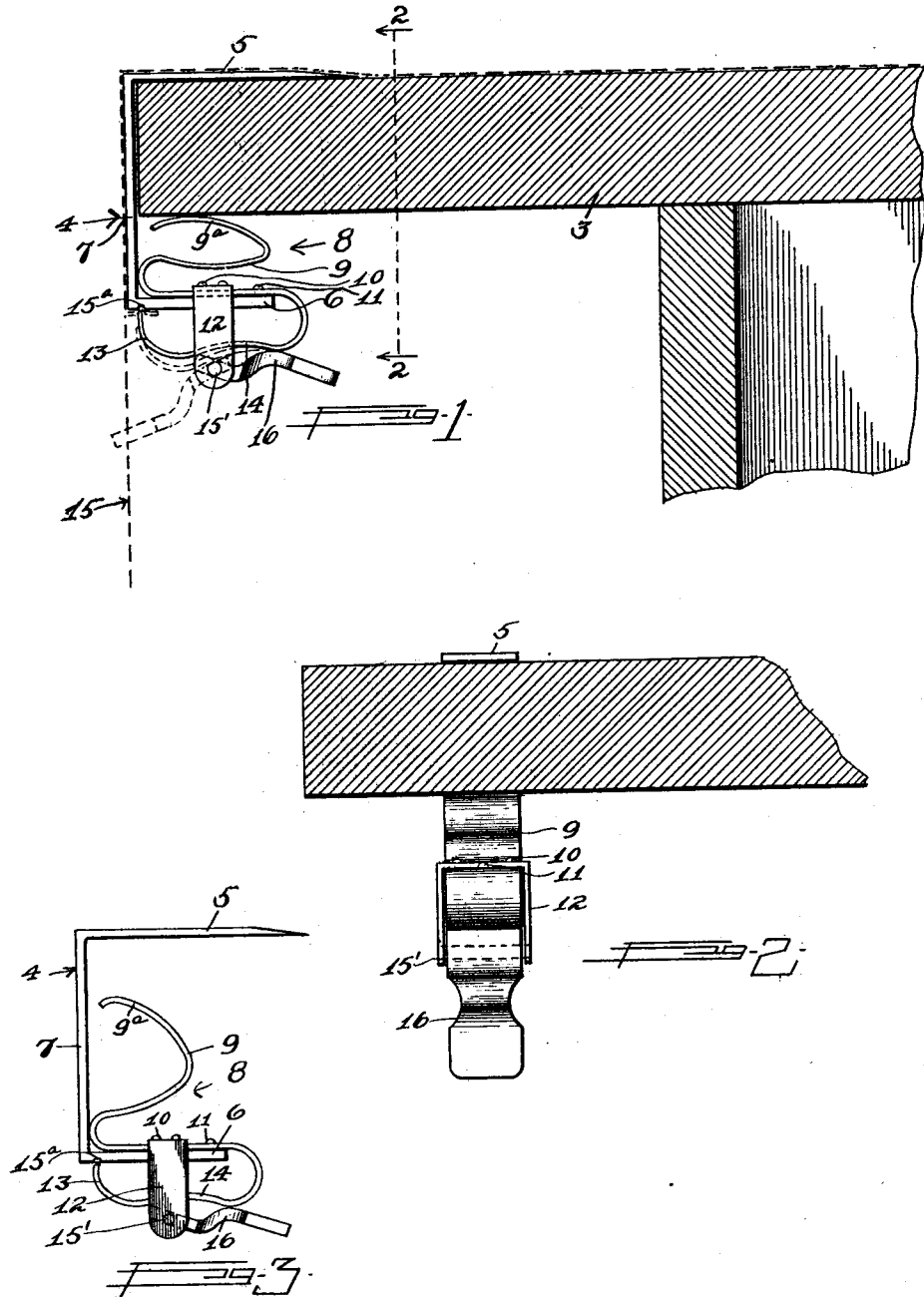


C. HATZFELD.  
TABLE CLOTH CLASP.  
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1,069,134.

Patented Aug. 5, 1913.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## TABLE-CLOTH CLASP.

1,069,134.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 5, 1913.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES HATZFELD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mineral Wells, in the county of Palo Pinto and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Table-Cloth Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a clasp or device for holding a table cloth in place upon a table.

