

(No Model.)

J. DOW.  
ROPE CLAMP.

No. 418,555.

Patented Dec. 31, 1889.

Fig. 1.

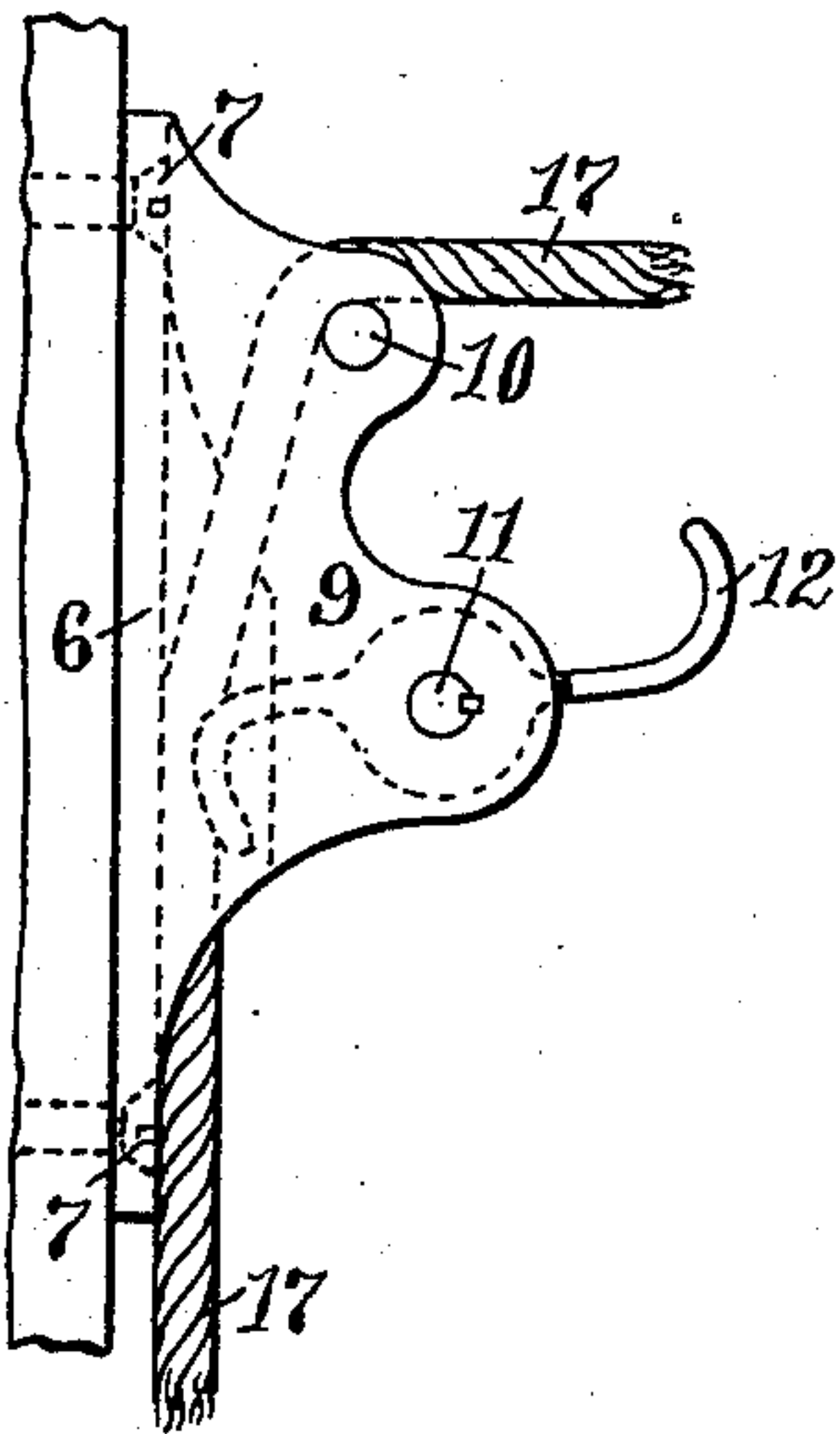


Fig. 2.

