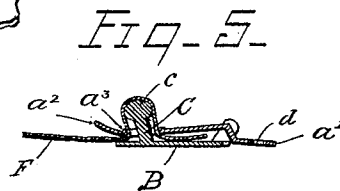
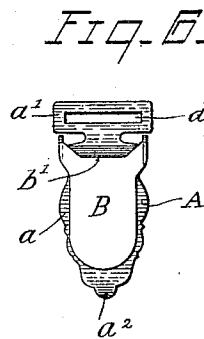
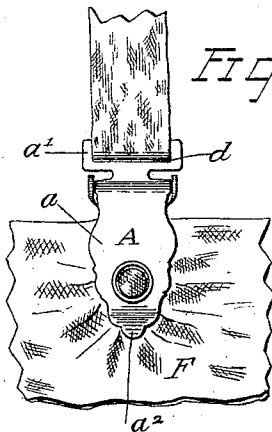
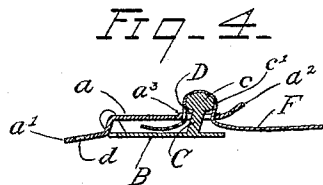
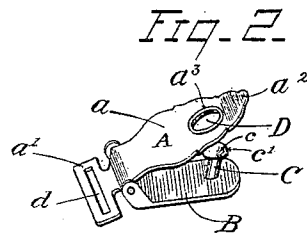
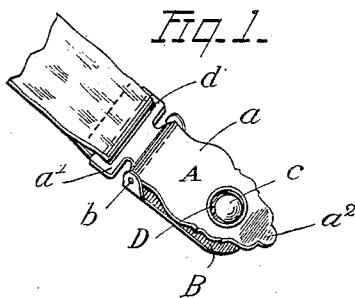


(No Model.)

E. W. GROESCHEL.
CLASP.

No. 537,974.

Patented Apr. 23, 1895.



Witnesses

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By his Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN W. GROESCHEL, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 537,974, dated April 23, 1895.

Application filed November 28, 1894. Serial No. 530,258. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN W. GROESCHEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps; 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.

The object of the invention is to produce a clasp, for supporting hose and other garments, which is simple in construction, easily manufactured, durable in use and, though capable of ready attachment to and detachment from those articles of apparel which it is intended to support, will firmly hold without tearing or in anywise injuring them.

The invention consists of the device hereinafter described and claimed whereby the aforesaid objects are accomplished.

Referring to the drawings which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the clasp when shut, and Fig. 2 a similar view of the clasp when open. Fig. 3 is a view in perspective of the clasp attached to a garment. Fig. 4 shows a longitudinal section of the clasp engaging a fabric with the members of the clasp in the position they occupy when not under tension. Fig. 5 is a view like Fig. 4 but showing the parts of the clasp under tension, and Fig. 6 is a perspective showing the under side of the clasp.

The clasp consists of two hinged and spaced members, A and B, the latter being the shorter and having ears *b* at its rear end, and being provided, at or near its front end, with a forwardly inclined stud C the top of which carries a knob *c* whose front edge *c'* serves as a detent as hereinafter indicated.

The longer member A is supported by means of side pintles upon the ears *b*, and extends at both ends beyond the member B. Its front end *a''* is slightly turned upward, or away from the member B, and is provided with an orifice D the thickness of whose edges is increased by a circumferential flange *a'''*. This orifice D is so situated relatively to the detent

c', of the stud C that, when the members move, the detent will engage the metal of the member A at the front side of the orifice. The rear end *a'* of the member A is bent downwardly, or across the rear end of the member B, so as to be in a different plane from or in a plane cutting that in which the portion *a* thereof upon the other side of the hinge lies, and has a transverse slit *d* through which a supporting band of suitable material may be passed and secured.

In the operation of the device, the edge of the fabric or garment is placed between the two members A and B which are then closed upon the same. The stud C carries upward a portion of the fabric and crowds it through the orifice D. As soon as the detent *c'* passes the edge of the said orifice, the clamp is locked and will not be disengaged until the user exerts pressure upon the top of the stud and the under side of the end *a''* of the member A, which pressure he may conveniently exert by his thumb and forefinger.

When the garment is fully supported by the clasp the strain upon the part *a'* of the member A will, because of the shape of the said member heretofore described, throw the forward end *a* toward the member B, thus pushing the stud farther through the orifice D and stretching still more the portion of the fabric borne by the stud C. The throwing of the forward end *a* toward the member B is due to the fact that, because of the bend in the member A, the tendency of longitudinal strain upon the clasp is to press the member B against the body of the wearer. The effect of this stretching is to increase the pressure and friction between the stud and fabric and between the fabric and the metal around the orifice D. The considerable thickness of this metal produced by the flange *a'''* prevents cutting of the fabric, and is as effective for this purpose as though the entire plate were produced from thick metal.

The hinging of the members so that they will have considerable space between them permits of a rather extended range of movement after the clasp is closed, and admits of the use of the clasp with fabrics of different weights.

In some cases the orifice D may be relatively

larger than that shown, or even smaller, so as to leave more or less space around the stud for a fabric.

The forward inclination of the stud, hereinbefore mentioned, bends the fabric more sharply over the edge of the metal at the front of the orifice D, than would a rearward inclination thereof, or no inclination at all. This feature is perhaps as effective as any in preventing the fabric from pulling out of the clasp.

In order to permit an extended opening of the clasp the back portion B is cut away considerably between the ears *b* as seen in Fig 6.

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

1. A clasp consisting of two members one of which is longer than the other, the shorter member being hinged at or near the middle of the longer one, the free end of the shorter member and the adjacent end of the longer member terminating at substantially the same point to form jaws, and the longer member having means for securing a supporting band thereto and being bent so as to present an angle toward the hinge which joins it to the shorter member, whereby when the clasp is in use the shorter member will be pressed against the body of the wearer and thereby forced toward the longer member so as to close its jaws substantially as described.

2. In a clasp or supporter for garments, the combination of two hinged members, one member having parts on opposite sides of the hinge in different planes and presenting an angle toward the hinge which joins the two members, one of said parts being provided with an orifice, and the other member having a stud with a detent adapted to pass through the said orifice substantially as described.

3. In a clasp or supporter for garments, the combination of two hinged members, one member having parts on opposite sides of the

hinge in different planes and presenting an angle toward the hinge which joins the two members, one of said parts being provided with an orifice, and the other member having a stud with a spherical knob adapted to pass through the said orifice substantially as described.

4. In a clasp or supporter for garments, the combination of two hinged members, one member having parts on opposite sides of the hinge in different planes and presenting an angle toward the hinge which joins the two members and each part extending respectively beyond the ends of the other member, one of said parts being provided with an orifice, and the other member having a stud with a detent adapted to pass through the said orifice substantially as described.

5. A clasp consisting of two hinged members having jaws, the parts of the hinge being immovably secured to the respective members, the one member having an orifice there-through, and the other being provided with a stud which has a detent at its end, the said detent being so situated that the metal at the edge of the hole in the first named member will snap over and be held by the detent when the jaws are substantially closed, substantially as described.

6. A clasp consisting of two hinged members the one being provided with a forwardly inclined stud having a detent at its free end and the other being provided with an orifice substantially coinciding with said stud, the metal around said orifice being thicker than the metal of which the member is composed substantially as described.

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

EDWIN W. GROESCHEL.

Witnesses:

A. P. STEWARD,
E. L. McCLELLAND.