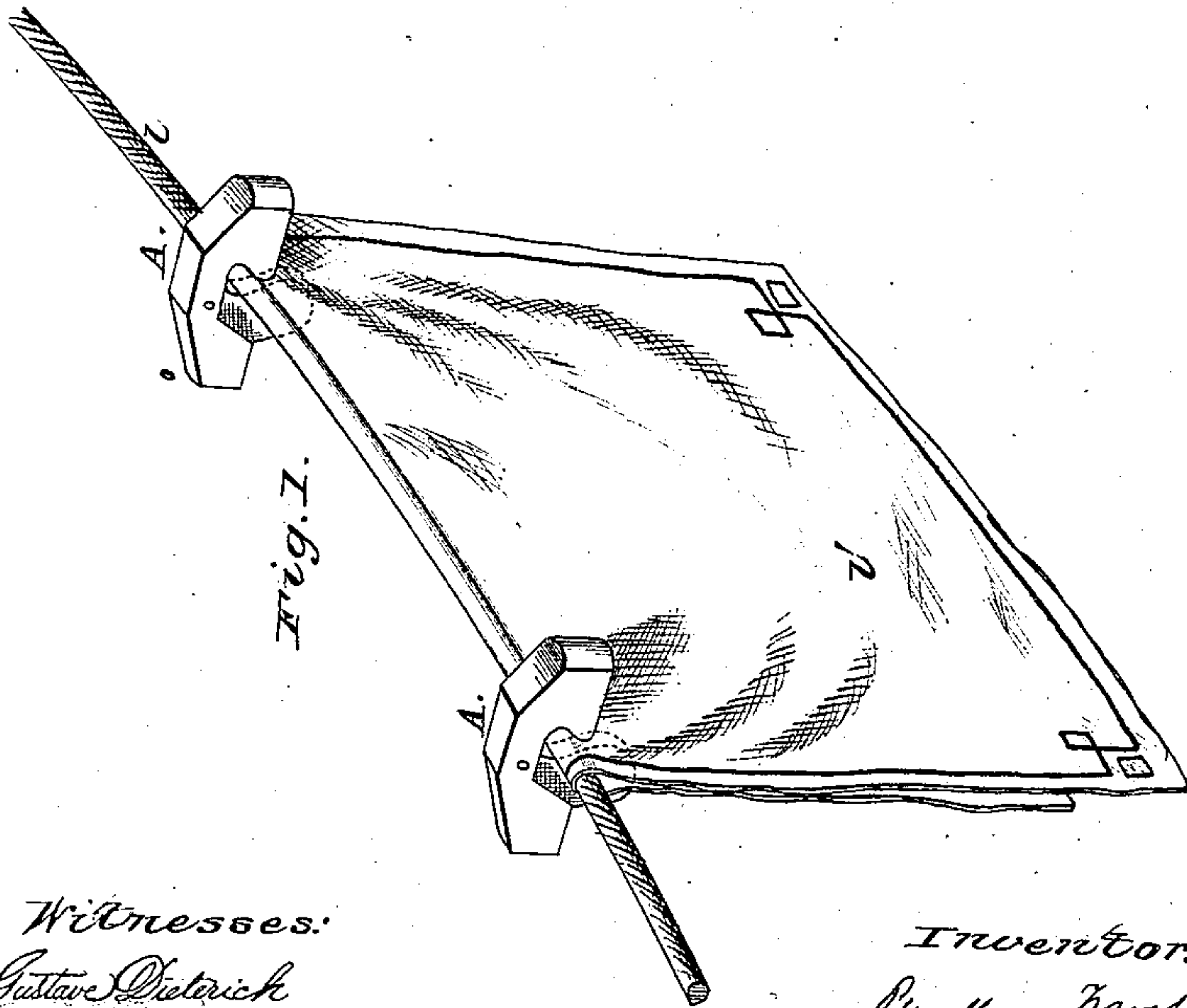
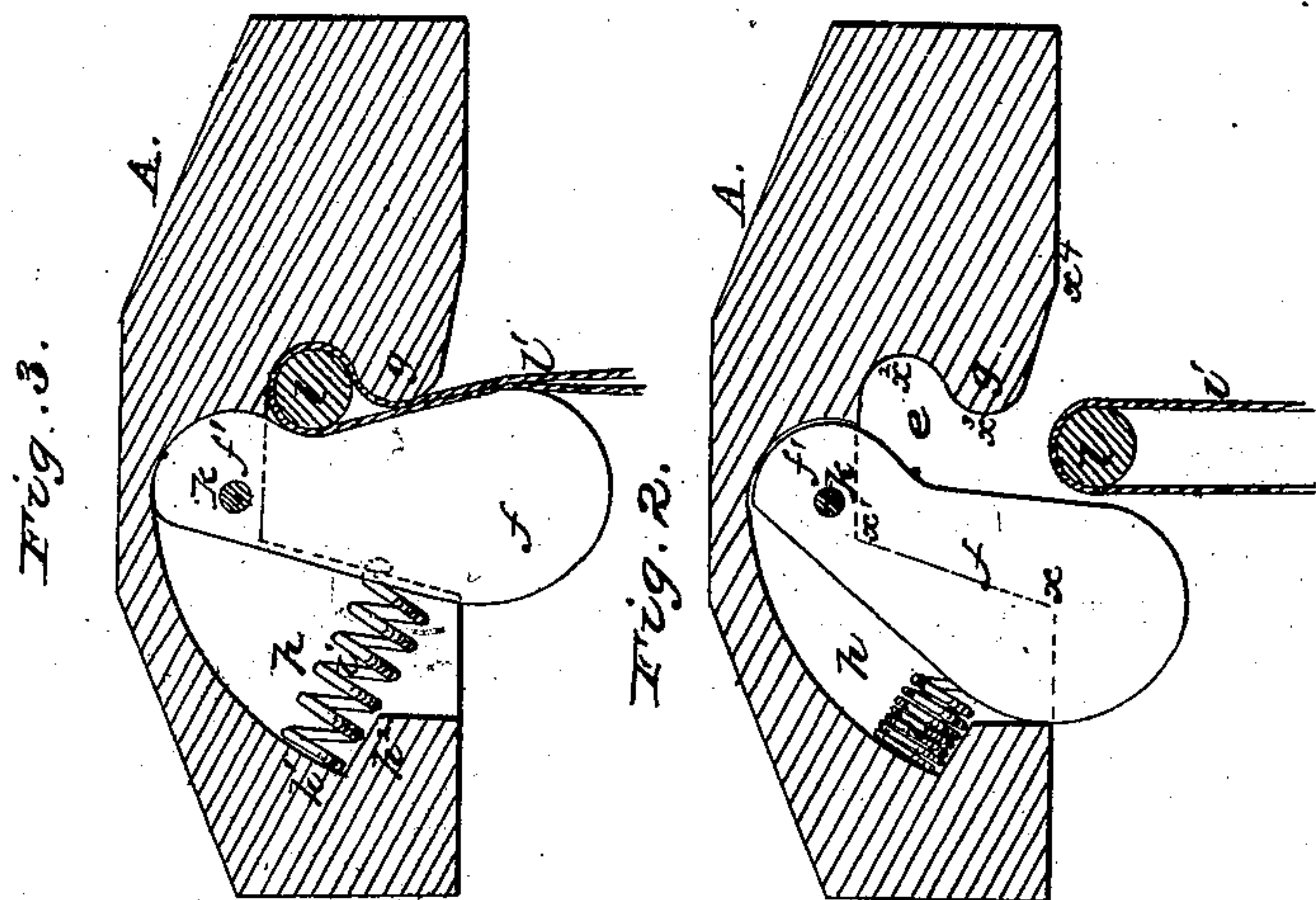


