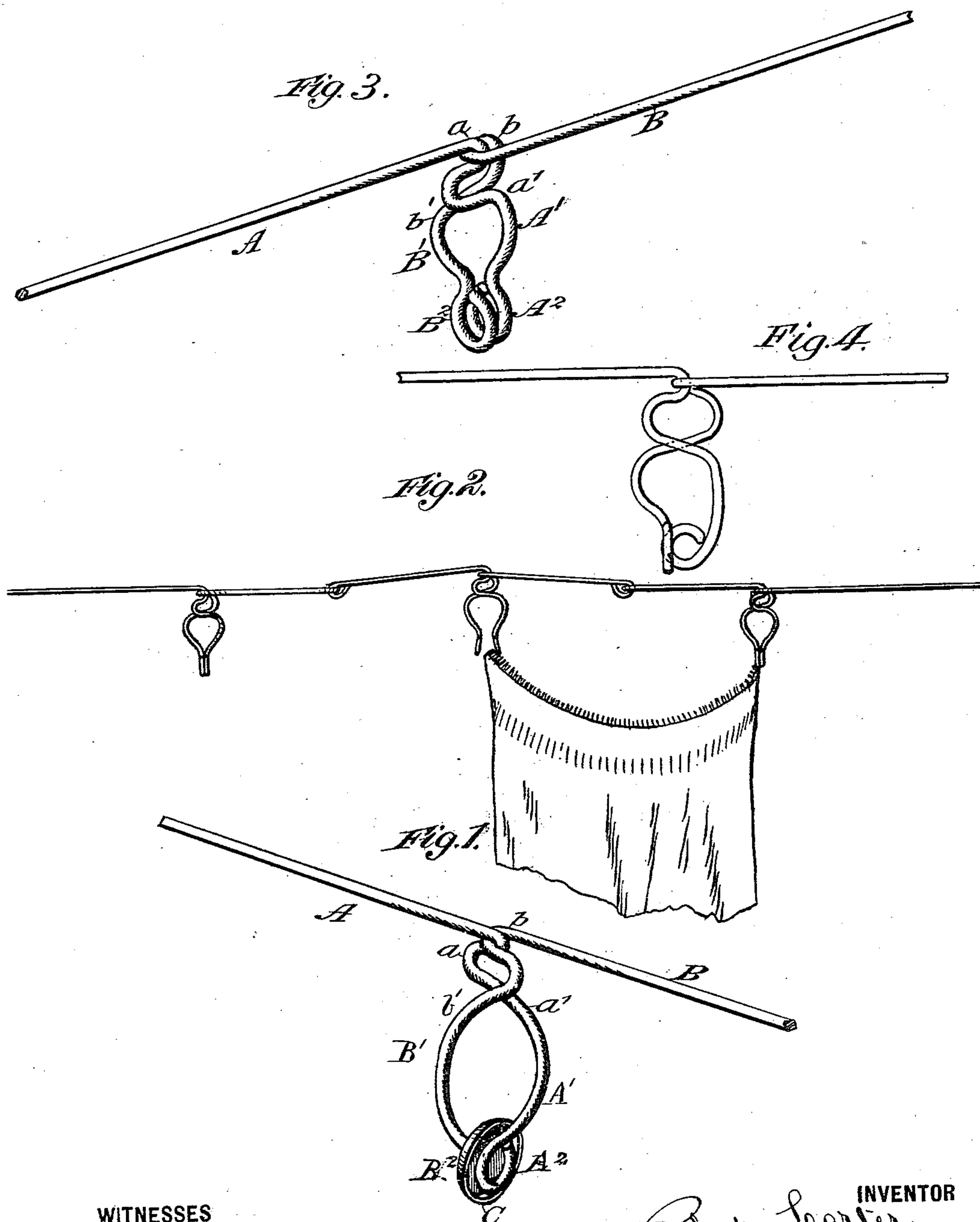


R. LARTER.
Clothes Line and Clamp.

No. 226,235.

