No. 875,797. PATENTED JAN. 7, 1908.

M. B. GARDNER.

GARMENT CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 10, 1905.

Fig. 3.

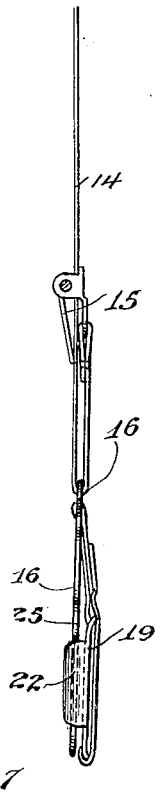


Fig. 1.

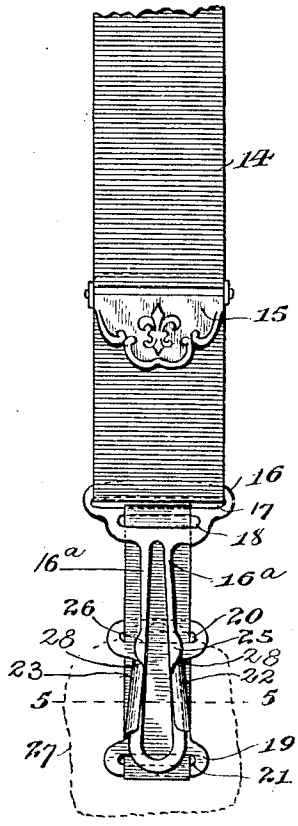


Fig. 2.

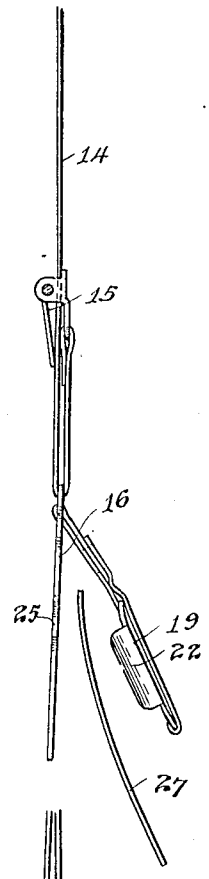


Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.

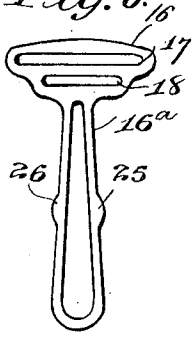
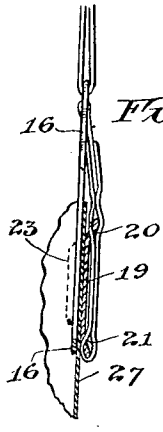


Fig. 4.



Witnesses,

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GARMENT-CLASP.

No. 875,797. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 7, 1908.

Application filed May 10, 1905. Serial No. 259,760.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARSHALL B. GARDNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Aurora, in the county of Kane, State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of garment clasps in which a single thickness or a fold of fabric is wedged between two members in such a manner that the fabric is held by the wedging engagement of the members, instead of by a penetration of the material.

There are certain well known objections to the present devices, such as that comprising a rubber-headed button and a pear-shaped loop, arising out of the flexibility of the button support and the small frictional engagement afforded, which allows a longitudinal movement of the loop relative to the button, causing the clasp to become unfastened or detached.

In my construction, I avoid the difficulties above mentioned, and provide a garment clasp of simple and economical construction, in which the fabric is securely held without injury and the longitudinal movement of the two members obviated.

To these ends my invention consists chiefly in the provision of a holding member of novel form to be used in place of the headed button, and my invention consists in said holding member in combination with any suitable form of clasp member to coöperate therewith.

My invention further consists, in the preferred form, in a base plate or holding member having curved flanges and combined with a longitudinally operating clasp member adapted to clamp a thickness of the fabric between it and said flanges, the two being constructed to produce a wedging effect whereby the fabric is securely held.

The structural features of my improvements may be somewhat varied, but I have shown in the accompanying drawings an efficient embodiment thereof.

In the drawings,—Figure 1 is a plan view of my clasp attached by the usual loop to a section of elastic webbing provided with a sliding clasp; Fig. 2 is an edge view with the members separated and showing a portion of fabric inserted between the two members; Fig. 3 is an edge view with the members engaged; Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional elevation designed to show the fabric in wedged position; Fig. 5 is a cross section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1; Fig. 6 is a plan view of the tongue.

In the drawings, 14 represents a section of elastic webbing provided with the usual buckle 15 and loop 16, which is provided with the apertures 17 and 18, to which the elastic 14 and the base plate 19 may be attached, the base plate being connected to the loop in any desired manner, for example by means of webbing passing through the apertures 20 and 21.

22 and 23 are clamping flanges of the base plate 19, and they may have a coating of rubber, as shown at 24. The clasp member may be in the form of a tongue or loop 16 provided with bulged portions 25 and 26, which prevent a longitudinal movement of the two members when the loop is pulled backward and the parts are fully engaged. Both the flanges and the sides of the loop are of wedge construction, *i. e.*, they converge rearwardly. As constructed, when the device is applied the members are separated as shown in Fig. 2, and a single thickness or fold of the fabric, as indicated at 27, is inserted between them. The parts are then closed by pressing the neck portion 16^a of the tongue member and the fabric between the flanges 22 and 23. The tongue member is then drawn backward, wedging the fabric against the sides of the flanges, until the bulged portions pass the ends 28 of the flanges, which firmly locks the device against longitudinal movement.

While I prefer to provide the flanges with curved interior surfaces having a rubber facing, it is obvious that the interior curve is not essential and may be varied without departing from the spirit of my invention.

While I prefer to construct the loop member out of an elastic or resilient material, thus aiding its grip upon the flanges, it is obvious that it might be constructed out of inelastic material.

It will be observed that in the forms of construction shown, as well as in others falling within the spirit of my invention, there is provided two coöperating members so constructed and related to each other as to provide an extended bearing surface, the clamping being effected in lines substantially parallel to the line of strain, instead of at an angle thereto as in the ordinary fastener or

clasp having a button or equivalent device and a loop provided with a closed end.

I claim:

In a garment clasp, a base member having converging inturned flanges, in combination with a spring clasp member, the sides of which are also converging and provided with bulged portions at the bottom of the neck portion to prevent longitudinal movement of said members when in locked position, the neck portion of said spring clasp member being of less width than the least distance between the inner edges of said inturned flanges and adapted to press the fabric between said flanges, whereby the fabric is wedged between said members upon a forward movement of said base member or a backward movement of said spring clasp member, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:
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