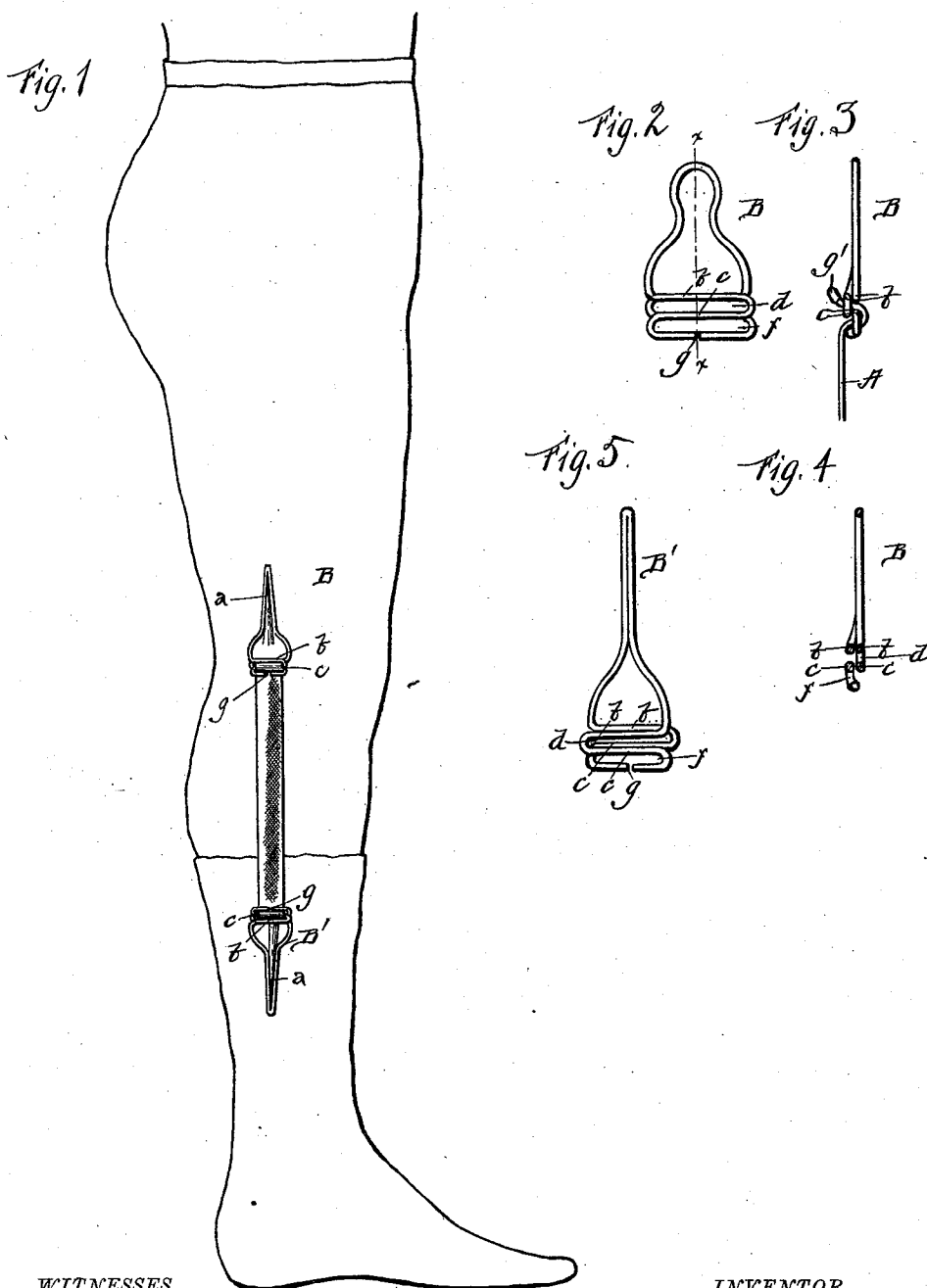


(No Model.)

G. L. SMITH.
CLASP.

No. 534,181.

Patented Feb. 12, 1895.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE LOUIS SMITH, OF PRINCETON, ILLINOIS.

CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 534,181, dated February 12, 1895.

Application filed September 29, 1894. Serial No. 524,516. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE LOUIS SMITH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Princeton, in the county of Bureau and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a front view of the invention applied. Fig. 2 is a front view of clasp which may be used at upper end of supporter in place of that shown in Fig. 4. Fig. 3 is a side view of same showing elastic connection. Fig. 4 is a section on line $x-x$, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of clasp.

This invention has relation to certain new and useful improvements in clasps, an object being to provide a simple and efficient device of this character capable of use as a supporter for hose, skirts, sleeves, over-sleeves, cuffs, drawers, &c., also as a fastener for horse blankets, fly sheets, &c.

A further object of the invention is to provide a clasp of the above named character having means whereby the clasps proper are held to the elastic or band portion without sewing, or independent fastening devices.

With these objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, all as hereinafter described and pointed out in the appended claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the body or band portion of the clasp which usually consists of a narrow elongated piece of elastic fabric. B, B', designate the clasps proper, one of which is attached to each end of said band in the manner presently to be described. Said clasps consist each of a single piece of metal, preferably wire, bent upon itself centrally to form a contracted pinch loop which is designed to seize a fold of the fabric and retain a secure grip thereof under the tension of the elastic.

The two branches of the wire are then spread from each other, and each is then bent transversely, the two bends being in opposite directions to form the two overlying arms b, b . Each arm is then given a reverse, parallel bend, forming the arms c, c , which also overlie each other, and form with the arms b, b , a loop d . Each branch is then given a reverse half bend, and the two ends are brought together at g to form a second loop f parallel with the loop d . The end portion of the band is passed up through the loop f , over the arms c, c , and down through the loop b . The bends, upon being somewhat compressed, will then bite or bind the band sufficiently to prevent its withdrawal, this being further guarded against by the metal binding g commonly employed on the ends of the band.

While both of the clasps B, B', may be made to grip the fabric, one of them may, as shown in Fig. 2, have a less contracted loop for engagement with the shank of a button, and it is obvious that both clasps may, if desired, be adapted for such engagement.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The clasp, comprising a slender piece of metal bent centrally upon itself to form a contracted loop a , the two branches of the metal being spread from each other as they leave said loop, and bent each transversely to form the two overlying arms b, b , each of which is then given a reverse bend, forming the transverse arms c, c , which also overlie each other, and form with the arms b, b , a loop d , the end portions of the two branches being each again reversely bent to cause their ends to abut and form with the arms c, c , a loop f , parallel with the loop d , substantially as specified.

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

GEORGE LOUIS SMITH.

Witnesses:

H. A. CLARK,
D. H. SMITH.