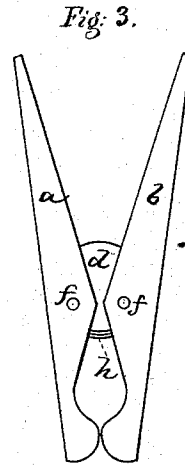
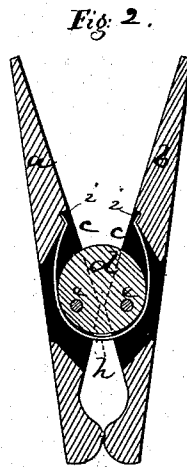
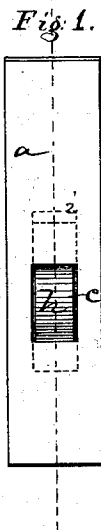


C. C. JOHNSON.  
Clothes-Line Clamps.

No. 157,475.

Patented Dec. 8, 1874.



Witnesses.  
M. W. Frothingham.  
L. H. Crutcher.

Inventor.  
Charles C. Johnson.  
By his Attys  
Crosby & Gould.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES C. JOHNSON, OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO  
D. M. SMITH & CO., OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-LINE CLAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **157,475**, dated December 8, 1874; application filed  
November 26, 1873.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES C. JOHNSON, of Somerville, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Clothes-Line Clamp; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

My invention relates to an improvement in clothes-line clamps of that class in which, to form the clamp, two levers are jointed together with a spring for forcing the gripping-jaws inward, each of said jaws being made with a recessed face to fit upon the clothes-line, and the opposite ends of the jaws constituting handles to separate the jaws. Early instances of these clamps may be seen in United States Letters Patent Nos. 10,163 and 10,311, of 1853.

In my invention I secure a more perfect and enduring connection of the parts; and to effect such connection I form each jaw with a mortise, into which extends a guide-block, and pivot the two jaws, by respective pivot-pins, to this block, and around one part of this block I lay a plate-spring, the opposite ends of which bear against the levers, so that by the stress of the spring the jaws are forced together or inward. My invention consists of a clothes-line clamp having the levers thus connected and held.

The drawing represents a clamp embodying my improvement.

Figure 1 shows the clamp in side view. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the clamp.

*a b* denote the two clamp or jaw levers; *c*, the mortise cut into or through each. Into the two mortises enter the guide and hinge-block or roll *d*, and through this roll are bored two holes, *e*, through which and the respective levers *a b* pass the pivot-pins *f*, the roll, pins, and mortise-slots constituting the connecting and guiding devices for the movements of the clamp-levers. *h* denotes the spring, which passes under the block and into the mortises, as shown, preferably having its opposite ends bent, and extending into recesses *i*, the stress of the spring drawing the levers together, as will be readily understood.

The construction thus described is very simple, the parts are very easily made and very readily connected, and the construction is cheap and enduring.

The mortises may be worked into the inner sides of the levers, instead of being cut entirely through them.

I disclaim the use of spiral springs, or a hinge-piece cut away at its center to receive a spring; nor do I claim, broadly, the use of a flat spring in clothes-clamps.

I claim—

The described clothes-line clamp, consisting of the solid hinge-block *d*, combined with the levers *a* and *b*, and connected severally thereto, and with the flat plate-spring applied around the block and to the levers, as shown, the several parts being arranged and operating as shown and set forth.

CHARLES C. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS GOULD,  
M. W. FROTHINGHAM.