which special provision is made for clamping the clothes on the line, and for holding pieces of apparel independent of direct engagement with the line.

With the above and other objects in view, my invention consists of a single piece spring wire clothes pin that embodies the peculiar shape and arrangement of parts hereinafter described in detail, specifically pointed out in the claims and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1, is a perspective view of the pin. Fig. 2, is a similar view showing several of the pins applied for use. Fig. 3, is a cross section of the same on the line 3—3 on Fig. 1 and shows how it is used for supporting an article not engaging the line. Fig. 4, is a face view of the pin. Fig. 5, is a view that shows my improved pin as hung on the line when not supporting clothes.

My improved pin is formed of a single piece of spring wire, and near one end it is turned to form a spring loop or eye *l* which forms a handle for forcing the pin down over the line *x*, and also as a finger piece for pulling the pin off the line as desired. That end of the wire next the loop or eye *l* is curved slightly outward and it forms one part *b* of a clamp, the other or main part *a* of which is provided by extending the wire from the eye or loop *l* down parallel with the member *b*, then back and parallel with itself, such a bending forming a flat main clamping member, presently again referred to.

The strand portion *a'* of member *a* extends up to a point preferably in line with

the upper end of the loop *l* at which point it is bent laterally but in the plane of part *a* to a point beyond the clamping member *a* and thence down parallel with such member *a* to a point below it, at which end it is bent laterally as at *c*, and inwardly at right angles to, but in the plane of the member *a* to form a supplemental clamping finger *c'*, which projects over and beyond the clamp *a*, its free end being bent upwardly and backwardly to form a clamping tongue *d* that extends back of the clamp *a*, it, with the member *a* forming a clamping means.

Since the wire of which my pin is bent up, in practice, is spring wire, it follows that at every bend the tension of the several members is strengthened and hence a firm gripping action is acquired when the opposing clamping portions are slightly spread apart.

From the foregoing, taken in connection with the drawings, the ease of application and advantages of my special form of pin will be readily apparent.

Attention is directed to the showing of the spring loop and the clamp member *b* which has its angle *y* or the point where it merges with the spring loop forward of the loop so that a seat *z* is formed between the part *y*, the loop *l* and the member *a*, in which the line *x* slips and is held when the pin is shoved down onto the line as best shown in Fig. 3, by reference to which it will also be noticed the spring coil has its inner edge in the plane of the side members of the flat or back strands and hence it forms a stop to limit the downward movement of the pin onto the line, and as the line passage to the seat *c* is restricted normally less than the diameter of the line *x*, it follows that the pin once on the line, it is always held thereon until forcibly removed.

Another but important advantage found in my construction of pin when hung on the line is, it need not be removed to apply it for clamping the clothes, since all that is necessary is to steady the pin on the line by grasping the loop portion, see Fig 3, to facilitate slipping the garment up through the lower end between the main clamp *a* and the back clamping portion, as shown in the said Fig. 3.

My improved pin may be made in different sizes and the shape modified to suit and may be galvanized, nickered or otherwise coated to stand the weather.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

As a new article, a clothes pin formed of a single piece of spring wire, one end of which is bent to form a clamping member, comprising a transverse portion and an upwardly, inwardly and rearwardly projected finger, the strand from the clamping member being bent at right angles back and forth to form a clamping body that coöperates with the clamping finger back of it, the free

end of the clamping body being bent into a spring loop disposed in a plane at right angles to the clamping body, the free end of the loop terminating in a combined guide and a clamping member that coöperates with the aforesaid clamping body. 15.

JEWEL ERWIN.

Witnesses:

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