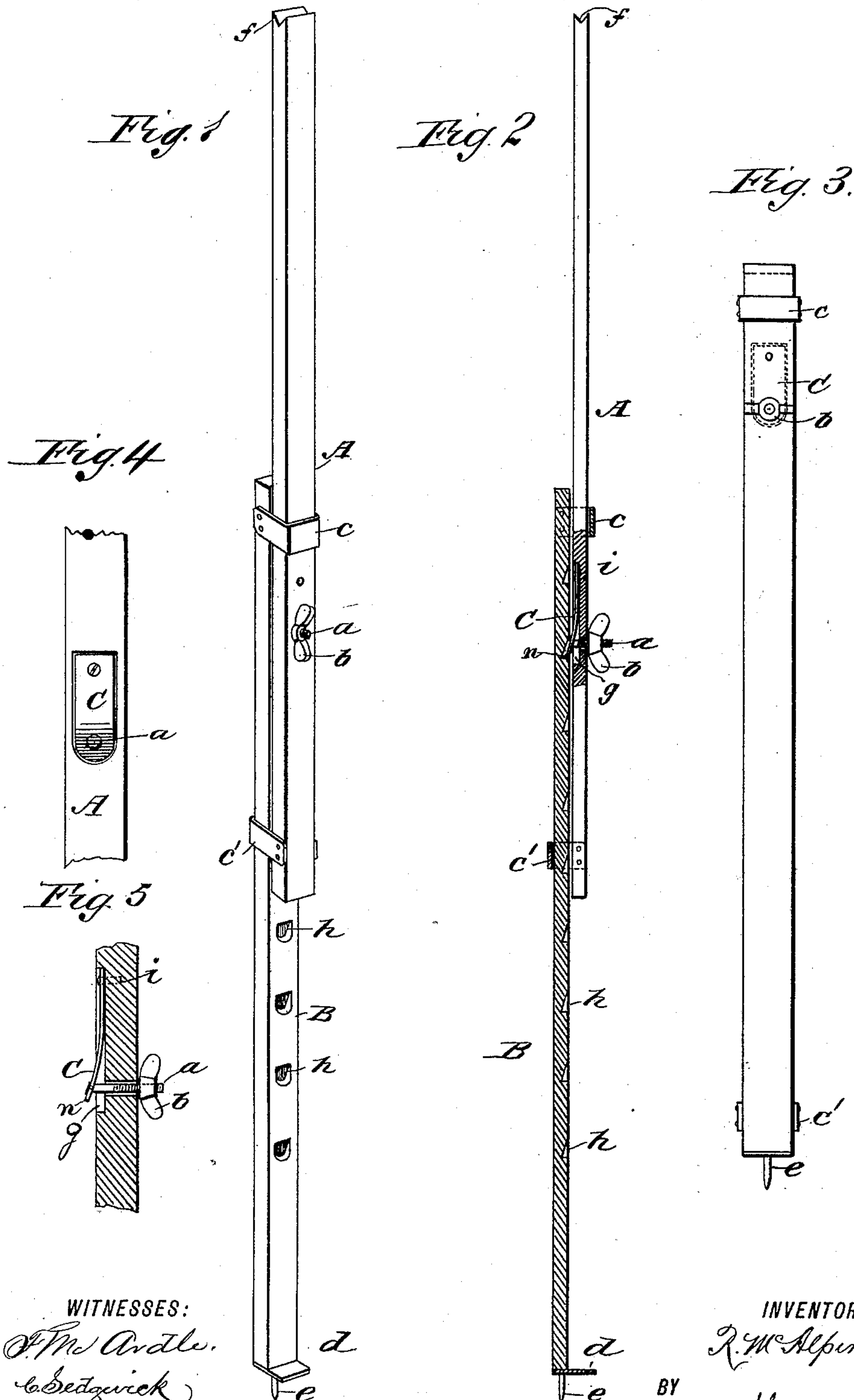


(No Model.)

R. McALPINE.
CLOTHES LINE PROP.

No. 418,378.

