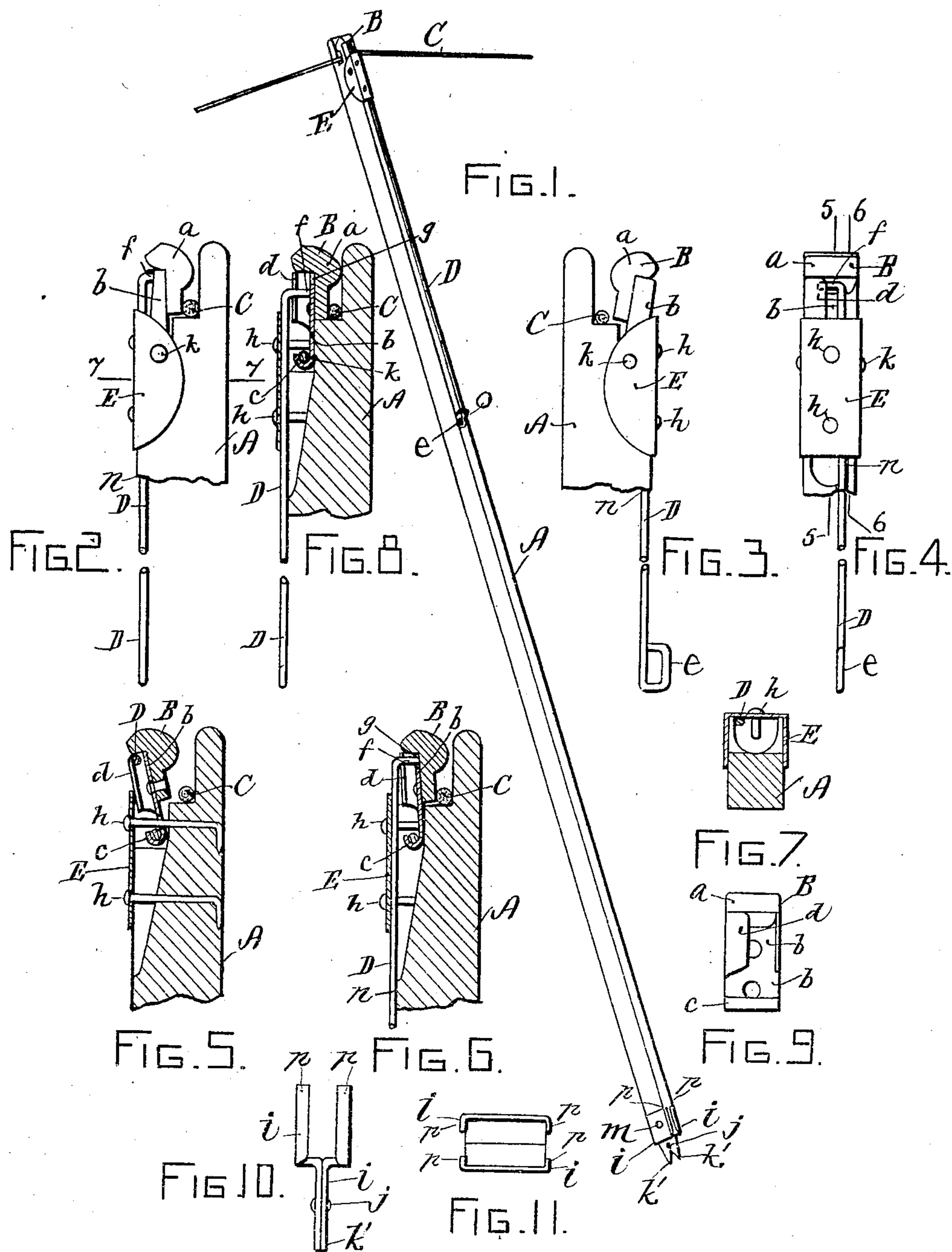


No. 814,266.

PATENTED MAR. 6, 1906.

W. F. BRIGGS.  
CLOTHES LINE PROP.  
APPLICATION FILED MAY 27, 1903.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM F. BRIGGS, OF BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND.

## CLOTHES-LINE PROP.

No. 814,266.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 6, 1906.