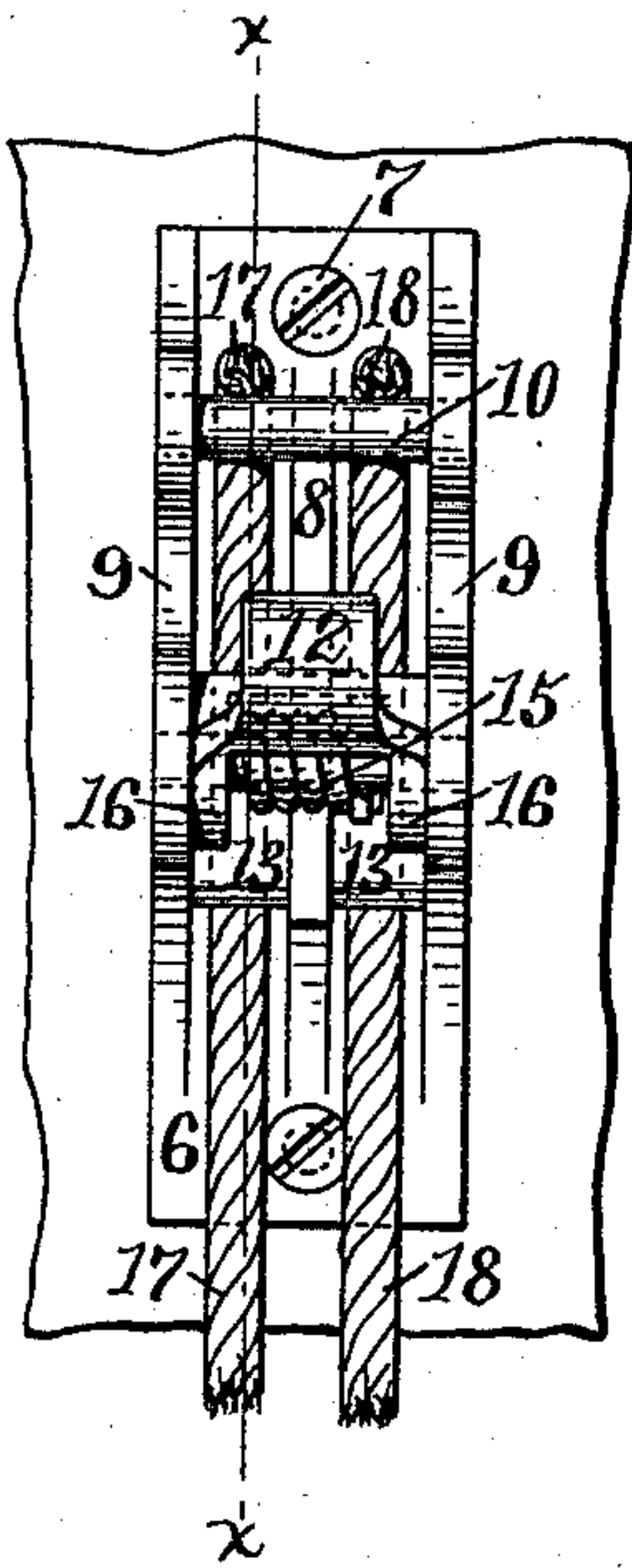


Fig. 3.

