May 28, 1935. H. H. JONES 2,002,999

CLASP

Filed Oct. 11, 1933

Fig. 1.

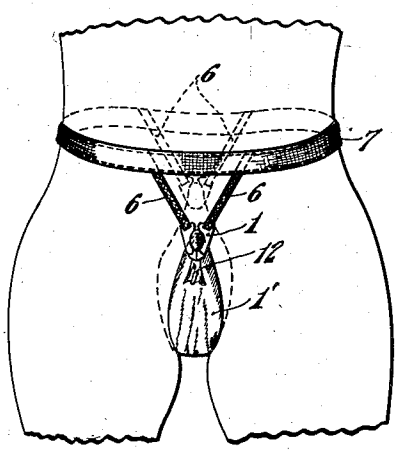



Fig. 2.

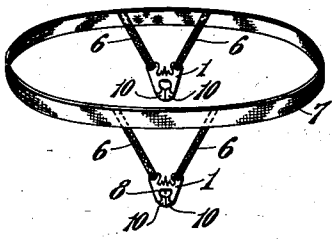



Fig. 3.

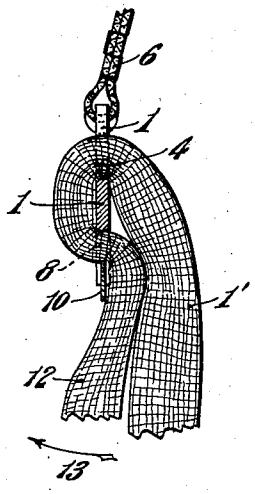



Fig. 4.

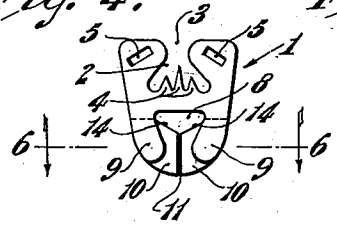
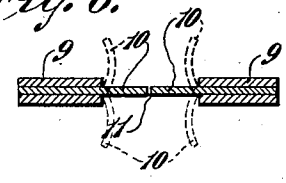



Fig. 5.




Fig. 6.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,002,999

## CLASP

Helen H. Jones, Cranston, R. I.

Application October 11, 1933, Serial No. 693,164

5 Claims. (Cl. 24—163)

This invention relates to improvements in clasps, or fastener devices, for the purpose of firmly holding or retaining, the ends of a woven, or fabric material, from becoming detached when connected thereto. One of the principal uses of my invention is in securely retaining the ends of a sanitary napkin, or pad, from accidental removal, or, for attaching other articles, as desired.

An object of my invention is to provide a clasp, or fastener, that is economical to manufacture, and one that will permit the fabric ends to be readily attached, or detached. At the present time, there are clasps in use that are unsatisfactory to use, by reason of the difficulty in attaching and removing the napkin, or other article. One of the advantages of my improvement is the ease of inserting the ends from the rear side of the clasp through the opening at the top and then passing the free end forward and inserting it into the opening, or space, in the lower portion of the clasp, or fastener. The entrance to this lower opening is normally closed by means of two readily bendable, or flexible elements, that extend towards each other and nearly meet in the central, vertical, line of the clasp. The flexible elements, after an end of the article is inserted into the lower opening, will automatically close again towards each other, and thus effectually prevent the accidental removal of the article, after being attached. At the same time, these bendable elements permit the easy removal of the article, by simply pulling outwardly on the free end portion, as will be fully described.

Referring to the drawing:—

Fig. 1 illustrates the clasp, or fastener, in use.

Fig. 2 shows two of the clasps attached to the belt, or girdle, in the usual manner.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged, detail view, in section, showing one end of a napkin, or other article, attached to the clasp, when in use.

Fig. 4 is an elevational view of the clasp removed from the belt.

Fig. 5 is a side, or edge, elevational view of Fig. 4, and

Fig. 6 is an enlarged, sectional, plan view on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4, clearly showing the two flexible, or bendable, members of the clasp, in full and dotted line positions.

Referring to the drawing in detail:—

1 designates the flat clasp, or fastener, as a whole, that is composed of some suitable material, as celluloid, 2 is an opening, or recess, in its upper edge portion, having the narrow throat entrance portion 3 and the wider, lower portion with the teeth elements 4, three of which are shown. 5 designates the openings for attaching the short straps 6, 6, to the waist belt 7, as shown. 8 indicates an opening in the lower part of the clasp having the entrance between the depending portions 9, 9, normally closed with the two elastic, or bendable, members 10, 10, composed of some thin, flexible material, of a prepared fabric, that will flex and return, when bent. These two thin members, when in the full line positions, nearly meet each other, as shown in Figs. 4 and 6, at 11.

The clasp, or fastener, is used as follows: The free end 12 of the napkin 1', or other article, is passed from the back of the clasp between the straps 6, 6, then through the throat opening 3, downward against the sharp points 4, next the operator presses the end 12 against the two flexible members 10, 10, causing them to bend, or flex inward, as shown in Fig. 6, in the dotted line positions. When the end 12 is located in the opening 8, the flexible, or elastic members 10, 10, will then return to their normal, or full line positions, thus closing the opening 8 against the removal of the end 12. The article can be detached by simply pulling outward on the end 12, in the direction of the arrow 13, which will again flex, or bend, the members 10, 10, permitting the removal of the end 12 from the opening 8. Next, it is only necessary to lift upward on the end 12 and free the article 1' from the teeth 4, when it may be entirely removed. When the end 12 is in the opening 8, it will engage the upper edges 14, but will not permit its removal, until the end 12 is pulled outward, as shown by the arrow 13.

From this description, it will be seen that I have provided an inexpensive, an efficient clasp, or fastener, for the purpose described, and one that will not chafe, or injure the wearer in any way.

It is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the use mentioned, as other uses, may be made of the article.

What I claim is:—

1. A clasp device comprising, a flexible and bendable member formed with terminal throat openings in its extreme upper and lower edges, oppositely located and separate bendable members at the lower edge, the lower opening being normally closed, said oppositely located and separate bendable members extending beyond the extreme lower edges of the lower throat opening.

2. A clasp device comprising, a member formed with openings in its opposite edges which terminate at said edges, bendable members at one

of said edges, one of the openings being normally closed by said bendable members, said members being located in and partially filling the opening.

3. A clasp comprising, a flat member having terminal throat openings formed in its upper and lower edges, the lower portion of the upper throat opening having upwardly extending retaining projections, bendable members at the lower edge, the lower throat opening being normally and partially closed by said bendable members, said bendable members being yieldable and movable in opposite directions when pressed in opposite directions.

4. As an article of manufacture a normally flat and bendable member having throat openings in two of its extreme oppositely located edges, one of the openings having sharp retaining points, the other opening having elastic members located therein which meet in the center line of the flat member and are bendable in opposite directions and to the same extent to permit the entrance and removal of an article, as a fabric, the construction and arrangement being such that the fabric is prevented against removal when located in the said openings, as described.

5. A clasp member, for the purpose described, comprising a plate-like member having entrance openings in its upper and lower edges, yieldable elements in the lower opening, having their upper edges inclined, said elements serving to permit the entrance and removal of an end of a napkin, or the like, when pressed against the yieldable elements on their opposite sides.

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