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PATENTED NOV. 5, 1907.

E. J. CONRAD.  
CLOTHES PIN.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 1, 1906.

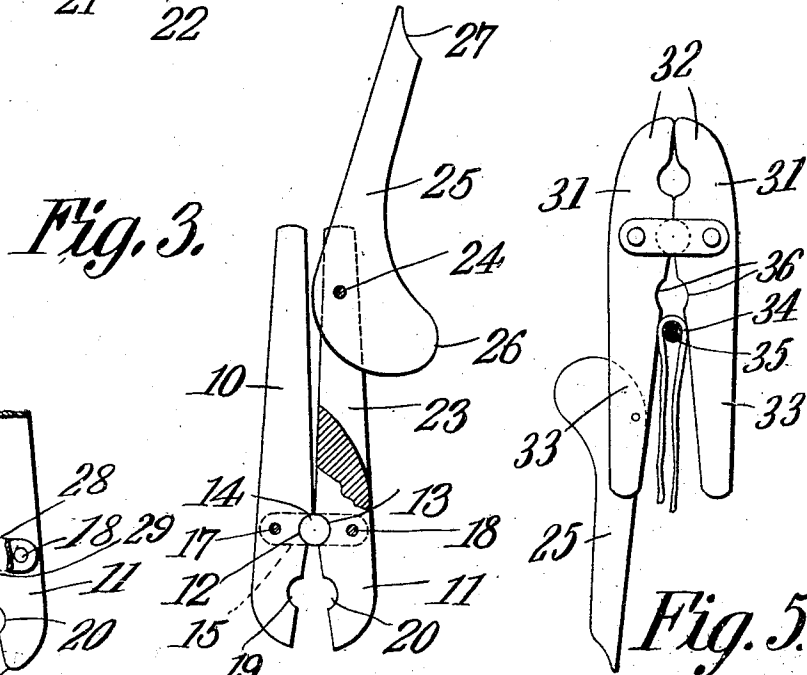
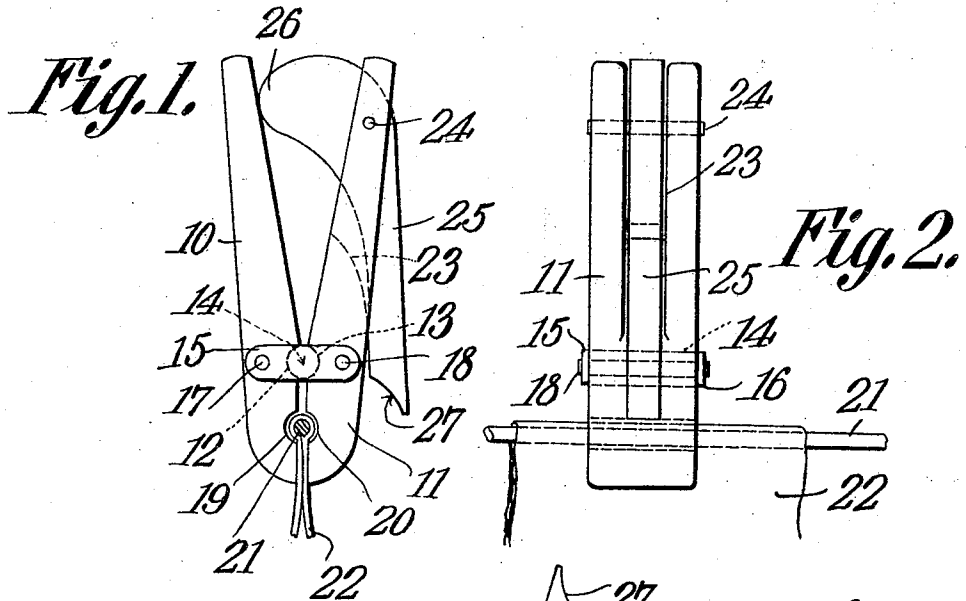
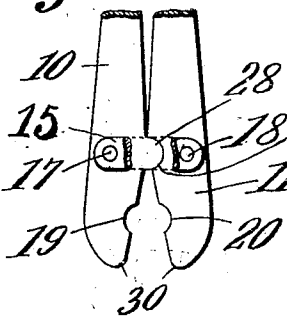


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIJAH JOSEPH CONRAD, OF COALPORT, PENNSYLVANIA.

## CLOTHES-PIN.

No. 869,880.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 5, 1907.

