

No. 870,703.

PATENTED NOV. 12, 1907.

W. D. WATKINS.
CLOTHES PIN.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 8, 1906.

Fig. 1.

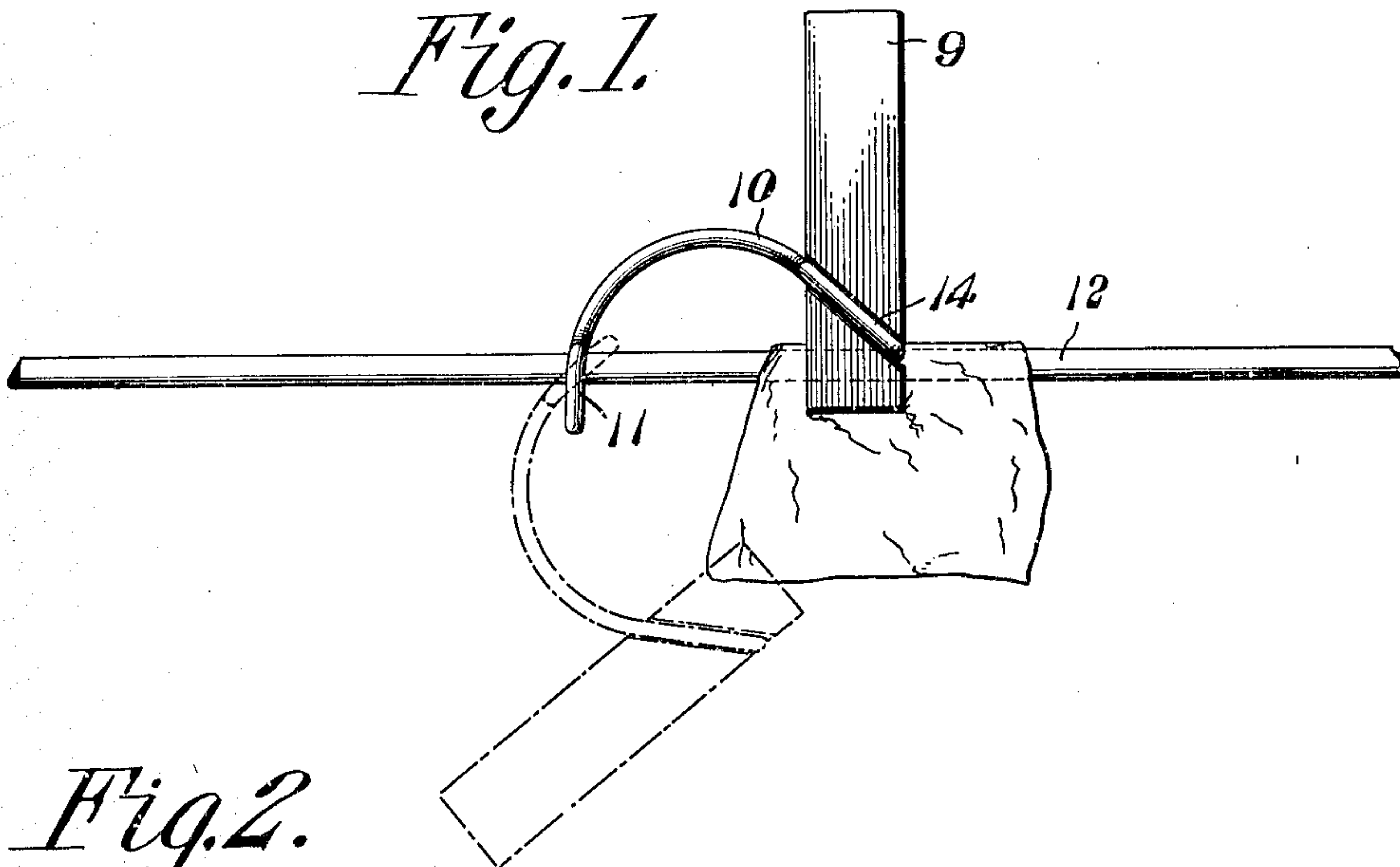


Fig. 2.

