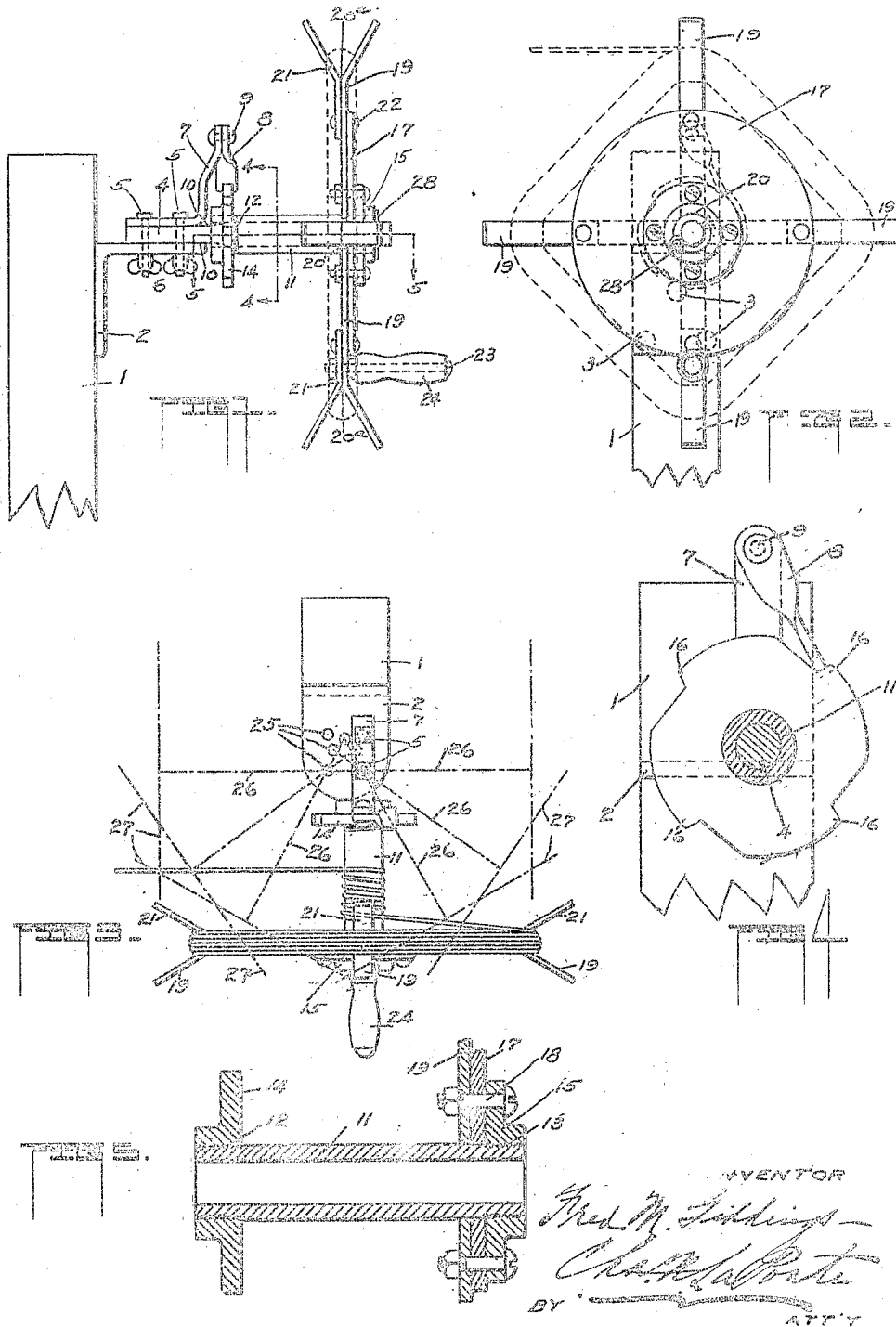


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CLOTHESLINE REEL AND TIGHTENER.
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Patented Dec. 9, 1919.



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CLOTHESLINE REEL AND TIGHTENER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED M. GIDDINGS, a citizen of the United States, a resident of Galesburg, in the county of Knox and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Clothesline Reels and Tighteners, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to new and useful improvements in reels and supports for same for storing clotheslines or lines used for similar purposes, and for stretching and holding the same taut after stretching.

One of the objects of my invention is a reel upon which a clothesline may be reeled, when removing from the post or other support, and stored when not in use.

A further object of my invention is a reel, the support for which is so arranged that the reel is adjustable to its initial position on same so that the reel will be in proper alinement with the clothesline leading from the same to other adjacent posts, or other proper supports, to which one end of the clothesline is secured.

A further object of my invention is a reel so arranged on its support that the clothesline may be properly stretched to any desired tension when in use.

A further object of my invention is a reel that will securely hold the clothesline in tension during use, and also permits the release or slacking of the same when desired.

That the invention may be more fully understood, reference is had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which,—

Figure 1 is a side elevation showing my reel mounted on its support on a post;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of my reel shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan showing my reel in one of its adjusted positions, and also shows other adjustable positions by means of dotted lines;

Fig. 4 is a transverse section along the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section of the sleeve on which the reel is mounted, taken along the line 5—5 Fig. 1.

Like characters of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the figures.

1 designates a post or other suitable means upon which the bracket 2 is securely mounted by the screws or any other fastening means 3. 4 denotes a shaft which is adjust-

ably carried on the bracket 2 by means of the bolts 5 which, for the purpose of easy removal are secured by the thumb nuts 6.

