

No. 886,241.

PATENTED APR. 28, 1908.

E. NORTON.
SUPPORTING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 31, 1907.

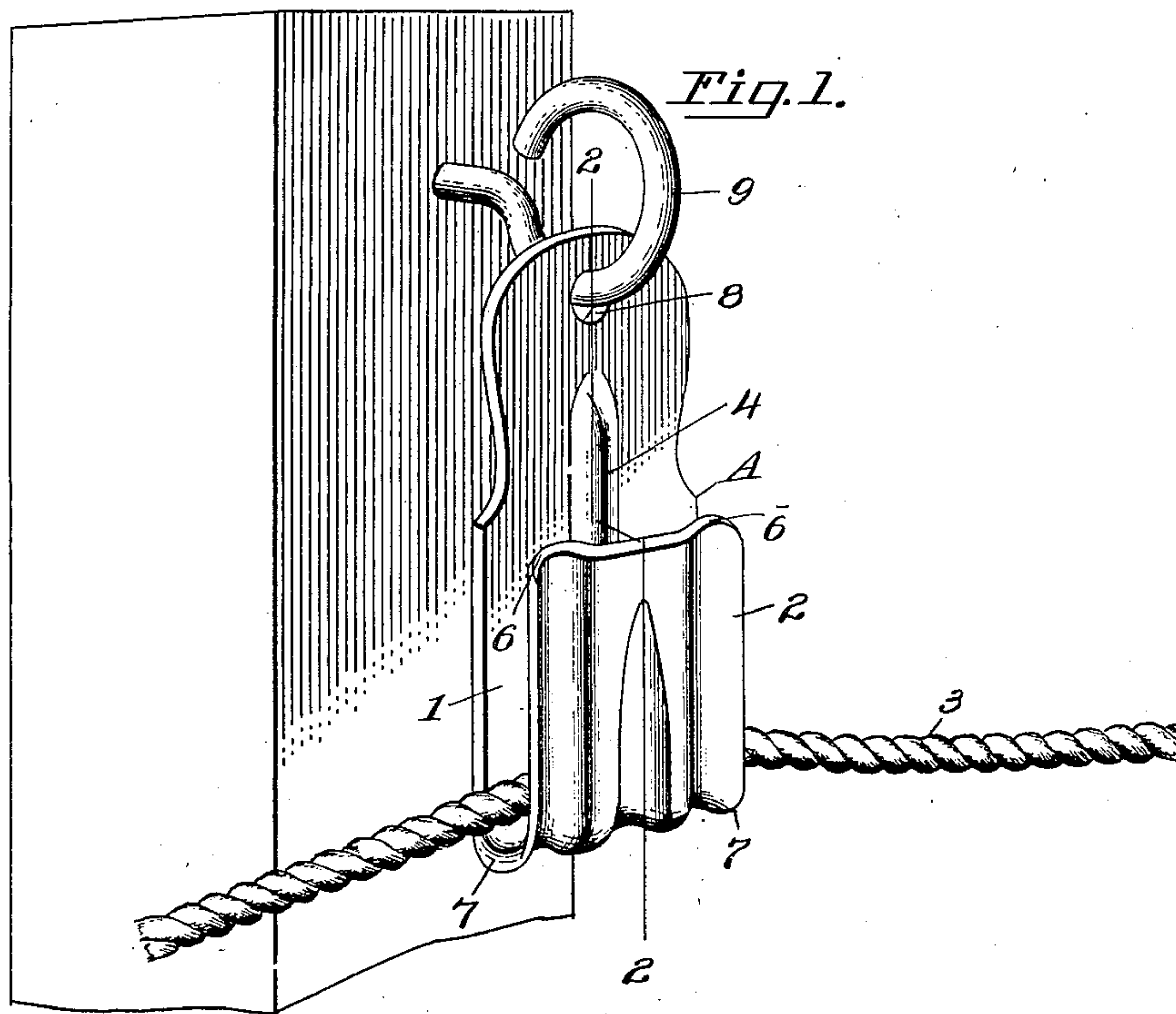


Fig. 2.