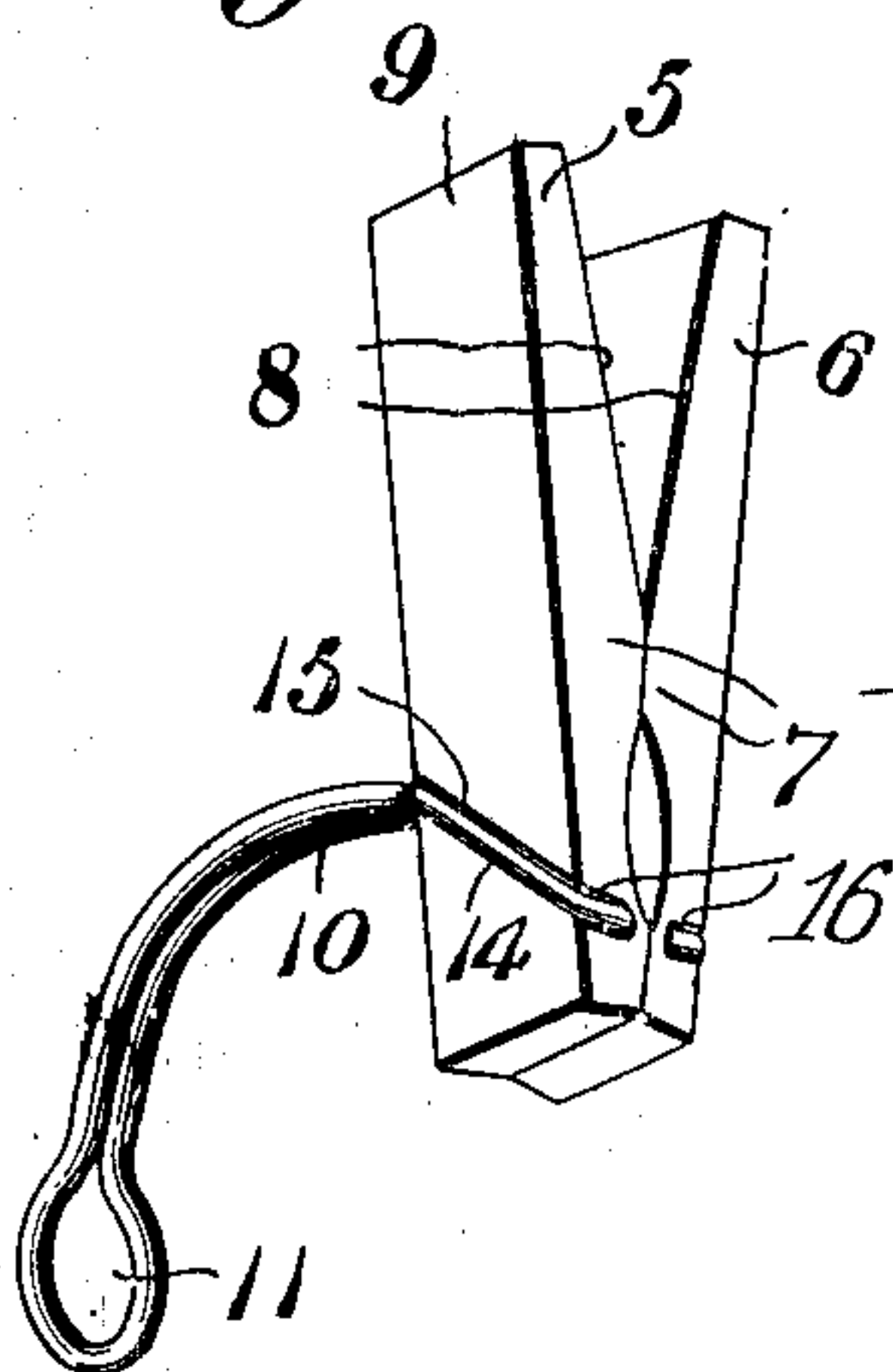


Fig. 4.

