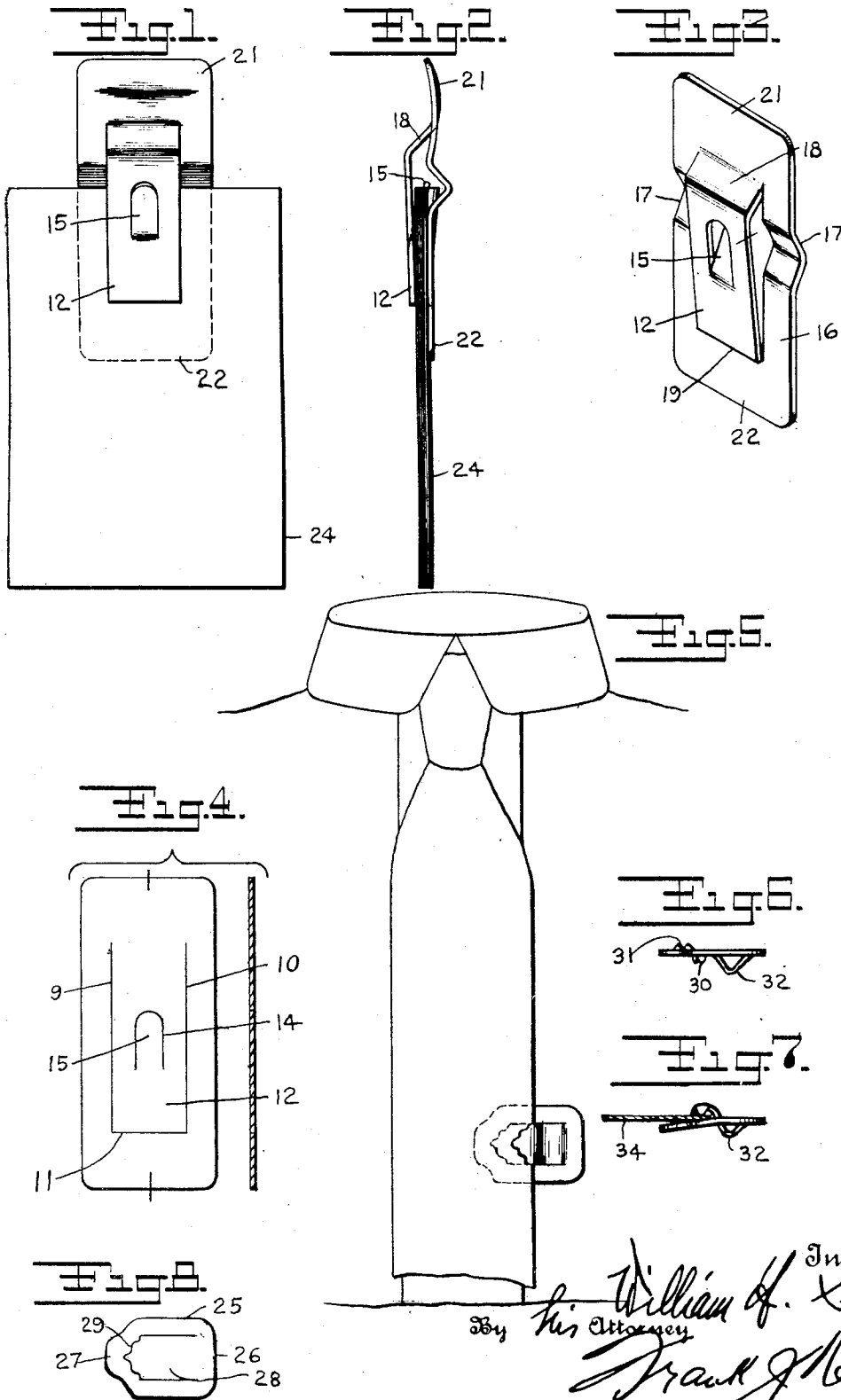


W. H. STEVENS.
CLIP OR CLASP.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 26, 1918.

1,342,698.

Patented June 8, 1920.



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CLIP OR CLASP.

1,342,698.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 8, 1920.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. STEVENS, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clips or Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to clips or clasps such as are used to hold neckties in position, to hold together a number of papers or the like.

One of the objects of the invention is to produce a device of this kind having exceptional gripping or holding qualities, and made from a single integral piece of material.

