

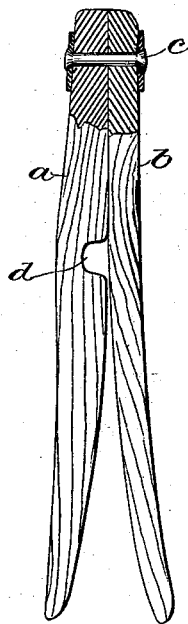
(Model.)

W. H. PROUTY.

CLOTHES PIN.

No. 261,481.

Patented July 18, 1882.



Witnesses.

John F. C. Peimert
Arthur Reynolds.

Inventor.

William H. Prouty
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. PROUTY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO PETER COLLAMORE, OF SAME PLACE.

CLOTHES-PIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 261,481, dated July 18, 1882.

Application filed March 10, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. PROUTY, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Clothes-Pins, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

My invention relates to clothes-pins, and has for its object to produce a pin which is not liable to become detached from the line, and will hold the cloth more tightly than the ordinary pin and with less liability to damage it.

The invention is embodied in a clothes-pin consisting of two jaws pivoted together at one end on a pivot at right angles to the acting faces of the jaws by which the clothes are held, the said jaws being thus adapted to rotate one upon the other, and when brought in line or coincident with one another they lie in contact for a considerable distance from the said pivot. One of the said jaws is provided with a notch or depressor in its acting faces to receive the clothes-line and cloth lying over it, the said clothes-line being inserted when the other jaw is turned aside from coincidence with the notch-jaw, and after the said line has been thus inserted the unnotched jaw is turned in line with the notched one, thereby positively locking the line and cloth in the said notch, so that the pin will not subsequently become detached until the unnotched jaw is again positively turned aside by the operator.

The drawing shows in side elevation, partly in section, a clothes-pin constructed in accordance with this invention. The pin consists of two jaws, *a b*, united at one end by a pivot, *c*, at right angles to the faces by which the said pin engages the cloth and line to be held by it. The said jaws are preferably made of wood which is somewhat elastic, and when turned on their pivot in coincidence with one another

open out at the end opposite the pivot, somewhat like the ordinary clothes-pin made of a single piece of wood, the said jaws then being in contact with one another for a considerable distance from the pivot, and their elasticity, incident in a measure to their end pivoting, is utilized in more securely holding the clothes in the pin. One of the jaws, *a*, (shown as somewhat thicker than the other,) is provided with a line-receiving notch, *d*, in the face next to the other jaw, *b*, so that when the line, with the cloth surrounding it, is inserted in the said notch and the jaw *b* is over the said notch the said line is completely surrounded and positively held by the said clothes-pin, which cannot be removed by a longitudinal pull thereon. To thus apply the clothes-pin to the line the jaw *b* has to be first turned aside on its pivot, leaving the notch *d* uncovered, when the jaw *a* is pressed laterally toward the line with the cloth over it, which sinks into the notch *d*, after which the jaw *b* is turned into coincidence with the jaw *a*, locking or inclosing the said line in the said notch.

I claim—

A clothes-pin composed of the jaw *a*, provided with the line-receiving notch *d*, and the jaw *b*, pivoted to the end of jaw *a*, as shown, and extending over the said notch, whereby it may be rotated on the said pivot to uncover the said line-receiving notch, or to cover and lock the line therein, the said jaws flaring apart at their free ends, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM H. PROUTY.

Witnesses:

JOS. P. LIVERMORE,
B. J. NOYES.