

A. THOMPSON.  
Clothes-Line Reel.

No. 165,696.

Patented July 20, 1875.

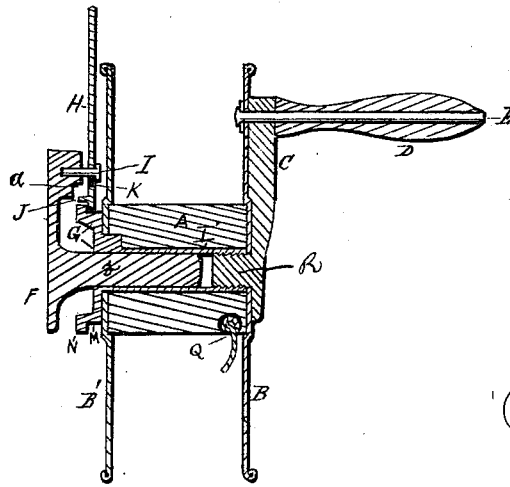


FIG. 1

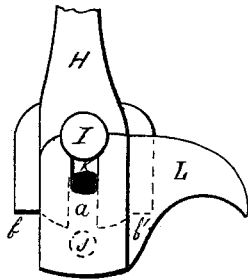


FIG. 3

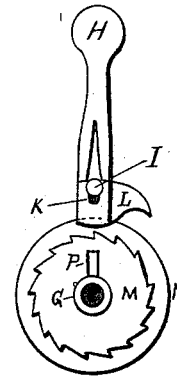


FIG. 2

Witnesses  
C. F. Perkins  
Charles W. [Signature]

Inventor  
Albert Thompson

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT THOMPSON, OF STARK, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-LINE REELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 165,696, dated July 20, 1875; application filed September 16, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALBERT THOMPSON, of Stark, in the State of New Hampshire, have invented certain Improvements in Clothes-Line Reels, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates more particularly to the clothes-line reel invented by Henry W. Prouty and Albert Thompson, and described in the Letters Patent to them granted the 19th March, 1872, numbered 124,698, and is intended as an improvement thereon.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a sectional view of a reel including my invention; Fig. 2, a plan of the ratchet and pawl; and Fig. 3 an enlarged plan of the pawl, showing the method of its application.

The first part of my invention relates to the construction of the base or that part of the reel which is connected to the object that is to support it, and of the ratchet-pawl, so that the same can be released from the disk that projects above the ratchet-wheel, for purposes and in the manner hereinafter described.

This base is prolonged at its upper part, and is there made considerably thicker than the main portion, in order to allow a slot, *a*, to be cut in its lower periphery. A pawl, L, attached to an arm, H, at right angles with it, is to be placed upon this upper part of the base by means of a pin, I, upon which it can freely turn. The hole K through which this pin passes is made considerably larger than would be necessary for the pin merely to pass through it, in order that the pawl may be lifted from the ratchet to allow the reel to be removed from the rod upon which it revolves. Upon the under side of the pawl is a lug, J, which fits into the slot *a* when the pawl is raised from the ratchet, and prevents the arm and pawl from being raised at any other point than when the arm is perpendicular. The lower part of the arm and pawl, when not raised, projects below the disk N, and prevents the reel from being removed from the rod *d*, except when the pawl is raised, as above explained. The axle upon which the reel turns and the base F are formed in one piece.

The second feature of my invention relates more especially to an improvement in the man-

ufacture of the reels, such as ability to pack more snugly when transported, &c. In this part of my invention I make the flange B' separate from the drum instead of one piece with it, as in the former invention. The two flanges B' and B are each made separate. The part G (consisting of a hollow shaft, I', with a disk, N, upon its lower part, upon which is a ratchet and a lug, P, all of one piece) is made to fit and turn upon the rod F. The flange B' is to be first placed upon the part G, the lug P fitting into a slot in B'. Next, the hub A, which I make of wood, is to be placed upon the part G, a slot in the end next to the flange B' fitting upon the lug P. The clothes-line is fastened to the hub at Q. The flange B has fitted to it a handle, D, fastened to B by a pin passing through the end of the arm C. The arm C has, at its other extremity, on the under side, the screw projection R, which, passing through the center of B, screws into the hub A.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The combination of the detachable flanges B B', with the hub A and shaft I', substantially as and for the purpose set forth.
2. The hollow shaft I', provided at one end with the ratchet-wheel M and disk N, the disk projecting above the ratchet, substantially as and for the purpose described.
3. The combination of the hollow shaft I', the base F, and the arm and pawl H L, the shaft having a ratchet, M, and disk N, the base a rod, *d*, and slot *a*, and the pawl a lug, J, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.
4. The shaft I', provided with the ratchet M, disk N, and lug P, in combination with hub A and flanges B B', substantially as described.
5. The within-described device for holding the reel in position on the axle, consisting of the pawl L, having lug J, and the base F, having slot *a*, the pin that fastens the pawl to the base being of less circumference than the hole through the pawl, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

ALBERT THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

C. F. PERKINS,  
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