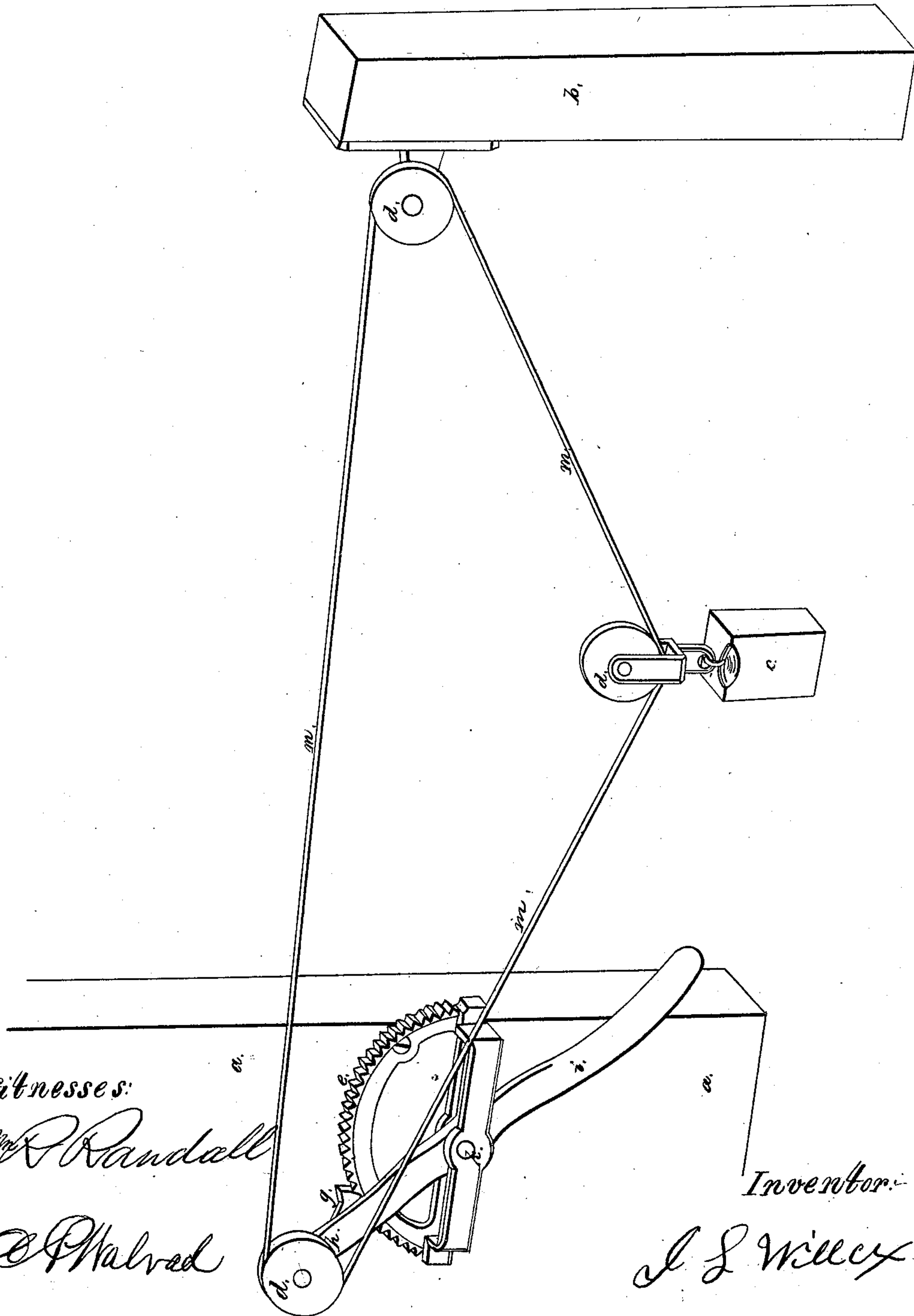


J. L. Wilcox,
Clothes-Line Fastener,
No 70,665, *Patented Nov. 5, 1867.*



Witnesses:
Wm R Randall
C P Walred

Inventor:
J L Wilcox

United States Patent Office.

JOHN L. WILLCOX, OF PREBLE, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 70,665, dated November 5, 1867.

IMPROVED CLOTHES-LINE HOLDER.

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, JOHN S. WILLCOX, of Preble, in the county of Cortland, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Method of Putting Up and Using Clothes-Lines; and I hereby declare that the following is a full and clear description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification.

M M is any ordinary clothes-line, running over the pulleys or sheaves *d d d*. *a a* may be a post or corner of building or doorway, upon which is screwed or fastened the semicircular ratchet E. Working upon or with this is the lever *i*, pivoted at *k*, and carrying the sheave *d*. Upon its short arm *g* is a pawl upon the lever, and working in the ratchet. *b* is the far post, to which the line is proposed to be attached by means of the pulley or sheaf, and of sufficient height, so that clothing upon the line may be kept from the ground, and above snow-drifts or other obstructions. *c* is a short post, to the top of which is hooked a loose pulley or sheave, *d*. The ends of the line being spliced, it, of course, runs as a belt upon the sheaves *d d d*. *c* being a short post, brings the line down upon one side, so there can be no twisting or entangling of one side of the line or belt with the other. The line can be tightened or loosened at will by means of the lever *i* and pawl and ratchet.

The operator places herself near either the ratchet or the far post *b*, puts an article on the line, and then, taking hold of the line, moves the article and line along until space is obtained for another article, and so on until the upper line is full. In the same manner she takes the clothes off, drawing article after article to her at pleasure, until all are taken off, when, by easing up on the ratchet, the line itself may be taken from the sheaves and stored until again wanted. The line may be operated on the pulleys directly by placing the hand upon it, or by means of a crank on the pulley.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The endless clothes-line M, in combination with the pulleys *d*, lever *i*, and ratchet *e*, and pawl *g*, as described, and for the purpose set forth.

J. L. WILLCOX.

Witnesses:

WM. R. RANDALL,

C. P. WALRAD.