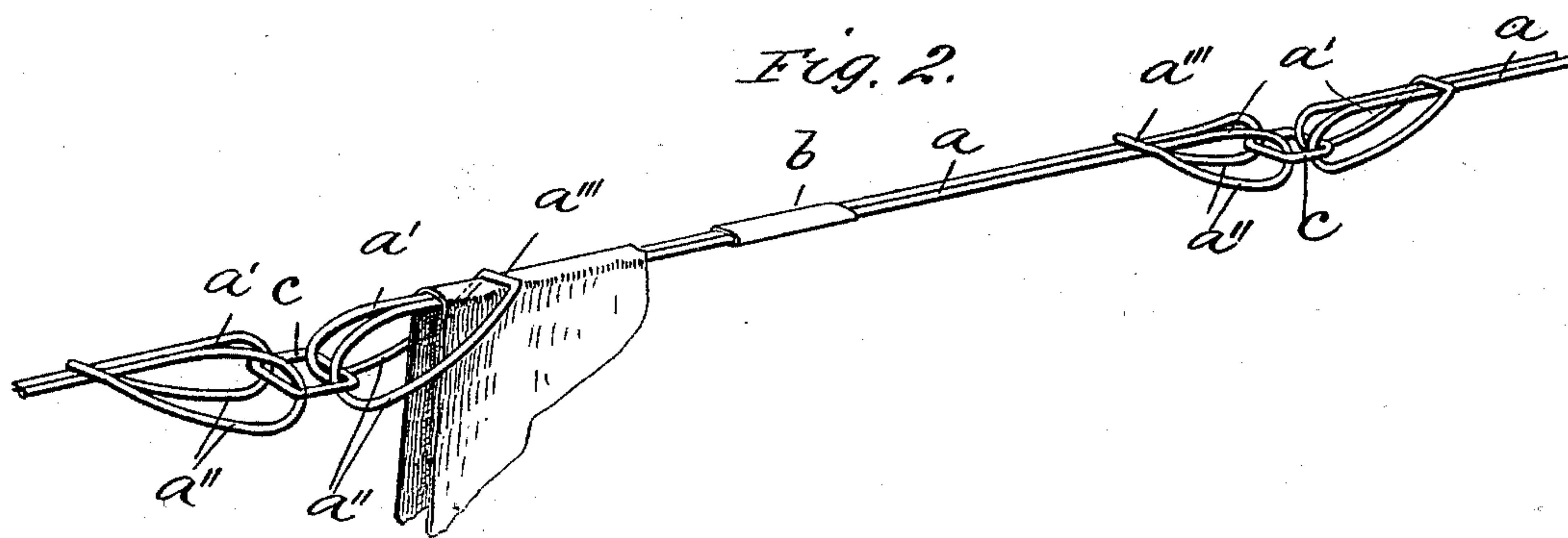
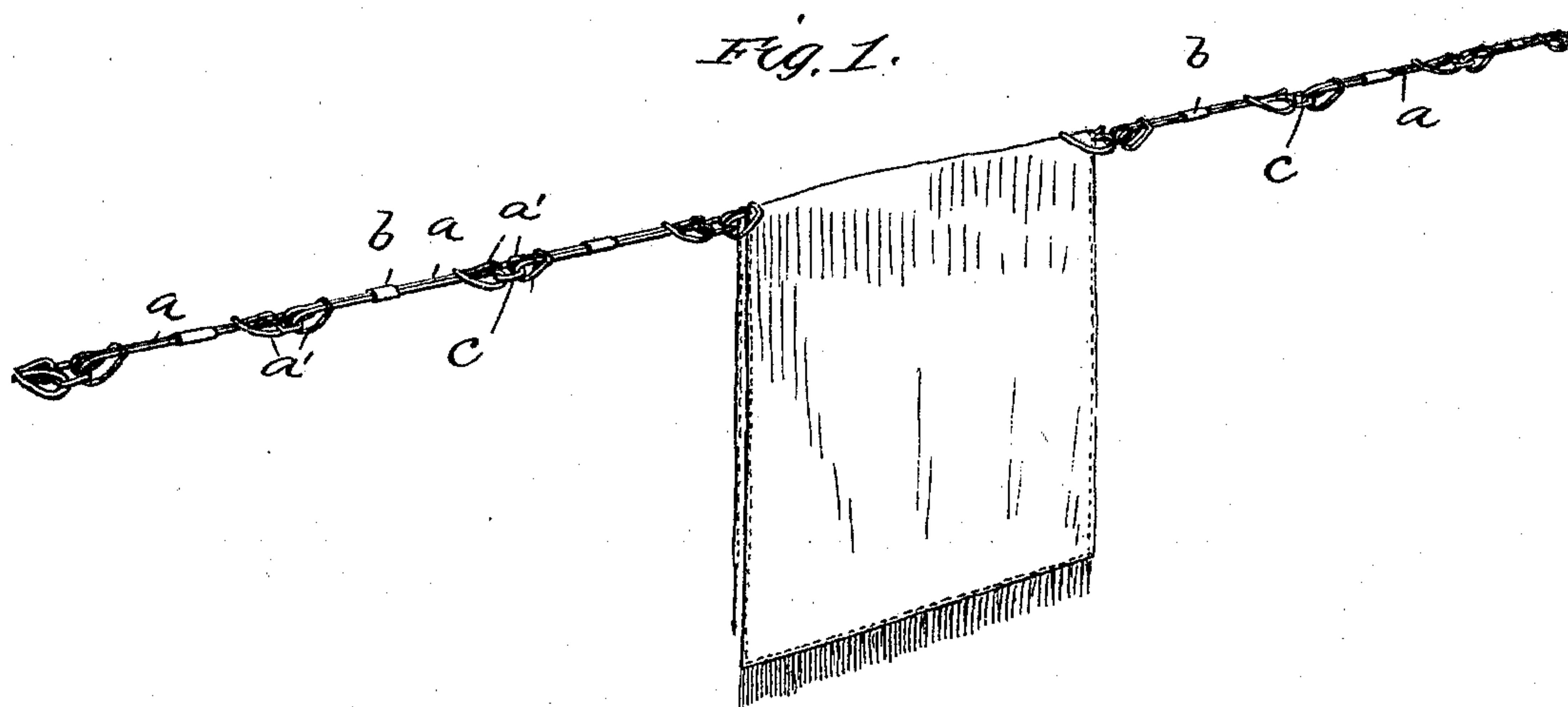


