F. O. NITCH.

CLOTHES LINE HOLDER.

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945,579. Patented Jan. 4, 1910.

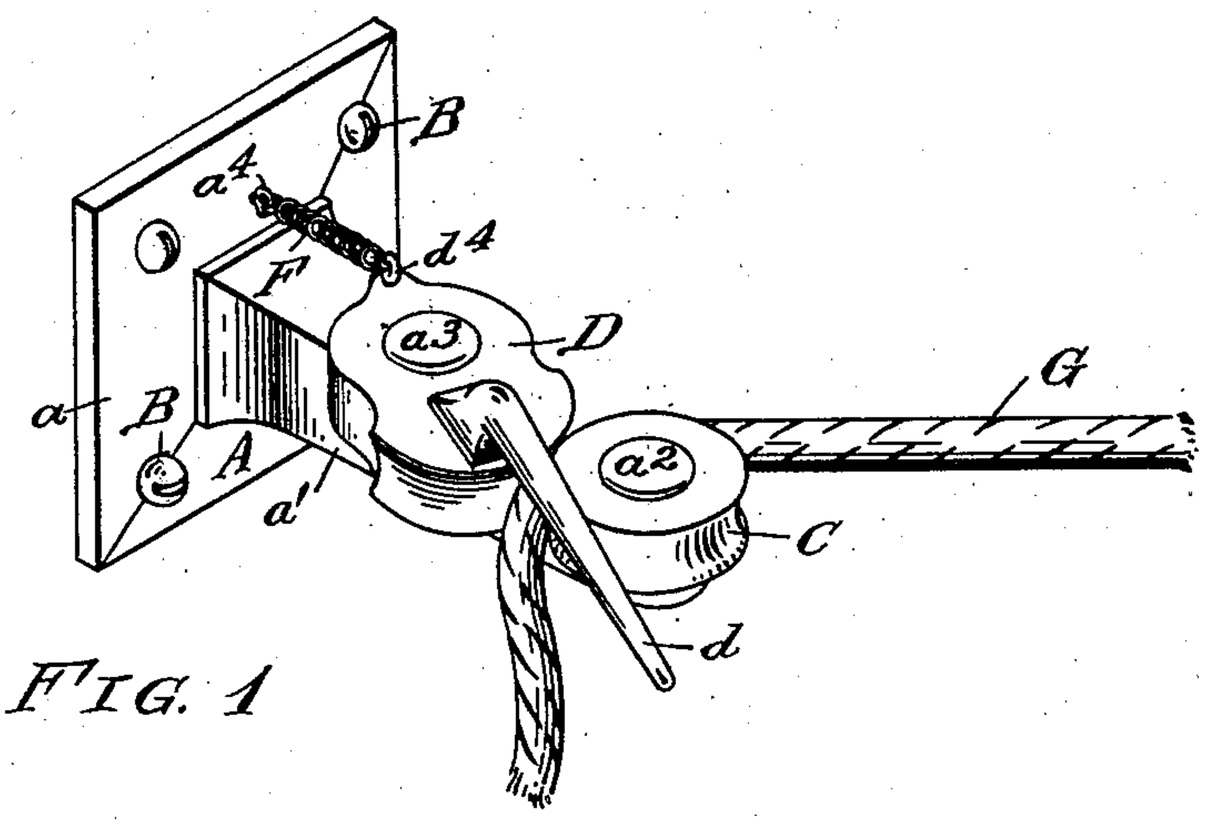

FIG. 1

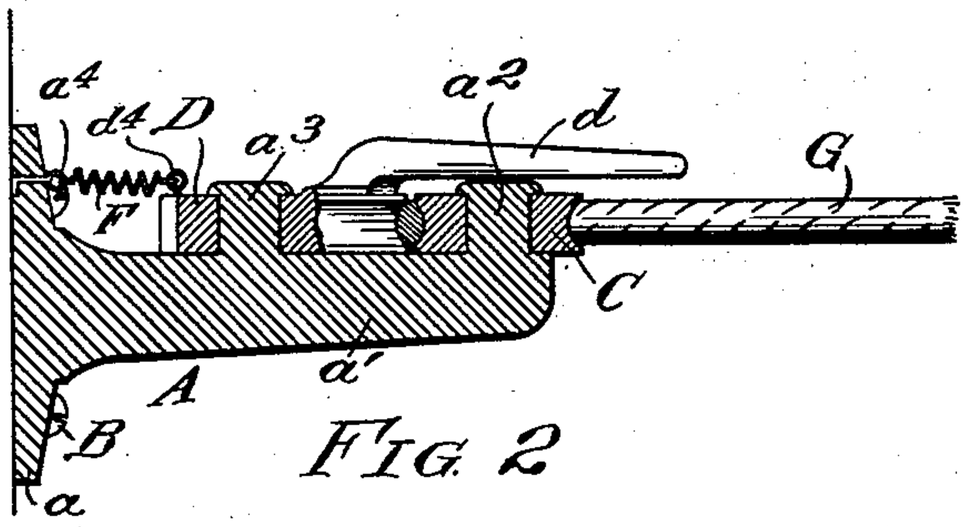

FIG. 2

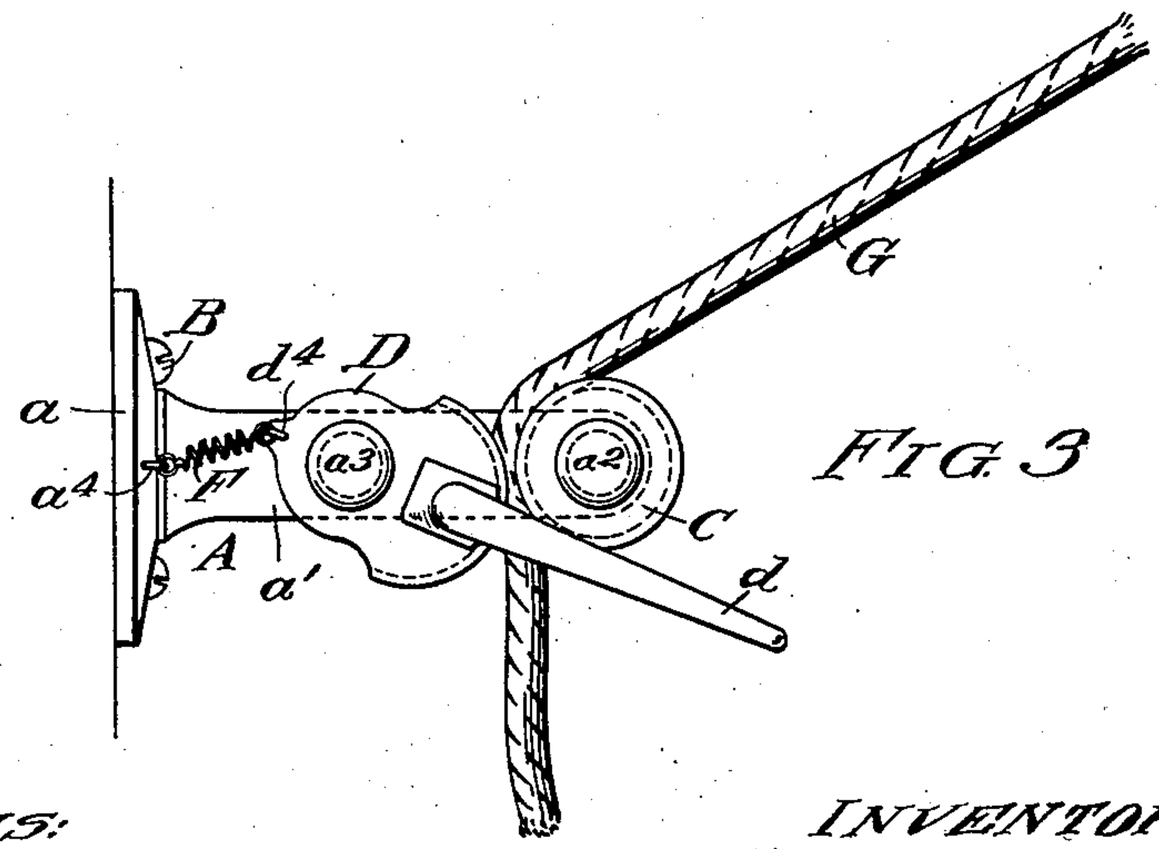

FIG. 3

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CLOTHES-LINE HOLDER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK O. NITCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Clothes-Line Holders, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of this invention is to provide a very simple and efficient device for attachment to posts, buildings, etc., to hold a clothes-line.

My holder allows the line to be instantly put in place and clamped; and moreover, to be drawn up as the weight on the line causes it to sag.

The invention comprises the means to the above end as hereinafter more fully explained and as definitely summarized in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my holder complete; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same; Fig. 3 is a plan.

Referring to the parts by reference letters, A represents a suitable bracket which is formed with a flat plate *a* and a stud *a'* projecting from the face thereof. The plate is provided with holes in the four corners, by which it may be secured to a post, building, etc., by suitable screws, as indicated by B.

