

F. B. BROWN.  
Clasp.

No. 202,924.

Patented April 30, 1878.

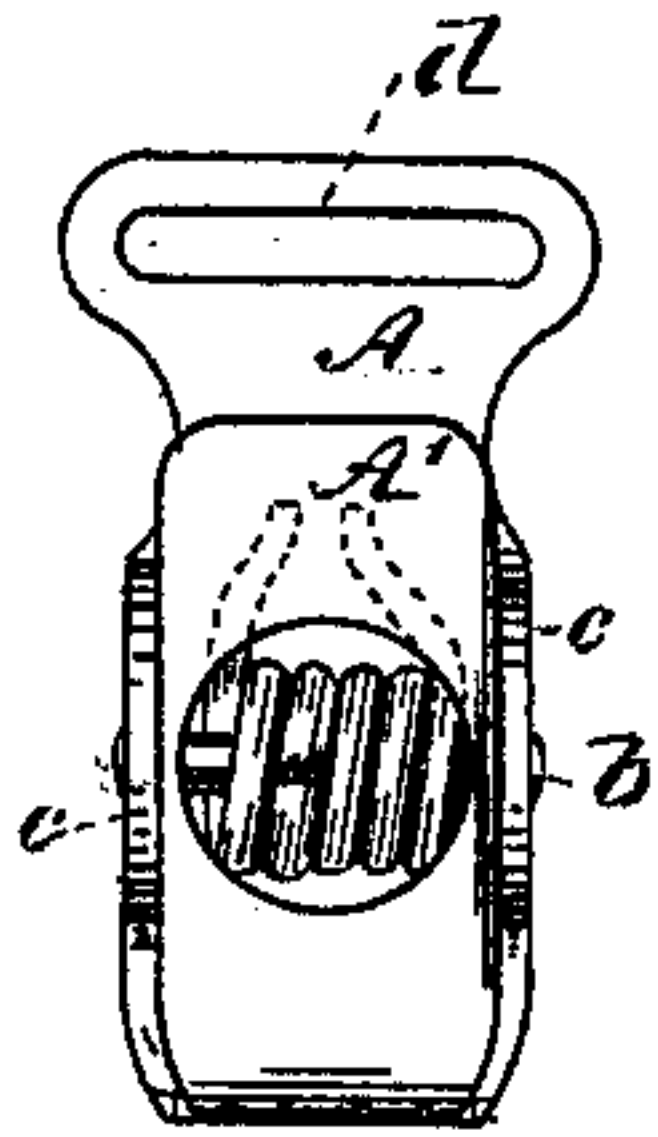


Fig. 1

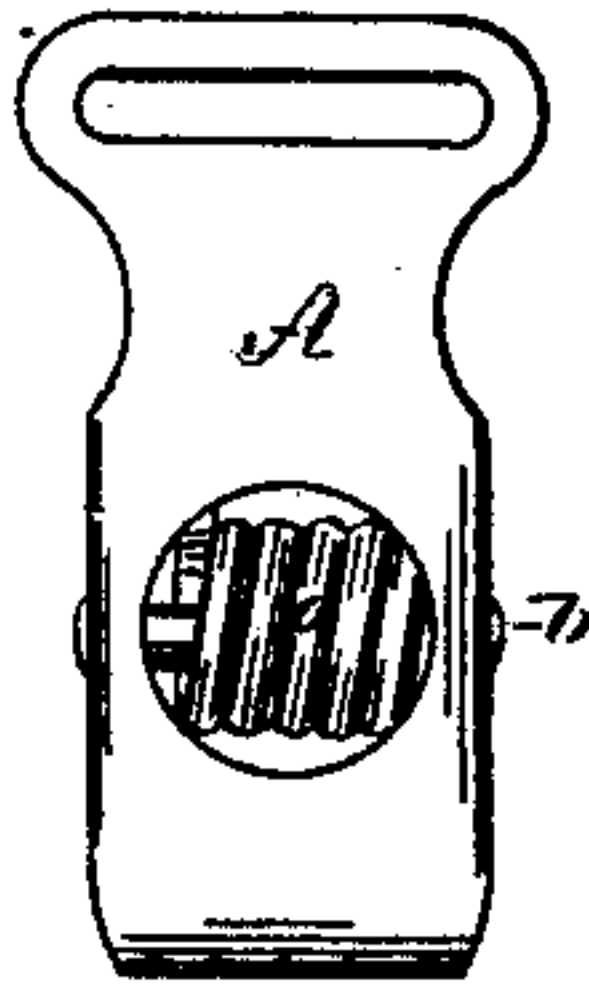


