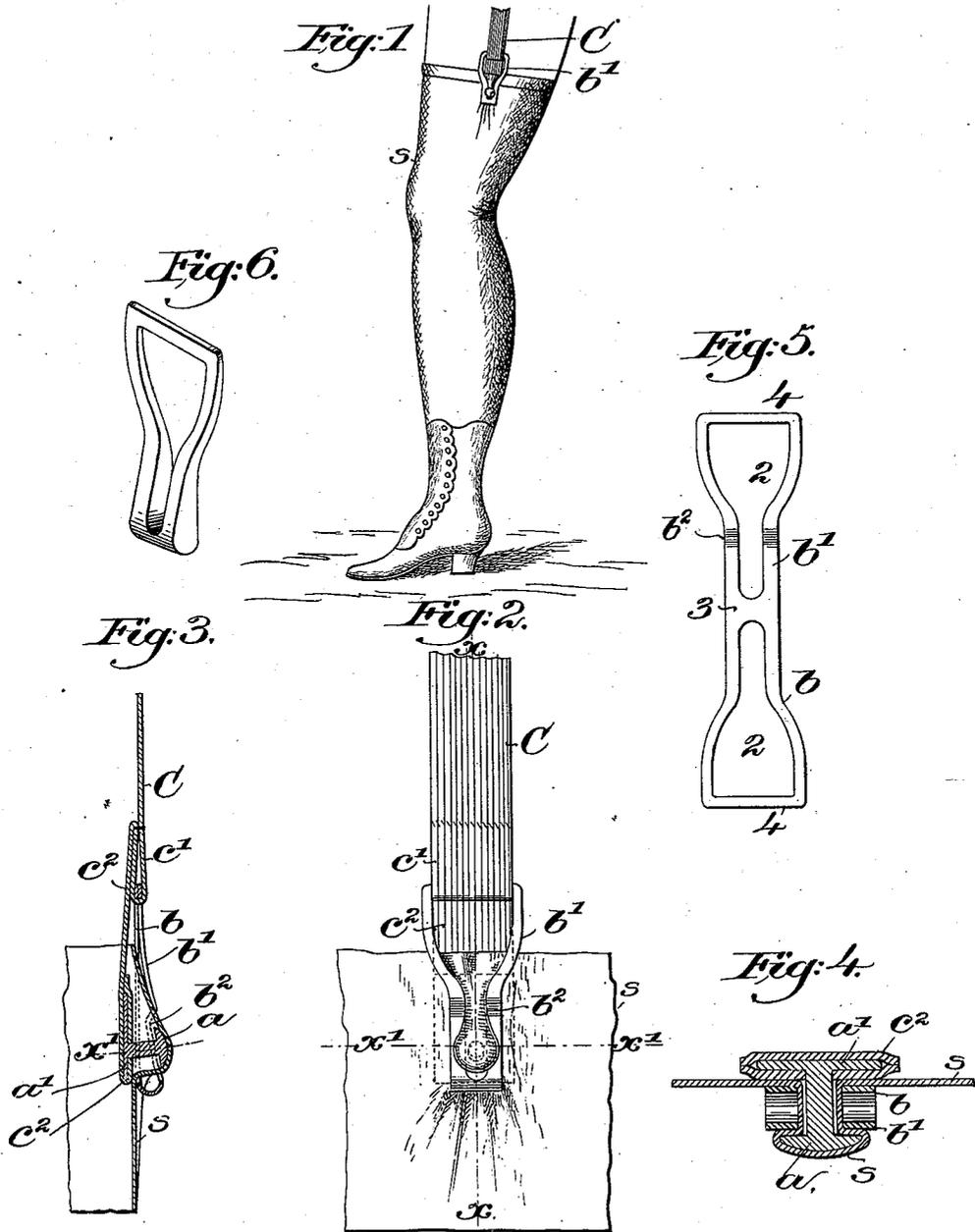


(No Model.)

C. F. ROPER.  
STOCKING SUPPORTING CLASP.

No. 534,050.

Patented Feb. 12, 1895.



Witnesses.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES F. ROPER, OF HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS.

## STOCKING-SUPPORTING CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 534,050, dated February 12, 1895.

Application filed May 28, 1894. Serial No. 512,634. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES F. ROPER, of Hopedale, county of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Stocking-Supporting Clasps, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters and numerals on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention has for its object the production of a novel stocking supporting clasp, my object being to so construct the clasp that it will take and retain firm hold on the stocking.

In accordance with my invention, I employ as one member of my supporting clasp, a stud, and the other member is composed of a slotted loop made wedge-shaped at its lower end, said loop being preferably made double so as to be capable of yielding, said loop being also preferably provided with a stop to prevent it slipping upwardly on or with relation to said stud in the direction to effect the disengagement of the loop from the stud and the release of the stocking grasped by the loop and stud.

Figure 1 in elevation represents one of my improved supporting clasps in use; Fig. 2, an enlarged front view; Fig. 3, a section in the line  $x$ ; Fig. 4, a section in the line  $x'$ . Fig. 5 shows the compound spring loop laid out flat; and Fig. 6, a modification to be described.

