

F. ARMSTRONG.  
Clasps.

No. 205,334.

Patented June 25, 1878.

Fig. 1.

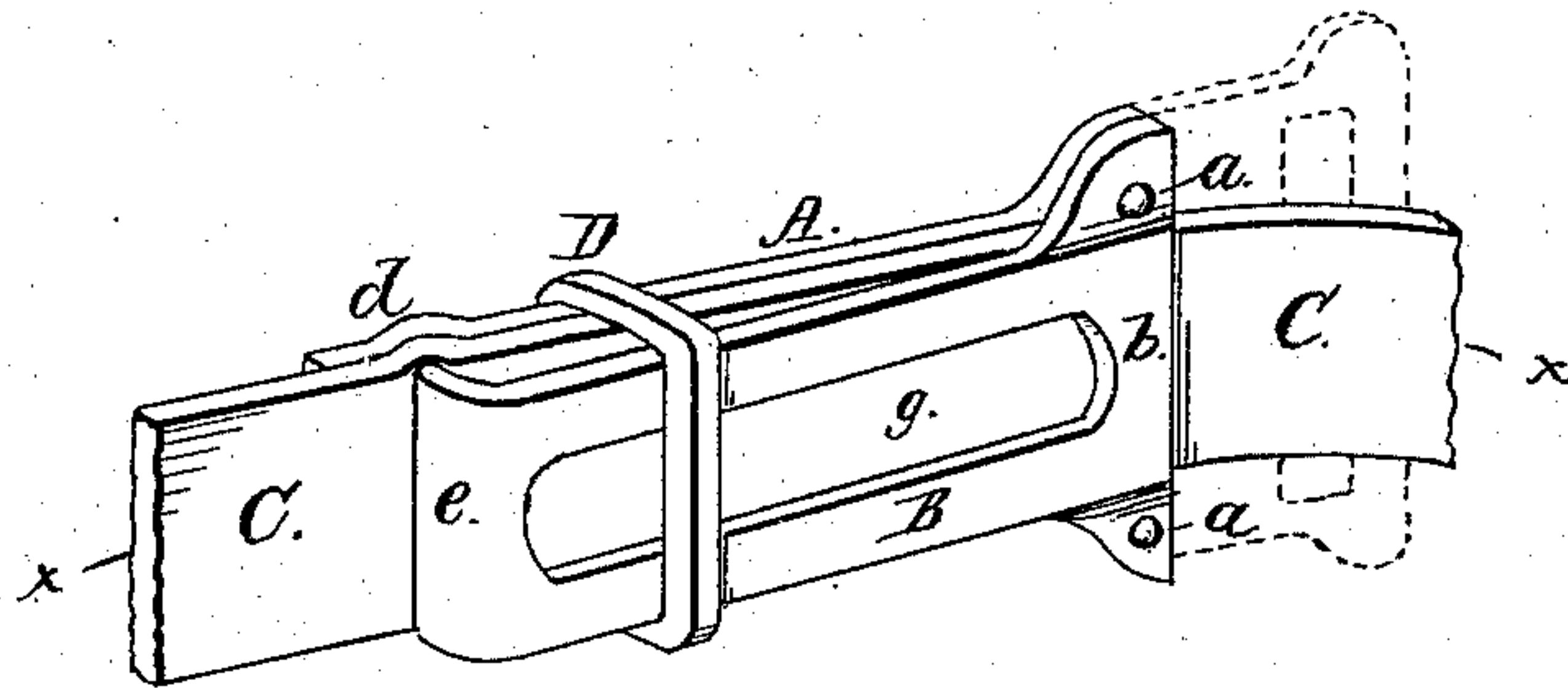


Fig. 2.