Fig. 2

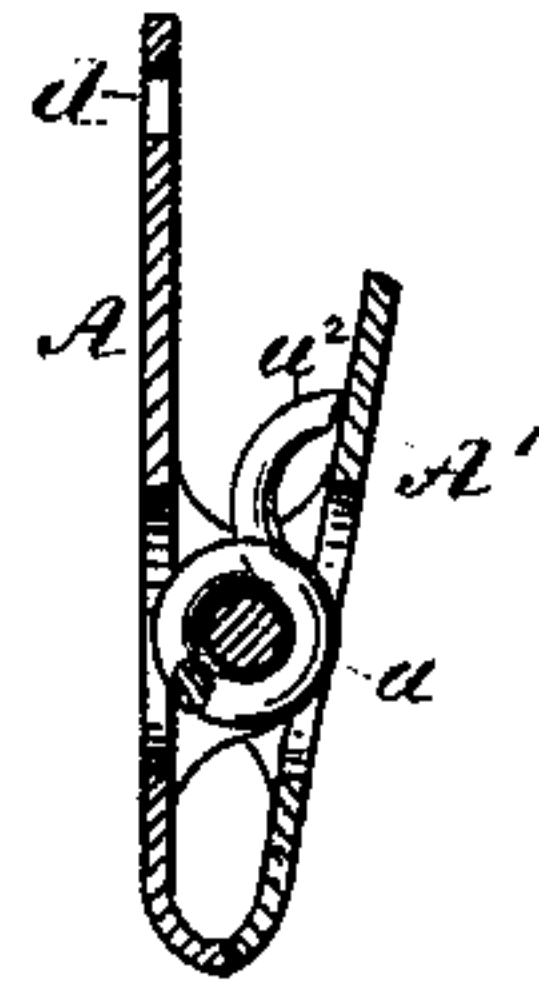


Fig. 3.

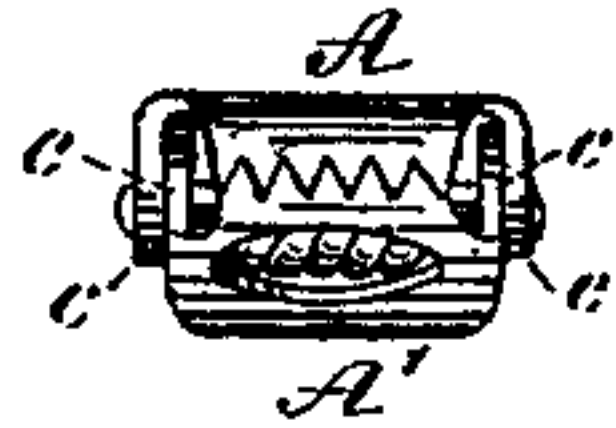


Fig. 4.

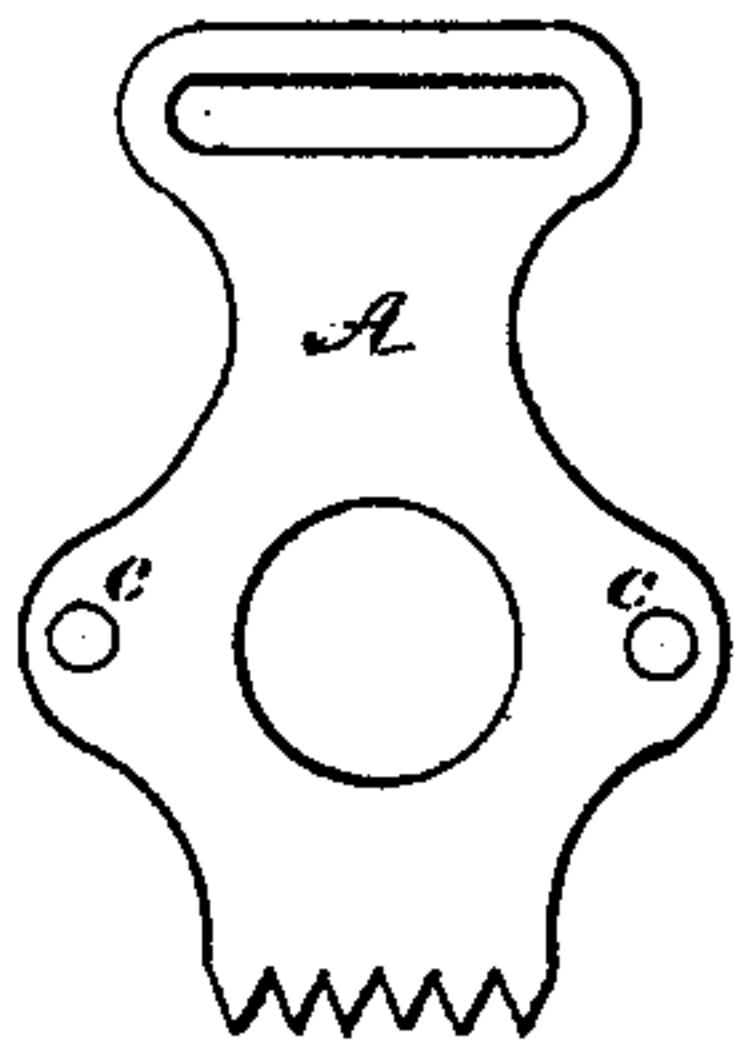


Fig. 5.

