

(No Model.)

C. B. ALBERT.  
CLOTHES LINE.

No. 457,335.

Patented Aug. 11, 1891.

FIG. 1.

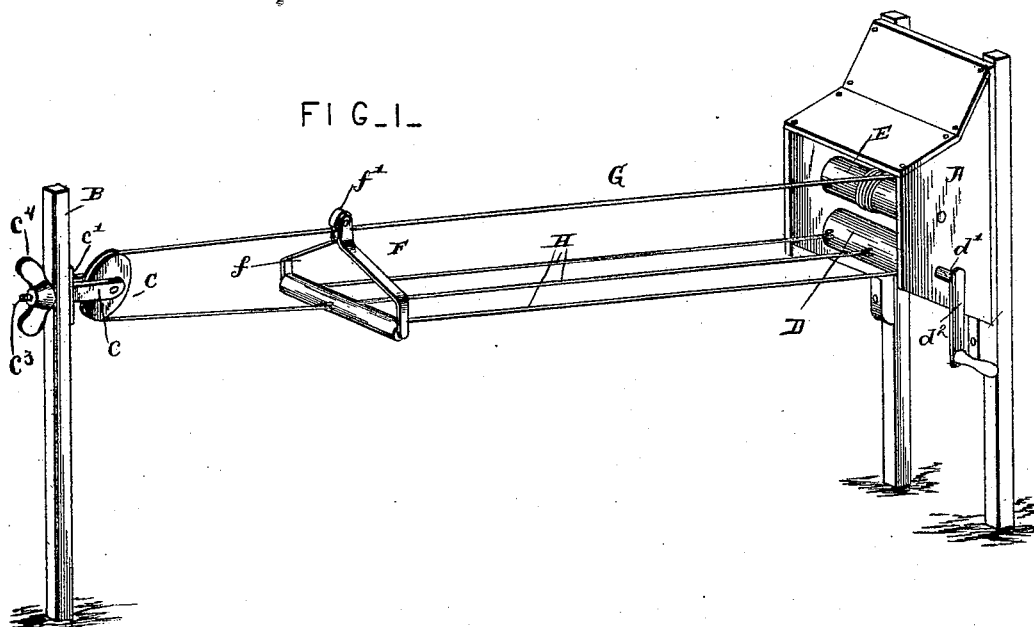


FIG. 2.

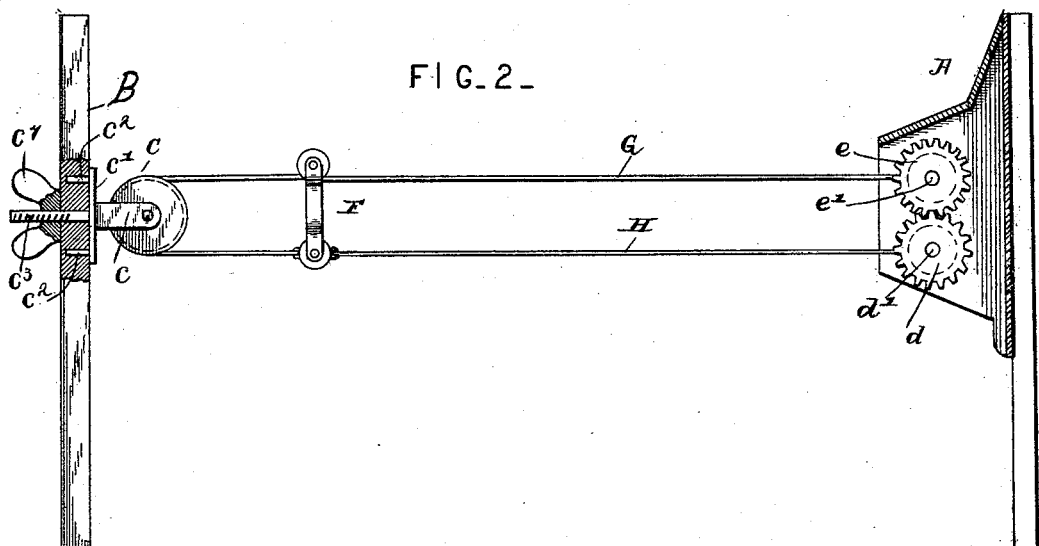
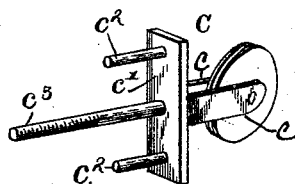


FIG. 3.