Projecting from the stud *a'* are a pair of pins a^2, a^3. On the pin a^2 is mounted a roller or sheave C, and on the pin a^3 is pivoted a cam D adapted to coöperate with the roller. The cam and roller have grooved edges and bear such relation to each other that they are adapted to effectively clamp between them a clothes-line, indicated by G.

To cause the clamping to be automatic, I prefer to provide a spring tending to force the cam from either direction toward its midposition. This spring is shown as a coiled spring F, hooking at its ends into eyes a^4 and d^4, carried by the base plate and cam respectively.

To effect the unclamping, I provide the cam D with a handle *d* (preferably integral therewith) which rises from the upper surface of the cam and projects over the roller C. By means of this handle, the cam may be very easily turned to free the line. The handle may also be used whenever necessary to cause the cam to obtain a firmer grip than normally.

The main stud *a'* and the base plate *a* are preferably made of one integral casting. The pins a^2 and a^3 are also preferably integral with the stud and base plate. This member may conveniently be a malleable casting so that the pins may be upset over the roller and cam, as shown in the drawing, or the roller and cam could be put in the mold, and the pins cast through them.

It will be seen that my complete device consists of but four pieces; the support, the roller, the cam, and the spring. It may accordingly be very cheaply constructed. There is nothing about it to get out of order, and it is very durable. Moreover, its method of application is apparent at a glance, which is an important feature in view of the use of the clamp. The line may extend from the clamp in any direction, so that no skill is required in originally locating the clamps. They are simply put on a post or on the side or corner of a building, as may be most convenient. Moreover, the projecting stud forms a support for the clothes-line. It is only necessary to turn back the cam, throw the line over the support between the cam and roller, and then allow the spring to force the cam into engagement, the cam being tightened, if necessary, by the handle, as well as turned backward when desired to free the line.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. The combination with a base plate adapted to be attached to a permanent structure, of an arm integrally formed upon the plate, a roller having a grooved surface mounted upon the arm, a cam member also mounted upon the arm, the cam surface of said member being also grooved, said member being provided with a projection at one end and a spring secured to said projection and to the base plate.

2. The combination of a base plate, an arm projecting therefrom and having a pair of

studs projecting from one side of the arm, a grooved roller journaled on one of said studs, a grooved cam journaled on the other stud, and adapted to coöperate with the roller, an operating arm projecting from said cam, and a spring operating on the cam and tended to force it into coöperation with the roller.

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

FRANK O. NITCH.

Witnesses:
ALBERT H. BATES,
BRENNAN B. WEST.