

June 1, 1926.

L. R. TOMPKINS

1,587,202

ROPE CLAMP

Filed May 20, 1925

Fig. 1.

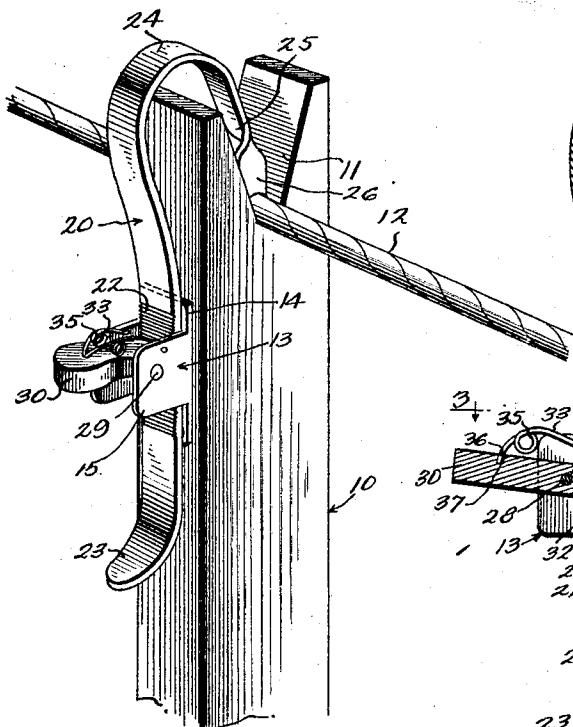


Fig. 2.

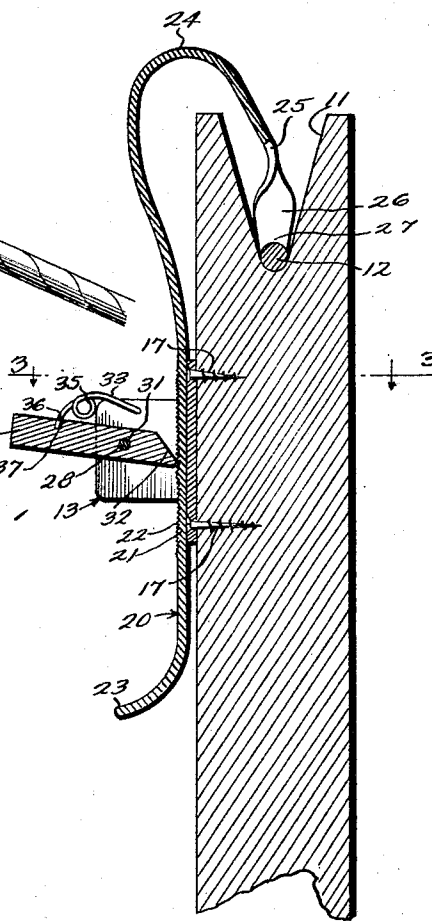


Fig. 3.

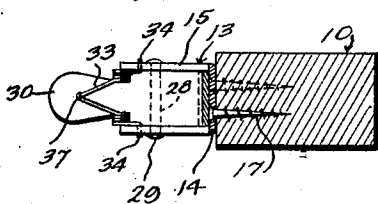
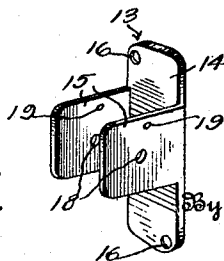


Fig. 4.



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ROPE CLAMP.

Application filed May 20, 1925. Serial No. 31,640.

This invention relates to clamps adapted to be connected adjacent the upper end of a clothes line prop to engage the clothes line to maintain it in proper position.

5 In a copending application Serial No. 7173 filed February 5th, 1925, I have shown and described a rope clamp embodying a clamping member, the body portion of which is arranged adjacent one side of a clothes line prop near the top thereof and has its upper end turned downwardly into the U-shaped groove in the upper end of the clothes line prop, to engage the line passing therethrough, a cam being connected to the prop and adapted to engage the clamp to maintain it in operative position. The present invention is an improvement on my copending application above identified.

10 An important object of the present invention is to provide a device of the above mentioned character having a clamping element adapted to engage the clothes line passing through the notch usually provided in the upper end of a clothes line prop, for maintaining the line in proper position.

15 A further object is to provide a novel form of clamp engaging member whereby the clamp is prevented from moving from operative position.