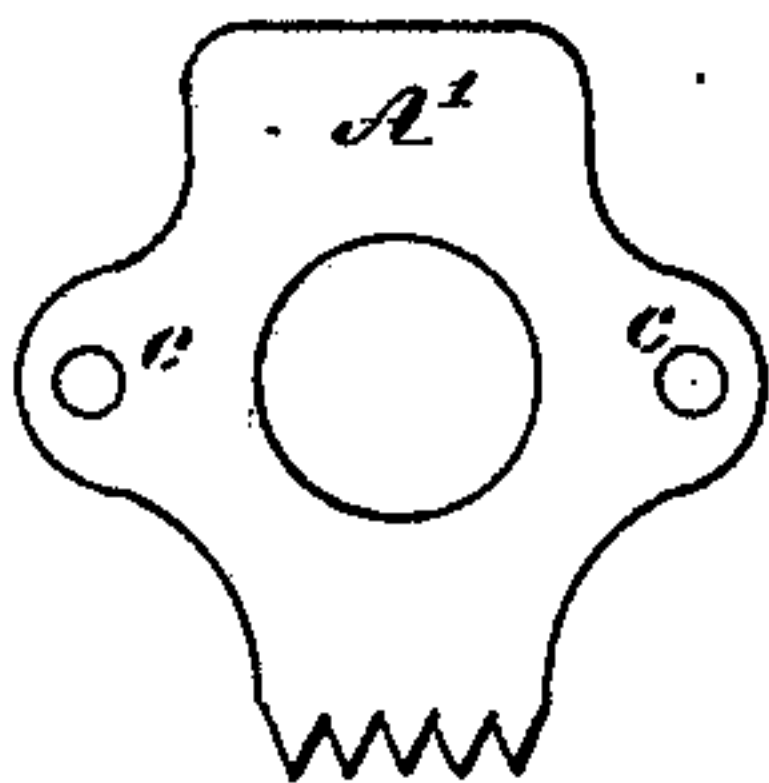


Fig. 6.

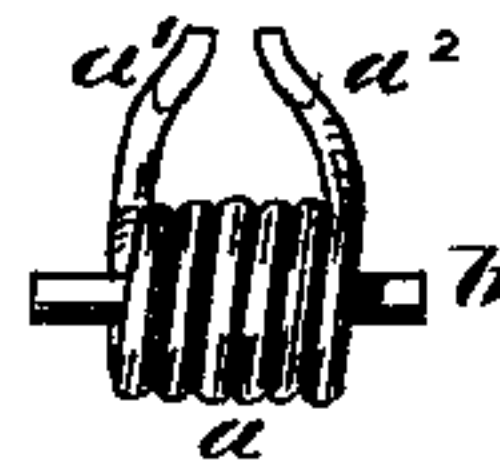


Fig. 7.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

F. BARTON BROWN, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLASPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **202,924**, dated April 30, 1878; application filed February 4, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, F. BARTON BROWN, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Clasp, of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part hereof.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan; Fig. 2, a bottom plan; Fig. 3, a section lengthwise, and Fig. 4 an end view, of a clasp embodying my invention. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 show the three parts of the clasp.

The two jaws of the clasp are marked A A'. Each jaw has ears *c* on its sides, arranged, as shown, so that the ears of one jaw may be hinged by the hinge-pin *b* to the ears of the other jaw. Each jaw has also an opening across it, arranged, as shown, so that these openings will be opposite each other. These openings are an important feature of my invention. They are of such a size and shape with relation to the size of the spring *a* that the spring can project laterally into them. One of the jaws is also provided with a loop, *d*, to receive the web to which the device is usually attached. The spring *a* is a short coil of wire having its ends *a*<sup>1</sup> *a*<sup>2</sup> extended, as shown, so that when in its place between the jaws the end *a*<sup>1</sup> will bear against one of the jaws and the end *a*<sup>2</sup> against the other. The teeth upon the ends of the jaws intermesh, as shown in Fig. 4.

By the use of the openings above spoken of a comparatively large and stout spring can be used, when desired, without making my device clumsy, the openings being so arranged with relation to the springs that the coils of the spring may project through the openings. The hinge-pin *b* serves as a very convenient means for holding the coil-spring *a* in place.

My device is very simple and durable, easily applied, and holds very securely by reason of the intermeshed teeth. Moreover, a stout spring can be used without making the device clumsy, as the coils may project through the openings in the jaws, as above described, and the tension of the spring is, owing to the length of wire in the coil and its extended ends, nearly as great when the jaws are closed as when they are opened. The spring, too, does not lose its elasticity.

What I claim as my invention is—

The improved device described, composed of the jaws A A', the hinge-pin *b*, and spiral spring *a*, with its extended ends *a*<sup>1</sup> *a*<sup>2</sup>, the jaws being connected together by the hinge-pin *b* passing through the ears *c*, and also through the spiral spring, holding it in place, each jaw having an opening in it to receive the upper and under portions of the spring, all substantially as above described.

F. BARTON BROWN.

Witnesses:

J. E. MAYNADIER,  
GEORGE O. G. COALE.