

No. 718,751.

PATENTED JAN. 20, 1903.

E. FALKENBERG.
PLACKET CLOSER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 14, 1902.

NO MODEL.

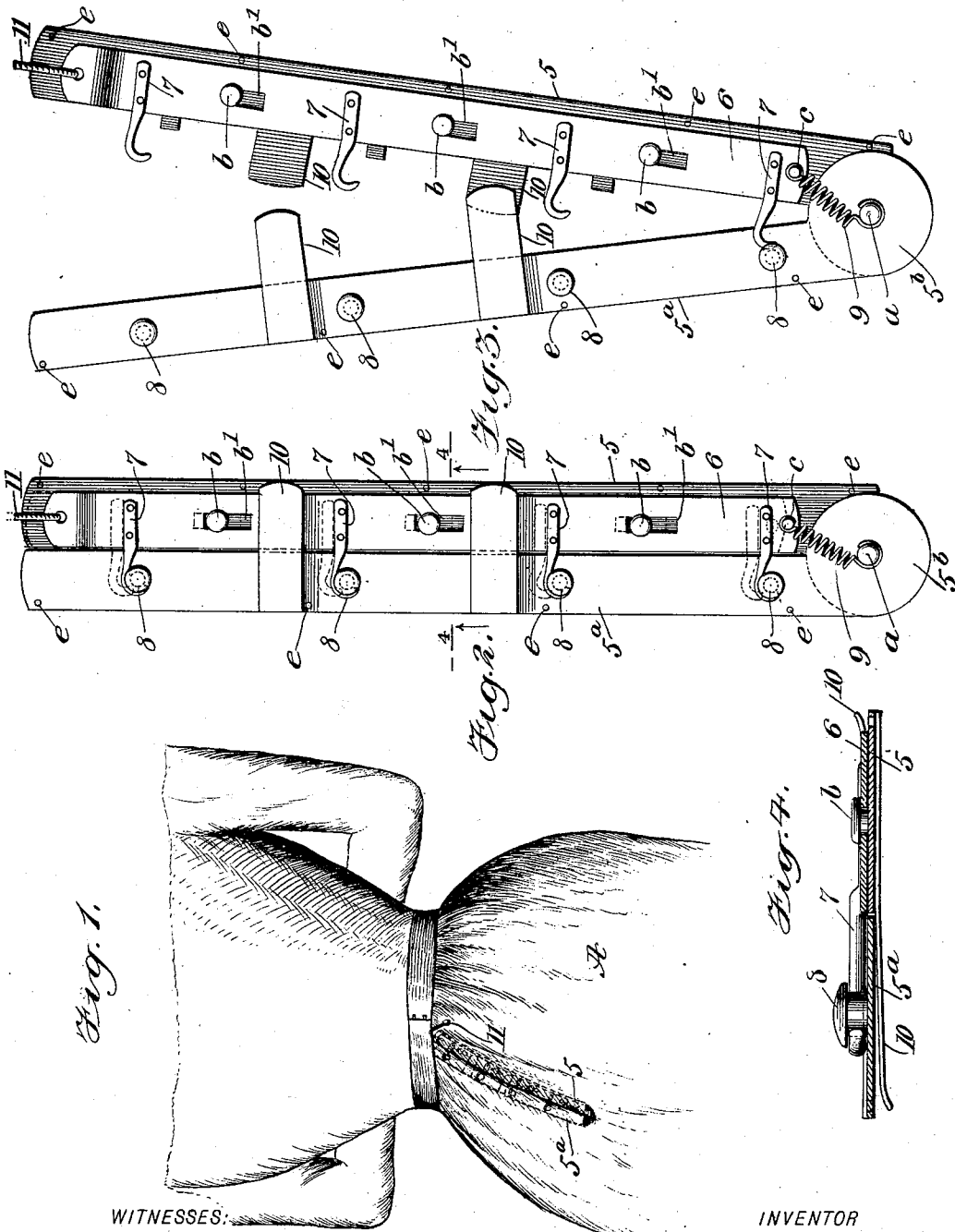


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

WITNESSES:

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PLACKET-CLOSER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 718,751, dated January 20, 1903.

Application filed October 14, 1902. Serial No. 127,258. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMMA FALKENBERG, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Placket-Closer, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to means for closing the vent or placket of ladies' dress-skirts, and has for its object to provide a novel, simple, and very convenient device of the character indicated which may be readily secured to the inner surface of the dress at the side edges of the placket and be adapted for an instant closure of the vent-opening by simply pressing the closing device at its side edges, the release of the closing device being effected by an upward pull on an attached flexible connection.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as is hereinafter described, and defined in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a rear view of a dress-skirt, showing in dotted lines the device applied to the placket of the dress-skirt and in closed adjustment. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the improved placket-closer in closed condition. Fig. 3 is a similar view, but showing the closer in opened condition; and Fig. 4 is an enlarged transverse sectional view substantially on the line 4 4 in Fig. 2.

