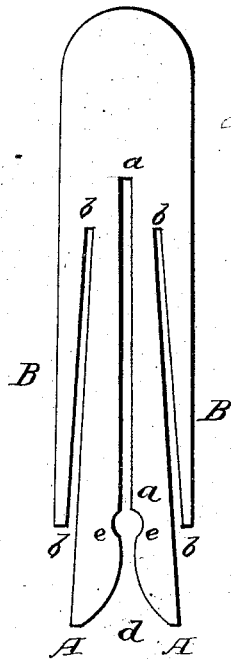


W. H. MAYO.  
Clothes-Pin.

No 161,138.

Patented March 23, 1875.



WITNESSES:

*J. Robertson*

*W. C. McArthur*

INVENTOR:

*Wm H. Mayo*

per: *C. H. Watson & Co*  
ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. MAYO, OF MENASHA, WISCONSIN.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-PINS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **161,138**, dated March 23, 1875; application filed January 18, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. MAYO, of Menasha, in the county of Winnebago and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Pins; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in a clothes-pin made of a single piece of wood with four prongs, the two outside prongs supporting the two inner ones, so as to secure flexibility, strength, and durability, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

The annexed drawing represents a side view of my invention.

My clothes-pin is made of a single piece of wood of suitable dimensions, from one end of which, inward, is cut a central longitudinal slot, *a*. On each side of this slot, and a suitable distance therefrom, is cut an inclined slot, *b*, thereby forming four prongs, A A and B B, as shown. The inner prongs, A A, are formed in the usual manner for clothes-pins, so as to have a flaring mouth, *d*, and each prong A has on its inner side a recess, *e*, for the clothes-line to pass through, or rather for the prongs to grasp the line at that point.

The two outside prongs, B B, are shorter

than the inside ones, so that their ends will come in contact with the inside prongs, A A, nearly opposite to the recesses *e*, where the line comes when in use.

The inclination of the side slots *b b* is such as to make the middle prongs A flexible at the roots, and the outside prongs B more flexible at the points, which will prevent the prongs from spreading too far, which would destroy the pin. The side prongs B thus support the inner prongs A, making the whole clothes-pin strong and durable, at the same time that it insures the required amount of flexibility.

I am aware of Patent No. 64,698, and make no claim to anything shown therein.

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

As an improved article of manufacture, the pin herein described, formed of a single piece of wood with inner prongs A, wide at the bottom and narrow at the top, and the outer prongs B of reverse construction, to give strength and elasticity, all as and for the purpose specified.

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

WILLIAM H. MAYO.

Witnesses:

CHARLES NOYES,  
IRA W. DAVIS.