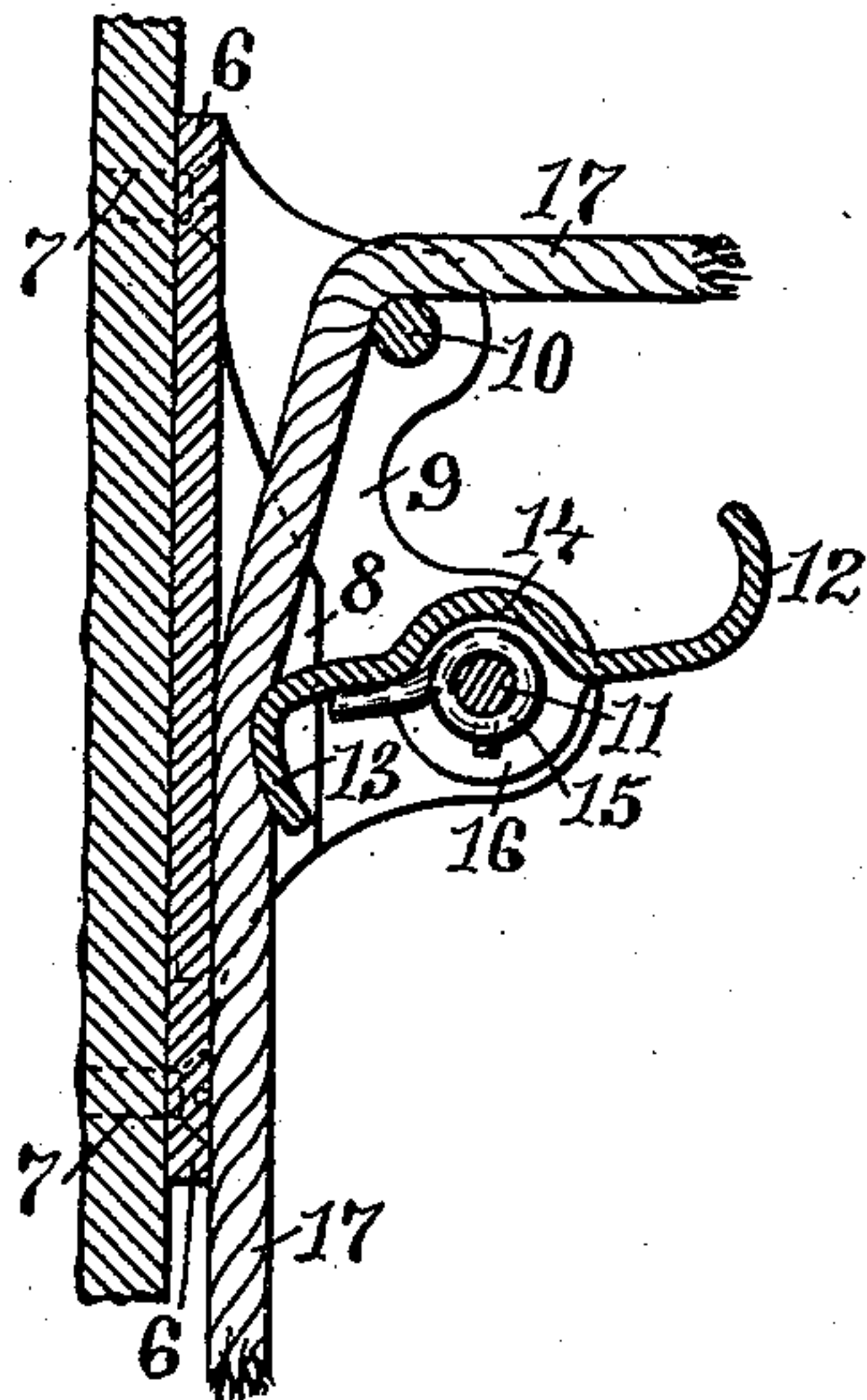