Patented April 6, 1880.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT LARTER, OF EAST ORANGE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF OF HIS RIGHT
TO BERNARD BLOEMEKE, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

CLOTHES LINE AND CLAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 226,235, dated April 6, 1880.

Application filed August 13, 1879.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, ROBERT LARTER, of East Orange, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented a certain
5 new and useful Combined Clothes Line and Clamp; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

I make the parts of metal, in sections engaged flexibly together. The novelty consists
10 in the construction of the sections forming the device, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth.

One object of the invention is to provide a cheap and efficient clothes-line, easy of being
15 positioned for service, convenient for transit, and quickly and easily taken in and stored.

Another object of the invention is to combine with a metal clothes-line made in sections, and having the advantages above described, a clothes-clamp at each joint adapted
20 to conveniently hold and liberate the clothes to be dried. The ends of each piece are bent to form a locking portion adapted to interlock with its fellow.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification, and represent what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.
25

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing adjacent ends of two sections. Fig. 2 is a side elevation, showing the operation of the clothes-clamp. Fig. 3 represents a view in which the rubber face is omitted, and Fig. 4 shows a
30 view in which the rubber is omitted and male and female bearing-faces are provided.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, A represents the body of a section of wire, bent downward and
40 inward or slightly returning upon itself, as shown at *a*, and then again extended outward past the corresponding arm on the adjacent piece, as shown at *a'*, and then downward, as shown at *A'*, and formed at the lower end to
45 present a bearing-face, *A*². B represents another section of wire, (the fellow of that shown and described as A,) having one end bent laterally and backward upon itself, as shown at *b*, and then extended outward past the arm
50 *a'*, as shown at *b'*, and then downward, as

shown at *B'*. Its lower end is formed to present a bearing-face, *B*². The entire arms on each correspond, as shown, so that the bearing-faces *A*² *B*² apply together. The bearing-face *A*² is concaved, as shown, and lined with
55 rubber C. The other face, *B*², being a little smaller, imprints itself in the rubber and holds the clothes strongly yet gently.

On raising the joint or entire junction of the two sections the construction causes the
60 lower ends, *A*² *B*², to separate, while the parts *a b* remain engaged. The latter form a lock, on which the arms *A' B'*, by the raising and lowering of the joint, are caused to open and
65 close as required. The arms are so bent and applied that the tension induced by the gravity of the clothes, or by any lateral force, as wind, holds the bearing-pieces *A*² *B*² firmly together, yet so as to allow the jaws to be easily
70 opened by simply raising the whole.

Various modifications may be made in form without departing from the principle of my invention.

The sections may be made of brass or any proper material that will not corrode, and of
75 any desired length. Both bearing-faces may be faced with rubber.

The sections may be sold singly or in quantities, each of, say, one foot in length, so that a purchaser wishing a line of forty feet length
80 would call for forty pieces, while a party wishing but half that quantity would ask for half that number, each applying them properly together as he puts them up. These sections are adapted to serve in any numbers from two
85 upward.

To open the jaw of the clamp it is only necessary to elevate the joint between two connected sections. In Fig. 2 one joint is shown
90 so opened.

In harness-shops or livery-stables, where oiled leather straps are to be held between the clamps, for cleaning, treating, &c., a sharp male puncturing device may be placed on one
95 or both faces.

I claim as my invention—

1. A clothes-line formed in sections interlocked together, with an arm extending rigidly downward from the adjacent end of each, and forming clamping-jaws, so that the elevation
100

of the joint will open the jaw, and the depression and tension of the joint, by the gravity of the load, will close the jaw and hold the article grasped between, all substantially as
5 herein set forth.

2. A clothes-line formed of interlocking and detachable sections A B, provided with clamping devices A² B², on downward-extending arms A' B', and integral therewith, as set forth.

10 3. A clothes-line made in sections, with in-

terlocking ends and pendent clamping-arms, said arms provided with holding-faces, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of August, 1879, in the 15 presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBT. LARTER.

Witnesses:

CHARLES C. STETSON,
WM. C. DEY.