

E. Seaver, Clothes Pin.

N^o 66,523.

Patented July 9, 1867.

Fig. 1.

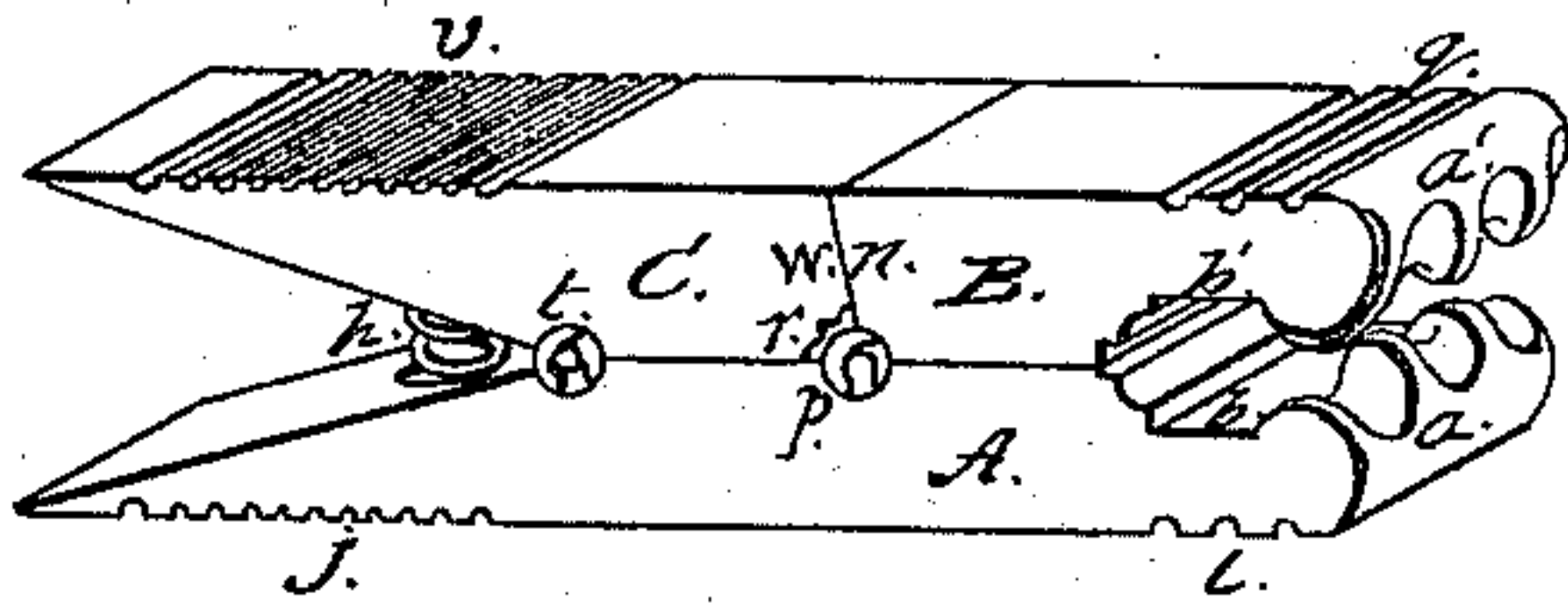


Fig. 2.

