(No Model.)

# W. H. RUTTY.

## FASTENER FOR GLOVES, &c.

No. 531,864. Patented Jan. 1, 1895.

*Fig. 1,*

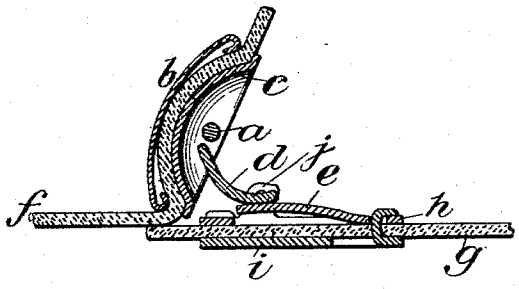



*Fig. 2,*

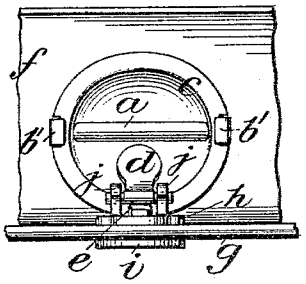



*Fig. 3,*

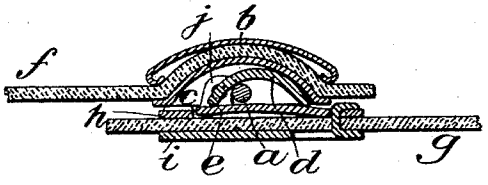
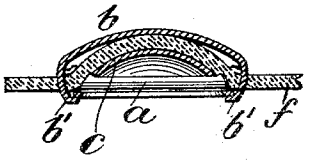



*Fig. 4,*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. RUTTY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## FASTENER FOR GLOVES, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 531,864, dated January 1, 1895.

Application filed August 1, 1894. Serial No. 519,151. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. RUTTY, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, and a resident of the city and county of New York, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fasteners for Gloves, &c., of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

This invention relates to fastening devices such as are employed in gloves, shoes and other wearing apparel, purses, umbrella cases, and innumerable other articles, in which it is desirable to have a secure fastening and one that may be readily opened or unfastened and closed or fastened as desired.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide a fastening device which shall be positively locked against longitudinal strain so that the flaps or parts held together by my improved fastening device cannot be sprung apart and can only be separated under the usual longitudinal strains to which these parts are subjected by actually breaking the fastener; and my invention also has for its object to attain this advantageous feature of a locked fastener in a structure having no protuberant levers and having no other exposed part when the fastener is closed than a cap which may be made to represent a button or may be ornamented or otherwise given a comely and acceptable appearance.

The improved fastener or clasp embodying my invention is made up of two members adapted to be secured to the parts or flaps of the glove or other article that are to be held together, one member to each part or flap, and these two members are adapted to fit one over the other when the fastener is closed. The lower or inner member is provided with a swinging or pivoted lever and is so constructed that when the lever is swung into closed position the engaging part of the other or outer member will be locked against longitudinal strains.

The upper or outer member of my fastener is provided with a guide-surface and with an engaging part or surface and is so constructed that when this upper member is swung into closed position its guide-surface will engage with the lever and swing the lever over into closed position so that the engaging part of the upper member will be locked against its counterpart in the lower member of the fastener. This guide-surface and engaging part are arranged on the lower face of the upper part or flap of the garment to which said member is secured and the swinging lever in moving into engaging or locked position does not at any time pass above the upper part or flap of the garment, and when the upper member of the fastener is closed down upon and locked against the lower member of the fastener, the lever and lower parts of the upper member are concealed from view.

When the fastener is closed the members are locked together against longitudinal strain and cannot be sprung open by longitudinal strains, but when it is desired to open the fastener, the outer end of the upper member may be swung upward and by this upward movement it will swing the lever into open position and cause the engaging part of the upper member to be turned out of engagement with the lower member of the fastener so that the two parts of the garment may be readily and quickly separated.

The upper member of the improved fastener embodying my invention is provided with a cap on the upper surface of the upper part of the garment and this cap is the only exposed part of the fastener when the fastener is closed or locked, and may be made to resemble a button or ornamented in any desired manner, and thus my improved fastener is of neat appearance and in fact attains the ideal of perfection in this particular.

The accompanying drawings illustrate an embodiment of my invention and are enlarged to more clearly show the invention.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional elevation showing the members of the fastener in open position, but in such relative position that the fastener may be closed by simply swinging down the upper member. Fig. 2 is a side elevation with the members in the same position as shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section showing the fastener closed and the two members tightly locked together. Fig. 4 is a transverse section of the upper part of the garment and the upper member of the fastener.

The lower or inner member of the fastener as shown in the drawings is of substantially

the same construction, except as to the shape of the lever, as that employed in well-known lever clasps, and comprises a base-plate *h* secured to the flap or part *g* of the garment or article by means of prongs passing through the material of the garment or article from a lower plate *i*, and this base-plate *h* is provided with upwardly extending lugs *j* suitably shaped to lock the engaging part of the other member of the fastener, and in these lugs *j* is pivoted a swinging lever *d*, the lower edge of which works against a spring or spring tongue *e* struck up from the base-plate *h*. This lever *d* is usually considerably smaller than the levers heretofore employed in lever clasps for the reason that in the closing operation it is not manipulated directly by the fingers of the user as in the lever clasps heretofore employed. It is of course evident that the form and construction of this lever member of the fastener may be varied and other forms and constructions of swinging levers and controlling and holding devices may be employed without departing from my invention.

