

July 7, 1936.

R. W. COOK

2,046,771

CLASP

Filed May 9, 1935

Fig. 1.

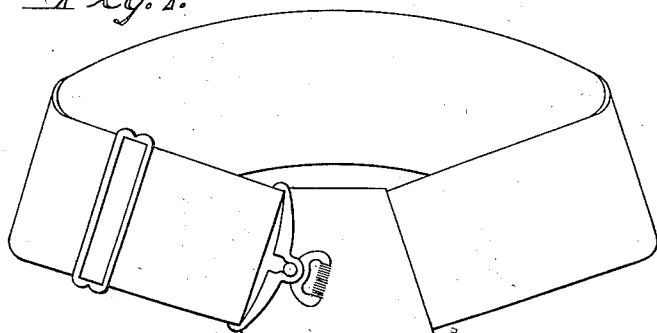


Fig. 2.

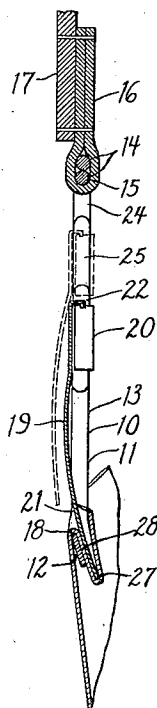


Fig. 5.

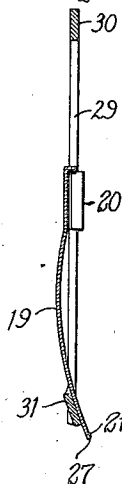


Fig. 7.

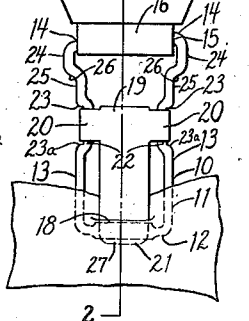
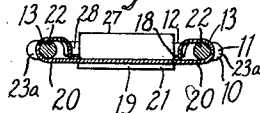


Fig. 3.

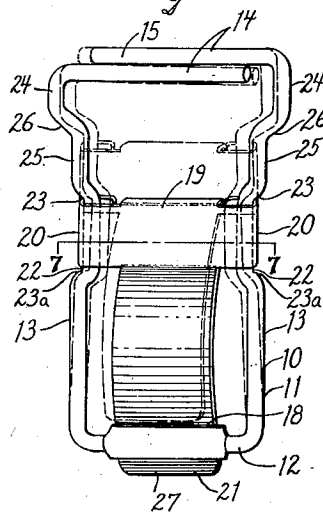


Fig. 4.

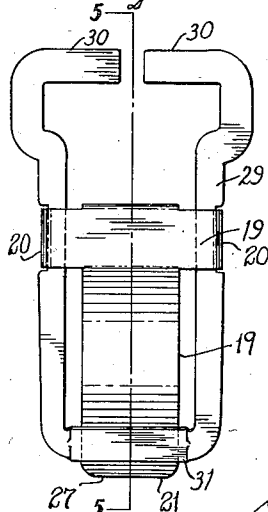
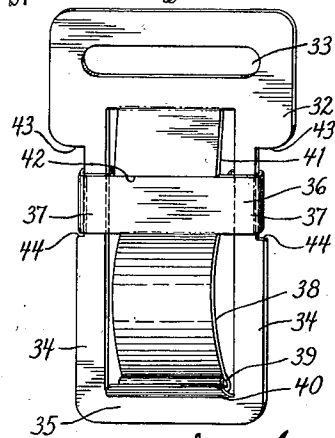


Fig. 6.



Inventor.
Raymond W. Cook
Seymour Earle Nichols
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,046,771

CLASP

Raymond W. Cook, Bristol, Conn., assignor to
The Wallace Barnes Company, Bristol, Conn.,
a corporation

Application May 9, 1935, Serial No. 20,552

5 Claims. (Cl. 24—263)

This invention relates to improvements in clasps, and more particularly to clasps for use on personal wear such, for example, as garters.

One object of this invention is to provide an improved clasp which will securely fasten fabric without tearing the same.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved clasp of maximum flatness and thinness.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved clasp formed of simple elements, readily manufactured and readily assembled to produce an efficient, durable construction at minimum cost.

With the above and other objects in view, this invention includes all improvements over the prior art which are disclosed in this application.

In the accompanying drawing, in which certain ways of carrying out the invention are shown for illustrative purposes:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a garter having a clasp thereon made in accordance with this invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged vertical sectional view on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the clasp shown in Figs. 1 and 2;

Fig. 4 is a front elevation of a modified form of clasp;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on line 5—5 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a still further modified form of clasp; and

Fig. 7 is a transverse sectional view on line 7—7 of Fig. 3.

In the description and claims, the various parts are identified by specific names for convenience, but they are intended to be as generic in their application as the prior art will permit.

Referring to Figs. 1 to 3 and 7 of the drawing, the clasp 10 includes a frame-member or frame 11 of resilient wire having an end-bar 12 and spaced-apart side-bars 13. The side-bars 13 have oppositely-extending upper ends 14 which are in overlapping relation but disconnected from one another, so as to have sliding action over each other. The ends 14 together form a loop-bar 15, to which is attached a depending portion 16 of a garter 17. The end-bar 12 is provided with a gripping-edge 18, preferably formed by making the end-bar 12 in flattened form, shown in Figs. 1 to 3 and 7, and arranged at an incline, as shown, to provide a camming action to aid in the easy locking of the clasp.

