O. K. SCOFIELD.
Clasp for Corsets.

No. 196,940. Patented Nov. 6, 1877.

Fig. 1.

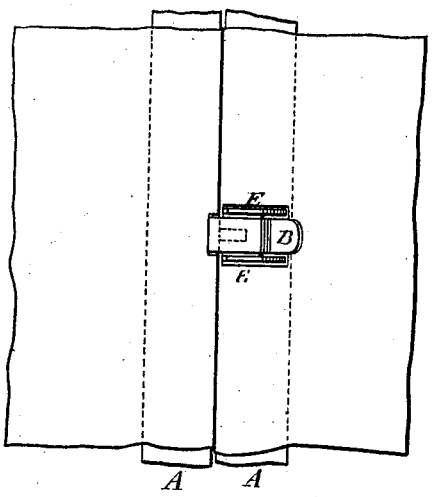


Fig. 3.

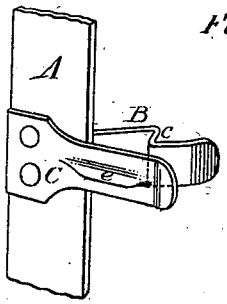


Fig. 4.

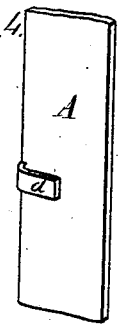
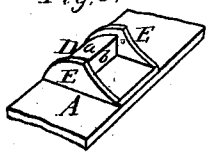


Fig. 5.



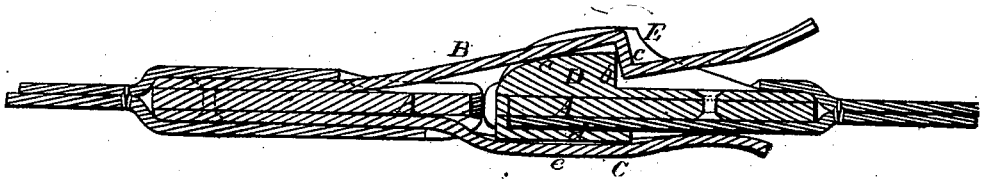


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES
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ORSAMUS K. SCOFIELD, OF ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN CLASPS FOR CORSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **196,940**, dated November 6, 1877; application filed September 15, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ORSAMUS K. SCOFIELD, of St. Joseph, in the county of Buchanan and State of Missouri, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Clasps for Corsets and other articles; 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 face view of this invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same; and Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are details of the parts, in perspective.

This invention has relation to clasps for corsets and other articles requiring such fastenings; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of the spring-catch and its opposite bearing, and the guarded lug or beveled projecting catch-block, designed to operate in connection therewith, as hereinafter shown and described.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the corset-steels to which this invention is represented as being applied. B indicates an angular spring-catch, which is securely riveted to one of the corset-steels, as shown. C represents the pressure-piece or bearing, which is riveted to the opposite or under side of the same corset-steel, the same rivets being employed to fasten both the spring-catch and its bearing, which form a pair of jaws. D is the beveled catch block or lug, which is secured by suitable rivets or otherwise to the other corset-steel, in such manner as to engage with the spring-catch and bearing when the two steels are brought together to be fastened. Its beveled face *a* terminates in a shoulder, *b*, against which the spring-catch bears, when the lug is pressed between the bearing C and said catch, the spring sliding readily over the beveled portion, and its angular portion *c* dropping behind the shoulder of the lug and forming a lug.

The bearing C serves to hold the spring-catch and the lug together in the locked position when engaged, and constitutes, in conjunction with the spring-catch, a lateral support for the corset-steels.

On each side of the catch block or lug are located the guards or fenders E, which serve to guide the spring-catch over the beveled face of the lug, and also to hold the steels and prevent them from slipping past each other vertically.

A lug, *d*, is usually formed as a part of block D, passing around the edge of the corset-steel, to which the block is attached, and back for a certain distance on the under side. The object of this lug is to form a protection for the cloth or other material used in covering the steel, as being raised above the surface of the cloth it forms a bearing against which the pressure-piece C moves in the clasping or disengaging operation.

An indentation, *e*, in the pressure-piece serves to receive and accommodate the bearing-lug *d* when the parts of the clasp are locked together.

Sometimes the bearing-piece C, which forms a part of the clasp, may be made entire with the steel or body piece A. So the block D may be made entire with the steel or body part of the other side, if thought desirable.

The construction may sometimes be varied by slotting the spring to receive the catch-block or a projection thereof; or the spring may have lateral offsets to engage with lateral catch-studs. I do not, therefore, desire to be confined to the precise construction shown and described, and in some cases I may dispense with the bearing-lug *d* and its corresponding indentation in the pressure-piece.

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

The fastening-clasp, consisting of the beveled and shouldered catch block or blocks, and the spring-catch and pressure-piece opposite said catch, and forming therewith a pair of jaws, between which the catch block or blocks are received and pressed into engagement with said catch, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

ORSAMUS KINGSLEY SCOFIELD.

Witnesses:
WILLIAM H. FENYAN,
H. MONTGOMERY.