No. 885,033

PATENTED APR. 21, 1908.

V. K. FORSE.

CORSET CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 18, 1906.

Fig. 1

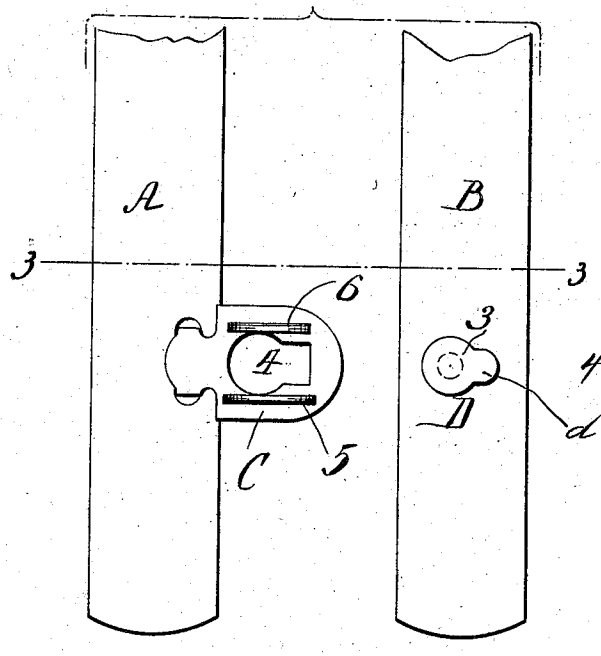


Fig. 2.

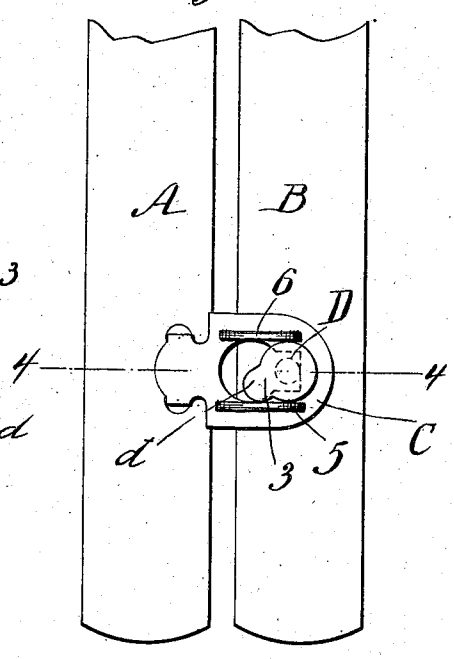


Fig. 3.

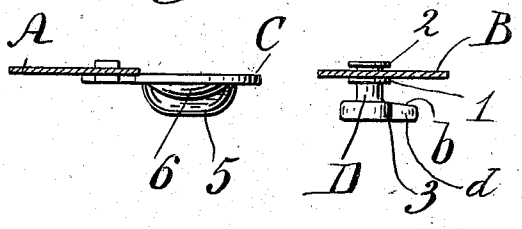
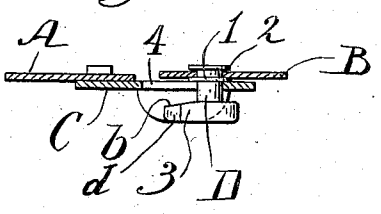


Fig. 4



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CORSET-CLASP.

No. 885,033. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 21, 1908.

Application filed January 18, 1906. Serial No. 296,727.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VIRGINIA KATHERINE FORSE, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Los Angeles, county of Los Angeles, and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corset-Clasps, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part thereof, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to corset clasps; the object thereof being to provide a device of this character which is susceptible of easy operation, but which cannot be accidentally unclasped.

The device is simple in construction, durable and inexpensive, and it occupies no more space than ordinary corset clasps, whereby it may be used in conjunction with a plurality of other clasps if desirable.

The device comprises a plate having an elongated opening therethrough which is narrowed at one end, and a revoluble shank having a head adapted to register with and pass through the said opening when extended in one direction and to lock when extended in an opposite direction.

