

JEWELRY,
Earrings, Non-piercing.

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L. A. WEED.
EAR-RINGS

No. 188,323.

Patented March 13, 1877.

Fig. 1.

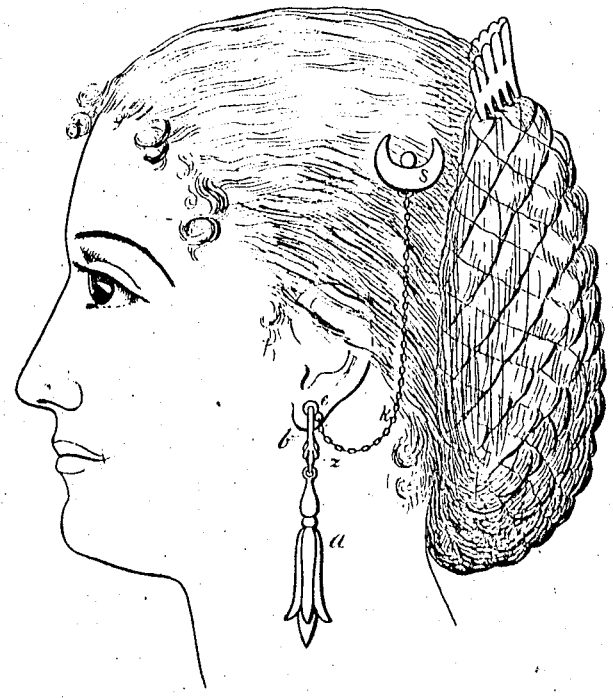


Fig. 2.

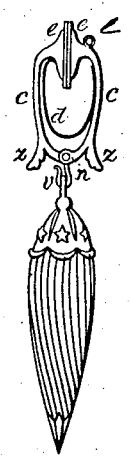
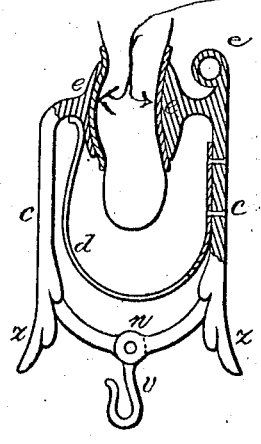


Fig. 3.



*gutta furcula
etc.*

WITNESSES
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LOUISA A. WEED, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN EAR-RINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 188,323, dated March 13, 1877; application filed June 3, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUISA A. WEED, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Ear-Rings; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a side view of my invention applied. Fig. 2 is a front view of the clasp. Fig. 3 is a sectional view.

This invention has relation to means for fastening ear-pendants in place; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of the clasping branches, designed to embrace the lobe of the ear, and provided with disks or expansions, which may or may not have suction, to be applied to the ear, and held thereto by spring action.

It also consists in the formation, in connection with the clasping arms or branches, of a projection or projections, to afford leverage in opening the clasp for the admission of the lobe of the ear, as hereinafter fully shown and described.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter *a* designates a drop or pendant, designed to be suspended from the ear, in the manner of an ordinary ear-ring. *b* represents the clasp, consisting of two branches, *c c*, which are designed to extend upward, one on each side of the lobe of the ear. At the ends of these branches are provided disks or expansions *e* of circular form, and parallel to each other.

These disks are designed to press immediately on the flesh of the ear, and may be cushioned on their inner faces with gutta-percha or other suitable material, for the purpose of preventing an undue stoppage of the circulation of the blood.

If suction is desired, the opposing faces of the disks may be made concave; but for general purposes it is designed to make one face concave and the other convex, as the soft sub-

stance of the ear will be pressed by one into the other.

d indicates a spring, which may be of U form, and secured within and between the branches, in such a manner as to draw the disks forcibly toward each other.

If desirable, the spring may be arranged upon the outside of either or both branches of the clasp; or these branches may be united by a flexible and elastic connection.

In the drawings, the branches are represented as being pivoted together at *n*, this point becoming a fulcrum, whereby, when the extensions or projections *z* of the branches are pressed, their disk ends will be opened for the admission of the ear.

Sometimes one of the disks may be provided with a pin, to extend through the ear when it is bored, its end being received in the other disk. But the fastening above described is designed to serve without the necessity of resorting to the painful boring operation.

Sometimes a chain, *k*, is attached by a loop, *l*, to the ear-clasp, and provided at its other end with a pin, *s*, to be inserted in the hair as an additional security.

Sometimes a spring-hook may be employed instead of a pin.

The clasp may be provided at its lower end with a spring-catch, *v*, to which pendants of different character may be attached, as fashion may dictate, or the taste of the wearer may elect.

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

1. In an ear-clasp for ear-rings, the compression-disks *e e*, being, respectively, concave and convex upon their inner surfaces, and provided thereon with a pad, to prevent arrest of circulation, substantially as specified.

2. An ear-clasp, consisting of two opposite branches, having spring-connection and lever projections or lugs *z*, for pressing the branches apart, substantially as specified.

3. An ear-clasp consisting of two branches, having spring-connection and chain attachment *l*, substantially as specified.

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4. The curved branches *c c*, having compression-disks *e e* at their upper ends, constructed as described, and pivoted together at their lower ends, and the depending catch *v*, pivoted at their joint, combined and arranged substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have

hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

LOUISA A. WEED. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

J. H. HAVENS,
HENRY W. FULLER.