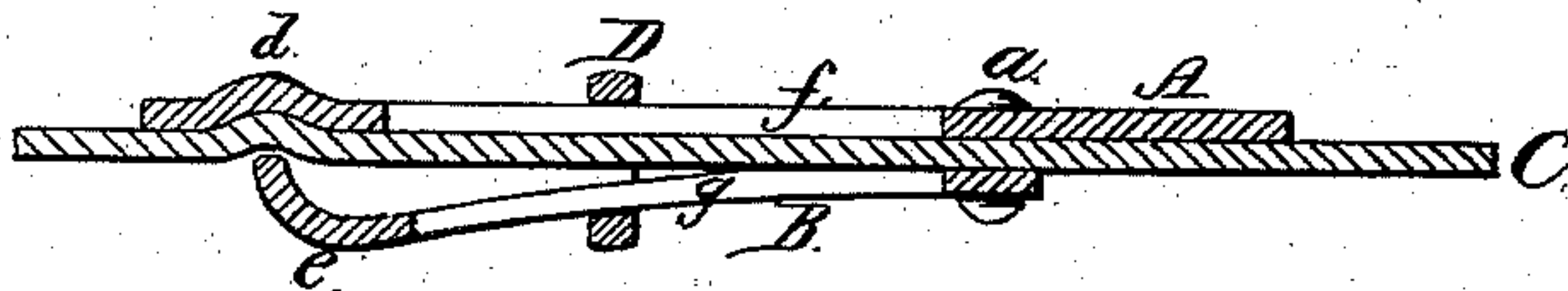
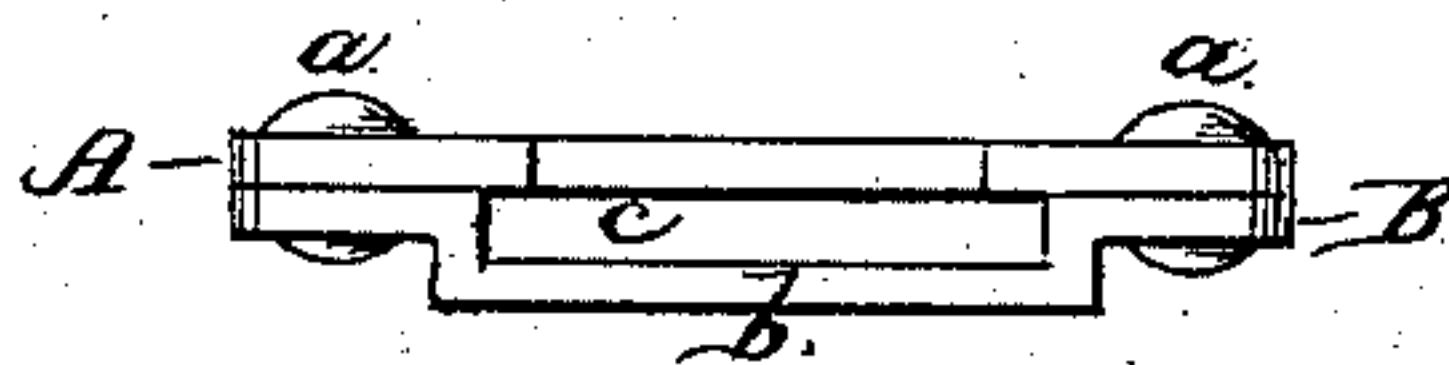


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK ARMSTRONG, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLASPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **205,334**, dated June 25, 1878; application filed April 10, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK ARMSTRONG, of Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this application.

My invention relates to certain improvements in metallic clasps designed more particularly for use in stocking-supporters. It has for its object to provide for the adjustment of the clasp upon the web-support, and also facility of locating the biting-ends to grasp. With these ends in view my invention consists in forming the upper end of the clasp so that the web may freely pass for longitudinal adjustment, as will be fully explained hereinafter; and my invention further consists in the peculiar form of one of the biting-ends, whereby it may be located, as will be more fully set forth.

To enable others to make and use my improved clasp, I will describe its construction and operation, referring by letters to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one of my improved clasps arranged upon a piece of web. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section taken at the line *xx* of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is an end view of the clasp.

Similar letters indicate like parts in the several views.

A B are two plates riveted together at *a a*. The plate B is formed with a channel, *b*, so that

when the two plates are in position a space, *c*, is left between them, through which the web C is free to pass when the biting-ends of the plates are not in contact therewith. D is a slide which causes the biting-ends of the plates A B to approach each other in an obvious manner, the said plates springing apart when the slide is moved back.

The back plate A is perfectly flat, with a channel or groove, *d*, formed therein, and into which the web or fabric is forced when the curved end *e* of the plate B is forced against it by the slide. The advantage of forming the end of the plate A flat, in contradistinction to the usual bent end, is that when used as a stocking-supporter this plate may be passed down very readily between the stocking and the leg of the wearer without striking the top or edge of the stocking. The plate A may terminate at its upper end at the same point with the plate B, or it may extend to form a suspension-loop, as shown in dotted lines at Fig. 1, and both plates may be cut away, as shown at *f g*, for the sake of lightness.

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

A metallic clasp consisting of the spring-jaws A B, joined at their upper ends, provided with a channel, *c*, between them, and adapted to be closed by means of a sliding ring, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

FRANK ARMSTRONG. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

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