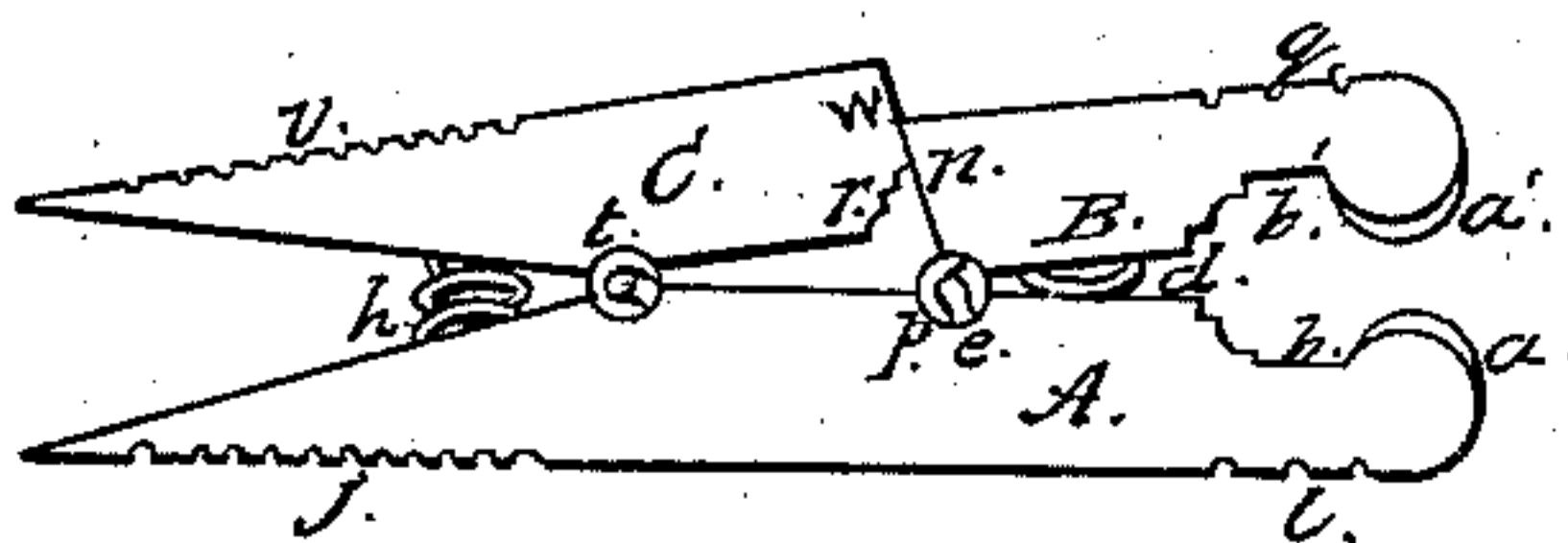


Fig. 3.

