C. C. SHELBY.

Stocking Supporter and Clasp.

No. 209,778. Patented Nov. 12, 1878.

Fig 1.

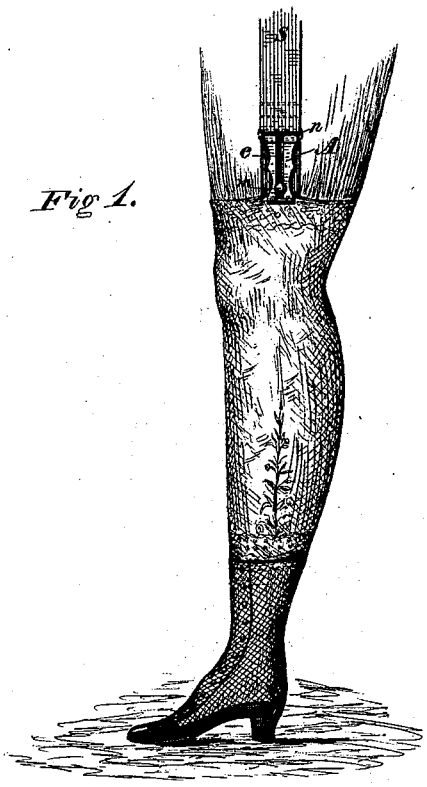

Fig 2.

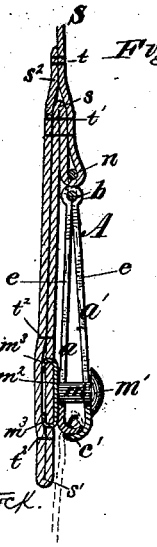

Fig 3.

Witnesses

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CHRISTOPHER C. SHELBY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN STOCKING SUPPORTER AND CLASP.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **209,778**, dated November 12, 1878; application filed September 28, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTOPHER C. SHELBY, of New York city, county, and State, have invented a certain new and Improved Stocking Supporter and Clasp; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section; and Fig. 3 is a view of the button.

Similar letters of reference in the several figures indicate the same parts.

This invention is an improvement in clasps for stocking-supporters and in the mode of attaching the clasps to the supporters; and it consists, first, in a clasp constructed as hereinafter set forth; and, secondly, in the mode of folding the straps or supporters and securing them to the clasp so as to cover and conceal the back of the button, in the manner herein described and shown.

In the drawings, A represents a sheet-metal clasp, formed with two spring-jaws, *a a'*, constructed by doubling or bending the metal along the line *b* and turning down the ends *c c'*, so that when pressed together one will close behind the other and clamp the edge of the stocking or other garment securely between them. The sheet metal, before doubling, is slotted nearly from end to end, as represented at *e e*, in such manner that when the metal is doubled to form the spring-jaws, an open slot will extend from the upper nearly to the lower end of the clasp, to admit and accommodate a doubled-headed sliding button, *m*. When the button has been inserted a wire loop, *n*, is passed through the double end in a socket formed to receive it, as shown in Fig. 2, which wire, loop, or link serves to hold the button in the slot, and also forms a means of connecting the clasp to the supporter-strap S. The jaws are closed by sliding the button toward them, and operate by their own spring recoil when the button is slid back toward the wire link.

The form of the button which I prefer to use is shown in Fig. 3, in which m^1 is the outer or exposed head, and m^2 the inner concealed head, the latter having hooks or spurs m^3, which pass through one thickness of the strap and are clinched on the opposite side, the clinched ends being concealed by another fold of the strap, as will be hereinafter explained.

The web or strap S of the supporter is attached to the clasp in the following manner: The end of the web is first put through the loop *n* about five inches, then doubled back about half an inch to the point *s*, so as to form a bite or loop with the link *n* in the end of it. The free end of the web, about four or four and one-half inches in length, is then carried down by the head m^2, and the prongs m^3 are passed through it and clinched. A short distance beyond the button it is doubled back again at s^1 and carried up to the body of the web at s^2, where it is neatly stitched to the web. The folds thus formed are stitched through and through at the point or transverse line *t*, and also at the transverse line t^1, and, if preferred, on each side of the button along the longitudinal lines t^2. The prongs of the button are thus completely concealed, and the web is interposed between the clasp and the person of the wearer, protecting the latter from any inconvenience or injury from the clasp.

The operation of this improved device is exceedingly simple, convenient, and effective. The button having been slipped back toward the link, the jaws open automatically. The edge of the stockings or other garment is then inserted between them and the button, and the end of the web slipped down again, when the jaws will be clamped so firmly upon the garment that it will tear before it will slip out. The web covers and conceals the rear side of the button, preventing it from inconveniencing the wearer; and the attachment of the web to the button renders the device more easy and convenient of operation.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new—

1. The spring-jaw clasp A, formed of a piece of metal doubled back on itself, and provided with a slot extending longitudinally from the doubled end nearly to the opposite end, in combination with the button *m* and the transverse link *n*, one part of which prevents the button from sliding out of the slot, and the other part of which serves as means for at-

taching the supporting-web, substantially as described.

2. The combined web and sliding button-clasp, having the web attached to the clasp and button, folded back in one continuous strip, and stitched together in the manner herein described—that is to say, by passing it through the link, folding it back to the point s, carrying it forward to the point s^1, and then back to the point s^2, and stitching the parts together at $t\ t^1$, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:
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