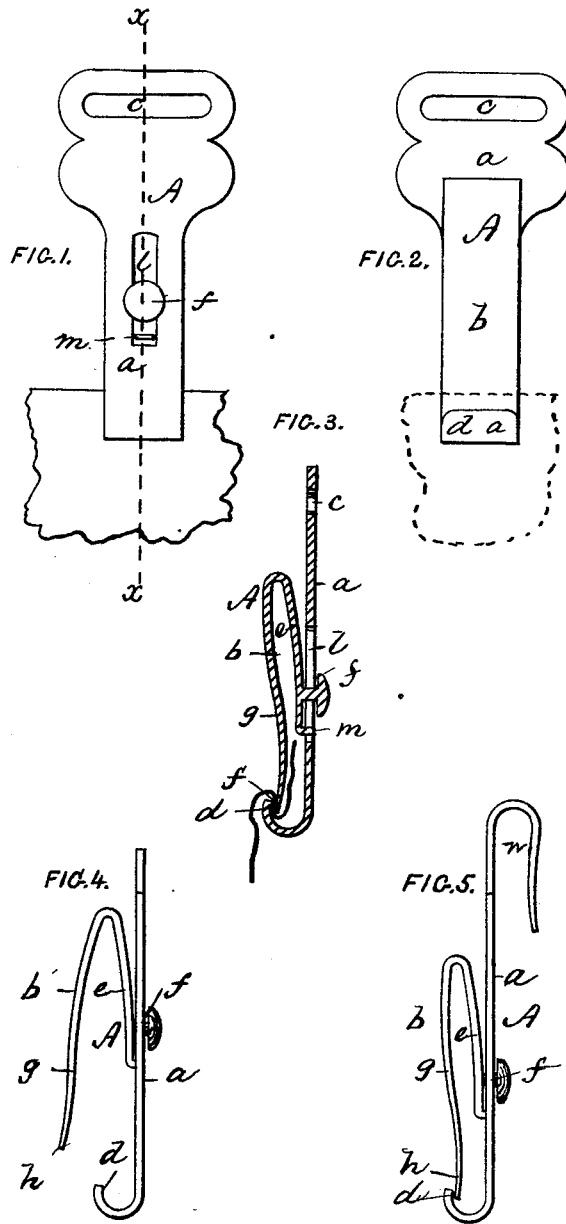


E. C. FALES.

CLASPS FOR SKIRT AND STOCKING SUPPORTERS.

No. 189,442.

Patented April 10, 1877.



WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ELLIS C. FALES, OF FOXBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CLASPS FOR SKIRT AND STOCKING SUPPORTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **189,442**, dated April 10, 1877; application filed February 21, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELLIS C. FALES, of Foxborough, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented Improvements in Clasps for Skirt and Stocking Supporters, &c., of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to certain improvements in clasps for skirt and stocking supports; and consists of a novel construction and arrangement of parts, which will be fully hereinafter described.

In the accompanying plate of drawings, Figures 1 and 2 are face views of the clasp from different sides; Fig. 3, a section on line *x x*, Fig. 1; Fig. 4, an edge view of the clasp open, or its two parts disengaged; and Fig. 5, an edge view of the clasp closed, or its two parts interlocked.

In the drawings, A represents my improved clasp. This clasp A is in two parts, *a* and *b*, both made of metal or of other suitable material. The part *a* is a flat plate, which at one end is suitably adapted by a slot, *c*, or otherwise, to be attached to the strap through which the clasp is to be suspended, as ordinarily, from the wearing-apparel of the person, and at the other end is made with a hook or shoulder, *d*. The letter *b* represents a bent spring-plate, the leg *e* of which is adapted to slide in a slot, *l*, in the plate *a*; so that the bent spring-plate can be moved along the length of the plate *a* to place the end *h* of its leg *g* under and out from under the shoulder *d* of the part *a*, (see Figs. 5 and 4,) the spring which is given to the leg *g* serving to bind the two parts *a* and *b* together when the part *b* is under the shoulder *d* of the part *a*, as described, and thus to hold the two against accidental disengagement from the strain on the clasp when in ordinary use.

By the engagement of the two parts *a* and *b*, and disengagement of the part *b* from the shoulder *d* of part *a*, the clasp is to be fastened and unfastened from the stocking, skirt, &c.

To fasten the clasp to a stocking, skirt, &c., first open its two parts, then place the stocking between its part *a* and the spring-leg *g* of its part *b*, and slide the part *b* on the part *a*, so as to place the spring-leg *g* of the part *b* under the shoulder *d* of the part *a*, which secures and completes the fastening of the clasp to the stocking, &c., as is obvious.

To unfasten the clasp from a stocking, &c., slide the part *b* on the part *a*, and bring the spring-leg *g* of the part *b* out from under the shoulder *d* of the part *a*, all as is obvious.

m is a lip projecting from part *b* into slot *l* of part *a* for the better steadying and guiding of the part *b* in its said movement on the part.

In Fig. 5, *n* is a hook on the upper end of the clasp, whereby the clasp can be supported by hooking over the top part of, or into a loop, &c., in, the clothing.

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

In a clasp or garment holder, the plate *a* centrally slotted, and provided at one end with a loop or hook, and a shoulder at the opposite end, in combination with a bent spring-plate, *b*, provided with a pivot on its inner side adapted to slide in the slot of plate *a*, and the elongated portion or end adapted to rest within the shoulder, all constructed and arranged as described.

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Witnesses:

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