E. K. HAYNES.

Clasp.

No. 198,108. Patented Dec. 11, 1877.

Fig. 1.

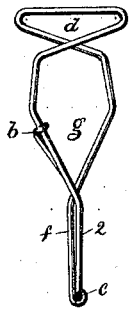


Fig. 2.

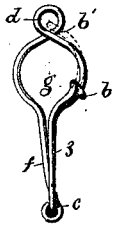


Fig. 3.

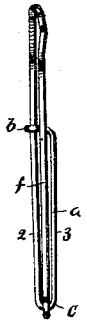


Fig. 4.

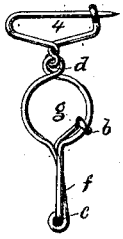


Fig. 5.

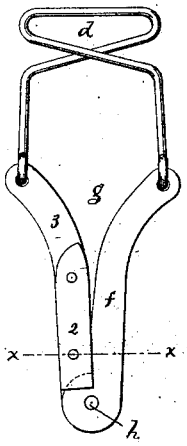


Fig. 7.

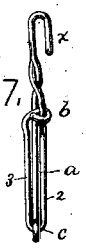
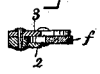


Fig. 6.



Witnesses.

C. C. Perkins.

A Hunnewadel

Inventor.

Edgar K. Haynes.

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDGAR K. HAYNES, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CLASPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,108**, dated December 11, 1877; application filed October 31, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDGAR K. HAYNES, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Fastening Device or Clasp, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to a fastening device for garments and other purposes, wherein a piece of fibrous material is to be caught and held.

The invention consists in a fastening device composed of two jaws, one recessed or made double, and the other a yielding jaw to enter the recess in the double jaw, the two jaws being pivoted at their lower ends, and having their faces crossed near their pivotal points, to receive between their faces a fabric passed from the eye or enlarged opening in the fastening, to hold such fabric firmly without cutting it, as hereinafter described.

The construction of the fastening is preferably such that the bite of the jaws upon the material is increased by reason of, and in proportion to, the strain exerted on the material caught between the jaws.

In this fastening one jaw is arranged to pass by and between portions of the other jaw, the two jaws thereby shutting, the one past the other, and bending or crowding the material between them.

The fastening is specially applicable for use in connection with stocking or garment supporters, for skirt-holders, and for umbrella-fastenings.

Figure 1 represents one of my improved fastenings in side elevation, it having an elongated eye to receive a strap; Fig. 2, one of such fastenings with a round eye to receive a cord; Fig. 3, an edge view of Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a pin connected with a fastening. Fig. 5 illustrates a modification, in which the jaws are composed of sheet metal rather than wire; Fig. 6, a cross-section on line *x x;* Fig. 7, a modification, showing the fastening adapted for a napkin-holder; and Fig. 8, a detail.

The fastenings shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 are composed of one piece of wire. The wire, of proper diameter, material, and length, according to the use designed for the fastening, may be bent to form the eye or passage *a*, (see Figs. 3 and 8,) and one end of the wire may be bent around the wire, as at *b*, or it may be extended higher up, to the point *b'*. (See Fig. 2.) These adjacent portions of the wire, from the point *b* to the fold or bend *c*, constitute the recessed or double jaw, as shown in Fig. 8. The wire is bent to form a loop, *d*, either oblong or round, to receive a strap or cord, and the free end of the wire is then inserted through and between the members 2 3 of the recessed jaw, and bent around the bend *c* of the other jaw, the wire at such bend forming a pivot or fulcrum for the end of the part *f* constituting the yielding jaw.

The edge of one jaw overlaps or crosses the edge of the other jaw above the pivotal points of the jaws, and yet farther from such pivotal point is an opening, *g*, for the easy passage to the jaws of the material to be held by them.

The loop *d* of the fastening is formed by crossing the wire, and with material between the jaws, and a strap or equivalent connected with the loop, it is obvious that the harder the strain exerted upon the fastening by the strap and material, the more will the jaws cross and bite, and the harder will they hold the material between them.

A fastening constructed in this way will not cut the most delicate fabric, and will hold fabrics or cords.

In Fig. 4, I have added a pin or attaching device, 4, by which to secure the fastening to one garment while the fastening engages and holds up another garment, or a portion of a garment.

In Fig. 5 the jaws are made of sheet metal, pivoted together at *h*, and connected at top with a wire loop. This loop may be provided with a pin, or, if made large enough to be used as a skirt-holder, it may be secured to a chain or hook to be connected with a belt, or at the waist of the wearer.

When composed of sheet metal the fastening may be made ornamental, and be of silver or gold, or be plated.

It is obvious that the loop *d* might be omitted, but the fastening would not be so good as with it. A fastening such as shown in Fig. 2 may be connected with a shoe by means of a staple, and serve as a fastening for a string or lacing.

It will be noticed (see Figs. 1 to 4) that the

wire above the lower end of the fastening, where the jaws are pivoted together, springs or yields to the material crowded between the jaws.

The hook *x*, Fig. 7, forms an attaching device, which may be caught upon any portion of the collar or coat.

I claim—

1. A fastening device composed of two jaws, one recessed or made double, and the other made as a yielding jaw to enter the recess in the double jaw, the two jaws being pivoted together at their lower ends, and having their faces crossed near their pivotal points, to receive between their faces a fabric passed from the eye or enlarged open portion of the fastening, and to hold such fabric without cutting it, substantially as described.

2. A fastening composed of pivoted jaws, adapted to cross the edge or face of one beyond the edge or face of the other, and of a loop, *d*, to permit the jaws to be closed by pulling on such loop, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a fastening device composed of a recessed and a yielding jaw pivoted together, and having their faces crossed, as described, above their pivotal points, and below an eye leading into such jaws, of an attaching device to hold the fastening device in place, substantially as described.

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

EDGAR K. HAYNES.

Witnesses:
E. C. PERKINS,
A. HUNESWADEL.