Patented Dec. 31, 1889.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ROBERT McALPINE, OF TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF
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CLOTHES-LINE PROP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 418,378, dated December 31, 1889.

Application filed June 17, 1889. Serial No. 314,561. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT McALPINE, of Trenton, in the county of Mercer and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful
5 Improvement in Clothes-Line Props, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

One object of my invention is to produce a simple, neat, and convenient clothes-line prop
10 which is extensible to provide different lengths therefor to adapt it to suit varying heights of the line it is to support.

Another object is to provide a clothes-line prop the sliding parts of which, when ad-
15 justed to alter its length, will automatically lock at any desired point.

With these objects in view my invention consists in the construction and combination of parts, as will be hereinafter explained, and
20 pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

25 Figure 1 is a perspective view in elevation of the device. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the clothes-line prop partially in section. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the clothes-line prop as it appears when closed up. Fig. 4 is a
30 view of a portion of one section of the prop, showing a rear face view of the spring-dog which automatically locks the prop-sections together at different points of adjustment for length; and Fig. 5 is an enlarged view of the
35 locking-dog, which is in position on a prop-section.

The pole or prop is comprised of two pieces of wood of suitable length. These are preferably made rectangular in cross-section, so
40 as to provide flat adjacent sides. The lower section B is provided with a projecting metal point *e*, that serves to retain the prop from slipping when in use. At spaced intervals notches *h* are cut into one side of the lower
45 section B, which notches have each an inclined wall that terminates in a square offset or shoulder, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The upper section A of the prop is held in sliding connection with the lower section B by the
50 clip-bands *c c'*, attached at proper points on

the two sections, so as to project oppositely therefrom and loosely connect the upper section to the lower section and permit it to slide endwise thereon. As shown in Fig. 2, the side of the upper section A is recessed at
55 *g* a suitable distance from its lower end to provide a seat for the spring-dog C, which is secured to the prop-section by a screw or rivet *i*. The dog C is preferably made of plate spring-steel or brass and is bent outward at
60 the lower end *n* to cause this end to rest on one of the shouldered notches *h* when brought opposite thereto. A threaded stud-bolt *a* is attached to the dog C near its end *n*, projects through a hole in the section A, and is pro-
65 vided with a winged nut *b*, that when screwed upon the stud will draw the spring-dog into the recess and release its end *n* from engagement with one of the notches *h*, as will be
70 readily understood on inspection of Fig. 5.

At the upper end of section A there is a notch *f*, cut to receive a clothes-line, and at the lower end of section B a projecting guard-plate *d* is affixed to limit the sliding move-
75 ment of the section A when it is closed upon the other section and the device assumes the shape shown in Fig. 3.

It will be evident from the foregoing description that the loosening of the nut will permit the spring-dog C to project outwardly
80 from its seat and engage its bent end with the shoulder of the notch it is opposite, thus affording firm support for weight of clothes thrown upon the upper end of prop-section A.

When the prop-sections A B are closed up, 85 the prop can be lengthened by simply pulling steadily upon the sliding section A until the right notch is engaged by the dog C to give the desired length to the prop. To close up the prop, the nut *b* is screwed upon the stud-
90 bolt *a* until the dog is drawn into its recess, when the sections will be released, and the two parts of the prop can be quickly slid one upon the other until the upper section rests upon the guard-plate, as is shown in Fig. 3. 95

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. In a clothes-prop, the combination, with a section which is notched at intervals on one 100

side and a section which is held by clip-bands to slip on the notched section, of a spring-dog, a threaded stud fixed to this dog, and a nut, substantially as set forth.

- 5 2. In a clothes-prop, the combination, with a section that has notches formed on one of its sides, which notches each slope to a shoulder in one direction, and another section which is held by clip-bands to slide upon the notched

section, of a plate-spring dog which is seated in a recess in one section and engages the sloped and shouldered notches of the other section, a threaded stud, and a winged nut, substantially as set forth.

ROBERT McALPINE.

Witnesses:

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