A clasp-member 19, formed of resilient sheet-metal, has two oppositely-extending arms 20

bent around and mounted to slide along the side-bars 13 of the frame. The clasp-member 19 also has a grip-tongue 21. When the clasp-member 19 is in the locked position, the arms 20 of the clasp-member engage the two inset portions 22 of the side-bars 13, and the engagement of the arms 20 against the shoulders 23 prevents the clasp from becoming unlocked. The frame-member 11 is made of resilient metal and when the side-portions 24 of the frame are pressed toward each other, this narrows the frame and permits the clasp-member 19 to be slid along the portions 25 of the side-bars 13 until the arms 20 engage against and are limited by the shoulders 26 of the side-bars. In this open position (indicated in broken lines in Fig. 2), the grip-tongue 21 is mainly located at one side of the frame-member 11. When it is desired to clasp a piece of fabric by the clasp, the grip-tongue 21 is pressed transversely of the frame 11 to bring it to a line below the top of the inclined gripping-edge 18, whereupon the clasp-member 19 is slid forward or the garter strap is pulled rearward until the end 27 of the grip-tongue 21 engages the inclined surface 28 of the end-bar 12, whereupon further movement results in a camming action to force the grip-tongue 21 to the position shown in full lines in Fig. 2. When the clasp-member 19 reaches this locking position, the resiliency of the frame 11 causes the side-bars 13 to spring apart and thus lock the clasp-member 19 against passage beyond the shoulders 23. The shoulders 23^a limit the downward movement of the clasp-member 19.

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 4, the parts are generally the same, the main difference being that the frame 29 is formed of resilient sheet-metal, and instead of having the end-portions 30 in overlapping relation, they are spaced apart in the manner shown to permit limited movement toward one another, to permit the clasp-member 19 to be slid to unlocked position. The end-bar 31 is bent or twisted to give it an inclined position, to bring about camming action similar to that of the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 3.

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 6, the frame-member 32 is formed of a piece of resilient sheet-metal provided with an opening 33 at its upper end for attachment to a garter or the like, and having side-bars 34 and an end-bar 35. A clasp-member 36, formed of resilient sheet-metal, has side-arms 37 bent around the side-bars 34 to be slidable therealong. The resilient grip-

tongue 38 of the clasp-member 36 is provided with a curled end 39 adapted to be engaged beneath the struck-up portion 40 of the end-bar 35 providing a gripping-edge. The clasp-member 36 is held in locked position by engagement of the resilient locking-tongue 41 against the rear edge 42 of the clasp-member 36. To unclasp the clasp, the resilient locking-tongue 41 is pressed down and the clasp-member 36 slid away from its locking engagement until the rear edges of the side-arms 37 engage against the limit-shoulders 43 formed on the frame-member 32. The shoulders 44 limit the downward movement of the clasp-member 36.

The invention may be carried out in other specific ways than those herein set forth without departing from the spirit and essential characteristics of the invention, and the present embodiments are therefore to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, and all changes coming within the meaning and equivalency range of the appended claims are intended to be embraced therein.

I claim:

1. A clasp comprising: a frame-member having two spaced-apart side-bars and an end-bar bordering a frame-opening through said frame-member, said end-bar having a gripping-edge inclined to the general plane of the frame-member; a clasp-member slidably but not pivotally mounted on said side-bars and having a transversely-resilient sheet-metal grip-tongue to be sprung transversely and provided with a grip-end to cooperate with said inclined gripping-edge to grip a fabric; and means adapted to releasably lock said clasp-member with said grip-end in gripping position.

2. A clasp comprising a frame-member having two spaced-apart side-bars and an end-bar bordering a frame-opening through said frame-member, said end-bar having a gripping-edge inclined to the general plane of the frame-member; a clasp-member slidably but not pivotally mounted on said side-bars and having a transversely-resilient sheet-metal grip-tongue to be sprung transversely and provided with a grip-end to cooperate with said inclined gripping-edge to grip a fabric; and a resilient locking-tongue on said frame-member adapted to releasably engage and

lock said clasp-member with said grip-end in gripping position.

3. A clasp comprising: a frame-member having two spaced-apart side-bars and an end-bar bordering an opening through said frame-member, said end-bar providing a gripping-edge; a clasp-member slidably but not pivotally mounted on said side-bars and having a resilient grip-tongue with the grip-end thereof normally located at one side of said frame-member when in unclamped position; said clasp being adapted to have the grip-end of said grip-tongue sprung transversely through said frame-opening and have said clasp-member slid along said side-bars to bring said grip-end to gripping position adjacent said gripping-edge; and means adapted to releasably lock said grip-end in gripping position.

4. A clasp comprising: a frame-member having two spaced-apart side-bars and an end-bar bordering an opening through said frame-member, said end-bar providing a gripping-edge; a clasp-member slidably but not pivotally mounted on said side-bars and having a resilient sheet-metal grip-tongue with the grip-end thereof normally located at one side of said frame-member when in unclamped position; said clasp being adapted to have the grip-end of said grip-tongue sprung transversely through said frame-opening and have said clasp-member slid along said side-bars to bring said grip-end to gripping position adjacent said gripping-edge; and means adapted to releasably lock said grip-end in gripping position.

5. A clasp comprising: a frame-member having two spaced-apart side-bars and an end-bar bordering an opening through said frame-member, said end-bar having a gripping-edge inclined to the general plane of the frame-member; a clasp-member slidably but not pivotally mounted on said side-bars and having a resilient sheet-metal grip-tongue with the grip-end thereof normally located at one side of said frame-member when in unclamped position; said clasp being adapted to have the grip-end of said grip-tongue sprung transversely through said frame-opening and have said clasp-member slid along said side-bars to bring said grip-end to gripping position adjacent said gripping-edge; and means adapted to releasably lock said grip-end in gripping position.

RAYMOND W. COOK. 50