

(No Model.)

J. M. KAISER.
CLASP.

No. 510,918.

Patented Dec. 19, 1893.

Fig. 1.

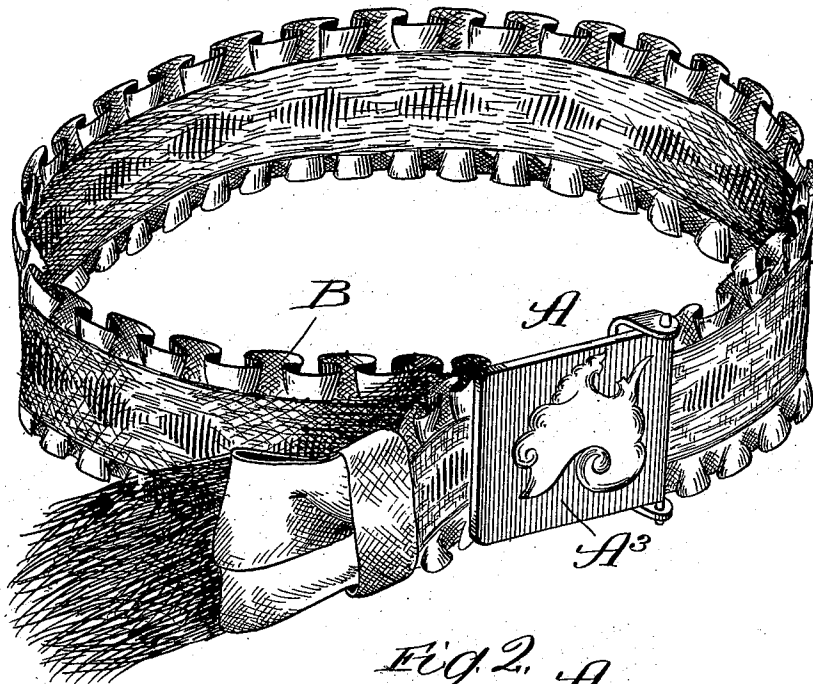


Fig. 2. A

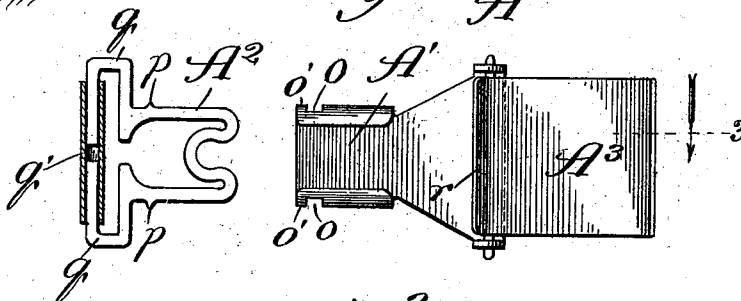
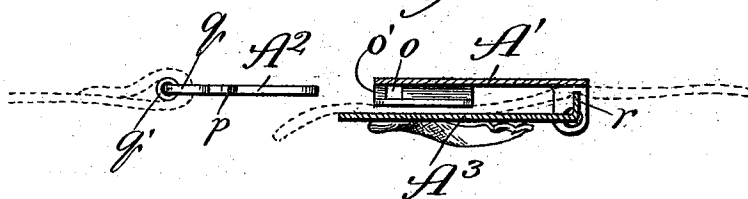


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Chas. E. Claybrook,
E. R. Shipley.

Inventor,
Joseph M. Kaiser,
By Dymally & Dymally,
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH M. KAISER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO EISEMAN, KAISER & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 510,918, dated December 19, 1893.

Application filed April 27, 1893. Serial No. 472,050. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH M. KAISER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

My object is to provide a construction of clasp for use particularly on garters, which shall involve, besides a clamp for holding the end of the garter when adjusted to gage the diameter thereof, two parts forming the clasp proper, said parts being separable and adapted to be engaged with each other, whereby the garter may be adjusted in place by passing it about the limb and then fastening it, instead, as hitherto, of requiring it to be slipped over the foot into place.

