

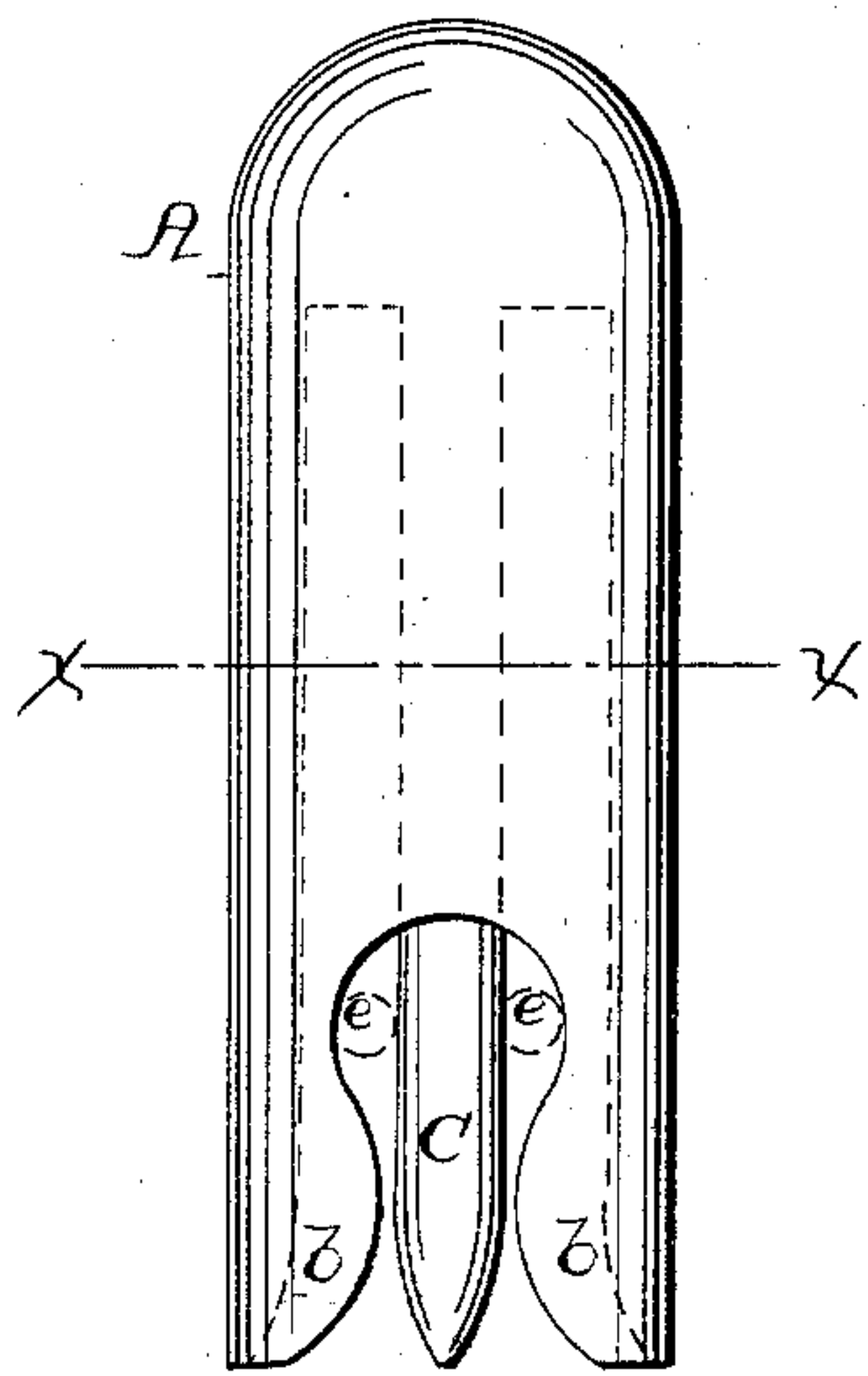
*H. W. Sargeant, Jr.,*

*Clothes Pin,*

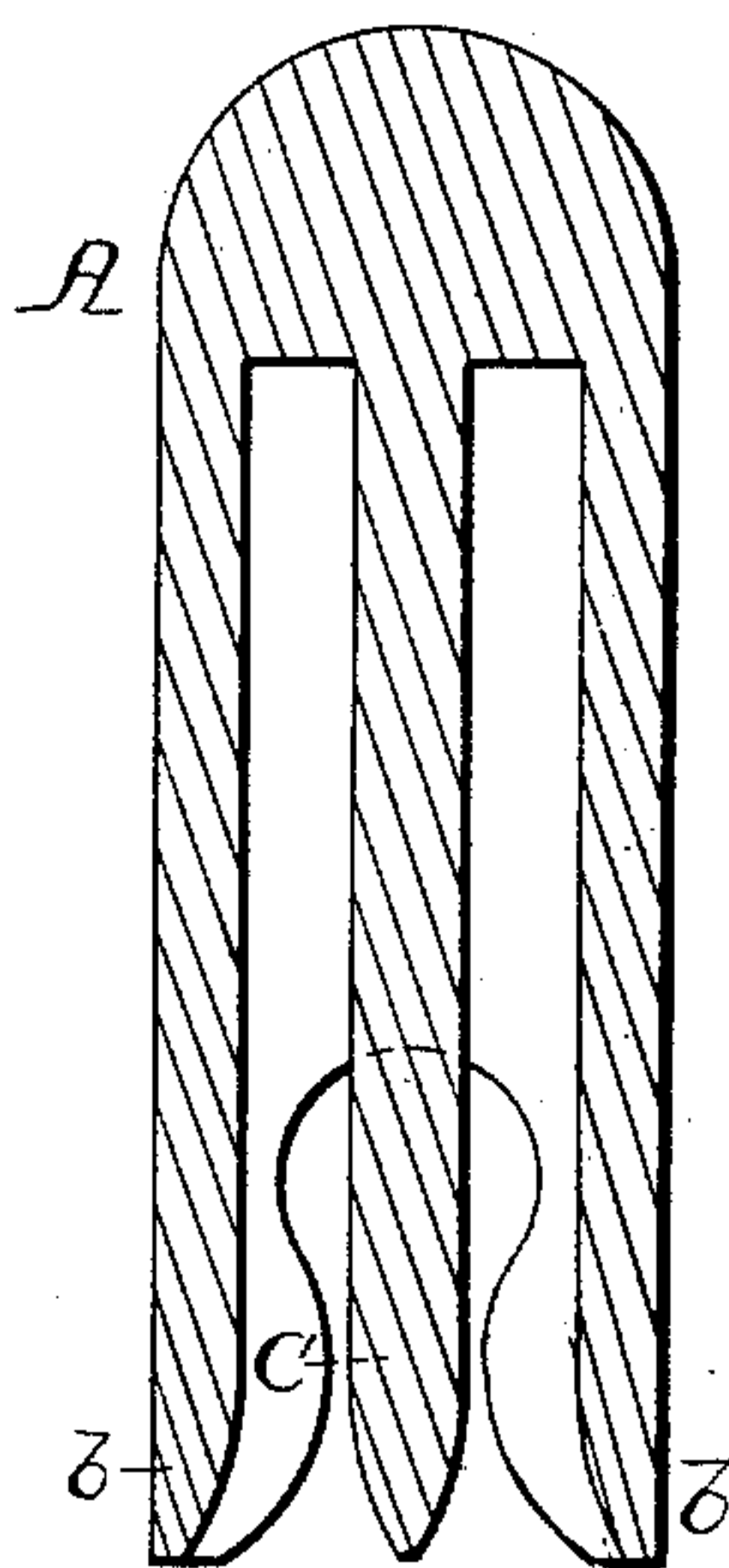
*N<sup>o</sup>. 45,458.*

*Patented Dec. 13, 1864.*

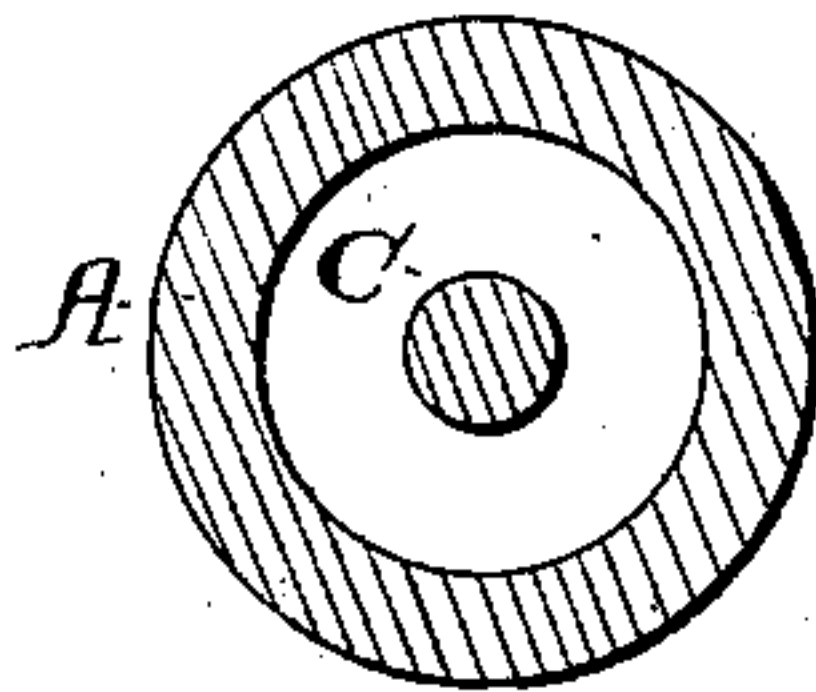
*Fig; 1.*



*Fig; 2.*



*Fig; 3.*



*Witnesses;*

*N. Ames*

*Geo. H. Clarke*

*Inventor;*

*Henry W. Sargeant Jr*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY W. SARGEANT, JR., OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO  
HIMSELF AND G. BRAYTON JOHNSON, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVED CLOTHES-PIN.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 45,458, dated December 13, 1864.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY W. SARGEANT, Jr., of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clothes-Pins; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view; Fig. 2, a longitudinal central section, and Fig. 3 a transverse section in the line *x x* of Fig. 1.

Like parts are indicated by the same letters in all the figures, which are intended to be full-sized.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a clothes-pin with two rigid outside prongs, *b b*, and a flexible tongue between them, so that either side of said tongue and one of the prongs may be used at pleasure, and whenever the tongue becomes bent or inclined in one direction by use on one side it may be rectified by use