Other objects and aims of the invention, more or less broad than those stated above, together with the advantages inherent, will be in part obvious and in part specifically referred to in the course of the following description of the elements, combinations, arrangements of parts, and applications of principles constituting the invention; and the scope of protection contemplated will appear from the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which are to be taken as part of this specification, and in which I have shown merely a preferred form of embodiment of invention, Figure 1 is a plan view of a paper clip embodying my invention showing it as in use; Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the clip; Fig. 4 is a view in plan and section of the blank from which the article shown in the first three figures is produced; Fig. 5 illustrates an embodiment of my invention in the form of a necktie clasp, showing it in use; Fig. 6 is an edge view of the clasp shown in Fig. 5 with the parts in normal position; Fig. 7 is a view of the same illustrating the gripping position of the parts; and Fig. 8 is a view of the blank from which the article shown in Figs. 5, 6, and 7 is produced.

Referring to the numerals on the drawings and first to Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, there is shown in Fig. 4 a blank of flat resilient material, which may be suitable metal or celluloid or the like. This blank is first cut as indicated by the lines 9, 10 and 11 to form a tongue 12 and this tongue 12 is again slitted as indicated at 14, to define a tongue 15 which however is oppositely directed

from the tongue 12 which supports it. This slitting or cutting may be done in any approved way which forms no part of the present invention. After the blank has been thus formed it is subjected to proper manipulation as by means of dies or the like to give it the form shown in Fig. 3. Thus the frame 16 surrounding and supporting the tongue 12 is left generally flat, except for the parallel bends 17 in the side portions of the frame. The tongue 12 is also bent, the portion 18 near the root thereof being bent upwardly from the frame, that is to say, in a direction opposite from the bends 17, while beyond the upward bend 18 the tongue inclines downwardly again toward the general plane of the front of the frame as indicated at 19. The secondary tongue or gripping member 15 is bent away from the plane of the tongue 12 and toward the plane of the main frame. The bends 17 being located well toward one end of the frame, if the device be laid on a flat surface, with the bends 17 and the adjacent upper end of the frame upon the flat surface, it is obvious that the opposite end of the frame will be elevated above the surface. If now the upper end of the frame, indicated at 21, be held firmly against the flat surface and the opposite end 22 depressed, a space will be provided between the end 19 of the tongue 12 and the forward end 22 of the frame, into which space papers or envelopes or the like may be inserted. As they are pushed in they meet the frictional resistance caused by the secondary tongue 15 and are also thereby bent down out of the plane in which they enter between the tongue 12 and the forward end 22 of the frame, all of which makes for a stronger grip, the forward end of the tongue 12 tending downwardly and the forward end of the tongue 15 also tending downwardly, but the end of the tongue 15 occupying the position very much below that of the end of tongue 12. It is of course desirable that the end of the tongue 12 should not at any time extend through the frame between the side pieces thereof and in fact it is preferred that the end of the tongue should bear upon the forward end 22 of the frame. Obviously, this would not be possible after the bending of the tongue, as indicated at 18, if compensation were not made by shortening up the frame by means of the bends 17.

The position of the parts when in use is

shown in Fig. 2, the papers being indicated at 24.

Referring to the embodiment shown in Figs. 5 to 8 of the drawings, the blank from which the device is to be fashioned is shown in Fig. 8 and comprises a frame with side members 25, a rear end 26 and a forward end 27 surrounding a tongue 28, defined by through cuts or slits as shown. At the forward end of this tongue the cut is made like a saw-tooth, and the subsequent manipulation of the article from the flat as shown in Fig. 8, the saw-tooth portions at the forward end of the tongue and at the inner edge of the frame, indicated at 29, in Fig. 8, are reversely bent so as to form oppositely directed teeth 30 and 31 on the end of the tongue and the adjacent edge of the frame respectively. No material is cut out or wasted, but in order to make the tongue more resilient for its gripping function and to shorten its leverage and to facilitate manipulation, the tongue is bent near its root as indicated at 32. Normally this bend is below the plane of the frame as shown in Fig. 6, as is indeed the whole of the tongue. In use the article is held with the thumb under the bend 32 and with two fingers above the respective side pieces 25. Pressure upon the frame and the tongue in opposite directions brings the parts to the po-

sition shown in Fig. 7, that is with the gripping end of the tongue above the frame, so that a necktie or other article to be held, indicated at 34, may be slipped in between the frame and the tongue. Release of the pressure will result in the gripping of the article between the oppositely pointed teeth of the tongue end and frame end.

I claim:

1. A device of the kind described made of flat resilient material and comprising a frame with side pieces and end pieces in a common plane and surrounding an integral tongue, said tongue having a bend near its root upwardly away from the frame and having its free end resting on the adjacent end piece of the frame, and the side pieces of the frame having also angle bends out of the general plane of the frame.

2. A device of the kind described made of flat resilient material and comprising a frame with side pieces and end pieces surrounding an integral tongue, said tongue having a bend near its root and the side pieces of the frame having also bends therein, and said tongue being provided with a secondary tongue extending toward the frame.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM H. STEVENS.