An important object of this invention is to provide a clasp of the above mentioned character which may be readily detachably connected with the table top, will securely hold the table cloth in place thereon, and will be entirely concealed by the table cloth.

A further object of this invention is to provide a clasp of the above mentioned character, which is simple in construction, easy to operate and cheap to manufacture.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same, Figure 1 is a side view of the clasp showing the same applied to a table and engaging the table cloth, Fig. 2 is an inner side view of the clasp, taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1 and looking in the direction of the arrow, the operating cam being shown in its lower position, and, Fig. 3 is a side view of the clasp.

In the drawings, wherein is illustrated a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 3 designates a table top of any well known or preferred type.

My clasp comprises an approximately U-shaped body portion 4, including upper and lower horizontal sides 5 and 6 connected by a depending portion 7, which is preferably disposed at a right angle to the upper and lower horizontal sides. The depending portion 7 is formed sufficiently long to extend downwardly beyond the table top 3, to provide an opening or space 8 between the table top and the lower horizontal side 6.

The numeral 9 designates an elastic or compressible element, preferably formed of an approximately S-shaped leaf-spring, as shown. As clearly shown in Fig. 3, when the spring 9 is not under pressure, its upper portion 9<sup>a</sup> is vertically inclined so that it

may be readily forced into engagement with the lower surface of the table top. The lower portion of this approximately S-shaped leaf-spring 9 is mounted upon the lower side 6 and is connected therewith by means of screws 10 and 11, as shown. Surrounding the lower portion of the approximately S-shaped leaf-spring 9 and the lower side 6 is a depending U-shaped bracket 12, which is held in place thereon by the screws 10. The lower portion of the approximately S-shaped leaf-spring 9 is extended to form a table cloth engaging arm or portion 13, provided with an inwardly curved portion 14, as shown. The free end of the arm 13 is bent upwardly to clamp a portion of the table cloth 15 or the like into engagement with the wall of the recess 15<sup>a</sup> formed in the lower side 6 of the body portion 4. The numeral 15' designates a transverse pin, which serves to pivotally connect an operating cam 16 with the sides of the U-shaped bracket 12, such operating cam being disposed between these sides and having its free end adapted to engage with the arm 13, as shown. It is obvious that by moving the approximately U-shaped body portion 4 horizontally onto the table top 3, the S-shaped leaf-spring will be automatically compressed to properly engage the lower surface of the table top, thus securely detachably holding the entire device thereon.

Any suitable number of my improved clasps may be mounted upon a table top as will be found advantageous under the circumstances. The table cloth 15 is then spread upon the table in the usual manner. The operating cam 16 is now moved to its lower position, as shown in dotted lines at Fig. 1, whereby its engaging end will fit within the inwardly curved portion 14, to provide a suitable space between the clamping end of the arm 13 and the wall of the recess 15<sup>a</sup>. The material of the depending end of the table cloth is now passed into such space and the operating cam swung to its upper position, whereby the arm 13 will securely clamp the material of the table cloth within the recess 15<sup>a</sup>, thus holding the same against displacement. It is obvious that the table cloth may be readily released by swinging the operating cam 16 to its lower position. A particular advantage of my construction is that the table cloth completely conceals the clasps which hold the

same in place. The clasps will fit upon table tops having different thicknesses, as is obvious.

5 It is to be understood that the form of my invention, herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same, and that certain changes in the shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit  
10 of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claim.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim:—

15 A clasp of the character described, comprising an approximately U-shaped body portion to be mounted upon a table top below the table cloth; a leaf-spring mounted upon the lower arm of the approximately U-shaped body portion and having the upper  
20 portion thereof which is disposed between the lower arm and the table top bent in the form of a plurality of turns for form-

ing resilient means for clamping the approximately U-shaped body portion to the table top, said leaf-spring having its lower 25 portion extending downwardly beneath the lower arm of the approximately U-shaped body portion and bent in the form of a resilient clamp adapted for movement into and out of engagement with said lower arm to 30 hold a portion of the table cloth in clamping engagement with the same; a bracket straddling the lower arm and the leaf-spring; common means for attaching the bracket and the leaf-spring to said lower 35 arm; and means pivotally connected with the lower portion of the bracket to move the resilient clamp.

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

CHARLES HATZFELD.

Witnesses:

ALFRED DE POLDER,  
W. P. SMITH.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."