Mounted on the upper side of the shaft 4 and also secured by means of the bolts 5 is the angularly formed member 7 which carries the pawl 8 (the purpose of which will be hereinafter described) swingably mounted thereon by means of the pin 9. In order to insure proper bearing for the bracket 2 and member 7 the shaft 4 has the preferably flattened portion 10 on its upper and lower side.

Rotatably mounted on the shaft 4 is the sleeve 11, the ends of which are provided with the threaded portions 12 and 13 by means of which the ratchet member 14 and the flanged collar 15 are securely mounted. It will be noted by reference to Fig. 1 and Fig. 4, that the ratchet member 14 is so disposed on the sleeve 11 that the tooth portions 16 of the ratchet member come in proper alinement with the pawl 8, hereinbefore described.

17 denotes a circular plate or dish mounted on the sleeve 11, and securely held by means of the screws 18, to the flanged collar 15, the purpose of which will be more fully described hereinafter.

19 denotes certain of the reel members also secured to the flanged collar by means of the screws 18 which pass through the circular disk or plate 17. The inner ends 20 of the reel members 19 are shaped to conform to the circular section of the sleeve 11 in order that they may be held in the proper position in relation to each other around said sleeve. The outer ends of the members 19 are bent at 20 to form one side of the V-shaped portion of the reel. 21 indicates other reel members also bent at 20 to form the opposite side of the V-shaped portion of the reel. The reel members 21 are secured to the reel member 19 by means of the rivets 22, which also pass through and secure the outer rim of the circular plate or disk 17 to the reel members 19.

Secured to one set of reel members 19 and 21, by means of the bolt 23, is a handle 24 by means of which the reel may be rotated about the axis of the shaft 4.

By reference to Fig. 3 it will be noted that I have shown a group of holes 25 arranged in pairs in the bracket or support 2 to accommodate the bolts 5 in the shaft 4; the purpose of which is to permit the

adjusting of the shaft 4 in its initial position to align itself to dotted lines 26. It will thus be easily understood, that by this adjustment of the initial position of shaft 4, that the reel which is indicated by the dotted lines 27 can be set to align with the draft of the clothesline from almost any direction.

The circular plate or disk 17 is embodied as an element in the reel structure, not because it enhances the operation or usefulness of the device, but merely as a means on which an advertisement may be placed to designate the dealer handling the same. In other words, if desired, a dealer may give the reel away as a premium for sales of certain cash value, and when so doing his name, place of business and list of goods handled may be placed thereon to advertise his business.

In operation, the reel is first placed on the shaft 4, mounted on the bracket 2, and rotatably held in position by the cotter pin 28. The clothesline is then distributed to the various posts or other supporting means, after which, the reel is rotated about the axis of the shaft 4 to take back any slack in the clothesline. When the slack has been taken back on the reel and the line is ready for the final stretching, the outgoing line is removed from the V-shaped portion of the reel and through the further rotation of the reel is wrapped about the sleeve 11 as shown in Fig. 3, until the desired tautness of the line is accomplished, and is held by means of the pawl 8 engaging the tooth portions 16 of the ratchet member 14 secured to the sleeve 11.

When it is desired to remove the clothesline, the reel may be turned sufficiently by means of the handle 24 to permit the release of the pawl 8 from the tooth portion 16 of the ratchet member 14. The pawl may be then swung back to permit the slacking and release of the clothesline from the adjacent posts, or other supporting means, after which, the clothesline may be wound on the reel. The reel with the clothesline thereon may be then dismounted from the shaft 4 by removing the cotter pin 28 from the shaft 4, and stored until further required.

What I claim is:

1. In a clothesline reel, in combination, a bracket member, a shaft, means for securing said shaft to said member in different

angular positions, a sleeve, means for detachably attaching said sleeve on said shaft, a ratchet wheel on one end of said sleeve, line receiving members on the opposite end of said sleeve, and a pawl pivotally connected with said shaft and adapted to have engagement with the teeth on said wheel.

2. In a clothesline reel, in combination, a bracket member, a shaft, means for securing said shaft to said member in different angular positions, a sleeve, means for detachably attaching said sleeve on said shaft, a ratchet tooth member threaded on one end of said sleeve, a flanged collar threaded on the opposite end of said sleeve, line receiving members connected with said collar, a handle attached to one of said line receiving members, an arm attached to the shaft, and a pawl pivotally connected with said arm and adapted to have engagement with the teeth on said ratchet tooth member.

3. In a clothesline reel, in combination, a bracket member, a shaft, means for securing said shaft to said member in different angular positions, a sleeve, means for detachably attaching said sleeve on said shaft, a ratchet tooth member on one end of said sleeve, a flanged collar on the opposite end of said sleeve, line receiving members extending radially from and secured to said collar, a disk interposed between said collar and said line receiving members, and secured thereto, and a pawl pivotally connected with said shaft and adapted to have engagement with the teeth on said wheel.

4. In a clothes line reel, in combination, a bracket member, a shaft, means for securing said shaft to said member in different angular positions, an elongated sleeve having on one end a ratchet tooth member and on the opposite end line receiving members, the spacing between the ratchet tooth member and said line receiving members provided for the coiling of the line about said sleeve, means for detachably attaching said sleeve on said shaft, a pawl pivotally connected to the inner end of the shaft and adapted to have engagement with the teeth on said ratchet tooth member, and a handle secured to one of said line receiving members.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my hand this 9th day of June, 1919.

FRED M. GIDDINGS.