It is common to provide a garter with a clasp formed in two separable parts, one at each end of the garter thereby adapted to be adjusted, as by my improvement, in place on the limb of the wearer. It is also common to provide a mere clamp permanently attached to one end of a garter with the other end thereof extending between the jaws or clamping plates of the clamp to permit of lengthening or shortening the circumferential dimensions of the garter. This last-named variety is objectionable by reason of requiring the garter to be applied by slipping it over the foot, thereby rendering the operation inconvenient and arduous. The first-named variety is objectionable by reason of its being unprovided with clamping means whereby to adjust an end of the garter as to its length to take it in and let it out for the purposes of narrowing and widening the article. I overcome these objections by providing the clasp in two mutually engaging and separable parts to be attached to the opposite ends of a garter, or the like, (or respectively to the end and strap of a suspender,) one part being a spring tongue and the other a plate terminating in a socket to receive the tongue, the socket-plate having a clamping plate hinged upon it behind the socket-portion and forming an intervening space for the admission and adjustment of the end of the article to be clamped.

Referring to the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a garter pro-

vided with my improvement. Fig. 2 shows in elevation the two parts of the clasp separated. Fig. 3 is a section taken at the line 3 on Fig. 2 and viewed in the direction of the arrow.

A is my improved clasp, comprising a socket-portion A' forming an extension of a plate on one end of a garter B; a spring tongue A² secured on the opposite end of the garter and adapted to be inserted into and separably engaged by the socket A'; and a clamping plate A³ hinged at one end to the socket-plate at the rear of its socket-portion with which a tooth *r* on the clamping plate near its hinge engages to fasten the end of the garter which slips through the socket-portion of the clasp. The plate A³ may have its exposed surface provided with any suitable ornamentation, as represented.

As will be seen, the tongue A² forms a spring in a shape approximating the letter **M**, the base being divided and terminating in a divided loop *q* carrying the ferrule *q'* and in which to fasten a garter-end; and near the junction of the loop with the base of the spring are lateral projections *p*. The lateral edges of the socket-portion A' are provided with slots *o*, the outer or forward ends of which afford shoulders at *o'*. The normal width of the spring-tongue portion of the part A² of the clasp is greater than the internal width of the socket-portion A', whereby the spring is laterally compressed in inserting the tongue into the socket until the projections *p* pass the shoulders *o'*, when the resiliency of the spring expands it laterally to extend the projections into the slots *o* and to engage shoulders *o'*, whereby the part A² is held against withdrawal from the part A'. To separate the parts of the clasp, the part A² is pressed between the fingers at the ends of the loop *q* whereby the spring-tongue is compressed to diminish its width sufficiently to disengage the projections *p* from the socket-shoulders *o'* and permit withdrawal of the spring-tongue from the socket.

The socket-portion A' of the clasp is connected with the garter by passing the end of the latter through the hinge connection between the socket and the clamping-plate A³, whereby when the socket-plate is raised the garter-end may be drawn to any desired

length through the clamp to adjust the garter as to its diameter, the strap being fastened as adjusted by turning the plate A^3 down on its hinge to cover the face of the socket-portion
5 of the clasp, in which condition the tooth or flange r indents the material of the garter and holds it.

My invention relates to the construction of the clasp, whether applied to a garter or other
10 article; and it may be used with advantage in connection with a suspender, by applying the socket-portion A' to the strap and the spring-tongue portion A^2 to the suspender-end.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure
15 by Letters Patent, is—

A clasp comprising, in combination, a socket-portion A' having slots O , in its edges forming shoulders O' , a clamping-plate A^3 hinged on the socket-portion and provided with a tooth r to engage therewith, and a spring-tongue portion A^2 , in shape approximating an **M**, having lateral projections q' and, at its open base, a loop q to engage the shoulders O' when the spring tongue is inserted into the socket, substantially as described.

JOSEPH M. KAISER.

In presence of—

M. J. FROST,

W. N. WILLIAMS.