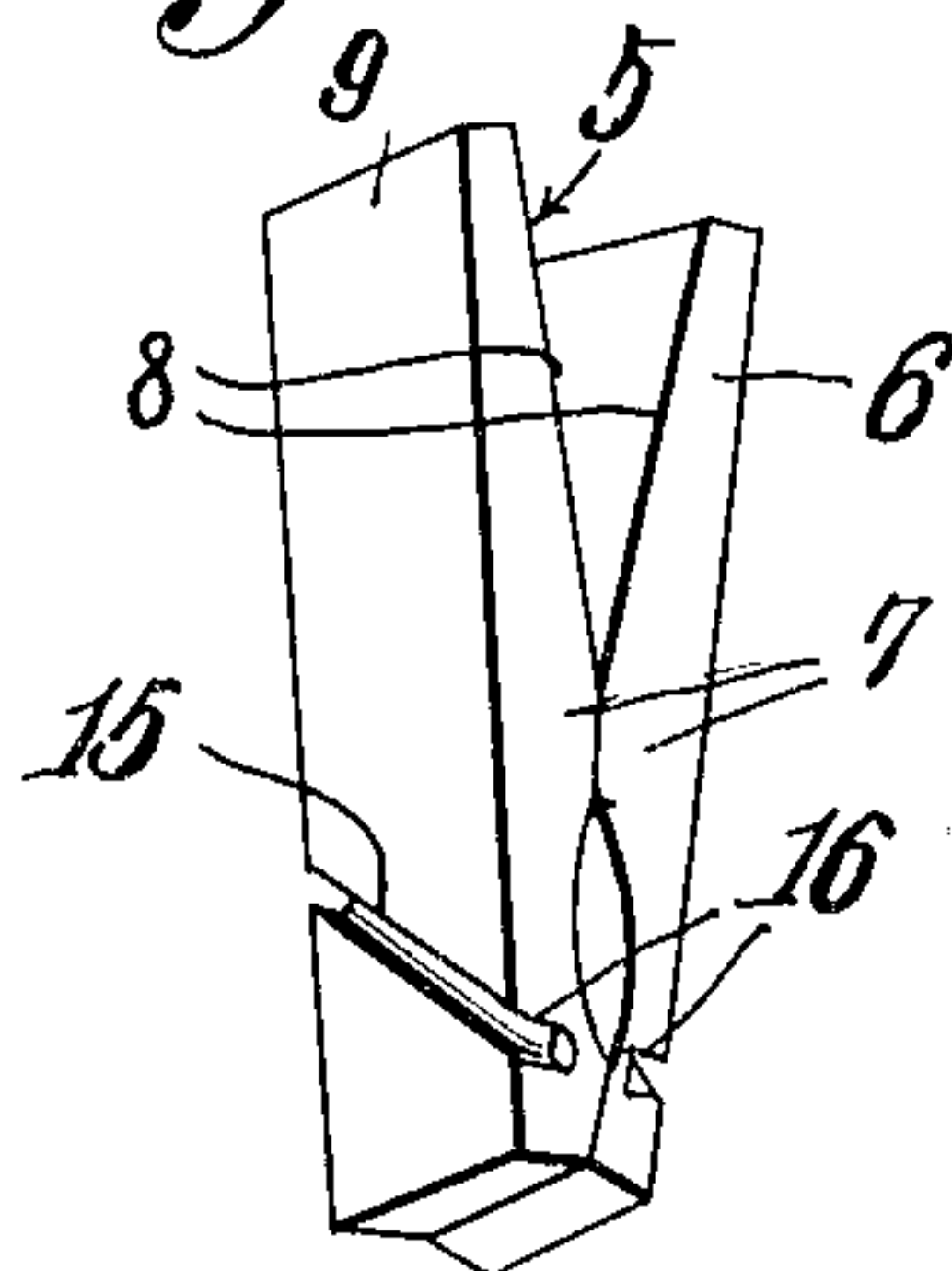
