

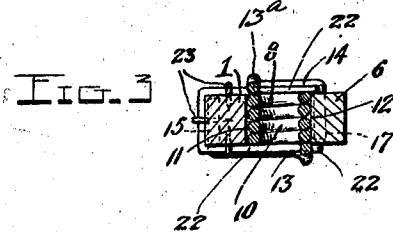
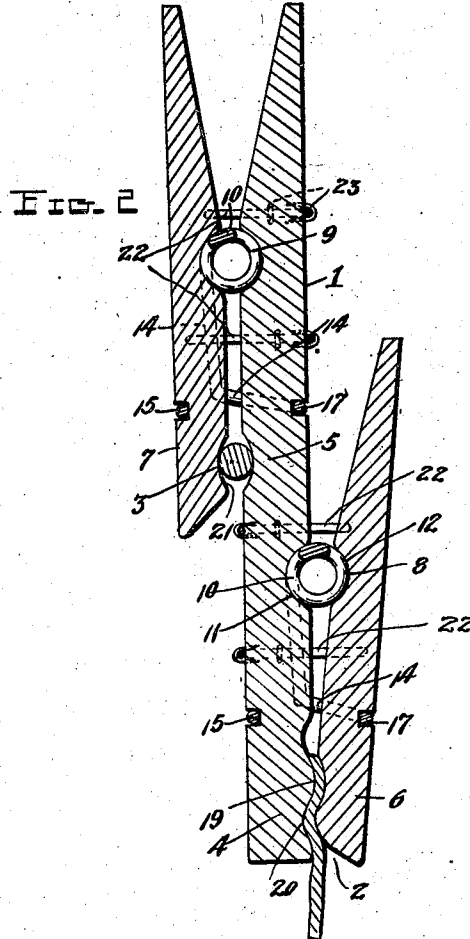
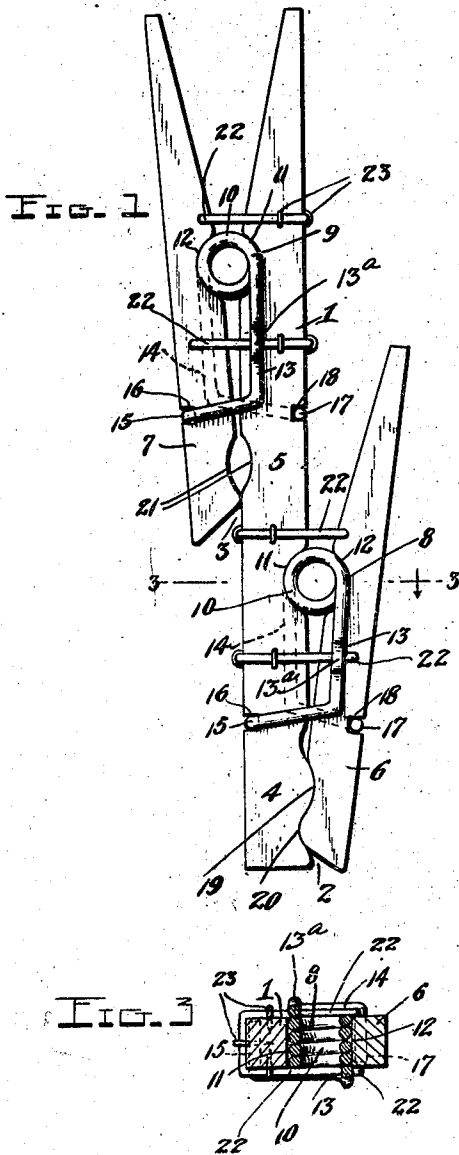
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CLOTHES PIN.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. FAULKINGHAM, OF JONESPORT, MAINE.

CLOTHES-PIN.

No. 867,489.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 1, 1907.

Application filed February 18, 1907. Serial No. 358,060.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. FAULKINGHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jonesport, in the county of Washington and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Pins, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to improvements in clothes-pins and consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

One object of the invention is to provide a simple and practical clothes-pin which will support the clothes upon the line without the necessity of engaging them with the line and which will hence prevent them from freezing upon the line.

Another object of the invention is to provide a clothes-pin which may be applied to the clothes before taking them out of the house and then quickly and easily engaged with the clothes-line.

The above and other objects are accomplished by the improved construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved clothes-pin; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section through the same; and Fig. 3 is a detail transverse section taken on the plane indicated by the line 3—3 in Fig. 1.

