

W. S. Shoemaker & E. H. Shoemaker,
Clothes-Line Clamp.

Nº 10,055.

Patented May 16, 1869.

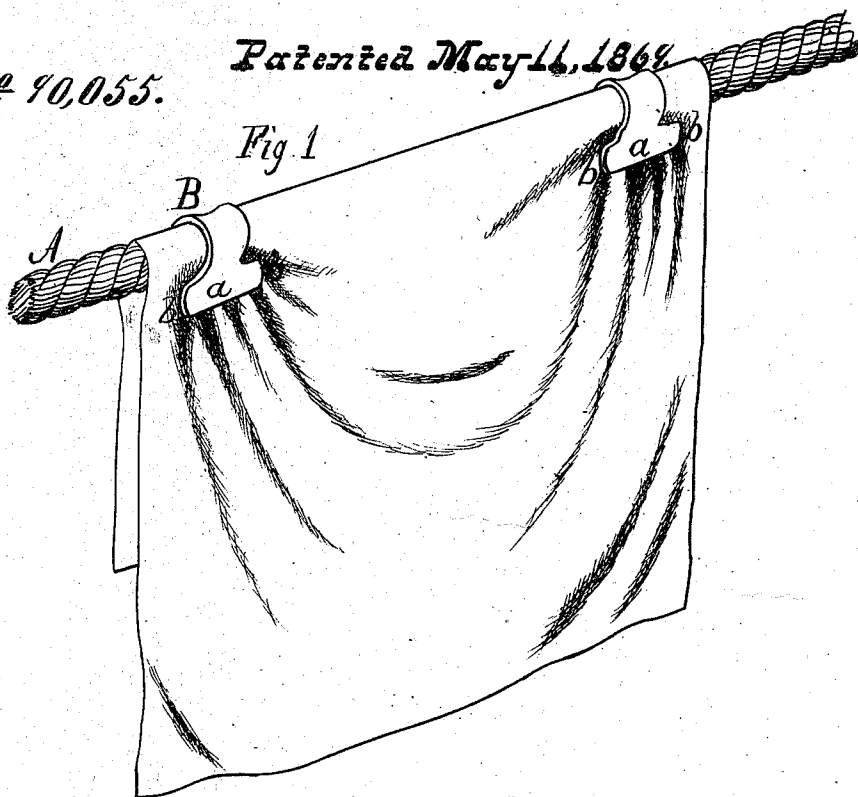


Fig. 2.

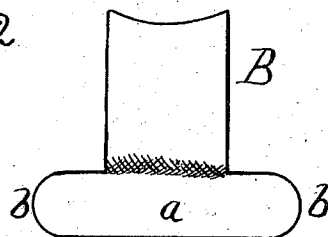


Fig. 3.

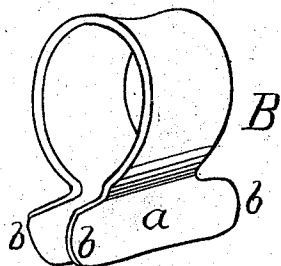
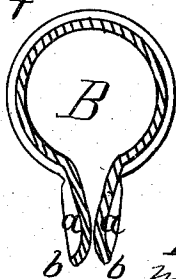


Fig. 4.



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W. S. SHOEMAKER, OF TOWSONTOWN, MARYLAND, AND E. H. SHOEMAKER, OF LANCASTER, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 90,055, dated May 11, 1869.

IMPROVED CLOTHES-LINE CLAMP.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, W. S. SHOEMAKER, of Towson, in the county of Baltimore, and State of Maryland, and E. H. SHOEMAKER, of Lancaster, Fairfield county, State of Ohio, have invented a new and improved Clothes-Line Pin, or Clasp; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing the manner of fastening an article to a clothes-line by our improved pins, or clasps.

Figures 2, 3, and 4, are different views of the improved pin, or clasp.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The object of this invention is to adapt a single piece of springy metal to serve as a clothes-pin, or clasp, for securing articles to a clothes-line.

The nature of our invention consists in a corrugated and flanged loop, or ring, composed of a single piece of springy metal, and adapted for retaining itself upon a clothes-line, and also for clamping and firmly holding a cloth thereon, as will be hereinafter explained.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand our invention, we will describe the same.

In the accompanying drawings—

B represents the body of the clasp, which is almost a complete circle, and which has its ends turned outward, and elongated, so as to form jaws, or clamping-flanges, *a a*, which may be made longer than the width of the ring B, or equal in width to this ring.

The drawings show the gripping, or clamping-jaws somewhat longer than the width of the ring, or loop B, and with their ends, *b b*, made flaring, so that a cloth may be readily inserted between them.

The ring, or loop B, as well as its jaws *a*, are corrugated, or made to present concave surfaces externally, and convex sides internally, as clearly shown, for the purpose of affording the required stiffness to said parts, and allowing the device to be made light, and of thin metal.

If desirable, the corrugations may be made so as to present convex exterior surfaces, or just the converse of the form represented in the drawings; but it is pre-

ferable to have the device formed substantially as shown, so that its edges turn outwardly.

It is necessary, or at least desirable, to have the ring, or loop springy, so that when its jaws are drawn apart they will spring together, and thus gripe and firmly retain anything introduced between them.

We, therefore, prefer to make the device of some suitable springy metal, which may be galvanized to prevent rusting, and which may be struck up into the required form between suitable dies, or which may be cast.

In fig. 1, of the drawings, we have represented two of the improved devices, clamping and holding a cloth upon a line, A. It will be seen that the ring, or loop-portion B encompasses the line, and that portion of the clasp which passes over it, and that the jaw-ports *a a* receive between them and hold the cloth beneath the line.

To apply the clasps after an article is spread over a line, they are slipped over the edges of the cloth by moving each clasp in a direction with the length of the line.

The rings, or loops B should be slightly larger than the diameter of the line for which they are intended to be used, so that they will receive between them and the line one or two thicknesses of cloth.

If sufficiently elastic, the clasps may be put upon a line by springing their jaws *a a* apart, but it is intended to keep these clasps permanently upon the lines, so that they will always be at hand when required. Therefore, they may be slipped upon one end of a line before it is fastened to its place.

Having described our invention,

We claim, as a new and improved article of manufacture—

A clothes-line clasp, consisting of a ring, B, terminating, at its ends, in jaws *a a*, and stiffened by corrugating, substantially as described.

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E. H. SHOEMAKER.

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Witnesses as to E. H. SHOEMAKER:

W. A. SHOEMAKER.

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