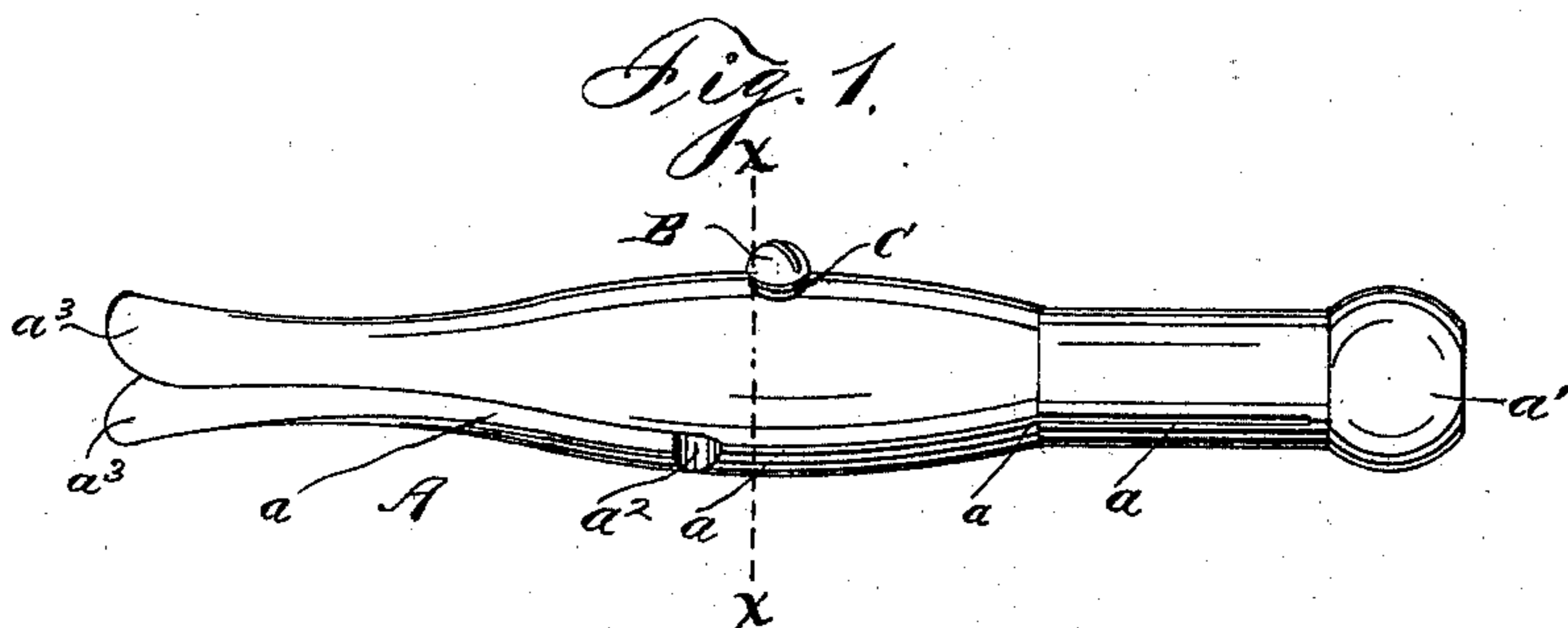


No. 609,261.

Patented Aug. 16, 1898.

F. E. BENTON.
WOODEN CLOTHES PIN.
(Application filed Dec. 30, 1897.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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FRANCIS E. BENTON, OF STOUGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

WOODEN CLOTHES-PIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 609,261, dated August 16, 1898.

Application filed December 30, 1897. Serial No. 664,653. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS E. BENTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Stoughton, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wooden Clothes-Pins; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The invention relates to wooden clothes-pins which are employed to fasten garments upon a clothes-line; and it consists in a one-piece clothes-pin divided by a saw from the lower end up to or nearly up to the head, the two legs thus formed being held more or less close together upon an intermediate object by a cross-bolt and spiral spring, as herein-after more particularly described.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of my invention, and Fig. 2 a cross-section thereof on the dotted line $x x$ of Fig. 1.

In the drawings, A represents my improved wooden clothes-pin, the same being provided with the median longitudinal saw-slit a from the lower end up to or nearly up to the head a' . It also has a cross-groove a^2 in one of the legs to bite upon the clothes-line and has the free ends $a^3 a^3$ of the legs outwardly diverging from each other, so as to facilitate the required straddle of the clothes-line.

B is the tension-bolt, which screws through one leg into the other, so as to produce the necessary action of the spring C. The latter is coiled about the shank of the bolt and under its head in a chamber made for the purpose and sufficiently large to allow it to work freely. By this construction a greater or less tension may be imparted to the spring by screwing up the bolt more or less, so that it will accommodate itself to the size of the line and that of the garment which is to be hung thereon. When my clothes-pin is once clamped on the line, the garment is so tightly held that the wind cannot possibly detach it.

Having thus described all that is necessary to a full understanding of my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to protect by Letters Patent, is—

A bifurcated, one-piece, wooden clothes-pin, provided with a transverse tension-spring bolt, the latter passing through one leg of clothes-pin and screwing into the other while the spring is loosely placed about the bolt as shown and described; whereby the tension of the spring may be graduated to make the legs of clothes-pin securely clasp any size of line or thickness of the garment.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANCIS E. BENTON.

Witnesses:

PRESTON B. RUNYAN,
WILLIAM S. BRITTAIN.