

1018. Posts are either permanent or moveable. In either case they consist of wooden posts, about eight feet high from the ground, and four inches in diameter at the bottom, diminishing to three at the top, where there are four cross pegs to fix the lines. They are fixed in the ground as ordinary posts, or let into sockets, from which they may be removed at pleasure. The *line* is either of flax, or hair, or gutta percha, the hair being the best in every respect. A *prop* is required in the interval between the posts, about ten feet long, with a fork at the top, which catches hold of the line after the clothes are on. Lastly, the *pegs* are wooden, and are made to confine the clothes to the line, There are three kinds: the English clothes-peg, with a tin-ferrule; the American, made without the ferrule; and the improved American, which has a brass spring, and which lays hold more tightly than the others, but is apt to stain the linen, from the brass wire becoming covered with verdigris.

1019. THE HOT CLOSET is a substitute for the drying-ground, either in case of wet weather, or to be used for those articles which will not bear the sun. It consists of a chamber heated by means of a stove, with a current of air maintained through it and passing out at the top. Iron pipes are sometimes used for the purpose, but a brick flue, similar to that constructed for green-houses, is the best, and gives out quite sufficient heat for the drying of any number of home-washed articles. Two plain brick chambers are built, about eight to twelve feet square, and divided by a thin iron partition, in which are narrow slits at intervals of a foot, just high and wide enough to allow "a horse" to travel backwards and forwards through them. One of these chambers (see *fig.* 105 A) has a furnace and flue in it, beginning at one end and returning to the same side, where it passes out in the ordinary way. Above this flue, and separated from it by a wire-grating, is the chamber for the horses (*b b b b b*), which are suspended from irons attached to the ceiling, and can be dragged out into the outer chamber through the slits in the partition. These horses run best suspended on the same principle as the doors shown at *figs.* 30 and 31, but made of common smith's work, and at a very cheap rate. When it is intended to be used, the flue is lighted, and a damper at the upper ventilator is closed, so as to allow the heat to be retained. As soon as the chamber is heated, the horses (*b b b b b*) are drawn out upon the table (*c c*) in the outer compartment, where they receive their clothes, and are then pushed into their places. The dampers are next all thrown open, and the fire burns fiercely, causing a great heat to be radiated from the