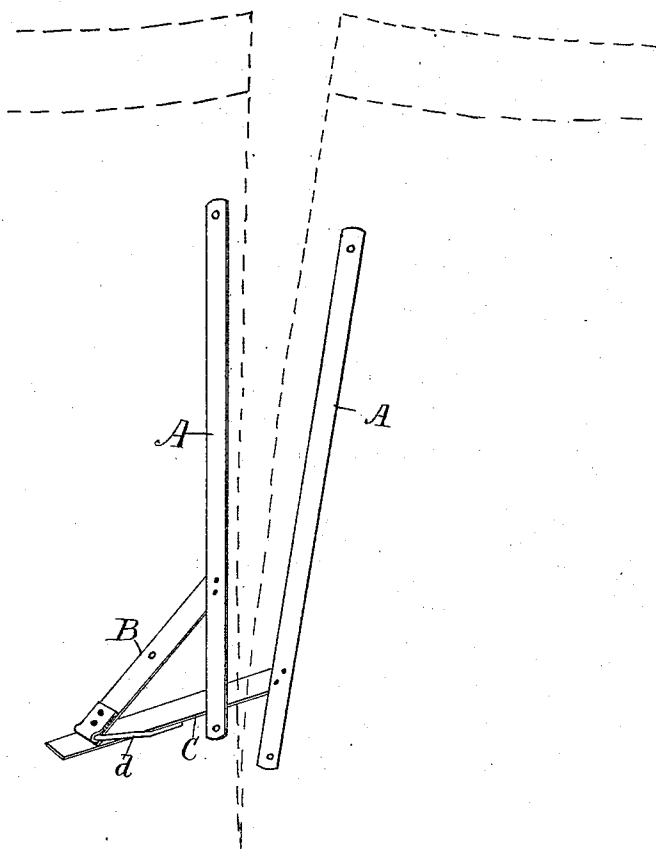


(No Model.)

J. PLÜTZER.
PLACKET FASTENER.

No. 532,247.

Patented Jan. 8, 1895.



Witnesses:
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S. J. Spollett

Inventor:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN PLÜTZER, OF BRUNSWICK, MAINE.

PLACKET-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 532,247, dated January 8, 1895.

Application filed November 17, 1894. Serial No. 529,133. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN PLÜTZER, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, residing at Brunswick, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Fasteners for Dress-Plackets; and I do hereby declare the following to be full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to a fastening device for closing the plackets of ladies' dress skirts and for preventing the same from spreading open when in use. This tendency of the plackets of dress skirts to gape open is a great source of annoyance to ladies and the object of my invention is to devise a fastener which will keep the opening effectively closed when the skirt is being worn and which will allow it to be spread open to the full size while being put on and taken off.

I accomplish the object of my invention by means of the device hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing I have illustrated a fastener which is constructed according to my invention.

The fastener consists of two main ribs A A preferably of flat spring steel and having each a branch rib B, C, secured as here shown near the lower end of the main rib and extending therefrom at an acute angle. As I usually construct the device the branch ribs are shorter than the main ribs and they are also made of spring steel. The two pairs of ribs are preferably of the same size and form so that when they are laid together they will coincide, each rib resting against its opposite. The ends of the branch ribs are pivoted together with a spring connection, the spring acting to hold them together when they are closed but allowing them to be opened against the force of the spring. A simple and effective way of making this connection is that herein shown. Near the end of the branch rib C there is a stirrup *d* soldered or otherwise rigidly secured by its inner end to the flat surface of the rib. To the outer end of

this stirrup is pivoted the end of the branch rib B, the pivoting point being a short distance back from the end of the rib B so that the extremity will project somewhat beyond the pivoting point and will impinge on the surface of the rib C which passes directly under it. Thus when the two pairs of ribs are closed together the spring rib C pressing against the projecting end of the rib B holds the parts in contact and they can only be opened by separating them by hand against the action of the spring C. The joint thus made is similar to a jack-knife joint and holds the device open or closed whichever position it happens to be in.

The dotted lines represent the placket of the dress skirt and the ribs A and the rib B are provided with holes by which these parts may be secured to the inside of the skirt near the edge of the placket. The rib B being fastened to the inside of the skirt, the whole device when closed up lies flat underneath the placket and so does not interfere with the hang of the dress.

It will be seen that when the placket is to be opened the ribs A A will take a position at a converging angle with each other on account of the inclination of the branch ribs B and C. Thus when the placket is completely open the fastener will spread out and leave an opening nearly if not quite as large as it would be without it.

The fastener can be very readily attached to the dress, it firmly closes the placket opening by simply closing the two parts on themselves and it is opened by the act of taking off the skirt.

I claim—

1. The herein described fastener for the plackets of dress skirts consisting of a pair of main ribs each of which has a branch rib extending off at an acute angle with said main rib, the ends of said branch ribs being pivoted together with a spring connection which holds the two pairs of ribs normally together but allows them to be opened.

2. The herein described fastener for the plackets of dress skirts consisting of a pair of main ribs each of which has a branch rib ex-

tending off at an acute angle with said main
rib, one of said branch ribs, C, being formed
of spring metal and having a stirrup secured
by its inner end near the outer end of said
5 branch rib, C, the end of the branch rib B be-
ing pivoted to the outer end of said stirrup,
the pivoting point being back from the end
and so allowing the extreme end of the rib to

form an impinging surface to act against the
surface of the rib C. 10

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in
presence of two witnesses.

JOHN PLÜTZER.

Witnesses:

BARRETT POTTER,
S. J. SPOLLETT.