

(No Model.)

T. M. HASS.

ALBUM CLASP.

No. 300,070.

Patented June 10, 1884.

fig. 1.

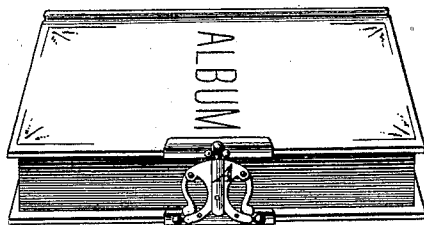


fig. 2.

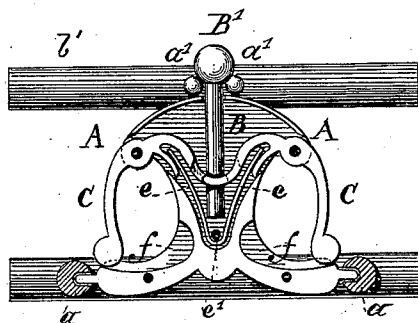


fig. 3.

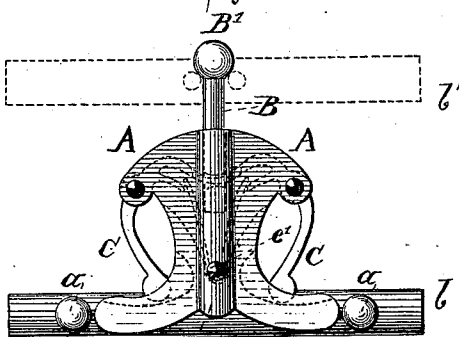
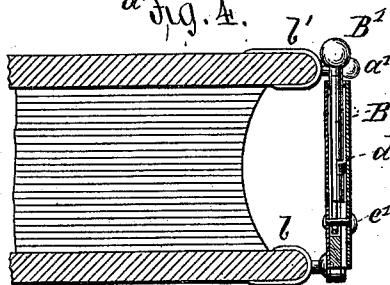


fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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ALBUM-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 300,070, dated June 10, 1884.

Application filed April 12, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE M. HASS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Album-Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to an album-clasp of that class which adapts itself to the increasing size of the album as it is gradually filled up with photographs; and the invention consists of a main piece hinged to the back of the album and provided with a central guide-socket for a spring-actuated extension-shank having a ball-shaped terminal. The extension-shank is recessed, said recess being engaged by two fulcrumed levers, the levers being acted upon by a V-shaped spring that is retained in a recess of the main piece by a fixed pin. The outer ends of the fulcrumed levers are guided in recesses of the main piece. The ball-shaped end of the extension-shank is engaged by stops on the edge mounting of the top of the album-cover.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of an album with my improved clasp attached thereto. Fig. 2 is a detail front view of the clasp with the face-plate removed. Fig. 3 is a front view of the clasp, showing the extension-shank drawn out; and Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse section of the clasp.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A in the drawings represents the main piece of my improved album-clasp, which is made of two plates that are riveted together. The main piece A is hinged to the supporting-studs *a a* of a curved plate or mounting, *b*, attached to the edge of the back of the album-cover. The face-plate of the main piece A is provided with a cylindrical guide-socket, *d*, for the extension-shank B, the inner end of which is recessed and engaged by the inner ends of two levers, C C, which are fulcrumed to the main piece and arranged symmetrically to the shank B. The inner recessed ends of the levers C C are engaged by a V-shaped steel spring, *e*, which throws the outer ends or handles of the fulcrumed le-

vers C C in outward position away from the shank B. The V-shaped spring *e* is retained in an interior recess of the main piece A by a fixed pin or rivet, *e'*, located at the apex of the spring *e*. The outer ends of the fulcrumed levers C C are guided in recesses *f f* of the main piece A, said recesses serving to protect the levers and prevent them from bending out of shape. The outer end of the extension-shank B is made of ball shape and engaged by studs *a' a'*, mounted on an edge plate, *b'*, applied to the top of the album-cover, so that when said album is gradually filled up with photographs, and thereby increased in thickness, the extension-shank is drawn out against the tension of the spring *e*, so as to adapt itself to the increasing thickness of the album. When it is desired to open the album, the handles of the levers C C are pressed together, as shown in Fig. 3, whereby the shank B is extended beyond the main piece A, so as to clear the retaining-studs *a' a'*, whereby the main piece A may be thrown sidewise and the album opened. In closing the album the shank B is first extended by pressing the levers C C together, the ball-shaped terminal B' being then placed in position between the studs *a' a'*; or the ball-shaped end B' of the shank B may simply be taken hold of and pushed in between said retaining-studs, so as to lock the clasp and hold the album in closed position.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination of a hinged main piece, A, an extension-shank, B, guided by said main piece, and fulcrumed and spring-actuated levers C C, engaging a recess of the extension-shank, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the hinged main piece A, an extension-shank, B, guided thereby, having a ball-shaped terminal, B', fulcrumed and spring-actuated levers C C, and retaining-studs *a' a'*, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination of a hinged main piece, A, an extension-shank, B, guided in a socket of the main piece, fulcrumed levers C C, engaging a recess of the shank, a V-shaped spring, *e*, engaging the inner ends of the levers,

the spring being retained in a recess of the main piece by a fixed pin, *e'*, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination of a hinged main piece,
5 A, provided with guide-recesses *ff*, for the lower handles, an extension-shank, B, guided in a socket of said main piece, and fulcrumed and spring-actuated levers C C engaging a recess of said shank, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THEODORE M. HASS.

Witnesses:

LOUIS C. RAEGENER,
SIDNEY MANN.