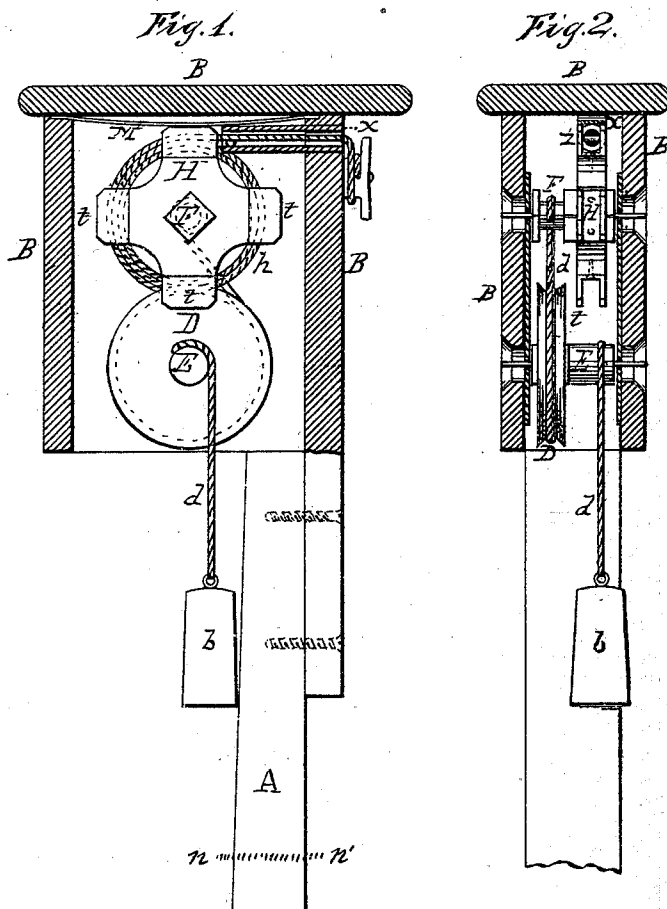


**G. F. CORLISS.**  
**Clothes-Line Reels.**

No. 144,387.

Patented Nov. 11, 1873.



*Attest,*  
*J. H. Howard*  
*John H. Hitz*

*Inventor,*  
*George F. Corliss*  
*by his atty.*  
*Cox and Cox*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. CORLISS, OF MANSFIELD, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-LINE REELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 144,387, dated November 11, 1873; application filed September 24, 1873.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. CORLISS, of Mansfield, county of Richland and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Reels for Clothes-Lines, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The invention relates to a reel for winding and unwinding a clothes-line; and consists in a casing, in which is journaled a wheel and rack, the former being provided with a cord and weight or spring, which is wound up as the cord attached to the wheel is reeled on its shaft in unreeling the clothes-line. The weight or spring being permitted to operate, the reel is rotated in a contrary direction, thus taking up the line. The wheel and rack are connected by a cord, and provided with shafts suitable to perform the above operations. The object of the invention is to provide a convenient means of reeling or unreeling a clothes-line.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a device embodying the elements of the invention, the case B being shown in section. Fig. 2 is an end sectional view of same.

A in the accompanying drawings is a standard or pole, to the upper end of which is secured the case B, in the lower central portions of which is placed the grooved pulley-wheel D, revolving on bearings in the sides of the case, and mounted upon the shaft E, to which is attached one end of the cord *d*, the other end being secured to the weight *b*; or the shaft may be operated by a coil-spring. The cord *d* is attached at one end to the wheel D, so that as it is rotated the cord is wound upon the surface of the wheel. The other end of the cord *d* is secured to the shaft F of the rack H, which is formed in any suitable manner to

allow a circulation of air about the line when wound thereon, and provided with the ears *t* to prevent the line slipping off. The shaft F rotates on bearings in the case B. The clothes-line *h* is secured upon the periphery of the rack, and extends out through the case B, passing over the pulley-wheel *z*, and through the pipe *x*, the purpose of the two last devices being to co-operate with the ears *t* and strip M in keeping the line upon the rack H.

When it is desired to unreel the line, it is only necessary to draw it from the case B, whereby, the rack H being rotated, the cord *d* is wound upon the shaft F, being unwound from the wheel D, and the lower part of the cord *d* is wound upon the shaft E, elevating the weight *b*, or contracting the spring, if one be used. The loose end of the line may then be attached to any proper support.

To reel up the line, it is only requisite to free the end thereof, when, the weight *b* or spring acting on the shaft E and intermediate mechanism, the rack H is rotated, taking up the line, which passes certainly thereon over the pulley-wheel *z*, and through the pipe *x*.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the wheel D, shafts E and F, cord *d*, rack H, pipe *x*, and strip M, when arranged and operated substantially in the manner and for the uses and purposes shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing improvement in reels for clothes-lines, as above described, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 13th day of August, 1873.

GEORGE F. CORLISS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

JAMES S. CRALL,

JOHN B. NETSCHER.