

(No Model.)

G. LUKE.  
CLOTHES LINE CLAMP.

No. 455,512.

Patented July 7, 1891.

Fig. 1.

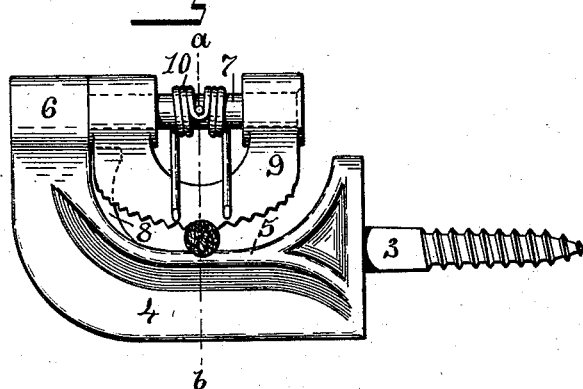
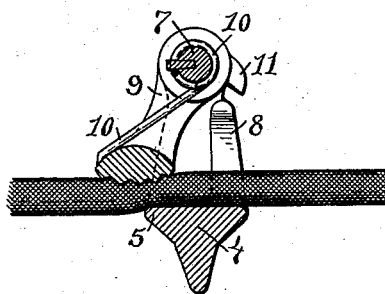


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE LUKE, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

## CLOTHES-LINE CLAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 455,512, dated July 7, 1891.

Application filed November 28, 1890. Serial No. 372,811. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE LUKE, of the city of Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clothes-Line Clamps; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention has reference to an improvement in clothes-line clamps to facilitate the adjustment of a clothes-line.

The object of the invention is to combine the various elements of a clothes-line clamp into a new and improved device containing the essential features of the clamping mechanism.

To this end my invention consists in the combination of novel and peculiar elements to form a convenient and useful article, as will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and pointed out in the claim—

Figure 1 is a view of the improved clothes-line clamp, showing the manner in which it grasps the clothes-line. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same, taken at line *a b*.

Similar numbers of reference designate corresponding parts throughout.

In the drawings, number 3 designates a strong screw formed integrally with the base of the clamp-frame 4, which has the flange 5 to strengthen the frame and to act as a bearing-surface. The upper part of the frame is curved, and a head 6 is formed, in which the spindle 7 is rigidly secured. The frame 4 is furnished with the lip 8, against which the U-shaped follower 9, journaled on the spindle 7, is held by the pressure of the spring 10. This spring is bent around the spindle 7, and is secured by a pin, as indicated in the drawings.

One arm of the U-shaped follower 9 has a stop 11, which bears against the lip 8, when given a turn sufficient

to release the clothes-line, and prevents the follower from being turned completely around and breaking the spring.

The bearing-surface of the U-shaped follower 9 is roughened to secure a better grip on the clothes-line, and the inner surface of the base of the frame 4 is curved to form a guide to direct the clothes-line into the space between the frame and the follower.

By forming the frame 4 in one piece with the screw 3 the clamp may be attached to a support in any position most convenient for use. The frame 4 also forms a handle by which to turn the screw and secure it to the support.

By the use of this improved clamp a clothes-line can be adjusted and held stretched in a much shorter time than if it were necessary to secure each length of line to a post and with a knot, as with the clamp the line is merely placed in the guide formed by the inner curved surface of the base of the frame and pulled tight, the guide directing the line in between the frame 4 and follower 9, and the pressure on the line drawing the follower outward; but when this pressure is released the spring 10 acts to force the follower 9 back toward its normal position and crowds the rope against the inner surface of the flange 5. In this position any backward pull on the clothes-line serves to produce a firmer grip.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

In a clothes-line clamp, the frame 4, having the screw 3 formed integrally therewith and provided with the flange 5, lip 8, and head 6, to which is rigidly secured the spindle 7, the U-shaped follower 9, journaled on the spindle 7, having the stop 11 and operated by the spring 10, as described.

GEORGE LUKE.

Witnesses:

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