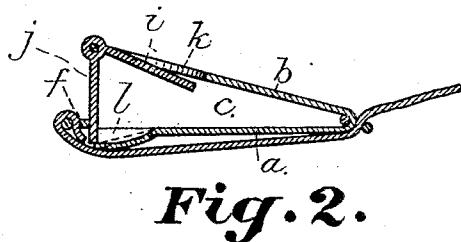
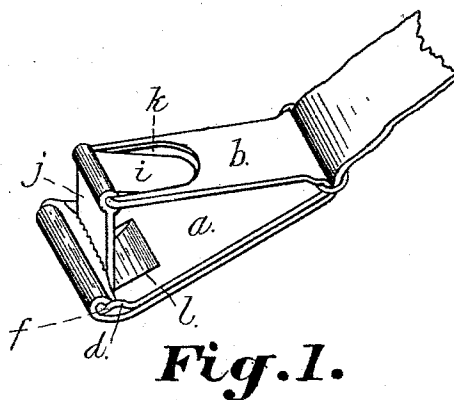


(No Model.)

F. D. HARDING.
GARMENT SUPPORTER CLASP.

No. 533,458.

Patented Feb. 5, 1895.



Witnesses:

Grace E. Holland

George M. Palmer

Inventor:

Fred D. Harding
by
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his attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED D. HARDING, OF BALDWIN, MAINE.

GARMENT-SUPPORTER CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 533,458, dated February 5, 1895.

Application filed March 19, 1894. Serial No. 504,239. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED D. HARDING, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Baldwin, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Supporter Clasps; and I do hereby 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.

My invention relates to improvements in garment supporter clasps, and more particularly to improvements on the device shown in my two former applications filed respectively December 22, 1893, Serial No. 494,374, and February 7, 1894, Serial No. 499,349. Its objects are to render it less liable to become accidentally detached from the garment and yet permit the garment to be readily released when desired, and to lessen the space between the jaws.

It consists in gradually depressing that portion of the base, over which the clamp swings, forward to the set-off.

In the drawings herewith accompanying and making a part of this application, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device, and Fig. 2 is a central vertical section of the same.

The same letters refer to like parts.

In said drawings a plate is shown folded back upon itself to form a base *a*, a top part *b*, and an opening *c* between them. The base has an upward vertical set-off *d* and a horizontal extension, in which is a slot *f*. In the top *b* is mounted the clamp composed of a clamping jaw *j* and a lever arm *i* which is adapted to sink below the top *b* through a hole *k* made therein. The strap or supporting brace may be attached to the clasp in any convenient manner. These features are substantially the same as disclosed in my said former applications.

It was found that where the base was perfectly flat, the clamping jaw, in order to prevent it from being accidentally detached, must swing beyond the center or beyond a perpendicular position before it brought up against the set-off, and that when thus carried beyond the center, it became raised from the base and tended to allow the garment to

draw out. This resulted from the fact that the end of the clamp swings in the arc of a circle, and thus only, when the jaw *j* is perpendicular, will the end of the jaw press on the base. Again when the locking jaw swings past the center, it strikes only against the lower edge of the set-off and the sharp edge tends to injure the garment. As at present constructed where the locking jaw stops at the perpendicular, it bears squarely against the face of the set-off.

To obviate the objections, I depress a portion of the base *l* below the plane of the base, as seen in Fig. 1, sufficiently wide to receive the end of the clamping jaw. The depressed portion may be made in the form of the arc of a circle, if desired. By this arrangement the garment is drawn down into the depressed portion and the jaw holds it firmly, not only by pressing it against the face of the set-off and down upon the base, but also against the sides of the base formed by depressing the portion *l*. Thus greater holding power is secured, and at the same time the garment can be easily released by pressing it back, because the jaw has not been permitted to pass forward beyond the perpendicular.

Having thus described my invention and its use, I claim—

1. In a garment supporter clasp, a plate folded back upon itself to form jaws, a clamp pivotally mounted in the top jaw having a lever arm and a locking arm, an upward set off in the base, and a portion of the base back of said set off depressed below the plane of the base, and having a slot between the end of said depressed portion and the set up portion, said locking arm being adapted to press the garment forward against said set off, downwardly upon the bottom of the depressed portion of the base and laterally against the side walls of said depression, and means for attaching the supporter strap, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. In a garment supporter clasp, a plate folded back upon itself to form jaws, an upward set off in the lower jaw and a depression in the lower jaw back of said set off, a slot formed between said upward set off and the forward extremity of said depression, and a clamp pivotally mounted in the upper jaw having a lever arm and a locking arm, said

locking arm being adapted to swing in said depression and to hold the garment inserted between said jaws by pressing it forward against the set off, downwardly upon the bottom of the depression, and laterally against the side walls of said depression, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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

FRED D. HARDING.

Witnesses:

ELGIN C. VERRILL,
NATHAN CLIFFORD.