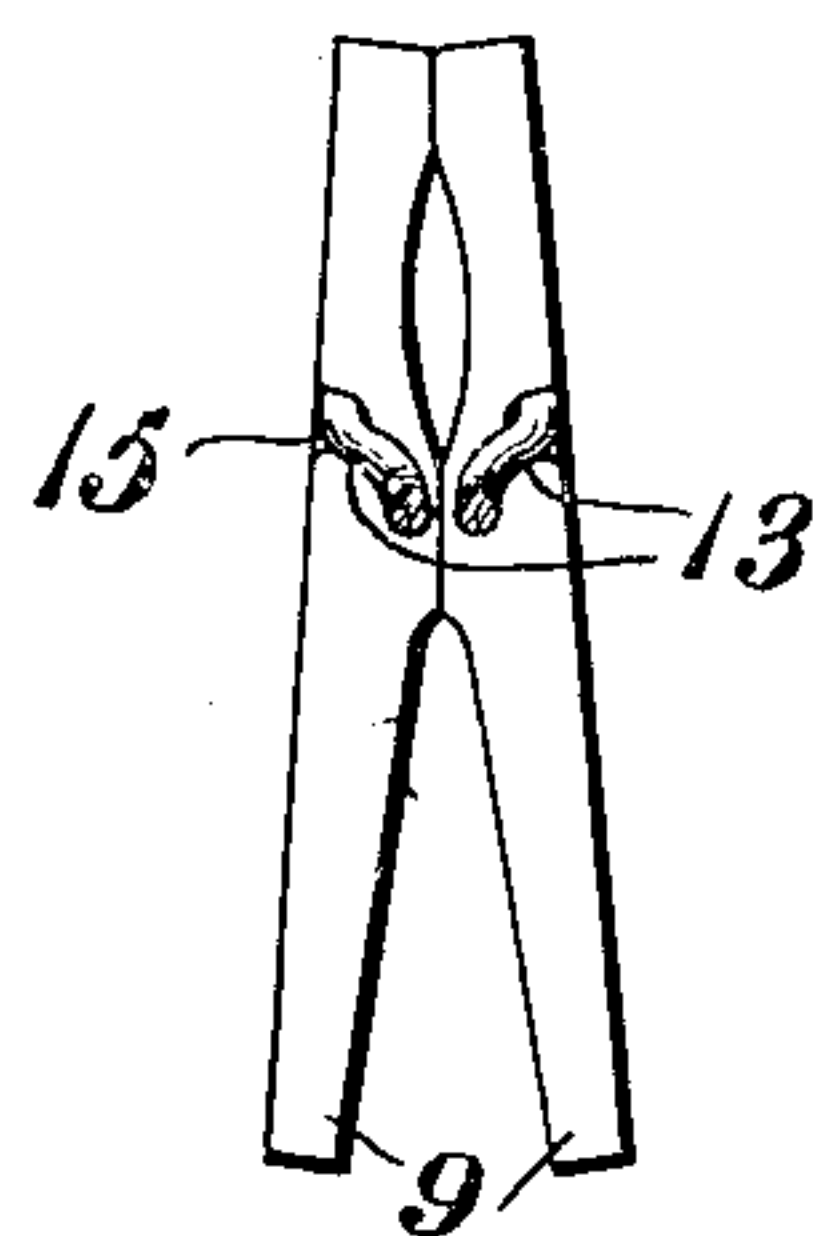


