No. 887,134. PATENTED MAY 12, 1908.

S. S. SMITH.

CLOTHES HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 24, 1907.

Fig. 1.

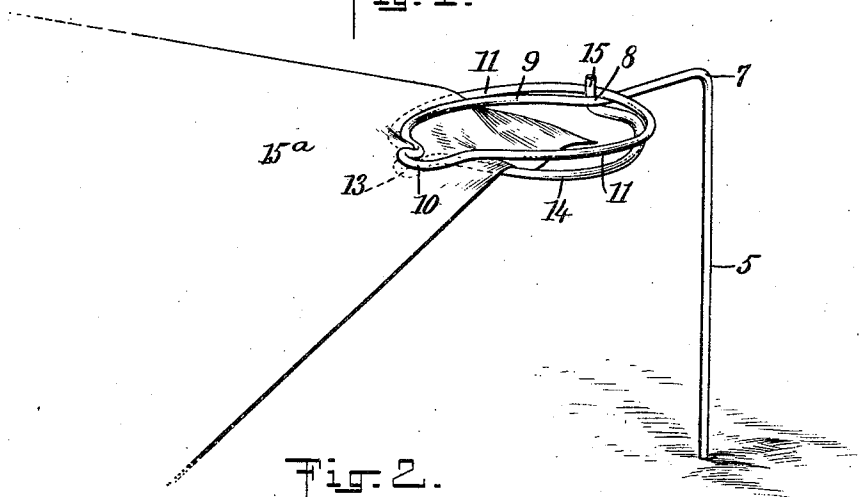


Fig. 2.

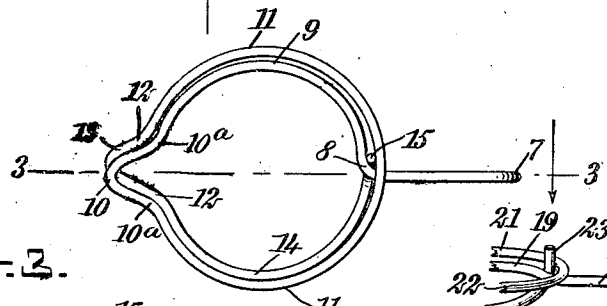


Fig. 3.

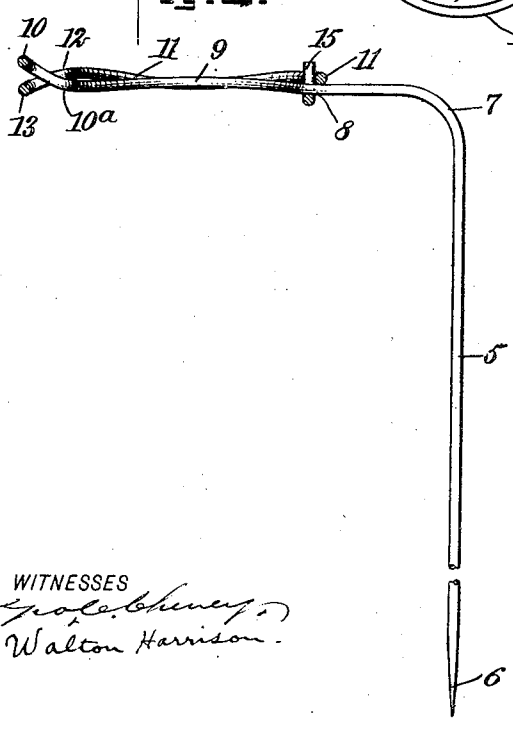
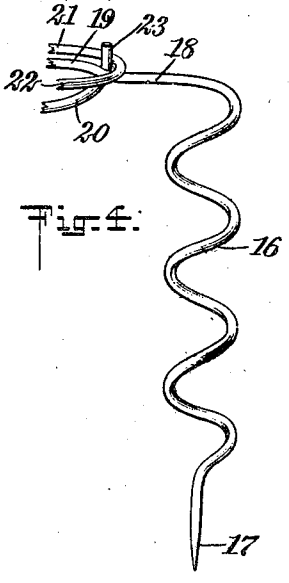


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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CLOTHES-HOLDER.

