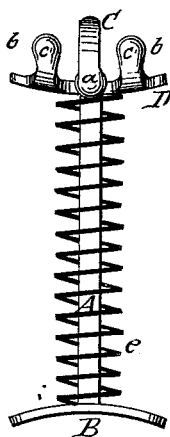


H. L. CLARK & A. B. SMITH.  
Clothes-Pin.

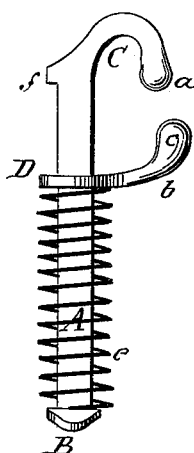
No. 202,704.

Patented April 23, 1878.

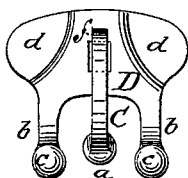
*Fig: 1.*



*Fig: 2.*



*Fig: 3.*



WITNESSES:

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BY

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ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY L. CLARK AND AUGUSTUS B. SMITH, OF CHESTER, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-PINS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 202,704, dated April 23, 1878; application filed February 19, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, HENRY L. CLARK and AUGUSTUS B. SMITH, of Chester, in the county of Orange and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Clothes-Pin, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a front elevation. Fig. 2 is a side elevation. Fig. 3 is a plan view.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of our invention is to provide a clothes pin or clamp that will securely hold the clothes upon the line.

Referring to the drawing, A is a straight shank, having upon one end a thumb-piece, B, and upon the other end a hook, C, which terminates in a ball, *a*. Upon the shank A an apertured follower, D, is placed, the aperture being of sufficient size to admit of moving the follower freely on the shank. Two fingers, *b*, project from the edge of the follower on the hook side of the shank, and are curved toward the hook C, and provided with ball ends *c*. The follower is indented at *d*, to receive the ends of the fingers of the person using the pin. A spiral spring, *e*, is placed on the shank A, and between the thumb-piece B and the follower D, and presses the follower

toward the hook C. There is a stop-lug, *f*, at the back of the hook C, to limit the motion of the follower D.

The device is used by placing two fingers on the follower D and the thumb on the thumb-piece B, and drawing the follower and thumb-piece together, thus separating the fingers *b* from the hook C. The hook is then placed over the clothes on the line, when the follower is released and is moved forward by the spring *e* against the clothes. The follower clamps the shank A, so that no amount of pressure exerted on the ends of the fingers can retract it.

I am aware that it is not broadly new to make a clothes-pin by combining a hook and spring with the stock; but

What I claim is—

The combination, with the straight-shanked hook A C, having thumb-piece B and stop *f*, with the spiral spring *e* and follower D, having the two ball-ended fingers *c b*, as shown and described.

HENRY L. CLARK.  
AUGUSTUS B. SMITH.

Witnesses:

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