T. P. TAYLOR.

Clasp.

No. 208,998. Patented Oct. 15, 1878.

Fig. 4.

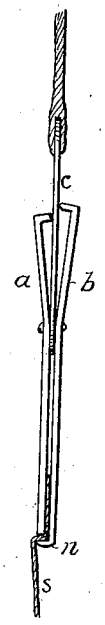


Fig. 3.

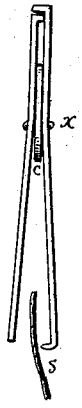


Fig. 5.

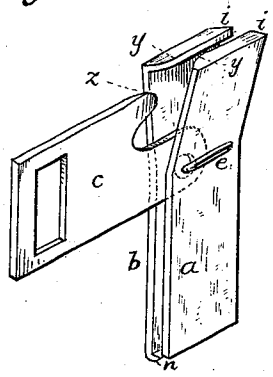


Fig. 1.

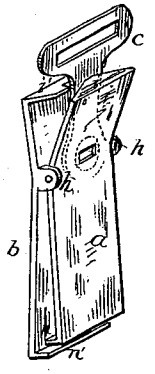
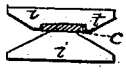


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS P. TAYLOR, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN CLASPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **208,998**, dated October 15, 1878; application filed September 23, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS P. TAYLOR, of Bridgeport, Fairfield county, Connecticut, have invented an Improved Clasp, of which the following is a specification:

My invention is a clasp especially adapted for stocking-supporters, but capable of being used wherever such securing devices may be employed, as for label-holders, ticket-clasps, &c.

In the drawing which forms part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing my improved clasp; Fig. 2, an end view, partly in section; Figs. 3 and 4, edge views of a modification, showing the clasp in different positions; and Fig. 5, a perspective view of the clasp shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

The clasp consists of two parts or jaws, *a b*, and a wedge or other equivalent device, *c*, which may be forced between the upper ends of the jaws to bring the lower ends together and clamp the stocking, ticket, or other article *s*. The jaws are connected at a point between their ends, as at *x*, either by a loop or staple, *e*, which also passes through and pivots the wedge-plate *c*, or by pivots on one plate extending into ears *h* of the other, as in Fig. 1.

Each jaw is preferably bent in at each end to form flanges *i i' n n'*, the upper flanges in Fig. 5 being beveled at *y y*, and the plate *c* being brought to a sharp edge at *z*, so as to facilitate the introduction of the plate between the ribs or flanges.

The flange *i'* may have a recess, *t*, into which the shank of the wedge *c* will slip, being thereby retained in position until pushed out by the hand.

This construction of clasp permits the stocking to be readily secured and released, and insures such a gripe upon the same that it cannot be removed without injury until the jaws are opened.

The flange *n'* overlaps the flange *n*, thus insuring a very secure hold on the garment.

Without restricting myself to the precise construction and arrangement whereby the turning of the parts *c* adjusts the clamps,

I claim—

1. The combination, in a clasp, of jaws *a b*, connected between their ends, and a wedge, *c*, upon the turning of which, between the ends of the jaws, the opposite ends are brought together or separated, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the plates or jaws *a b*, connected as specified, and provided with beveled flanges, and the plate *c*, adjustable, as described.

3. The combination of the jaws, flange *i'*, recessed at *t*, and plate *c*, connected and adjustable between the jaws, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS P. TAYLOR.

Witnesses:

JAS. D. GRISWOLD,

JOHN C. TALLMAN.