My improved clothes-pin comprises a single body 1 carrying two similar clasps 2, 3 the former of which is adapted to receive the clothes and the latter the clothes-line, as will be readily seen upon reference to Fig. 2. The body 1 forms one member 4 of the clasp 2 and also one member 5 of the clasp 3, the other members 6, 7 of said clasps comprising levers which are arranged upon the opposite edges of the body 1 and are pivotally connected thereto by springs 8, 9 which also actuate them. Each of said springs is formed from a single piece of resilient wire which has its central portion formed into a cylindrical coil 10 which serves as a pivot or fulcrum for one of said levers, said coil 10 being engaged with opposing semi-circular seats 11, 12 formed respectively in the opposite edges of the body 1 and in the opposing edges of said levers. The ends of each of said springs are bent to provide the substantially right angular shaped arms 13, 14 which project from the opposite ends of the coil 10 and are arranged upon and engaged with the side faces of the levers and the intermediate body. The arm 13 of each spring has its end 15 bent at right angles and seated in a transverse notch or seat 16 formed in the body 1, and the arm 14 has its end 17 bent at right angles and seated in a transverse seat 18 in one of the levers. Each of the arms 13 is formed with a curved offset portion or hump 13^a

to receive and extend over one of the guide pins 22. These offset portions allow the arms 13 to lie flat against the opposite sides of the levers. It will be noted that the ends 15, 17 of the two arms of each spring project in opposite directions and owing to their engagement with the seats 16, 18 and to the shape of said arms 13, 14, the levers will be effectively retained upon the body 1 but at the same time will be permitted to swing upon the journals formed upon the coils 10 and will be actuated by the springs to their closed position shown in Fig. 1. The member 4 of the clasp 2 has its jaw formed with a curved projection 19 and a curved seat 20 and the opposing edge or jaw of the member or lever 6 is similarly shaped so that there will be little or no danger of tearing or injuring the clothes when they are engaged with or disengaged from said clasps. The members 5, 7 of the clasp 3 having their opposing edges or jaws formed with concaves 21 adapted to receive the clothes-line between them, as shown in Fig. 2. The upper or handle ends of the two levers or members 6, 7 and the upper end of the body 1 are beveled, as shown, so that said levers may be swung inwardly to a considerable extent.

In order to more effectively prevent the levers or members 6, 7 from shifting laterally, I provide upon the opposite sides of the body transversely projecting guide pins 22. The latter are arranged upon the opposite sides of the pivots or journals formed by the coils 10 and project beyond the edges of the body 1 a distance sufficient to engage the opposite sides of said levers or members and to hold them in proper alignment with the body. These guide pins may be constructed and secured to the body in any suitable manner but as shown they are formed by the ends of substantially U-shaped pieces of wire which are secured to the body by staples 23.

By providing the two levers 6, 7 upon the opposite sides of the body 1 and adjacent to the opposite ends of said body so that the handle ends of said levers project in the same direction and are comparatively close together, it will be seen that when the device is grasped in the hand, the handle ends of said levers may be simultaneously actuated to open both of the clasps so that the upper one may be engaged with the clothes line while the clothes or garments to be dried may be slipped into the lower one. Upon reference to Fig. 1 it will be seen that when the upper end of the device is grasped in one hand, the thumb may be engaged with the upper or handle end of the lever 7 while the second, third and fourth fingers may be engaged with the upper or handle end of the lever 6, the arrangement of said levers being such as to readily permit of this and when so grasped, both levers may be simultaneously opened by tightening the grasp, as will be readily un-

derstood. This construction therefore permits both clasps to be operated by the one hand while the other is free for other purposes.

Having thus described my invention what I claim
5 and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A clothes-pin comprising a body and a pair of levers arranged upon opposite sides of the same and pivoted intermediate their ends, each of said levers having a jaw at one end and a handle at its other end, the jaws of said
10 levers projecting toward the same end of the body and the handles of said levers projecting in the opposite direction and being arranged in diverging relation whereby both may be grasped in one hand and simultaneously pressed toward the same end of the body to simultaneously open
15 said jaws, substantially as set forth.

2. A clothes-pin comprising two co-acting members formed with opposing seats, a spring having a centrally arranged cylindrical coil to engage said seats and form a journal or pivot and arms on the ends of said coil en-
20 gaged with the opposite faces of said members, said arms being formed with laterally projecting offset portions and

transverse guide pins carried by one of said members and adapted to engage the opposite faces of the other member and to project beneath the offset portions of said arms, substantially as set forth.

3. A clothespin comprising two co-acting members formed with opposing seats, a spring having a centrally arranged cylindrical coil to engage said seats and form a pivot or journal and arms on the ends of said coil to engage said members and hold them together, and U-shape guides arranged upon one of said members, one guide being upon each side of the pivot coil of the spring, and each of said guides having its closed end surrounding the member to which it is attached and also having its rigid parallel arms engaged with the opposite sides of the other member to prevent lateral movement of one member with respect to the other, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM E. FAULKINGHAM.

Witnesses:

D. D. KELLEY,
E. B. SAWYER.