UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERBERT G. SUDELL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO DAVID COONS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

CLASP FOR BELTS, &c.


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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT G. SUDELL, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain improvements in Clasps for Belts, &c., of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to so construct a clasp for the end of a belt or other article of apparel as to overcome the difficulty now experienced in attaching such a clasp to the article, and to permit of the clasp being of any required thickness.

This object I attain in the manner hereinafter set forth, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing part of the end of a belt and the two parts of my improved clasp therefor, detached from another, Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the two parts of the clasp in connected relation, with the end of the belt secured between them, and Fig. 3 is a side view of the same.

The clasp comprises a base portion 1, with upwardly projecting ears 2, one at each end, and a gripping lever 3 with toothed jaw 4 and oppositely projecting lugs 5 which, when the two parts of the clasp are in operative relation to one another, enter openings 6, formed in the ears 2 and thus serve as the pivotal members of the lever 3. Clasps of this type are usually made with circular openings in the ears 2 for the reception of the pivot lugs 5 of the grip lever; consequently, when the parts are once in operative relation, they cannot be disconnected, and much difficulty is experienced in introducing between them the material to be held thereby, especially if the latter presents any considerable bulk, as in the case of the lapped or folded end of a belt or like article of apparel.

My invention consists in so constructing the two parts of the clasp that they can be readily connected and disconnected, whereby the article to be clasped can be adjusted to position while the parts of the clasp are disconnected, and therefore do not interfere with such adjustment. In the present instance this result is attained by providing slots 7 leading from the pivot openings 6 to the upper edges of the ears in which such openings are formed. The end of the belt or other article can thus be laid upon the base 1 of the clasp while the grip lever is detached therefrom, and the lugs 5 of said lever can then be slipped through the slots 7 into the pivot openings 6 in a direction inclined in respect to the direction of thrust of the lever and the lever then turned so as to cause its toothed jaw 4 to engage and retain the material between it and the base 1, as shown in Fig. 2. By this means the difficulty heretofore experienced in introducing the material between the two permanently connected parts of the clasp is effectually overcome, and the clasp can be applied to or removed from the belt or other article without trouble, and without regard to the bulk of the article.

By preference the lugs 5 are bent at an angle to the jaw 4 of the lever, whereby, when the latter is depressed and the toothed lower end of the jaw swings forwardly beyond the pivotal axis of the lever, the lugs 5 will occupy substantially vertical position in the openings 6 and will thus direct the strain away from the slots 7, and lessen the chance of accidental release of the two parts of the clasp.

I claim:

1. A clasp for belts or like articles of apparel, comprising a base member and a grip lever pivotally connected to said base member by open bearings and laterally centred thereto, whereby the said grip lever may be applied to and detached from said base member by movement in a direction inclined in respect to the direction of thrust of the lever.

2. A clasp for belts or like articles of apparel, comprising a base member and a grip lever, said grip lever having projecting pivot lugs and the base member having ears with pivot openings and slots leading thereto and through which the pivot lugs may be passed into and out of the pivot openings.

3. A clasp for belts or like articles of apparel, comprising a base member and a grip lever, the base member having openings with slots leading thereto and the grip lever having pivot lugs inclined in respect to the part from which they project.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HERBERT G. SUDELL.

Witnesses:

HAMILTON D. TURNER,
KATE A. BEADLE.