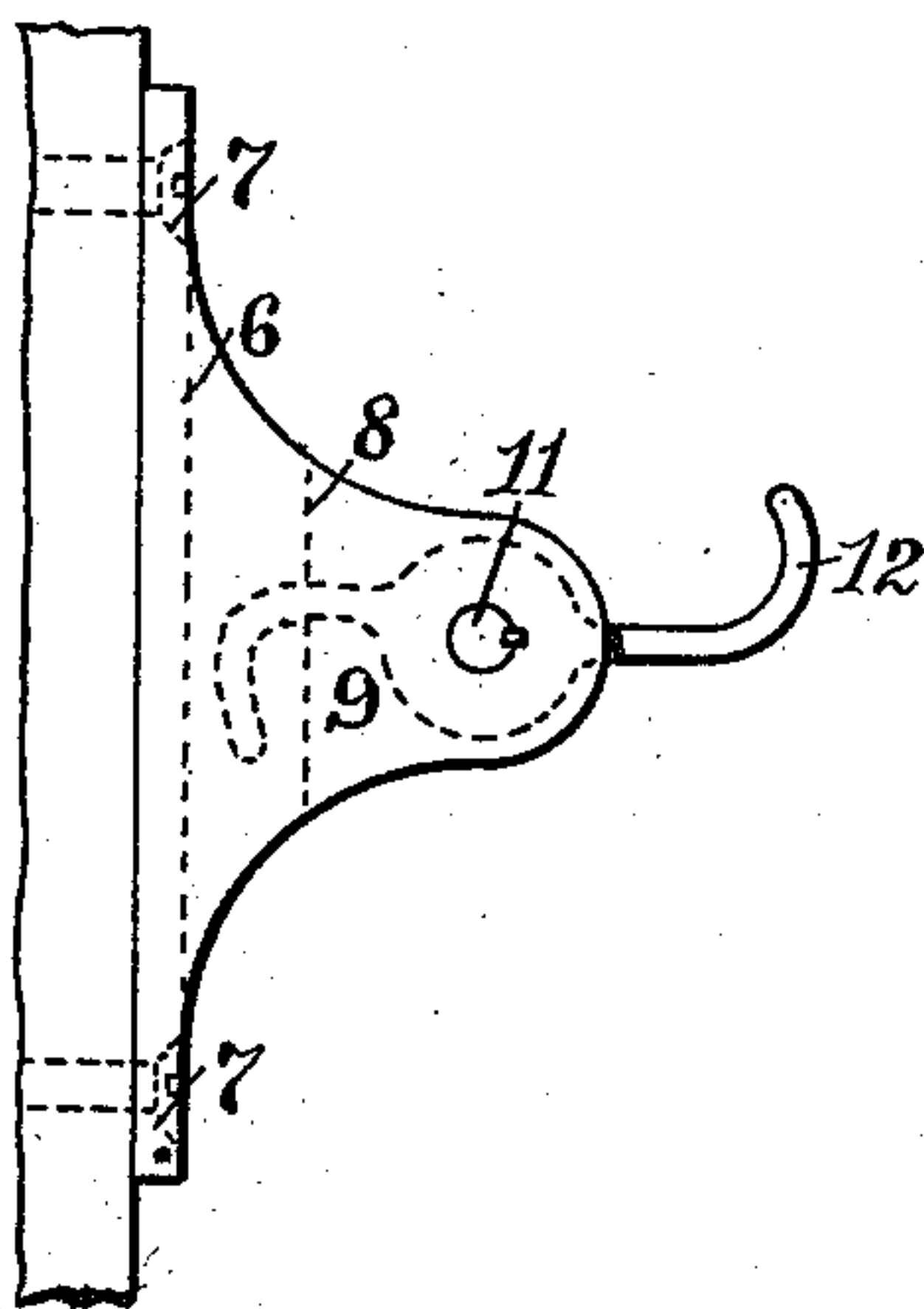


