A. CHRISTEY.

Clasp.

No. 204,537. Patented June 4, 1878.

Fig. 1.

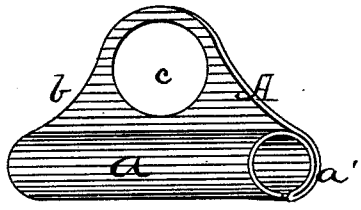


Fig. 2.

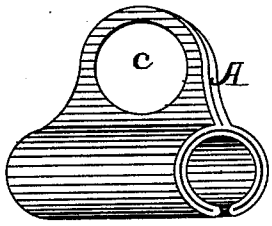


Fig. 3.

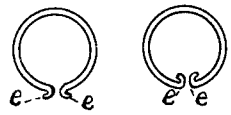
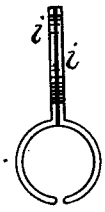


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR CHRISTEY, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN CLASPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,537**, dated June 4, 1878; application filed February 5, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR CHRISTEY, of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have made certain Improvements in Clasps, of which the following is a specification:

This invention is an improvement on my patent of January 8, 1878, No. 198,929; and consists in improvements in the construction to overcome the excessive tension of the double back and the sharpness of the lips, all as hereinafter specified.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of my clasp with a single flat back and one double and one single lip. Fig. 2 shows a smaller clasp with two double lips and a single or double back; Figs. 3 and 4, detail views of variations in construction.

A represents the back or upper part of a clasp, but of a single thickness only, in which the tube or lip *a* is bent, (single,) and then bent round, forming a second lip, *a'*, till it nearly meets the first one *a*. It is then sharply bent back on itself, and carried up into a single back, *b*, as shown in Fig. 1. This is to overcome the too great tension of those having a double back, bent over on itself, and formed with single lips. The stiffness of the spring of the back rendered them difficult to open for ordinary use, and the two single lips were found too sharp in sliding the clasp on paper, cards, envelopes, &c., for which they were intended; hence the object of forming the lip or lips double, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

Fig. 4 shows a double back and double lips; but the back is open at the top *i i*, the clasping-lips being formed double by bending each over on itself and continuing each back up single, as shown at *i i*. The backs of these clasps are made either with a hole, *c*, to hang them up by, or else a pin is attached.

Fig. 3 shows the lips bent over at the mouth *e e*, either in or out, the ends only continued a short distance, and without a top or back. The rounded lips allow the smooth running of the clasp over the material on which it is set.

The lips may be made of double or single thickness, and will have, virtually, the same effect as the double lips *a' a'*.

I claim—

1. The clasp constructed of a single piece of metal, with the back A of a single or double thickness, and the lip *a* or lips *a a'* of a double thickness, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. The back A, constructed double, but open at the edge, and the clasping-lips *a a'*, also double and forming rounded smooth edges, all constructed out of a single sheet of metal, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ARTHUR CHRISTEY.

Witnesses:

J. R. DRAKE,

T. H. PARSONS.