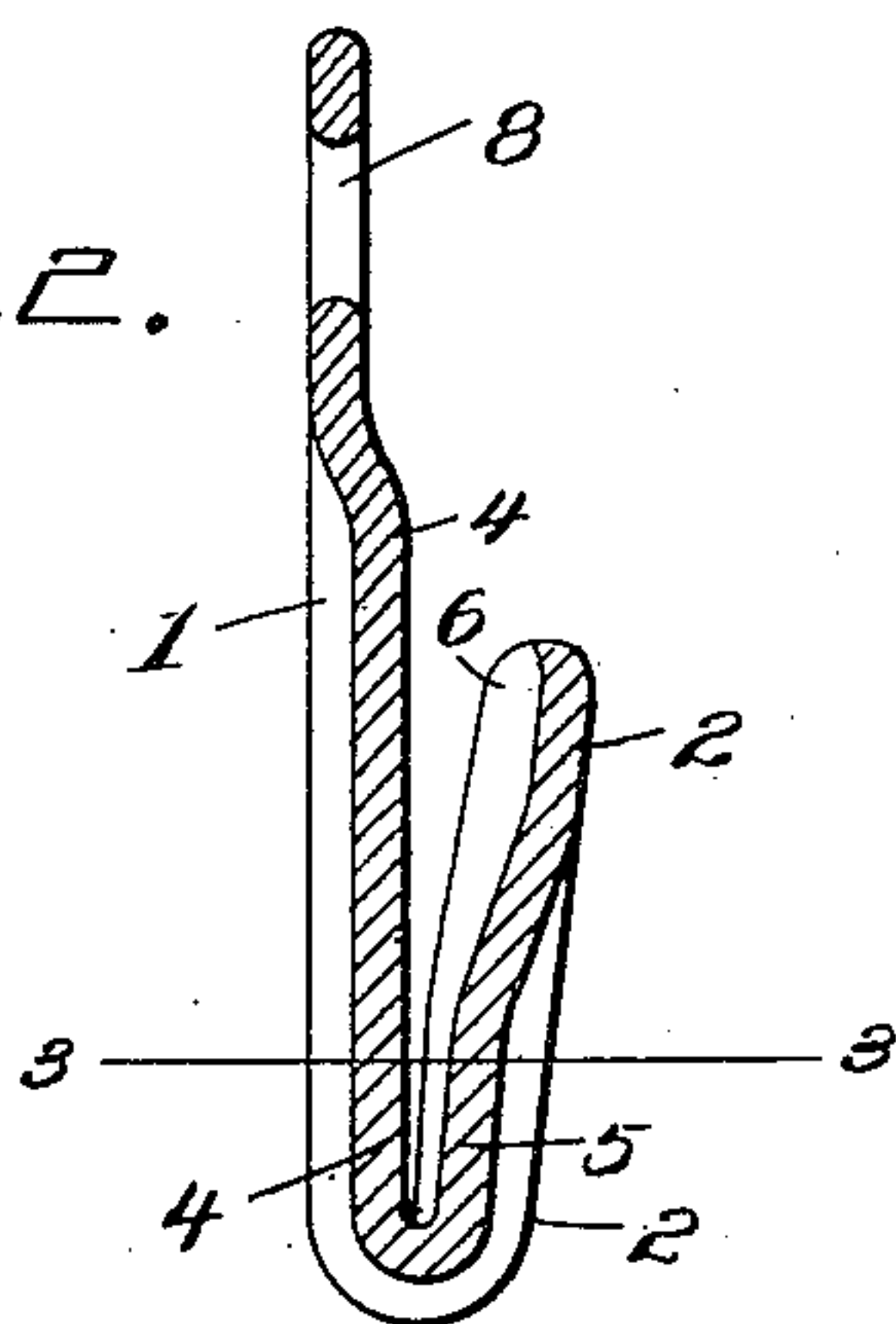
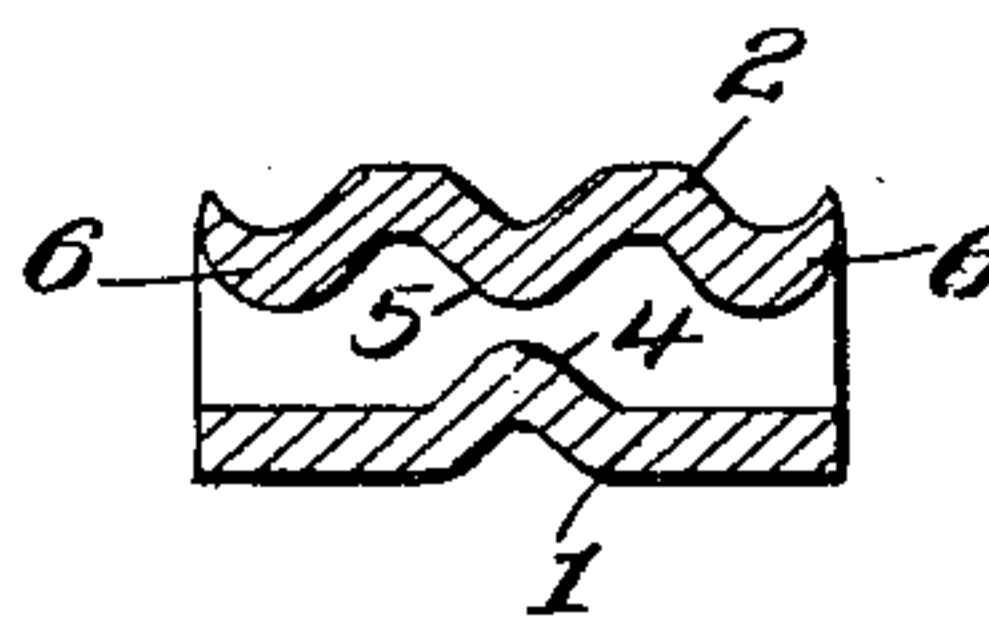


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

F. L. Gibson.

Wm. Bagger.

