(No Model.)

A. W. EVANS.

CLASP.

No. 588,560. Patented Aug. 24, 1897.

Fig. 1.

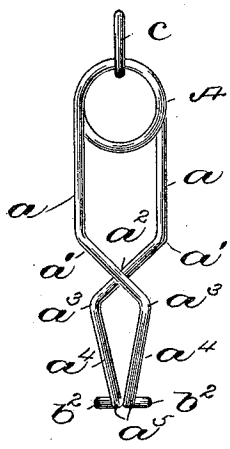


Fig. 2.

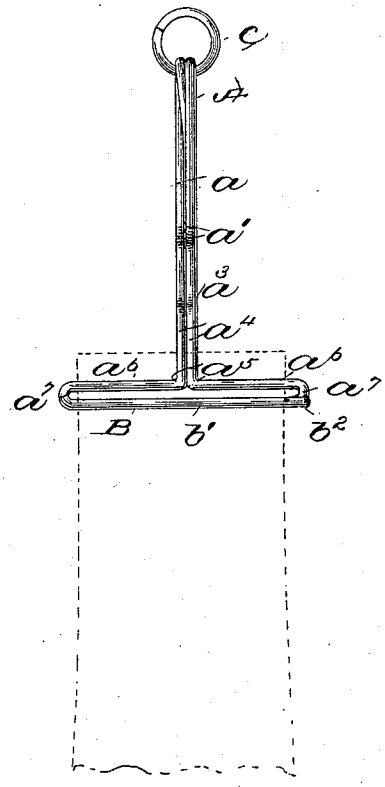


Fig. 3.

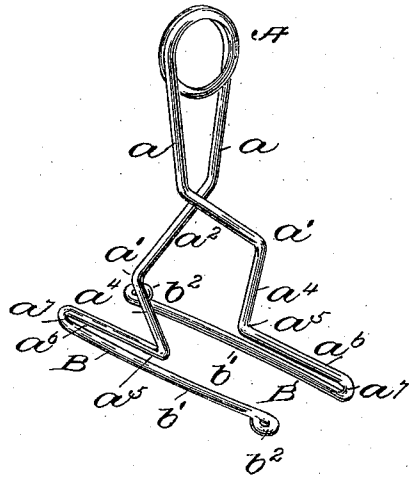
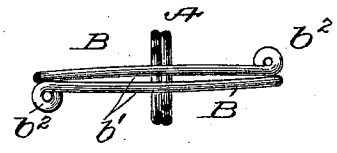


Fig. 4.



Witnesses,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARAD WARD EVANS, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 588,560, dated August 24, 1897.

Application filed April 27, 1897. Serial No. 634,140. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARAD WARD EVANS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps for Pressing and Hanging Trousers; and I do declare the following to be a 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to clasps for pressing and hanging trousers; and the objects sought to be accomplished are to provide a clasp for pressing and suspending the trousers in a condition to give them the desired set or shape, said clasp to be formed of a single piece of wire and of simple construction, cheap to manufacture, and efficient in use. These objects are attained by the construction shown in the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my clasp and hanger. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same at right angles to the view in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the same, showing the jaws open. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the jaws of the clasp when closed.

In the manufacture of my clasp a single piece or length of spring-wire of the required size is bent centrally into a coil A of a size to give the desired spring action to the jaws. The legs a extend from the coil A in substantially parallel planes, conforming to the size of the coil and of a length to serve as a convenient handhold for grasping the clasp to open its jaws. At the desired point these legs a are bent inward, as at a', to cross each other at a^2. Continuing from this point the wire is bent at a^3 and extended to form the converging members a^4, which terminate in the jaw members of the clasp. To form these jaws, the members a^4 are bent at the points a^5 outwardly in opposite directions to form the lateral extensions a^6, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, which are bent or doubled upon themselves at a^7 and extended in opposite directions to the desired distance beyond the plane of the body of the clasp and at right angles thereto to form jaws B of the required length for the purpose designed, and the terminal ends of the wires are curled or bent into loops b^2 to finish the jaws and to prevent injury to the trousers or material during the clasping operation. The jaws may be slightly bent or curved away from each other in the center, as at b', to allow room for the leg-seams in the trousers when clamped; but this is not an indispensable feature of my invention. I may also connect a ring c to the coil A in order that the clasp and trousers may be suspended upon a hook or nail projecting from a wall, to lie flat against the same.

It will be understood that in order to press and form the trousers they are folded or creased with the seams together and inserted within the jaws of the clasp, the jaws being opened by pressure upon the legs a. It will be noticed that the only point of contact of the jaws upon the material is on a line with the opposing members B and that these members are resilient transversely across their entire length, since they have the inherent spring action of the wire from the bends a^7 to their free ends b^2. This is an important feature in a clasp of this character, as it permits the opposing faces of the jaws to assume the desired relation to conform to any inequalities or irregularities in the materials or articles to be clamped. In other words, the diagonally-disposed free ends b^2 of the jaws have independent resiliency, so that whether the material to be clamped is of equal or of irregular thickness, or even of greater thickness at one edge than the other, the jaws will always retain their correct relation and preserve the line of contact from end to end.

A clasp provided with jaws of this character is capable of a wide range of usefulness and is particularly desirable for the purpose set forth herein.

What I desire to secure by Letters Patent and claim is—

1. A clasp comprising a body portion lying in one plane and jaws at right angles thereto, the body portion provided with means for holding the jaws normally closed, and said jaws being independently resilient.

2. A clasp made of a single length of spring-wire, and consisting of a resilient body portion lying in one plane, and the jaws disposed at right angles thereto, said jaws being curved or bent outward from each other centrally, and said jaws being independently resilient.

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

ARAD WARD EVANS.

Witnesses:
GEORGE W. BAGG,
W. S. GORGES.