Witnesses

*Geo. C. French.*  
*J. Edgar Smith*

By *his* Attorneys,

Inventor  
*Clay B. Albert*

*C. A. Snow & Co.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLAY B. ALBERT, OF CARROLLTON, MISSOURI.

## CLOTHES-LINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 457,335, dated August 11, 1891.

Application filed December 9, 1890. Serial No. 374,078. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CLAY B. ALBERT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Carrollton, in the county of Carroll and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Line, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of clothes-driers constructed to run a line of clothes from the point of applying the clothes out into the open air or into the sun.

The objects in view are to improve the general arrangement of such driers and to simplify, cheapen, and render them more efficient in operation.

With these objects in view the invention resides in the various novel features of construction and combination of parts, hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, in which I have illustrated my invention, and in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my clothes-drier. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the device, the housing and post being in section. Fig. 3 is a view showing in detail the pulley C and pulley-casing.

In the drawings, A designates a housing or casing, which may be attached to standards, the side of a house, a wall, or any other convenient place. Within this housing are located devices which will presently be described.

B indicates a post or any other suitable object, to which is fastened, as hereinafter set forth, a pulley C.

Within the housing A are drums D and E, which have upon their corresponding ends the cog-wheels  $d$  and  $e$ , and at each of their ends are provided with journals  $d'$  and  $e'$ , which are suitably journaled in the sides in the housing A. One of the journals in the illustration,  $d'$ , projects outside of the casing and is provided with a crank-handle  $d^2$ .

F designates a traveling cross-head having the bracket  $f$ , supporting the traveling pulley or trolley  $f'$ .

The pulley C is supported by means of the embracing-arms  $c$ , which extend outward from the head  $c'$ . This head has two rearwardly-projecting arms  $c^2$ , which extend into holes in the post or other place of attachment,

in order to prevent the pulley from twisting, and the said head has extending rearwardly through the post or other place of support a screw-threaded shank  $c^3$ , upon which is placed a thumb-nut  $c^4$ , by the tightening or loosening of which against the post the pulley may be allowed to move forward or caused to move backward against the post, and thus regulate the tension of the lines, which will now be described.

A supporting line, wire, or cable G has one end attached to the drum E, and passing about said drum is carried outward over the pulley C, then backward, and attached to the cross-head F. A line or a series of lines (indicated by the letter H) have their inner ends attached to the drum D, and extending outwardly have their outer ends attached to the cross-head F. It is to be observed that the trolley  $f'$  travels on and is supported by the cable G. By this construction it will be seen that, supposing that at any time the lines H are wound upon the drum D and the cross-head F close up against said drum within the housing, by turning the crank-handle  $d^2$  in the direction opposite to that taken by the hands of the clock the same cross-head will be caused to travel outwardly from the housing toward the pulley C; or the reverse will be true if the cross-head being out somewhere upon the line G toward the pulley C, the crank-handle  $d^2$  is moved in a direction corresponding to that taken by the hands of a clock. It will thus be seen that as one line or set of lines is allowed to unwind the other will be wound upon the other drum and that by this means the cross-head will maintain any position given it, no matter what the weight of the clothes hung upon the lines which it supports may be, for everything that tends to unwind the lines H from the drum D will also tend to wind the line G upon the drum E. The necessity of pawl-and-ratchet mechanism upon the ends of the drum is thus obviated.

When from climatic conditions or from the weight of the clothes the line G has become stretched, so that it does not properly support the lines H and the cross-head F, the said line G may be tightened by means of the thumb-nut  $c^4$  on the threaded shank  $c^3$ , which extends rearwardly from the head  $c'$ .

It will be understood that my improved clothes-drier may be placed in any proper or convenient position. The casing A may be under a porch or shed and close to the house and the pulley C at the end of the yard, or the entire device may be put up within the house itself in order to dry clothes in damp weather.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a clothes-drier, the combination, with the casing A, having journaled within it the drums D and E, which are geared directly to each other, of the clothes-line H, having one end fastened to the drum D and the other

end attached to the traveling cross-block F of the supporting-line G, having one end secured to the drum E, passed over the pulley C, which is adjustable in relation to its support B, and brought back and attached to the traveling cross-block F, the said cross-block F being provided with a trolley *f'*, and a support *f* therefor, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

CLAY B. ALBERT.

Witnesses:

R. ELAM,  
SIDNEY MILLER.