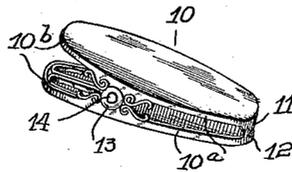


M. J. SCHLESS.  
NECKTIE CLASP.  
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 12, 1912.

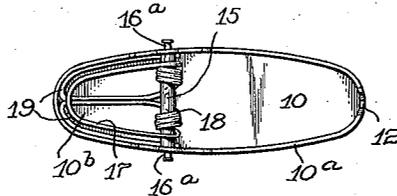
1,072,779.

Patented Sept. 9, 1913.

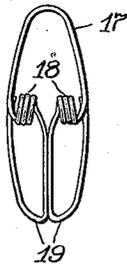
*Fig. 1.*



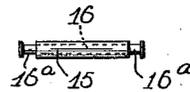
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



Attest:  
*W. Mitchell*  
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by

Inventor:  
*Maurice J. Schless*  
*W. Mitchell* his Atty

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAURICE J. SCHLESS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO SCHLESS, BROD & CO., OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, A FIRM COMPOSED OF MAURICE J. SCHLESS, ALBERT BROD, AND OSCAR J. BROD.

NECKTIE-CLASP.

1,072,779.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 9, 1913.

Application filed November 12, 1912. Serial No. 730,869.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MAURICE J. SCHLESS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at New York city, New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Necktie-Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved form of clasp and has more especial reference to what are commonly termed "neck tie clasps." In the construction of such clasps, it has heretofore been found difficult to so form and position the spring which is usually interposed between the jaws or shells of the clasps as to cause the gripping teeth formed at one end of the shells to properly engage or miter.

One object of my invention is to provide a construction wherein the shells or jaws of a clasp will be so acted upon by the spring interposed therebetween that the teeth which are used to grip the articles to be held in position will exactly miter.

It has also, heretofore, been found impracticable to use light metal stock for such tie clasps, as the form of spring generally employed had a tendency to buckle or distort the metal, by reason of the fact that the spring exerted its pressure against one part of the metal and not against the other.

Another and very important object of my invention is to provide a form of spring by means of which the pressure exerted thereby against the jaws will be so balanced or proportioned that no part of the jaw under the influence of the spring will be subjected to any greater pressure than any other part of the jaw. In this manner any tendency which the spring might have to buckle, bulge or distort the metal is obviated, and I am enabled to use relatively light stock without incurring any risk of the same being distorted.

A further object of the invention is to provide a novel form of pivot or stud about which said jaws are pivotally movable.

Other objects of the invention and advantages thereof, as well as the construction and operation of the same will be clearly disclosed in the following specification, reference being made to the accompanying drawing, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a clasp embodying the invention; Fig. 2 is a top

plan view with the upper jaw member removed. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the preferred form of spring employed; and Fig. 4 is a plan view of a pivot or stud upon which the jaws are mounted.

The invention has been shown as embodied in a neck tie clasp comprising a pair of suitably shaped jaws or shells designated generally as 10, the front edge portion of each jaw being provided with teeth 11 and 12, there being an unequal number of teeth on the jaws, for example three on one jaw and two on another so that the teeth on one jaw will enter between the teeth of the opposed jaw. Each jaw is provided intermediate its ends with a suitable ear 13 turned substantially at right angles to the plane of the jaw or shell and having therein a bore 14 designed to receive the ends of a pintle or stud which is preferably clenched or riveted in position.

One of the features of my invention relates to the form of the pivot or stud and I prefer to make the same so that the body portion is of greater diameter than the end portions which engage the ears of the jaws. The preferred form of the stud is shown in Fig. 4 from which it will be noted that the body portion 15 is formed of a hollow wire or tube through which a wire 16 is drawn centrally and axially of the tube 15, the ends of the wire projecting beyond the body 15 and forming the bearings about which the jaws rock.

Another feature of the invention relates to the formation and positioning of the spring which is interposed between the jaws and acts to force the ends of the jaws which are provided with the teeth 11 and 12 toward each other. Before the spring itself is operatively mounted in the clasp it has the general appearance indicated by Fig. 3. It will be noted that the spring comprises a substantially elliptical body portion 17, intermediate coils 18, and projecting arms 19 which are formed by the termini of the spring. When in position in the clasp, the coils 18 encircle the pivot 15, the elliptical portion 17 of the spring rests as shown against the inner face of one of the jaws, for example the upper jaw 10, and the termini or arms 19 are juxtaposed and abut or rest against the inner face of the opposite jaw for example the lower jaw 10. Each jaw is

preferably formed with a peripheral flange 10<sup>a</sup> which flanges assist in retaining the parts 17 and 18 in position.

By the construction described, I obtain for all practical purposes the effect of a double coiled spring and the pressure exerted against both the upper and lower jaws is not only substantially equal in amount but is also of such character as to keep the jaws in exact alinement with each other during operation and while the jaws are at rest.

By forming the spring members 17 and 19 as shown in the drawing, I obtain equal or uniform, or what may be termed balanced pressure against opposite edges of each jaw member 10<sup>b</sup>, and by reason of such uniformity of pressure there is no tendency to buckle or in any manner distort the metal of the shell at the parts which are subject to the action of said spring.

The operation of the device is very simple and may be briefly described as follows:—

Assuming the several parts of the device to be assembled in a complete clasp as shown in Fig. 1, the body portion 17 and the arms or termini 19 will exert their force against the opposite jaws 10 whereby the teeth formed on the front of the jaws will be caused to engage and exactly miter as shown. When it is desired to clasp an article between the teeth pressure is exerted upon the portions 10<sup>b</sup> of the jaws thus forcing these parts of the jaws toward each other against the tension of the spring members 17 and 19. When the pressure is relieved, the spring members just referred to will act to force

the jaws together again and tightly clasp the article between the same.

I claim:

A clasp of the character specified, embodying therein a pair of jaws each having a peripheral flange turned substantially at a right angle to the plane of the jaw, perforated ears formed on each jaw, a pintle upon which said jaws are pivoted, said pintle comprising a tube having a wire passing therethrough with the ends of the wire projecting beyond the tube and passing through the perforations in the ears, and a spring having a normal tendency to force the forward ends of the jaws into engagement with each other, said spring comprising an integral strand of wire formed into a continuous curved portion engaging one of the jaws adjacent the flange thereof, two intermediate spaced coils encircling the pintle near its opposite ends, and curved arms engaging the other jaw member, each of said arms consisting of a strand extending from the inner end of one of the coils, each of said strands extending along the inner face of the jaw near its central line and being curved to extend in the opposite direction adjacent to the flange of said jaw and terminating immediately adjacent the other end of the coil.

In testimony whereof I have affixed by signature in presence of two witnesses.

MAURICE J. SCHLESS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. U. ENGLER,  
OTTO MUNK.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."