(Model.)

E. M. BALL.

WIRE CLOTHES PIN.

No. 380,013. Patented Mar. 27, 1888.

Fig. 1.

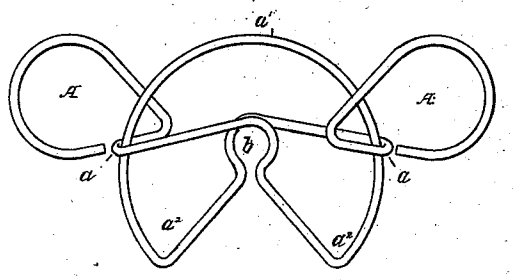
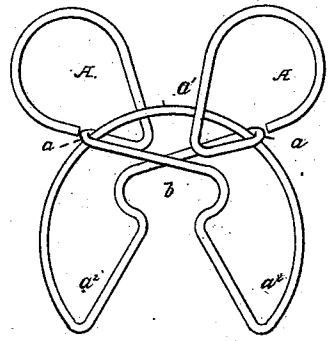


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WIRE CLOTHES-PIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 380,013, dated March 27, 1888.

Application filed May 10, 1887. Serial No. 237,784. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD M. BALL, a citizen of Canada, residing at North Coaticook, in the county of Stanstead and Province of Quebec, Canada, have invented certain Improvements in Wire Clothes-Pins, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved form of wire clothes-pin, being made of a single piece of wire bent or formed in such a manner that it may be easily placed upon the line or removed from it, and when so placed locks itself firmly, so that the pressure exerted by the wind cannot open it. I attain these objects in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 2 represents the clothes-pin as opened ready to be placed upon the line. Fig. 1 represents the clothes-pin in its natural position.

My invention consists of a single piece of wire bent to the shape shown in Fig. 1, having two loops or bows, A A, two bends to act as locking-slides, *a a*, which may be moved along the curve *a'*, and two jaws, a^2 a^2, so formed as to leave a circular opening, *b*, between them. It is necessary that the spring of the wire should be such as will force the two jaws a^2 a^2 toward each other and at the same time move the locking-slides *a a* along the curve *a'* until they finally rest in the position shown in Fig. 1, in which position they prevent the curve *a'* from expanding and at the same time the jaws a^2 a^2 from opening, as the pressure of the line upon the inside of the circular opening *b* does not cause the locking-slides *a a* to move backward upon the curve *a'*.

To apply this clothes-pin to the line, insert the finger and thumb into the bows A A, as into scissors-bows, and force them toward each other. The locking-slides *a a* will move along the curve *a'*, as the power exerted by the fingers overcomes the natural spring of the wire and causes the jaws a^2 a^2 to open, as shown in Fig. 2.

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

1. A clothes-pin formed of a single piece of wire so bent as to form two jaws, a^2 a^2, two locking-slides, *a a*, and the bows A A, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a clothes-pin formed of a single piece of wire, and consisting of an arch, two converging clamping-jaws, and locking-slides connected to the jaws and riding upon the arch, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a clothes-pin formed of a single piece of wire, and consisting of an arch, two locking-jaws converging from the terminals of the arch toward the center thereof, and formed with the curved portions, which meet to form a loop, *b*, and the locking-slides radiating from the inner curved terminals of the jaws and riding on the arch, substantially as and for the purpose described.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a clothes-pin formed of a single piece of wire, and consisting of an arch, two clamping-jaws converging from the terminals of the arch toward the center thereof, and the locking-slides radiating from the inner terminals of the jaws and bent upon themselves to ride upon the arch, said slides having loops for the insertion of the operator's fingers, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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