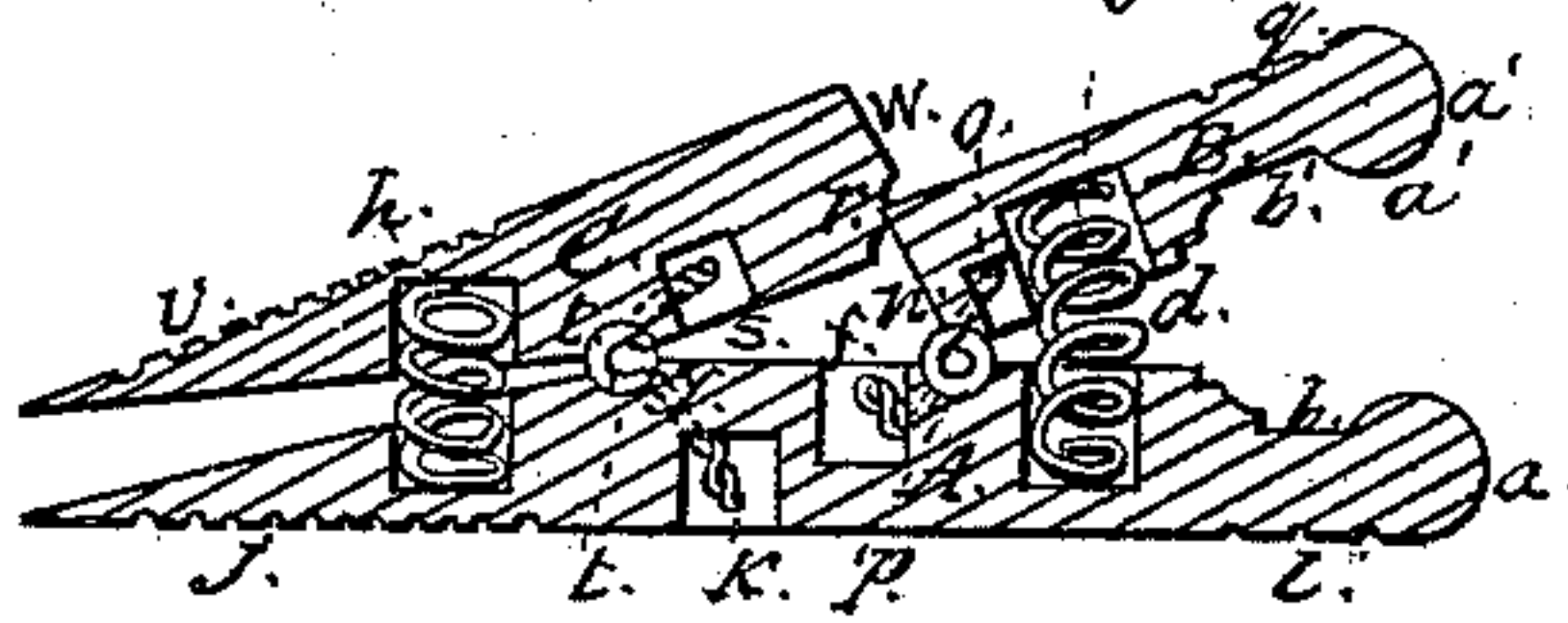
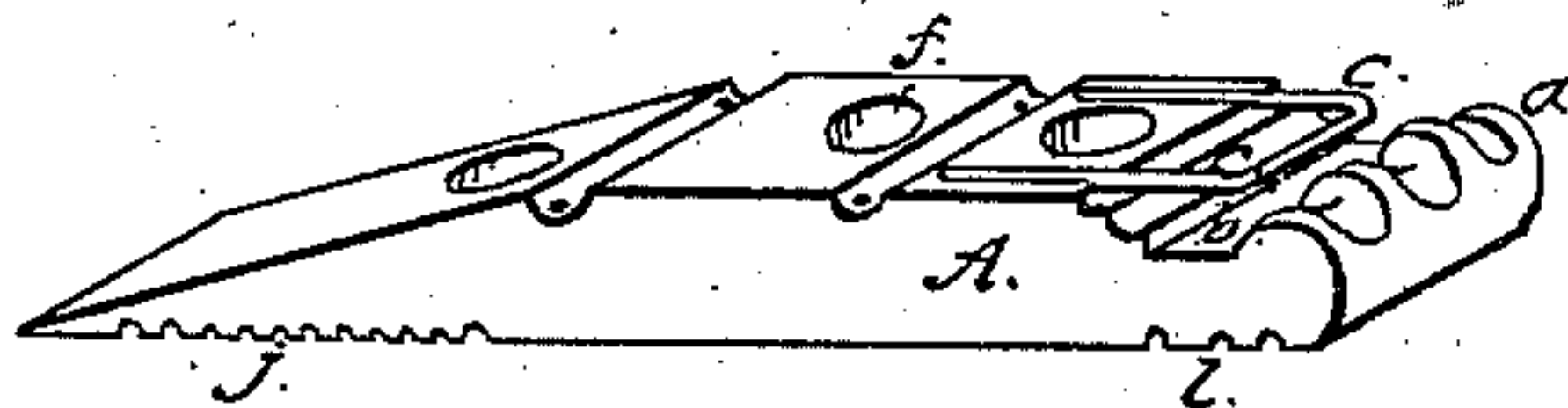


Fig. 4.



Witnesses;
J. H. Adams.
J. R. Morley.

Inventor,
E. Seaver.

United States Patent Office.

EBENEZER SEAVER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 66,523, dated July 9, 1867.

IMPROVED CLOTHES-PIN.

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

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, EBENEZER SEAVER, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and improved Clothes-Pin, or device for holding clothes, etc., upon a line, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved clothes-pin.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the same, the clasp and lock being partially open.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal vertical section of the same; and

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the base or lower portion of the device.

Similar letters indicate like parts in the several figures.

The object of my invention is to provide a clothes-pin which will effectually secure clothing or other fabrics to the line on which the same may be suspended, so that they cannot be detached by the wind or any other accidental cause; and the invention consists in so constructing the parts that compose the device and attaching them together as to cause that portion which is designed to hold the clothes or other fabric upon the line, to be firmly locked when in use, and when locked can only be unlocked by means of pressure applied to the rear or opposite portion of the device without its being subject to the liability of unlocking by accident.