Inventor
Enos Norton.

By *Victor J. Evans*

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ENOS NORTON, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

SUPPORTING DEVICE.

No. 886,241.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 28, 1908.

Application filed July 31, 1907. Serial No. 386,458.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ENOS NORTON, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Supporting Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to supporting devices adapted especially to be used in connection with clothes lines for the purpose of maintaining such lines taut in extended condition, and it has for its object to provide a device of this class which shall possess superior advantages in points of simplicity, durability and general efficiency, and which will admit of a clothes line being very easily and quickly stretched or detached from the supporting means, as occasion may require.

With these and other ends in view which will readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the improved construction and novel arrangement and combination of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing has been illustrated a simple and preferred form of the invention; it being, however, understood, that no limitation is necessarily made to the precise structural details therein exhibited, but that changes, alterations and modifications within the scope of the claims may be resorted to when desired.

In the drawing: Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the improved line supporting device in position for operation. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on the plane indicated by the line 2—2 in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3, in Fig. 2.

Corresponding parts in the several figures are denoted by like characters of reference.

The improved supporting device consists primarily of a broad, flat hook A which may be constructed of galvanized iron or other material suitably protected against rust and corrosion; said hook including the shank 1 and the lip portion 2, which latter is preferably bent in an outward direction so that its free end will be spaced further from the shank than the lower or connected end, as will be clearly seen by reference to Fig. 2 of the drawings; the purpose being to permit a line, 3, to be readily introduced between the shank and the free end of the lip portion 2.

The front side of the shank, whereby is meant that face of the shank which lies proximate to the lip portion 2, is provided with an approximately central vertically disposed rib 4, which extends forwardly in the direction of the lip portion 2, and which corresponds with a similar rib 5 which is formed centrally and vertically upon the lip portion, extending rearwardly in the direction of the shank 1. The apices of the ribs 4 and 5 are disposed closely together, and, owing to the tilted position of the lip portion 2, the said ribs practically converge or merge together in the lower or inner extremity of the hook. The lip portion 2 of the hook is provided at the side edges thereof with auxiliary ribs 6, 6, which extends rearwardly in the direction of the shank portion, said ribs being preferably rounded so as to present no abrasive surfaces. The several ribs are preferably formed by making ridges or indentations in the material of which the supporting device is formed and the corners of the hook, where the shank portion and the lip portion are merged together, are provided with rounded lips 7 which will engage the line without wearing or abrading the latter. The shank of the hook is provided adjacent to its upper end with an eye 8, adapted to be placed in engagement with a supporting hook 9.

It will be observed that the rib 4 upon the shank portion of the hook is extended considerably above the upper edge of the lip portion 2, and that while the ribs 6 at the side edges of said lip portion are extended to the extreme upper edge of said lip portion, the central rib 5 of the latter terminates at a distance from the upper edge, said rib being also tapered in an upward direction, so as to permit of the ready introduction of the line 3 which is to be placed in engagement with the supporting device. When the line 3 is introduced into the hook, the conjoint action of the ribs 4 and 6 will cause the said line to assume a wavy position which will materially assist in preventing its displacement from the ribs 4 and 5 between which it will be clamped and held with great security. When a number of the supporting devices are mounted, at suitable distances apart, a clothes line may be readily stretched from one to another of said devices where it may be made fast with sufficient security by simply entering it into and placing it in engagement with the several hooks. It follows that a clothes

line, thus supported, may be readily adjusted or taken down, as occasion may demand, and it may be kept much cleaner and in better condition than if left constantly stretched
5 and exposed to the weather.

I claim:

1. A supporting device of the class described, consisting of a broad flat hook, the shank portion of which is provided with a
10 central vertical rib extending toward the lip portion and the lip portion of which has a corresponding rib extending toward the shank portion, beveled upwardly, and terminating at a distance from the terminal edge
15 of said lip portion.

2. A supporting device of the class described, consisting of a broad flat hook, the shank portion of which is provided with a central vertical rib extending toward the lip
20 portion and the lip portion of which has a corresponding rib extending toward the shank portion; said lip portion being pro-

vided with auxiliary ribs adjacent to the side 25 edges thereof.

3. A supporting device of the class described, consisting of a broad flat hook, the shank portion of which is provided with a central vertical rib extending toward and
30 above or beyond the lip portion and the lip portion of which is provided with a corresponding vertical rib extending toward the shank portion and terminating at a distance from the terminal edge of the lip portion,
35 said lip portion being provided with auxiliary ribs adjacent to its side edges and extending to the free terminal edge of the lip; said central ribs converging and merging together at the inner end of the hook.

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

ENOS NORTON.

Witnesses:

E. J. HENNING,
FRED C. JETTER.