

J. C. CARTER.
GARMENT FASTENER.
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946,011

Patented Jan. 11, 1910.

Fig. 1.

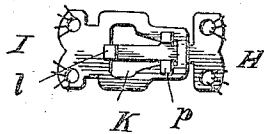


Fig. 2.

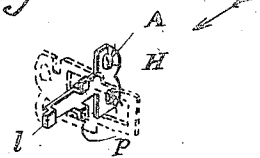
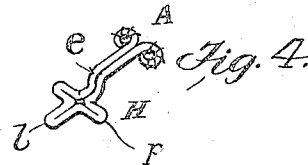
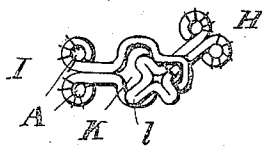


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

Chas. H. Davies

M. L. Coeamer

INVENTOR:

James C. Carter,

BY

Ina C. Graham
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES C. CARTER, OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

GARMENT-FASTENER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES C. CARTER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Decatur, in the county of Macon and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Fasteners; and my preferred manner of carrying out the invention is set forth in the following full, clear, and exact description, terminating with claims particularly specifying the novelty.

This invention relates to the general class of buckles, buttons, clasps, etc., and more especially to separable garment fasteners; and its object is to produce an improved hook and eye whereof the members are not easily disconnected and not injured by being ironed over or put through the wringer.

To this end the invention consists of an eye member standing wholly in one plane, and a hook member having no bill or so-called "hook" proper, but in place thereof three engaging projections whose tips stand in a plane above the shank of the hook member yet nowhere over it, so that when the two members are engaged the eye stands in a plane between the planes occupied by the hook shank and the projections mentioned.

The invention also contemplates certain modifications and amplifications, as well as the construction of the device from wire or sheet metal.

Perhaps the most practical embodiments of my idea are set forth in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which the same letters of reference are used to designate the same or equivalent parts throughout the views.

Figure 1 is a plan view with the members engaged; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the hook member thereof, showing its manner of insertion in the direction of the arrow into the eye member, which latter is illustrated in dotted lines. The above views show the parts of sheet metal—the following views employ wire. Fig. 3 is a plan view of another type of my device with the members engaged and the hook member swung to one side to illustrate how its position can be so shifted without accidental disengagement; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the hook member of this type inverted.

Throughout the drawings the letter I designates broadly the eye member having an

opening K which is larger at the rear end and smaller toward the front end. In Fig. 1 the side edges of its narrow portion converge. It is thought to be unnecessary to further describe this opening except as it coöperates with the other member in the manner set forth below.

Throughout the drawings the letter H designates broadly the hook member whose specific construction is set forth below; and the letter A designates the attaching end of both members, here shown as consisting of perforations through those which are of sheet metal or eyes in those which are of wire, through either of which may pass stitches or other means or devices by which the members are attached to the parts of the garment which are to be connected. In all the types it is essential that the member I shall stand wholly in one plane, and that the attaching end and the shank of the hook member H shall stand wholly in one plane, with its engaging projections in another plane spaced from the plane of the shank by the thickness of the member I.

In Figs. 1 and 2 the opening in the eye member and the shank of the hook member are rather long, and the lateral projections are upbent from the sides of the shank out of contact with each other, and then bent outward and terminate into tips *p* so spaced from each other that they may pass through the larger end of the opening K, after which they may be drawn into the smaller end thereof so that the shank of the member H stands under the outer end of the eye, the upbent portions of the projections pass upward through the opening K, and the out-turned tips thereof lie on the upper face of said eye. The shank is continued beyond the point where the lateral projections occur and bent upward and then outward into a longitudinal engaging projection *l* which stands in the same plane as the lateral projections *p*. When the two members of this hook and eye are engaged the lateral projections engage the sides of the loop forming the opening K, as above described, while the longitudinal projection *l* engages the rear end of the loop as illustrated. The hook member is inserted obliquely through the eye member in the manner shown in Fig. 2, and when the members of this type are engaged they are locked from disconnection as long as their bodies remain in

parallel planes. Yet they have a certain lateral swing, the longitudinal projection 7 moving from side to side within the opening in the eye member as will be understood.

5 In Figs. 3 and 4 the construction is much like the type shown in Figs. 1 and 2 except that it is of wire, and the extremities of each wire member here lie in the eyes of the attaching ends. This places the center of
10 the wire of which the hook member is composed within its engaging end, but it will be observed that where it passes from one lateral projection *p* to the other it does not stand above any part of its shank. An
15 elbow *e* is here formed in the shank of the hook so that all of the projections are carried into another plane, rather than having said projections themselves form the bends described with reference to the hook in Fig.
20 2. Yet it is here quite accurate to say that the projections are bent up from the shank, because here again all projections stand in a plane out of that of the shank and its attaching end.
25 All parts are of the desired sizes, proportions, and materials, and are susceptible of modification in the particulars herein specified and in others consistent with the following claims.

30 The uses of the device will be obvious to those skilled in the art.

The eye member can be ironed over or put through a wringer or mangle without injury to it or to the garment. So also with
35 the hook member, since its upbent portions preferably stand vertical to the plane of the shank or so nearly vertical that the ordinary pressure used in laundering will not flatten them out.

40 It is important to note that the hook member has no bill or hook proper, and that no portion of its engaging end lies over any other parts, for such would be a construction which experience has shown me pro-
45 duces the possibility that pressure as by an iron will mash down the tip of the bill toward or upon its shank and close the throat of the hook undesirably so that the eye cannot afterward enter it.

What is claimed as new is:

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1. A garment fastener comprising an eye member having an opening in its body; and a hook member consisting of an attaching end and a shank, and three engaging pro-
55 jections on the shank lying out of its plane and nowhere standing over any part of it.

2. A garment fastener comprising an eye member having a key-hole opening in its body; and a hook member consisting of an attaching end and a shank lying wholly in
60 one plane, and one longitudinal and two lateral projections on the shank bent into tips lying in a plane with each other but out of that of the shank and nowhere over said shank.
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3. A garment fastener comprising an eye member lying wholly in one plane and having a key-hole opening in its body with its smaller end to the front; and a hook member consisting of an attaching end and a
70 shank lying wholly in one plane, projections bent upward and thence laterally outward from the sides of the shank, and a third projection bent upward and thence longitudinally outward at the end of said shank and
75 adapted to engage the rear end of said key-hole opening.

4. A garment fastener comprising an eye member lying wholly in one plane and having an attaching end at the rear and an opening in
80 its body with its smaller end to the front; and a hook member consisting of an attaching end and a shank lying wholly in one plane, projections bent upward and thence laterally outward from the sides of the
85 shank; and a third projection bent upward and thence longitudinally outward at the end of said shank into the same plane as the tips of the lateral projections and adapted to engage the rear end of said opening.
90

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my signature this the eleventh day of June A. D. 1907.

JAMES C. CARTER.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM S. SHIRRY,
ALBERT G. WEBBER.