P. Frost,
Clothes Pin,

No. 41,838,

Patented Mar. 8, 1864



Witnesses:
Gustave Dietrich
R. J. Campbell

Inventor:
Purshing Frost
by his Atty,
Mason, Knapp & Lawrence

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PINCKNEY FROST, OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT.

IMPROVED CLOTHES-FASTENER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 41,838, dated March 8, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PINCKNEY FROST, of Springfield, in the State of Vermont, have invented a new and Improved Clothes-Fastener; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and letters of reference marked thereon, forming a part of this my specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved clothes-fastener, showing the same applied to use; Fig. 2, a longitudinal vertical section showing the fastener in the act of being applied; and Fig. 3 a like sectional view, showing the device after being applied to a clothes-line for the purpose of retaining the clothes thereon.

In the drawings, A indicates a solid foundation block, of wood, which, with other parts to be hereinafter described, constitutes my improved clothes fastener. This block is transversely of its length cut away, so as to give an outline on its under side in the form as indicated on the line $x\ x'\ x^2\ x^3\ x^4$, and which cut-out portion forms an opening transversely through the block, into which the clothes l' upon the line l are firmly held, as indicated in Fig. 3, and in which the articulations of the spring thumb-lever f in part take place, as clearly represented in Figs. 2 and 3. By this transverse opening it will be seen that a recess, as at e , is formed through the block, within which the clothes are clasped when the thumb-lever f is pressed against the point g of the block A, as shown in Fig. 3.

As represented at h in Figs. 2 and 3, the interior of the block A is mortised so as to form a protecting chamber to a coil-spring, i , a seat for one end of which is properly provided by the formation of the chamber h at the points $h^1\ h^2$, while the opposite end of the spring is let into the thumb-lever f , as seen in Fig. 3.

Thus the rear and loose end of the spring i will permanently retain its seat within the chamber h , whether it be compressed, as indicated in Fig. 2, or uncompressed, as in Fig. 3, and as the upper end, f' , of the thumb-lever f is pivoted, as at k , within the chamber h , it will be seen, by reference to Fig. 3, that the spring i at all times occupies a chamber which is practically closed against the weather, since, from the position of the clothes-fastener when placed upon the line l , as in Fig. 3, the only access to the chamber h will be from the under side, and hence the chamber will at all times be free from rain, ice, and snow, and the spring securely protected at all times from injury.

By my invention it will be perceived that the spring i acts upon the part f with a lever-pressure; that it is so situated and protected from the weather that there is no liability to stain the clothes l' by corrosion of the metal, as is the case where the spring is above the clothes; that the clothes are not liable to be thrown out of the fastener by the action of the wind, as the point g acts as an under-bearing to sustain the weight of the clothes; that the clothes-fastener cannot become clogged by the formation of ice and snow around the spring, and that the lever f is so applied within the block A that it will not by the wrenching and twisting action of the clothes be loosened and destroyed at its point of articulation k .

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

A clothes-fastener constructed and operating substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

PINCKNEY FROST.

Witnesses:

HENRY BARNARD,
MARY BARNARD.