20 Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

25 In the drawings I have shown one embodiment of the invention. In this showing:

30 Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device in position on the upper end of a clothes line prop,

35 Figure 2 is a central vertical sectional view, parts being shown in elevation,

40 Figure 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Figure 2, and,

45 Figure 4 is a perspective view of the bracket.

50 Referring to the drawings, the numeral 10 designates an ordinary clothes line prop which is preferably rectangular in cross section and is provided in its upper end with the usual V-shaped notch 11 adapted to receive a clothes line 12 passing there-through as clearly shown in Figures 1 and 2.

55 A bracket 13 is arranged adjacent one edge of the prop near its upper end. The bracket 13 is substantially U-shaped as

shown in detail in Figure 4 and includes a base portion 14 and arms 15. The base 14 projects above and below the arms and is provided in its ends with openings 16 adapted to receive screws 17 by means of which the bracket may be secured to the prop as will be obvious. The arms 15 of the bracket are provided with aligned openings 18 substantially centrally thereof and are provided above the openings 18 with relatively small openings 19 for a purpose to be described.

Referring to Figures 1 and 2, the numeral 20 designates a clamping member preferably formed of flat metal and having a substantially straight central portion intermediate its ends as shown at 21. The portion 21 of the clamp is arranged against the base 14 of the bracket between the arms thereof and is provided on its outer face with transverse teeth 22. The lower end of the clamp is turned outwardly as at 23 to provide a finger piece or operating handle. The clamp is provided with a bent portion 24 adjacent its upper end and the extremity 25 of the clamp is twisted as at 26 whereby the lower extremity 26 of the upper end of the clamp will be arranged transversely of the notch 11. The end 26 may be provided with a cut-cut portion 27 adapted to fit snugly against the line 12.

Means are provided for securing the clamping member in operative position as shown in Figures 1 and 2. As shown, a transverse pin 28 is arranged between the arms 15 of the bracket and the ends of the pin project through the openings 18. The outer ends of the pin 28 may be riveted as at 29 to prevent displacement of the pin when the elements of the device are assembled. A latch 30 is arranged between the arms 15 of the bracket and is provided with a transverse opening 31 to receive the pin 28. The latch 30 slopes downwardly toward its inner end, as shown in Figure 2, and is beveled at its inner end as at 32 to provide a knife like edge adapted to engage the teeth 22 of the clamp. Resilient means are provided for maintaining the inner end of the latch in engagement with the teeth of the clamp. As shown, I provide a pair of springs 33 the inner ends 34 of which are adapted to be arranged in the openings 19 formed in the arms of the bracket. The springs 33 are equalled as at 35 and the outer ends 36 of

the springs are adapted to be arranged in an opening 37 formed in the upper face of the latch, as shown in Figure 2. The latch 30 projects a substantial distance beyond the ends of the arm 15 of the bracket so that it may be conveniently operated.

The operation of the device is as follows:

The outer end of the latch 30 is moved upwardly to release the inner end thereof from the teeth 22. The operator may then grasp the lower end 23 of the clamp to move the latter upwardly and disengage the upper end of the clamp from the notch 11. The prop then may be placed in position with the line arranged in the notch as shown in Figures 1 and 2. The latch 30 is then released and the spring 33 projects the outer end of the latch downwardly whereby the inner end thereof moves upwardly into engagement with the teeth 22. The operator may then move the clamp 20 downwardly until the upper end of the clamp firmly engages the line 12, as will be apparent. The engagement of the latch with the clamp prevents the latter from moving upwardly from operative position. Thus it will be apparent that the clothes line will be firmly engaged by the clamp to maintain it in proper position.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same and that various changes in the shape,

size, and arrangement of the parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claim.

I claim:

A device of the character described comprising a substantially U-shaped bracket arranged to one side of a clothes line prop near the top thereof, the arms of said bracket projecting outwardly horizontally from the prop, the base of said bracket being elongated vertically and secured against the prop, a vertically movable rope clamping member having a flat elongated portion arranged between the arms of said bracket with its inner face in contact with the base thereof, the outer face of said member being provided with teeth, a latch arranged between the arms of said bracket and inclined downwardly toward said clamping member with its inner end normally engaging said teeth, a pivot pin connected between the arms of said bracket and passing through said latch near its inner end, and a substantially V-shaped spring arranged above said latch with its ends secured to the arms of said bracket, the central portion of said spring contacting with said latch outwardly of said pivot pin for normally depressing the outer end of said latch.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LEWIS R. TOMPKINS.