The upper or outer member of the fastener comprises the guide-plate *c* which is shown as concave or dish shaped and has a cross-bar *a* which forms the engaging part of the upper member. This cross-bar *a* is shown as secured to the guide-plate *c* and may be soldered or riveted or otherwise securely fastened thereto, or may be in one piece therewith. The guide-plate is held in place by fastening prongs *b' b'* extending from the cap *b* through the upper flap or part *f* of the fabric. This cap *b* is placed upon the upper surface of the upper part or flap of the garment or article, and is shown as having a turned over flange along its edge so that it has a rounded bearing surface upon the material around its edges and will not cut the material, and the material is held between the cap *b* and the guide-plate *c*, and is only perforated at the points where the prongs *b' b'* extend through the material, and when the prongs *b' b'* are turned over upon the guide-plate *c* the material is arched or bulged upward and very tightly clamped between the two parts and thus the two parts are securely held in place upon the garment or article.

The length of the lever *d* is preferably so adjusted relatively to the cross-bar *a* that when the parts are brought together in the manner shown in Fig. 1 preparatory to closing the fastener the lever *d* will just clear the lower portion of the cross-bar *a*. In closing the fastener if the lever is in open position, which is the position to which it is moved by the operation of opening the fastener as shown in Fig. 1, it is only necessary to bring the parts together into about the position shown in Fig. 1 and then swing the upper member downward upon the lower member. The lever *d* will strike the guide-surface of the guide-plate *c* and will be guided by that surface and turned over until it reaches such position that the spring *e* will act to throw it into locked position and then the spring will act and the lever will carry the upper member of the fastener and the cross-bar *a* into the position shown in Fig. 3, with the cross-bar *a* held against the locking faces of the lugs *j*. When the parts are in this position the spring *e* acts to hold the lever in closed position and the lever acts to hold the cross-bar in locked position against the locking faces of the lugs *j* and the members of the fastener are so securely and tightly locked together against longitudinal strain that they cannot be separated and sprung apart and cannot be separated by the usual longitudinal strains, and in fact cannot be separated by a longitudinal strain except upon the exertion of a a force sufficiently strong to break the fastener. My improved fastener thus positively locks the parts together so that they cannot be sprung apart or separated by the usual wearing strains. This feature is of great importance, as for instance in gloves, where the movements of the wrists of the wearer frequently throw a very heavy longitudinal strain upon the fastener, so that fasteners which depend upon spring action to resist longitudinal strains are frequently sprung open. When, however, it is desired to open the fastener it is only necessary to move upward the outer or right hand end of the upper member of the fastener and this movement, which tends to lift the cross-bar *a* vertically upward, also throws the lever upward and results in bringing the parts again to about the position shown in Fig. 1, so that the two flaps may be readily separated.

It will thus be seen that my improved fastener possesses the very important advantage in fasteners of this kind that it may be readily and quickly manipulated either to open or close it by a single simple movement of the fingers of the operator, and that the mere work of placing one member over the other causes the parts to assume their locked position while the work of removing one part from over the other unlocks the fastener.

Another feature of my invention which will be evident from the above description is that no part of the lower member protrudes through the upper member or through the flap of the material to which the upper member is secured and no moving part of the fastener comes in contact with the upper or outer surface of the material so that there is no fear of soiling or marring the appearance of articles such as gloves of the most delicate colors by my improved fastener, and the absence of protruding parts prevents all possibility of the members of this fastener being caught in any other garment or catching against any projection.

The terms "upper" and "lower" applied to the outer and inner members of the fastener in the above description and employed in describing the construction and operation in the description and claims are not intended to

limit the construction to a vertical arrangement one over the other of the two members as the members would be side by side if the flaps were vertical and would assume other positions with the flaps in oblique or other positions, but these terms are used for clearness and convenience in describing the construction and operation of the several parts.

It will be evident that various modifications may be made in the structure above described without departing from my invention. I do not therefore limit my invention to the specific construction shown and above particularly described, but

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A fastener comprising two members, the inner member containing a pivoted lever and the outer member containing a guide piece beneath the surface of the outer flap or part of the article to which said fastener is secured, said guide piece adapted to come in contact with and guide the pivoted lever of the inner member when the members are brought together, thereby moving the lever into closed position beneath said outer flap, and an engaging part of the outer member over which said lever is thrown when put in locked position, whereby the fastener may be closed and the parts locked together by the operation of moving one member over the other, substantially as set forth.

2. A fastener comprising two members, the inner member containing a pivoted lever and the outer member containing a concave guide piece upon the lower surface of the outer flap or part of the article to which said fastener is secured, and said outer member containing an engaging part below the guiding surface of said guide piece, and said inner member being provided with a counterpart against which the engaging part of the outer member is held when the fastener is closed whereby the two members are locked together, substantially as set forth.

3. A fastener comprising two members, the outer member having a concave guide piece upon the lower surface of the outer part or flap of the article, and said guide piece having a cross-bar therein, and the inner member having a pivoted spring lever and lugs against which said cross-bar is engaged when the fastener is closed, substantially as set forth.

4. A fastener comprising two members, the outer member having a concave guide piece upon the lower surface of the outer part or flap of the article, and said guide piece having a cross-bar therein, and a convex cap upon the upper surface of said outer flap and prongs passing through the material and holding the convex cap and concave guide piece together, and the inner member having a lever pivoted in lugs extending upward from a base plate, and a spring for actuating said lever, the lever being adapted to come in contact with said concave guide piece when the members are brought together whereby said lever is thrown into locked position over the cross-bar and the cross-bar is brought into locking engagement with the lugs of the inner member, substantially as set forth.

This specification signed and witnessed this 28th day of July, A. D. 1894.

W. H. RUTTY.

In presence of—
HENRY D. WILLIAMS,
E. M. TAYLOR.