Application filed August 1, 1906. Serial No. 328,821.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIJAH JOSEPH CONRAD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coalport, in the county of Clearfield and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Pin, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in clothespins, and has for its object to produce a simply constructed device of this class of increased efficiency and utility.

With these and other objects in view, which will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which corresponding parts are designated by like characters of reference, is illustrated a preferred form of embodiment of the invention capable of carrying the same into practical operation.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side view, and Fig. 2 is a front view, of the improved device applied, or in closed position. Fig. 3 is a side view, partly in section, of the improved device in open position. Fig. 4 is a partial side elevation of a modified form of the device. Fig. 5 is a side elevation of a modified form of clothes pin adapted more particularly for hanging up carpets and similar heavy articles.

The improved device comprises two jaw members 10—11 having sockets 12—13 near one end to receive a roller 14 and bearing upon opposite sides of the same. The jaw members are coupled by links 15—16 at opposite sides, the links being pivoted at 17—18 to the jaws and bearing over the ends of the roller and preventing displacement of the same. The roller and the pivoted links thus coact to produce an efficient and freely moving hinge or joint between the jaws. Formed in the adjacent faces of the shorter ends of the jaws are recesses 19—20 for bearing over the opposite sides of the clothes line, indicated at 21, and the garment suspended therefrom, a portion of the latter being indicated at 22. A longitudinal slot 23 is formed in the longer portion of the member 11, and pivoted at 24 within this slot is a cam lever 25, the bearing face 26 of the lever being adapted to engage the inner face of the longer portion of the member 10 and distend the longer portions and compress the shorter portions firmly upon the line 21 and the garments 22 thereon when the cam lever is disposed in one position, as in Fig. 1, in which adjustment of the lever it is locked against move-

ment, and release the jaws when disposed in another position, as shown in Fig. 3. The free end of the lever 25 is formed with a cavity 27 to provide a finger grip to assist in releasing the lever.

In the modified form of the device shown in Fig. 4, the fulcrum on which the jaw members 10 and 11 move is composed of an approximately semi-cylindrical knuckle 28 integral on the member 10, and a correspondingly shaped socket 29 on the member 11 in which the knuckle 28 engages. This construction has the advantage of being simpler and cheaper to manufacture than the first form. In some instances it may be advantageous to round the tips of the jaws, as indicated at 30.

Fig. 5 shows a double jaw clothespin which embodies the principles of the previously described constructions and of the ordinary clothespin in common use. The members 31 are hinged together at points intermediate of their ends and the upper portions 32 of the members form jaws that are set and held closed by the lever 25. The handle ends 33 of the members 31 form jaws that are adapted to grip the articles 34 on the line 35 by pinching over the same in the same manner as an ordinary clothespin. The jaws 33 are prevented from opening to too great an extent by reason of the jaws 32 being in contact, as shown, said latter jaws forming stops when the jaws 33 are distended. The inner or opposed surfaces of the jaws 33 are provided with recesses 36 into which the line and object hung thereon can be pressed. This modified form is intended for use more particularly for hanging out carpets, blankets, or other articles of unusually great thickness.

All the parts, except the pins 17—18 and 24 and links 15—16, are preferably of wood, but all the parts may be of metal, if required.

It will thus be obvious that a very strong and durable device is produced, which may be inexpensively manufactured, and which operates effectually for the purposes described.

What is claimed is:—

1. A clothes pin comprising a pair of jaw members having a rounded fulcrum connection, both of said members being provided with approximately semi-circular recesses for engagement with a clothes line or similar support, a pair of links extending across the plane of the fulcrum, pins extending through the links and the jaw members, said links serving to prevent independent lateral play or movement of the members, a lever pivotally connected to one of said members and having at one end a cam head to

engage the opposing face of the other member, substantially as specified.

2. A clothes pin comprising opposing jaw members having approximately semi-circular recesses for the reception  
5 of a clothes line or other support, the inner edges of said members being further provided with semi-circular grooves at a point beyond the clothes line receiving recesses, a roller fitting within said grooves and forming the fulcrum point of both jaw members, a pair of links extending  
10 across the axis of the roller and serving to prevent lateral

displacement thereof, pivot pins connecting the links to the jaw members, and a cam lever carried by one of said jaw members.

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

ELIJAH JOSEPH CONRAD.

Witnesses:

B. F. HILL,  
JOSEPH W. GILL.