In the drawings that represent the construction and application of the invention, 5^a 5^a respectively indicate two busk-strips, which are the body portions of the device. Each busk-strip is preferably formed of resilient sheet metal, having a proper width and length to adapt them to extend nearly the full length of the vent or placket to which they are to be applied.

A circular-edged joint-leaf 5^b is formed on one end of each busk-strip, and these joint-leaves that are lapped upon each other are centrally pivoted together, as shown at *a* in Figs. 2 and 3.

Upon the busk-strip 5, that may with ad-

vantage be slightly wider than the strip 5^a, a latch-bar 6 is slidably held by studs *b*, that project from the busk-strip 5 and pass loosely through spaced slots *b'*, formed longitudinally in the latch-bar, each stud having a headed enlargement on its free end that bears slightly upon the latch-bar, whereby the latter is adapted to receive longitudinal adjustment for a distance defined by the length of the slots *b'*. A plurality of latch-hooks 7 are affixed by their flattened shanks upon the latch-bar 6, said hooks projecting laterally and of equal length toward the busk-strip 5^a. A number of latch-studs 8 equal to the number of latch-hooks 7 project from the busk-strip 5^a, and these studs are so relatively positioned that they may be engaged by the respective hooks 7.

Upon the lower end of the latch-bar 6 one end of a retractile spring 9 is secured, preferably by engagement at one end with a projecting stud *c* on a latch-bar, the spring 9 being extended under tension to the pivot-stud *a*, whereon it is affixed, as represented in Figs. 2 and 3.

Upon the busk-strips 5 5^a a plurality of guide-fingers 10 are affixed, and said fingers are preferably disposed oppositely in pairs. The guide-fingers 10 are formed of strips of thin resilient sheet metal, and each finger is bent outward at the free end, so that said ends may be readily slid over the busk-strip toward which the fingers extend.

Upon the upper end of the latch-bar 6, which may be perforated to receive it, one end of a flexible connection 11 is secured and thence extends a short length to afford a convenient finger-hold.

A series of small spaced perforations *e* is formed in each busk-strip 5 5^a near the respective outer edges of the same, these perforations affording means for sewing the busk-strips upon the fabric of a dress-skirt.

The closing device is attached upon the inner side of the garment A, so that the busk-strips 5 5^a will be positioned at and near the edges of the placket or vent-opening of the skirt, and it will be seen that when the garment is donned the latched engagement of the hooks 7 with the studs 8 will effect a complete closure of the placket or vent.

To close the device that has been secured

upon the garment so that the free ends of the busk-strips 5 5^a are uppermost and positioned at or near the waist-line of the skirt, the person donning the skirt may readily reach behind and take hold of the cord 11, pull upon it, and at the same time press the busk-strips toward each other, which will effect a latched engagement of the hooks 7 with the latch-studs 8, and thus easily close the placket.

10 When it is desired to release the hooked engagement of the hooks 7 and studs 8 for the purpose of opening the placket, an upward pull on the cord 11 and a simultaneous lateral movement of the busk-strips 5 5^a will
15 open the placket-closer in an obvious manner.

It will be seen that the provision of the guide-fingers 10 is advantageous, as they facilitate the closure of the busk-strips and insure such an adjustment even when the busk-strips are bent flatwise, which is liable to occur, owing to the conformation of the person
20 where the skirt and waist meet thereon.

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

25 1. A placket-closer, comprising two busk-strips lapped and pivoted together at one end, a spring-drawn latch-bar held to slide on one of said busk-strips, a plurality of latch-hooks extended laterally from the latch-bar, studs
30 on the other busk-strip, whereon the hooks may latch, and means for drawing on the latch-bar for the release of the hooks.

2. A placket-closer, comprising two busk-

strips lapped and pivoted together at one end, a latch-bar having spaced slots therein and
35 mounted on one of said busk-strips, headed studs projected from said busk-strip and loosely engaging the slots in the latch-bar, a spring pulling the latch-bar toward the pivot-joint, a plurality of latch-hooks projected
40 from the latch-bar over the other busk-strip, and means for drawing on the latch-bar for the release of the hooks.

3. A placket-closer, comprising two busk-strips lapped and pivoted together at one end,
45 a latch-bar having spaced slots therein and mounted on one of said busk-strips, headed studs projected from said busk-strip and loosely engaging the slots in the latch-bar, a spring pulling the latch-bar toward the pivot-joint, a plurality of latch-hooks projected
50 from the latch-bar over the other busk-strip, paired guide-fingers extended from the busk-strips to have guiding engagement therewith, a coiled spring at one end of the latch-bar,
55 adapted to pull said latch-bar toward the pivot-joint, and a flexible connection at the opposite end of the latch-bar.

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

EMMA FALKENBERG.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM H. LEVY,
BERTHA FREY.