Fig. 3.



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WILLIAM DAVID WATKINS, OF SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOHN P. KEY, OF SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA.

CLOTHES-PIN.

No. 870,703.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 12, 1907.

Application filed October 8, 1906. Serial No. 338,018.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM DAVID WATKINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at San Jose, in the county of Santa Clara and State of California, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Pin, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to clothes pins and has for its object to provide a comparatively simple and inexpensive device of this character having a pair of spring clamping jaws adapted to engage and clamp the clothes on the line and which may be conveniently supported on the line when not in use.

A further object of the invention is to generally improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency as well as to reduce the cost of manufacture.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification: Figure 1 is a side elevation of a clothes pin constructed in accordance with my invention showing in full lines the pin in operative position on the clothes line and in dotted lines the position assumed by the pin when the latter is not in use. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the pin detached. Fig. 3 is a front elevation partly in section of the clothes pin. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the clamping member or jaws with the hanger detached.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawings.

The improved device comprises a pair of freely separable clamping jaws 5 and 6 formed of wood or other suitable material and preferably rectangular in cross-section, as shown.

The inner faces of the clamping members are provided with intermediate lateral off-sets 7 which bear against each other and form the fulcrum or pivotal axis of the clamping jaws.

One end of each clamping member is inclined or beveled, as indicated at 8 to form a terminal finger-piece 9 while the opposite ends of said members are yieldably supported in contact with each other by a spring clamping member 10.

The spring clamping member 10 is preferably formed of a single piece of wire an intermediate portion of which is bent to form a terminal loop or eye 11 adapted

to receive the clothes-line 12 while the opposite ends of the wire are disposed in contact with each other and curved laterally to form a handle, the terminals of the wire being off-set, as indicated at 13 and thence extended laterally to form loops or sockets 14 which engage suitable grooves or seats 15 extended diagonally across the exposed faces of the clamping members. The ends of the loops 14 are seated in correspondingly shaped grooves 16 formed in the adjacent ends of the clamping members thereby to present smooth unobstructed end walls and prevent injury to the clothes or other garments.

In operation the clothes-pin is positioned on the line with the latter extending through the loop or eye 11 and normally suspended therefrom, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1 of the drawing.

When it is desired to fasten the clothes on the line the clothes-pin is swung upwardly and positioned over the garment to be supported after which the finger-pieces 9 are pressed inwardly and the jaws forced downwardly over the garment and clothes-line, as indicated in full lines in Fig. 1 of the drawing.

In order to remove the pin it is merely necessary to exert an inward pressure on the finger-pieces 9 and at the same time pull upwardly on the clothes-pin when the garment may be detached, the pin being subsequently swung downwardly and supported from the line so as to be in position for use when necessary.

Attention is called to the fact that the clamping jaws are devoid of pivot pins and similar fastening devices, being yieldably supported in contact with each other by means of the member 10 so that the jaws are readily separable and free to expand and contract thereby to permit the pin to be used on garments of different thicknesses without danger of breaking the pin.

The pins may be made in different sizes and shapes and plated or otherwise coated to protect the same against the action of the elements.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that there is provided an extremely simple, inexpensive and efficient device admirably adapted for the attainment of the ends in view.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

1. A clothes pin comprising a pair of clamping jaws having grooves formed in their exterior side faces, and a spring clamping member seated in said grooves and having one end thereof provided with an off-set portion bearing against the adjacent longitudinal edges of the clamping jaws and extended to form an eye for the reception of a clothes line, that portion of the handle between the eye and the clamping jaws being curved laterally.

2. A clothes-pin comprising a pair of freely separable
spring clamping jaws having their adjacent faces pro-
vided with lateral off-sets and their opposite ends inclined
to form terminal finger-pieces, there being grooves formed
5 in the exposed faces of the jaws and across one end there-
of, and a spring clamping member formed of a single piece
of wire an intermediate portion of which is bent to form
an eye for the reception of a clothes-line and its opposite
ends extended laterally in parallel relation and bent to
10 form loops adapted to engage the grooves in the exposed

faces of the clamping jaws, the terminals of the wire form-
ing the clamping member being bent inwardly and seated
in the grooves in the end walls of said jaws.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I
have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two 15
witnesses.

WILLIAM DAVID WATKINS.

Witnesses:

Mrs. W. H. RUMDIDGE,

M. E. HERROLD.