Referring to the drawings, A, in the several figures, represents the base of the device, which, for the sake of convenience, I term the "clamp." The upper portion of the device is formed in two parts, B C, corresponding in general contour, when the device is closed, with the lower portion A. The portion B, which I term the "clasp," forms an upper jaw, and is hinged at its rear lower end to the base A by means of a spiral or coiled wire, *p*, as shown. The ends of the wire which form the spindle of the hinge *p* converge diagonally to a recess, *f*, formed in the upper part of the base or clamp A, where they are fastened by twisting or otherwise. This direction of the ends of the wires secures all the tensile strength of the same and tends to resist any longitudinal strain. Toward the rear of the under surface of the clasp B, and in the corresponding portion of the clamp A, are recesses, in which is fitted a coiled spring, *d*, that serves to throw the clasp B open when disengaged from the lock C. A transverse groove is formed in the inner sides and near the ends of the clamp A and the clasp B, as shown at *b b'*, so as to fit over or encompass the line and the clothes thereon, and the said groove may be provided with smaller grooves or corrugations, as seen in figs. 1 and 4; and the front edges of the jaws may also be provided with teeth or corrugations, either transverse or longitudinal, which, as constructed, though not enlarging the gap or separation between the jaws in a manner to permit the line to slip out therefrom when strained, still, as arranged, they will furnish the space required to enclose the garment or fabric within the jaws of the locked pin. *e*, in fig. 4, represents a wire spring, formed as shown, with its ends secured in the clamp A, and its front portion extending forward within the space between the grooved jaws *b b'*. Slots or channels are formed in the clamp, into which the sides of the said spring may be depressed. By means of this spring a fabric, however light or thin, may be firmly held or retained between the jaws. The part C, which I term the "lock," is attached to the clamp A by means of a coiled wire and spindle in a similar manner to the clasp B. The said lock C is bevelled on its under side from the spring to its rear end, as is also the corresponding portion of the clamp A, so that by pressing the parts together the inner end of the clamp C will be elevated to allow the clasp B to open. A coiled spring, *h*, is fitted in recesses in the clamp A and lock C in order to press them apart and lock the clasp B in position. The ends of the wire forming the spindle of the hinge *t* converge diagonally to a recess, *k*, in the clamp A, as shown in fig. 3, the ends of the spiral of the said hinge *t* converging diagonally to a recess, *s*, in lock C, in a manner similar to and serving the same purpose as above described in relation to the hinge *p*. The inner or contiguous ends of the hinged portions, B and C, may be formed at an angle with their axial line, as shown at *w n*, for the purpose of retaining the parts more firmly in position when locked. The lower edge of the lock C is cut away, as shown at *r*, and notches or grooves are formed thereon, which serve as a rest to the upper rear end of clasp B. The outer surfaces of the device are corrugated or roughened at or near their ends to enable them to be more firmly grasped while handling.

The operation is as follows: Pressure being applied to the bevelled ends of the pin, the inner edge of the lock C will rise, when the clasp B will be forced open by the spring *d* to any desired extent. The jaws are then

placed over the clothes or other article upon the line and the clasp B pressed toward the clamp until the article to be held is tightly grasped, and in whatever position the clamp B may be it will there be automatically and firmly secured by lock C until released by pressure upon the bevelled ends. Instead of a hinged lock, as above described, a sliding-socket may be used, formed of metal or other material, and arranged to slide under the clasp when the latter is closed, and thus locking it, or the clasp can be fastened or locked when shut by means of an eccentric button pivoted to the clamp. The device may be made of wood, metal, rubber, or any other material, either wholly or in part.

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

1. A clothes-pin, composed of a base-piece or clamp, A, a hinged clasp, B, and a locking device, C, substantially as described, or its equivalent, for securing the clasp in position.

2. I claim the spring *e*, or its equivalent, in combination with the clamp A and clasp B, as and for the purpose specified.

3. I claim the toothed or corrugated edges *a a'*, in combination with the grooves *b b'* in the clamp A and clasp B, as and for the purpose set forth.

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

EBENEZER SEAVER.

Witnesses:

Jos. H. ADAMS,

S. R. MOSELEY.