on the opposite side, whereby the clothes-pin will never spread or lose its elasticity, and be much less liable to split than when constructed in the usual manner, thus constituting a better, stronger, and more durable article than any known or used before for a similar purpose.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

I make my clothes-pin of hard wood or other suitable material, such as is commonly used for a similar purpose.

The main body *A* of the pin is a cylinder four inches (more or less) in length and about one inch and one-fourth in diameter. This cylinder *A* is chambered out, as plainly shown in the drawings, by any suitable means to within about three-fourths of an inch of its upper end, the lower or open end being cut away to form the prongs *b b*, the shape of which is clearly shown in Fig. 1, so as to readily slip on over a clothes-line and hold securely to it when attached. The inner sides of the

prongs *b b*, as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 1, have longitudinal grooves opposite the tongue *C*, into which grooves the tongue will force or bend the clothes and line, and thus confine them more securely together.

The tongue *C*, situated in the axis of the cylinder, as shown in the drawings, is about five-sixteenths of an inch in diameter and three inches in length, extending down as low as the ends of the prongs *b b*. The end of the tongue has also a rounded wedge-shaped point, so as to readily slip over a clothes-line, as represented in Fig. 1. This tongue *C* may either be formed of the same piece of wood as the body *A*, being left by the hollow auger which forms the chamber, or it may be a separate piece and inserted and fastened in any suitable manner in the closed end of the cylinder *A*.

The operation of my clothes-pin is shown in Fig. 1, the dotted circles *d* and *e* representing a clothes-line on either side of the tongue. So long as the tongue remains unbent and central between the two prongs it is immaterial which side of it touches the clothes or line, but if it should get sprung or bent by use so as to be nearer to one prong than the other it should be so applied that the side nearest to a prong may touch the line, which will cause the pin to nip the clothes so much the tighter and also tend to rectify the tongue.

My clothes-pin, by the aid of suitable machinery, can be constructed as cheaply as the ordinary kinds, while for strength and durability it is a great improvement over them.

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

Constructing a clothes-pin with two rigid outside prongs, *b b*, and a flexible tongue, *C*, between them, substantially as set forth, and for the purpose described.

HENRY W. SARGEANT, JR.

Witnesses:

N. AMES,

GEO. R. CLARKE.