My improved clasp, shown in Figs. 1 to 5, consists of a metallic stud, composed essentially of a head  $a$  and a base  $a'$  connected by a shank, the said shank preferably being inclined relatively to the base so as to present the under side of the head at an angle with relation to the base; and a compound spring loop, or a spring loop made by bending a piece of metal back upon itself to thus form two layers  $b, b'$ , each slotted or cut out centrally at 2, 2, see Fig. 5, where the blank for making the loop is shown as laid out flat, leaving a bridge of the metal at 3, and two cross bars 4, 4, which are embraced loosely by a loop or bight  $c'$  of the web  $C$ , another portion  $c^2$  of the web having the stud attached to it substantially as represented, the lower part of the loop being wedge-shaped in the direction of its length, the thickest part thereof being at its lower end.

The outermost layer  $b'$  of the compound spring loop is shown as provided with a stop or projection  $b^2$ , so located between the enlarged part of the slot and the narrow throat thereof, that it will prevent such upward movement of the stud in said slot as to enable the fabric to be sufficiently loosely held to slip off the said stud, the fabric or stockings being, it will be understood, laid on and about said stud.

In my invention, by the use of the wedge-shaped loop which fits about and slides longitudinally on the stud, it is possible to effect a most secure grasping of the stocking and the impingement of the latter positively against not only the under side of the head  $a$ , but also against the web covering the inner side of the base  $a'$ . Making the loop as a compound spring enables me to provide the stop  $b^2$  in the line of movement of the under side of the head of the stud, and the spring enables said stop to yield. This invention is not, however, limited to making the loop as a compound spring, and in Fig. 6 I have shown a modified form of loop having a wedge-shaped lower end such as referred to, but made as one layer, and in said modification I have omitted the stop.

In either form of my invention it will be understood that the length and thickness of the wedge-shaped part of the loop is such with relation to the distance between the under side of the head of the stud and the base thereof, that the fabric or stocking, regardless of the thickness, will be grasped firmly between the outer side of the wedge and the under side of the head, and also between the under side of the wedge and the fabric covering the base of the stud, and this firm grasping and holding of the fabric will be effected without the fabric being pinched between the metal at the lower end of the slot in the loop and any part of the stud.

In my clasp I do not depend upon holding the fabric by jamming it into the contracted end of a slot, but I do hold it, as I believe for the first time, by pinching the same firmly by a wedge into the space left between the under side of the head of a stud and the base holding the shank of said stud.

With my invention, the greater the strain on the clasp, the stronger the hold on the fabric,

and this, whatever its thickness or material; and the same clasp may be readily used on a very thick or very thin fabric, and be changed from one to the other and hold the same perfectly.

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

10 1. A stocking supporting clasp, consisting of a stud having a head and a base, and a slotted metallic loop made wedge shape, the greatest thickness of the loop being at its lower end, the upper end of the slot in the loop being of sufficient diameter to let the head of the stud pass through the loop while overlaid by fabric and then to pass along said slot to near its lower end, the fabric not being jammed into the slot but being pinched by the wedge-shaped loop between the head and base of the stud and thereby firmly held by the clasp, substantially as described.

20 2. A stocking supporting clasp, consisting of a stud having a head and a base, the under side of said head next the base being inclined relatively to the base so as to make a tapering space between said head and base, and a longitudinally slotted metallic loop having its lower portion made as a wedge in the direction of the thickness of the said loop, to operate in the tapering space between the head and base, the upper end of the slot in the loop being of sufficient diameter to let the head of the stud pass through the loop while overlaid by fabric and then to pass along said slot to near its lower end, the fabric not being jammed into the slot but being pinched by the wedge-shaped loop between the head and base of the stud and thereby firmly held by the clasp, substantially as described.

40 3. A stocking supporting clasp, consisting

of a stud having a connected head and base, and a spring metal loop having undivided arms slotted longitudinally and having the lower end made wedge-shape in the direction of the thickness of the loop, the upper end of the slots in the loop-arms being of sufficient width to permit the passage of the head of the stud through both members of the loop while overlaid by fabric, and then to pass along said slots to near the lower end of the loop, the fabric not being jammed into the slot but being pinched by the wedge-shaped loop between the head and base of the stud and thereby firmly held by the clasp, substantially as described.

55 4. A stocking supporting clasp, consisting of a stud having a connected head and base, and a spring metal loop having undivided arms slotted longitudinally and having the lower end made wedge-shape in the direction of the thickness of the loop, one of the arms of the loop having a stop, as  $b^2$ , the upper end of the slots in the loop arms being of sufficient width to permit the passage of the head of the stud through both members of the loop while overlaid by fabric, and then to pass along said slots to near the lower end of the loop, the fabric not being jammed into the slot but being pinched by the wedge-shaped loop between the head and base of the stud, and thereby firmly held by the clasp, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES F. ROPER.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. GREGORY,  
LAURA T. MANIX.