The invention will be hereinafter fully described and specifically set forth in the annexed claims.

In the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, the several views are illustrated on an exaggerated scale.

Figure 1, is a front view illustrating the lower ends of a pair of corset-steels, the same having my improved clasp attached, and the steels disconnected; Fig. 2, is a similar view showing the steels clasped; Fig. 3, is a sectional plan view taken on the line 3—3, of Fig. 1; and Fig. 4, is a sectional plan view taken on the line 4—4, of Fig. 2.

In the practice of my invention, I employ my improved clasps preferably at the top and bottom of the steels, and use ordinary clasps between; but it is obvious that I may also use an entire row of my clasps if desirable.

In the drawings A and B indicate parts of ordinary corset steels, which are of flexible character and adapted for attachment to the adjacent sections of a corset. These generally carry a plurality of clasps; but I have illustrated only one clasp, located at the lower end of the steels.

The clasp comprises the plate C, which is securely attached to the steel A by riveting or in any other common and well known way, and the shank D, in pivotal connection with the steel B. The shank D revolves freely in an opening through the steel B, and is held in place by means of the collar 1, and washer 2, the latter being securely riveted to the inner end of the shank. On the outer end of said shank is a circular head 3; this head is provided with an integral tongue *d*, which is extended radially from its periphery, thus a head of approximately key-shaped contour is presented. The tongue *d* of the said head is provided with a beveled inner surface *b*, and the whole is adapted to pass through an approximately key-shaped opening 4, in the plate C, which opening is sufficiently large to allow the head 3, to pass therethrough freely, when said head is turned in the direction indicated in Fig. 1, of the drawings.

Located on the outer face of the plate C one side of the opening 4, of the plate C, is a projecting flange 5, and a lug 6, is located on the said outer face of the plate C on the other side of said opening, which said lug is provided with an outwardly curved face for frictional contact with the beveled part *b*, of the head 3, when the said head is being turned from position shown by Fig. 1 of the drawings to position shown by Fig. 2.

To use my invention, after the corset has been put upon the person, and the head 3 of the clasp has been placed in the position illustrated in Fig. 1, the steels A and B, are drawn towards each other, so that the head 3, will come under the plate C, into such a position that it will register with the opening 4, in said plate C. Then the plate C, is pressed against the head 3, and the steel B, sufficiently to force the head 3, through the opening 4, of the plate C. The head 3 is then turned from the position illustrated in Fig. 1, to the position illustrated in Fig. 2 and toward the lug 6 and over which it passes, the lug 6 being of less height than the flange 5. In the meantime the shank D, will have, by the tension of the corset on the body of the wearer, been drawn into the elongation of the opening 4. Then with the said shank resting in said elongation, and the head 3 resting against the lug 6, and the elongation *d*, resting against the flange 5, the clasp will be securely held in closed position; but so as to allow sufficient motion of the parts.

To undo the clasp, the head 3 is turned from the position illustrated in Fig. 2, to the

position illustrated in Fig. 1 and toward and over the smaller lug 6, as above described. The steels A and B, are then drawn towards each other so that the head 3, registers with the opening 4. Then the plate C is lifted off over the head 3, and so the clasp is undone.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A corset clasp comprising a plate having an elongated opening contracted at one end, a flange on one side of said opening and a lug on the other side of said opening, and a revoluble shank having an elongated head which is contracted at one end and arranged to engage said opening, and means comprising steels for carrying the said parts, substantially as shown and described.

2. In combination with two adjacent corset-steels the plate C, rigidly secured to one of said steels and the shank D, pivoted to the other, said plate having a flange, and a lug, and an elongated opening which is contracted at one end between said flange and lug and said shank having an elongated head which is contracted at one end and arranged to engage the said opening, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that, I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have signed my name in presence of two witnesses, this fourth day of January 1906.

VIRGINIA K. FORSE.

Witnesses:

AGNES L. ADAMS,

L. B. DAVISON.