(No Model.)

F. G. LANE & J. W. KELLY.  
PINLESS CLOTHES LINE.

No. 497,247.

Patented May 9, 1893.



Witnesses

J. M. Guinness.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FERNANDO G. LANE AND JOHN W. KELLY, OF AUSTIN, TEXAS, ASSIGNORS  
OF ONE-THIRD TO FRED STERZING, OF SAME PLACE.

## PINLESS CLOTHES-LINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 497,247, dated May 9, 1893.

Application filed October 20, 1892. Serial No. 449,480. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, FERNANDO G. LANE and JOHN W. KELLY, citizens of the United States, residing at Austin, in the county of Travis and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pinless Clothes-Lines, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to a new and useful improvement in pinless clothes lines; and it has for its object to provide a durable clothes-line of simple construction, by means of which the use of the usual detachable pins is obviated, spring clamping fingers formed integral with the line being provided for securing the clothes on the line.

The line is preferably formed of wire sections flexibly or loosely connected together; and the invention consists in the novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of my improved line; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of an enlarged section.

Referring to the drawings by letter, *a* designates the main portion of the sections of my line, each of which sections consists preferably of a single piece of spring wire of a suitable thickness bent upon itself, its ends meeting in the middle of the section, forming a double wire section, the strands of which are parallel for a greater portion of their length. Clamping-fingers are formed at the ends of each section by bending the wire to form the loops *a'*. These loops consist of the sides *a'' a''* which are curved, as shown, and extend on either side of the main portion *a* of the section, and the ends *a'''* which bear on the upper side of the main portion, the tension of the spring-sides causing said end portion to bear strongly on the main portion. It will thus be seen that any article of fabric it may be found desirable to hang on the line may be securely held in place by simply raising the end *a'''* of the loop *a'* of

the clamping fingers, and placing the edge of the article under it, the tension of the spring-loops securely holding it thereunder, the sides of the loops being separated and bent out laterally slightly in order that the article may be more readily passed under the ends *a'''* as shown clearly in Fig. 2. The sides of the loops *a'* extend below the strands of the main portion of each section thereby providing an almost even surface for the articles on the line to rest on. The ends of the wire which forms each section are securely bound to the other strand of the section, where they meet, by a sleeve or a piece of sheet-metal *b*, which surrounds both strands, securely holding the ends of the wire against the other strand by bracing the section at its middle.

The sections of the line are connected by any suitable device; those shown in the drawings consisting of open links *c* which loosely connect them at the loops *a'* as clearly shown. Any suitable device which would allow of a free movement of the links at their ends may be employed to connect them.

From the foregoing the operation and advantages of our improved line will be readily understood.

It will be seen that we provide an exceedingly simple device, which is very durable, and very efficient in operation.

When it is desired to store the line it may be folded or wound into a small bundle; the loose connection of the links permitting this, as will be readily understood.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim is—

1. A clothes line consisting of a series of sections loosely connected together, each of said sections consisting of a piece of double wire having its ends curved downwardly and backwardly to form the spring loops *a'*, said loops embracing and bearing down resiliently on the main portion of the section, as and for the purpose described.

2. A wire section for clothes lines consisting of a single piece of wire having its ends



bent back upon its main portion and secured thereto, the strands of the doubled ends being bent downwardly and backwardly and spread apart, forming the spring sides  $a''$  of the loops  $a'$ , the closed ends  $a'''$  of these loops embracing and bearing resiliently on top of the main portion of the section, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

FERNANDO G. LANE.  
JOHN W. KELLY.

Witnesses:

E. W. HERNDON,  
JOHN POWELL.