

No. 739,766.

PATENTED SEPT. 22, 1903.

C. J. WHITE.
CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 19, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

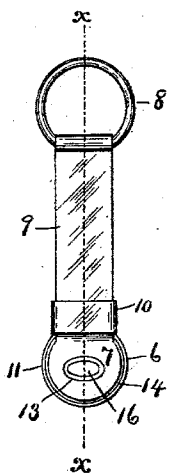


Fig. 2.

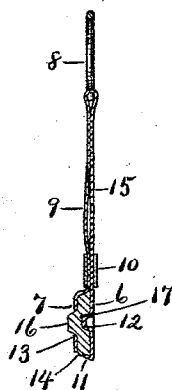


Fig. 3.

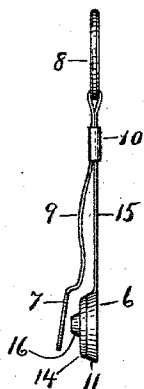


Fig. 4.

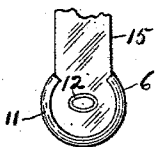
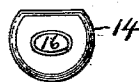


Fig. 5.



Witnesses.

S. H. Clarke
P. J. Egan

Inventor.

Charles J. White
By James Shepard
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES J. WHITE, OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT.

CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 739,766, dated September 22, 1903.

Application filed November 19, 1902. Serial No. 131,979. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES J. WHITE, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Britain, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in clasps for supporting hose or other articles of clothing; and the object of my improvement is efficiency in operation, especially with reference to the action of the jaws.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of my clasp. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same on the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side elevation or edge view of the same, but with the jaws open instead of closed as in the preceding figures. Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the lower end of the rear member of my clasp, and Fig. 5 is a detached front elevation of the elastic cushion for the said rear member.

My improvement is confined to the holding-jaws, which are mounted in any suitable manner for being opened and closed and when closed to be held in their closed position. The particular members upon which my jaws are mounted are not essential to this invention; but in order to show a complete device I have mounted my improved jaws on the two members of a clasp substantially the same as to said members and the means for operating them as shown and described in my Patent No. 380,154, of March 27, 1888, for a spring-clasp.

The rear jaw 6 and front jaw 7 are formed, respectively, on the two ends of a strip of spring metal which is doubled upon itself over the suspension-ring 8 to form the rear member 15 and front member 9 of the clasp, the said members being provided with a slide 10 for forcing the said two members together for closing the jaws or releasing the said two members for opening the jaws. The front jaw 7 is substantially a disk with a flat inner face and a central opening 13 through it of any desired contour, but preferably of the oblong form shown. The rear jaw 6 is provided

with a rim 11 for holding a cushion 14 and with a central forward projection 12 for reinforcing or stiffening a part of the cushion, the said projection being located on the rear jaw, so as to substantially register with the central opening 13 through the front jaw 7. An elastic cushion 14, which may be of rubber, is mounted on the front face of the rear jaw in any proper manner—as, for example, by means of the rim 11, which partially encircles the edge of the cushion and into which the cushion is compressed. On the central front face of the cushion 14 I form a projection 16 of the same general contour as the opening through the front jaw and of nearly the same size. Its projection from the front face of the main body of the cushion should be as great or greater than the thickness of the metal in the said front jaw. When the rear jaw 6 is provided with the projection 12, I form a corresponding depression 17, Fig. 2, in the rear face of the cushion. When the jaws are open, as shown in Fig. 3, a portion of the article to be held is inserted between the inner or rear face of the front jaw and the front face of the cushion, after which the jaws are closed. The material clasped within the jaws will draw over the projection on the cushion and in part extend into or through the opening in the front jaw. The front projection on the rear jaw reinforces, backs up, and stiffens the projection on the cushion to keep it from flattening down, thereby giving the said central projection approximately the same degree of compressibility as the rest of the cushion.

I claim as my invention—

1. A clasp comprising a pair of coacting jaws, one of which consists of a flat holding-face with a central opening therein and the other of which consists of an elastic projection for substantially filling and projecting through the said opening, an elastic cushion at the base of the said projection for abutting against the flat holding-face that surrounds the said central opening and a metal back for supporting the said elastic projection and cushion.

2. A clasp, having mounted on one of its
jaws an elastic cushion with a central pro-
jection on its face and a central depression
in its back, the said jaw having also a cen-
5 tral projection that enters and fills the de-
pression in the back of the said cushion; the
said clasp having on the other one of its jaws

an inner face acting on the said cushion, and
a central opening in the said face, substan-
tially as described.

CHARLES J. WHITE.

Witnesses:

JAMES SHEPARD,
SHEFFIELD H. CLARKE.