No. 887,134. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 12, 1908.

Application filed June 24, 1907. Serial No. 380,504.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SHEPHERD STEVENS SMITH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Clothes-Holder, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to clothes holders, my more particular object being to produce a device suitable for supporting garments, bed clothes, and other articles made of cloth, so as to facilitate the bleaching of such articles by aid of the dew and grass, yet without allowing the articles in question to rest directly upon the ground.

Briefly considered my invention consists of a device provided with a clip for gripping the edge of the article to be treated, and further provided with a portion to be thrust into the soil so as to support the article at a slight distance above the ground, the latter being preferably covered with grass.

My invention further consists in forming the device in question from a single piece of wire, so bent upon itself as to form the clip and supporting shank.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective of my invention as used for the purpose of supporting a sheet a few inches above the ground; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the clothes holder, the sheet being removed; Fig. 3 is a vertical cross section through the clothes holder upon the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrow and showing also the pointed end of the vertical shank; and Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective of another form of the device, which in this instance is provided with a spiral shank.

A wire is fashioned to form a shank 5, and sharpened at its lower end so as to form a point 6, and is bent at 7 so as to become horizontal, and also bent at 8 and formed into a substantially semicircular portion 9. It is also bent so as to form a lip 10, and for this purpose the wire is bent slightly inward at the points 10^a. At 11 the wire is further bent substantially into the form of a circle, and at 12 is bent slightly inward and then slightly outward, so as to form at 13 another lip analogous to the lip 10 and quite close to the same. The wire is also curved at 14 substantially into the form of a semicircle an terminates in a tip 15 bent abruptly upward and engaging the bend 8 as indicated in Fig. 2. The lip 10 is given a slight inclination upward and the lip 13 a slight inclination downward, so that the parts occupy substantially the relative positions indicated in Fig. 3.

The point 6 is driven into the ground by hand. The operator merely grasps the shank 5, places the point 6 against the ground and presses downwardly. If, however, the ground is hard a slight blow can be administered at a point immediately adjacent to the bend 7, so as to force the point 6 into the ground with comparative ease.

A sufficient number of the clothes holders being placed in position, the operator takes a sheet 15^a, or other cloth member, and forces its edges or corners intermediate the lips 10, 13. This pries these parts asunder and more of the garment is forced between the rings formed by the curved portions 9, 11.

Referring to Fig. 1, it will be seen that the device comprises practically an upper ring and a lower ring, connected together at one point of their respective surfaces and adapted to be sprung apart so as to admit the edge of the cloth member to be supported.

To remove the garments, all that is necessary is to pull them horizontally until they are extracted, the device then assuming the normal position indicated in Fig. 3. The slight inclination given to the two lips 10, 13 serves to facilitate the entrance of the edges or corners of the clothes to be supported.

In the form shown in Fig. 4, the construction is the same as that indicated in the other figures, with the exception that the shank 16 is given a spiral or core screw form to enable it to be readily driven into the earth. The lower end of the shank is shown at 17, the horizontal portion at 18 and the various curved portions at 19, 20, 21, 22, the end of the wire being bent abruptly upward so as to form a tip 23.

I do not limit myself to any particular material out of which the clothes holder may be made, but prefer to use galvanized iron or other metal not easily corroded.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

A clothes holder, comprising a single inte-

gral piece of wire provided with a sharpened end for entering the soil, and further provided with portions bent circularly around so as to form two rings parallel with each other, each ring having a lip slightly inclined, said rings being held together at one point in their circumference and adapted to be sprung apart in order to facilitate the insertion therebetween of a cloth member, the general direction of said sharpened end extending substantially at a right angle from the planes occupied by said rings.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SHEPHERD STEVENS SMITH.

Witnesses:
WALTON HARRISON,
JOHN P. DAVIS.