(No Model.)

W. L. BARBOUR.

CLASP.

No. 578,537. Patented Mar. 9, 1897.

Fig. I

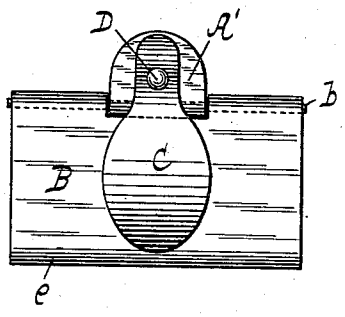


Fig. II

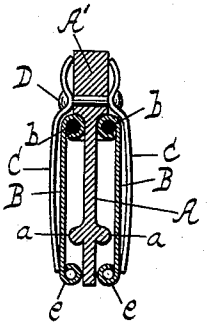


Fig. III

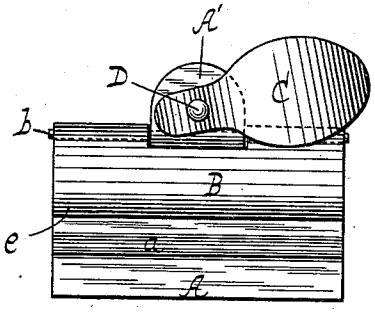
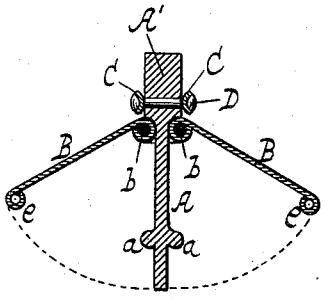


Fig. IV



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILBER LAWRENCE BARBOUR, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 578,537, dated March 9, 1897.

Application filed June 13, 1896. Serial No. 595,502. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILBER LAWRENCE BARBOUR, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Drawers-Supporting and Belt-Holding Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists in providing the means for supporting the drawers in position by attaching them to the trousers with a double clasp having two leaves hinged on opposite sides of a central supporting-plate, the one leaf engaging the upper edge of a portion of the drawers by means of ribs or corrugations projecting from the surface of the supporting-plate and the inner surface of the leaf, retaining the drawers in place without puncturing or tearing the material thereof, and the opposite leaf in like manner engaging and retaining a portion of the trousers-band by means of similar ribs, the said leaves being retained in position by clamping-jaws.

This invention is also adapted and useful to persons wearing belts with bicycle, outing, or other special suits used in out-of-door sports and games to engage and retain the belt in position, as well as the drawers, so that the upper edge of the belt will remain flush with the upper edge of the trousers, which is effected by clasping the outer leaf, ordinarily only attached to the trousers, over the belt, as well as the trousers-band.

Figure I represents a side view of the clasp as it appears when closed. Fig. II represents an end view thereof corresponding to Fig. I. Fig. III represents a side view of the clasp as it appears when open. Fig. IV represents an end view thereof corresponding to Fig. III.

The letter A indicates the supporting-plate, and A′ an upward extension thereof; B B, the swinging leaves, and *b b* the hinged joints by which the leaves are attached to the supporting-plate.

C C are the clamping-jaws for engaging the swinging leaves B B in their closed position.

D is the pivot whereby the clamping-jaws are connected to the supporting-plate A.

a a are ribs on opposite sides of the supporting-plate A, extending longitudinally the length thereof, which are preferably used, or, if desired, the supporting-plate and corresponding leaf may be corrugated, and thus accomplish the same purpose, at a point near its free edge.

e e are ribs extending longitudinally the length of the hinged leaves at the free edges thereof.

The clamping-jaws C C are constructed of a suitable spring metal, as brass or steel, and the rivet D, constituting the pivot, upon which the clamping-jaws C C turn, is so adjusted as to force the jaws against the leaves B B and also against the extension A′ of the plate A with sufficient pressure to hold said leaves in position when closed, the clamping-jaws C C being slightly concave in form, with their concave side toward the respective leaves B B.

Having thus described my invention, its operation is as follows: The clasp, with the jaws C C turned back and the leaves swinging loose, is brought in contact with the upper edge of the drawers, so that when the leaf is closed over the material thereof the edge of the drawers will project within the line of the ribs or corrugations *a* of the supporting-plate and *e* of the leaf used. The leaf is then closed over the material of the drawers and the clamping-jaw C is brought into position, thereby clamping the central plate A to the leaf B and retaining the drawers in place. The corresponding and outer leaf is then clasped over the trousers-band, and, if a belt is worn, it is clasped over the belt, so that the supporting-plate shall be in contact with the interior of the trousers-band and the leaf B in contact with the outside of the belt, and the corresponding clamping-jaw C is brought into position, so as to retain the trousers, or the trou-

sers and belt, in its clutch by means of the corresponding ribs or corrugations *a e*, thus supporting the drawers without danger of tearing the material and at the same time, if required, retaining the belt in place.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A supporting-plate in combination with one or more swinging leaves attached thereto, and spring clamping-jaws, controlling such leaf or leaves, substantially as described.

2. A supporting-plate, bearing ribs or corrugations on its surfaces, in combination with one or more swinging leaves, attached thereto, having similar ribs or corrugations and spring clamping-jaws, controlling such leaf or leaves, substantially as described.

Signed at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, this 3d day of June, A. D. 1896.

WILBER LAWRENCE BARBOUR.

Witnesses:
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