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

Chas. H. Luther Jr.  
M. F. Bligh.

INVENTOR:

John Dow  
by Joseph A. Miller & Co  
Attys



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN DOW, OF PONTIAC, RHODE ISLAND.

## ROPE-CLAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 418,555, dated December 31, 1889.

Application filed May 4, 1889. Serial No. 309,604. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN DOW, of Pontiac, in the county of Kent and State of Rhode Isl-  
and, have invented a certain new and useful  
5 Improvement in Rope-Clamps, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact descrip-  
tion, reference being had to the accompany-  
ing drawings, forming part of this specifica-  
tion.

10 This invention has reference to an improve-  
ment in a rope-clamp by which the same is  
peculiarly adapted for use in supporting,  
stretching, and securing clothes-lines.

The invention consists in the peculiar and  
15 novel construction of a frame provided with  
two or more channels in which two or more  
ropes or lines can be placed, a binding-lever,  
and preferably a sustaining-bar, as will be  
more fully set forth hereinafter.

20 Figure 1 is a side view of my improved  
rope-clamp, shown partly in broken lines.  
Fig. 2 is an end view of the same. Fig. 3 is  
a sectional view on the line X X of Fig. 2.  
Fig. 4 is a side view of a modified form of the  
25 clamp.

In the drawings similar numbers of refer-  
ence designate corresponding parts through-  
out.

In stretching clothes-lines it is very con-  
30 venient to secure one end of the line and then  
pass the line from one support to the other  
until the other end of the line is reached.  
For household use a number of posts or other  
means of support are generally used and the  
35 line is stretched from post to post.

My improved rope-clamp forms a conven-  
ient device for securing both ends of the line,  
and thus permit a more thorough stretching  
of the same.

40 The device consists of the base 6, provided  
with screw-holes 7 7, for permanently secur-  
ing the device to a post, fence, house, or other  
vertical surface. The base is provided with  
the partition 8, which, with the two cheek-  
45 pieces 9 9, forms two grooves or channels, in  
each of which a rope or line may be placed.  
It is obvious that, if required, more than two  
such channels may be formed by the use of  
more than one partition 8; but for ordinary  
50 household use only two channels are required.  
The bar 10 is secured in or cast with the cheek-

pieces 9, extending from one to the other, and  
forms the support for the rope or line. A  
clamp-lever is pivoted on the pin 11, secured  
in the cheek-pieces 9. This clamp-lever is 55  
provided with the bent handle 12 at its outer  
end and the cam-shaped clamping end 13 on  
the opposite end. The central part of the  
clamp-lever at 14 has a semi-cylindrical re-  
cess, in which the coiled spring 15, surround- 60  
ing the pin 11, is placed. One end of the  
coiled spring 15 is secured to the pin 11.  
The other end bears against the lower part of  
the clamp-lever, as is shown in Fig. 3. On  
each side of the clamp-lever the cheek-pieces 65  
16 are cast with the lever. Through these  
cheeks the pin 11 passes and forms the piv-  
otal bearing of the clamp-lever. The cam or  
clamping portion 13 of the clamp-lever is  
slotted, so as to pass below the dividing-par- 70  
tition 8 and bear on the rope or line.

The operation of the device is so simple  
that any ordinary domestic can readily un-  
derstand and use the same. One of my im-  
proved clamps being secured in the position 75  
shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, the end 17 of the  
clothes-line is passed over the supporting-bar  
10 and through one of the grooves below the  
clamping-lever, which is held open against the  
strain of the coiled spring by pressing against 80  
the handle 12. The line is now placed on the  
ordinary supports, extending from support  
to support until the other end 18 reaches the  
clamping device. This end 18 is passed over  
the supporting-bar 10 and behind the clamp- 85  
lever, and when thus temporarily secured the  
end 17 or 18, or both simultaneously, are  
drawn down until the whole line is as rigidly  
stretched as is desirable. During this stretch- 90  
ing the coiled spring 15 keeps the clamp-lever  
always in contact with the rope or line and  
instantly holds the same firmly when the de-  
sired stretching is secured.

In the device shown in Fig. 4 only the sup-  
porting-bar is omitted. In all other respects 95  
its construction and operation are as the de-  
vices shown in the other figures.

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

1. A rope-clamp consisting of the base 6, 100  
adapted to be secured as described, the cheek-  
pieces 9, the partition 8, the supporting-bar

10, the pin 11, the clamp-lever provided with  
handle 12, the cam 13, the cheeks 16, and spi-  
ral spring 15, constructed to support and se-  
cure the two ends of the rope or line, as de-  
scribed.

2. In a rope-clamp, the combination, with  
the base 6, partition 8, and cheek-pieces 9, of  
the clamp-lever consisting of the handle 12,

the slotted cam 13, adapted to hold two ropes,  
and the cheeks 16, the coiled spring 15, and  
the pin 11, constructed to clamp two ropes, as  
described.

JOHN DOW.

Witnesses:

J. A. MILLER, Jr.,  
M. F. BLIGH.