Application filed May 27, 1903. Serial No. 159,028.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. BRIGGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bristol, in the county of Bristol and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clothes-Line Props, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists in the improved construction of the engaging jaw at the head of the prop and in the improved construction of the spur at the lower end, as hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the clothes-line prop in engagement with the line. Fig. 2 represents an enlarged side view of the upper end of the prop with the engaging jaw closed upon the line. Fig. 3 represents a view of the opposite side of the end of the prop with the engaging jaw at its backward position. Fig. 4 represents a back edge view of the end of the prop with the engaging jaw in its backward position. Fig. 5 represents a section taken in the line 5 5 of Fig. 4, showing the engaging jaw at its backward position. Fig. 6 represents a section taken in the line 6 6 of Fig. 4, showing the engaging jaw in its closed position. Fig. 7 represents a transverse section taken in the line 7 7 of Fig. 2. Fig. 8 represents a section as in Fig. 6 with the actuating-rod in the lower position for closing the jaw to its extreme limit. Fig. 9 represents a back view of the engaging jaw removed from the prop. Fig. 10 represents an enlarged edge view of the pieces *i*, carrying the engaging spurs for the lower end of the prop. Fig. 11 represents a top view of the same.

In the drawings, A represents the wooden portion of the prop, and B the movable jaw which serves to engage with the clothes-line C to hold the top of the prop in a firm position upon the said line, the said jaw being formed of the cast portion *a*, preferably of zinc or some other non-oxidable metal, and the sheet-metal portion *b*, formed of zinc or other suitable material and provided at its lower end with the open hook *c* and at its side with the inwardly-turned flange *d*, adapted for the engagement therewith of the arm *f* of the operating-rod D, which rod is pivoted to the side of the wooden portion A of the prop by means of the longitudinal groove *n*, the holding-strap E, and the staple *o* and provided with the turned end *e*, by means of which it is operated by hand to open or close the jaw

B. The jaw B is pivoted upon the transverse pin *k*, which is engaged by the hook *c* of the jaw. The operating-rod D is adapted for limited sliding movement along the wooden portion A, whereby the end of the arm *f* may be caused to engage either with the sheet-metal portion *b* of the jaw, as shown in Fig. 8, thus completely closing the said jaw to accommodate a line C of small diameter, or to enter the recess *g*, as shown in Fig. 6, thus providing for a line C of larger diameter, the said jaw being drawn back from its closed position by the engagement of the arm *f* with the inwardly-extending flange *d* of the jaw, as shown in Fig. 4. The holding-strap E, to which the jaw B is pivoted, is secured to the wooden portion A of the prop by means of the clenched nails *h h*. The lower end of the prop is provided with separate pieces *i i*, riveted together at the point *j* and riveted to the prop at the point *m*, the said pieces *i i* being each provided with the two spurs *k' k'*, the spurs of one piece being arranged side by side with the spurs of the other piece, and by means of the two spurs arranged as shown the prop may be firmly held with either edge uppermost, as desired, the inner side of the uppermost spur serving to prevent the too deep penetration of the other. The pieces *i i*, which form the spurs, are provided with the inwardly-directed flanges *p p*, which embrace the opposite edges of the wooden member and serve to prevent the pieces *i*, carrying the spurs, from becoming loose at the point of attachment.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a clothes-line prop the combination of the wooden member, and the pivoted jaw provided with the inwardly-extending flange, with the operating-rod provided with an engaging arm, and adapted for turning movement to engagement with the back of the jaw to close the same upon the line, and with the flange, to open the jaw and release the line, substantially as described.

2. In a clothes-line prop the combination of the wooden member, and the pivoted jaw provided with the recess, with the operating-rod provided with an engaging arm and adapted for both turning and endwise movement, whereby the engaging arm may be either caused to engage with the back of the jaw, or with the bottom of the recess, substantially as described.

3. In a clothes-line prop the combination of the wooden member, and the pivoted jaw

provided with the recess and the inwardly-  
extending flange, with the operating-rod pro-  
vided with the engaging arm, and adapted  
for both turning and endwise movement, and  
5 for engagement with the bottom of the recess  
to close the jaw, and with the flange, to open  
the jaw, substantially as described.

4. In a clothes-line prop the combination  
of the wooden member, and the pivoted jaw  
10 provided with the inwardly - turned flange,  
and with the pivot-engaging hook, with the

pivot-carrying strap, secured to the wooden  
member, the operating-rod provided with the  
engaging arm adapted for engagement with  
the back of the jaw, and with the inwardly- 15  
extending flange, and the spurs at the bot-  
tom of the prop, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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