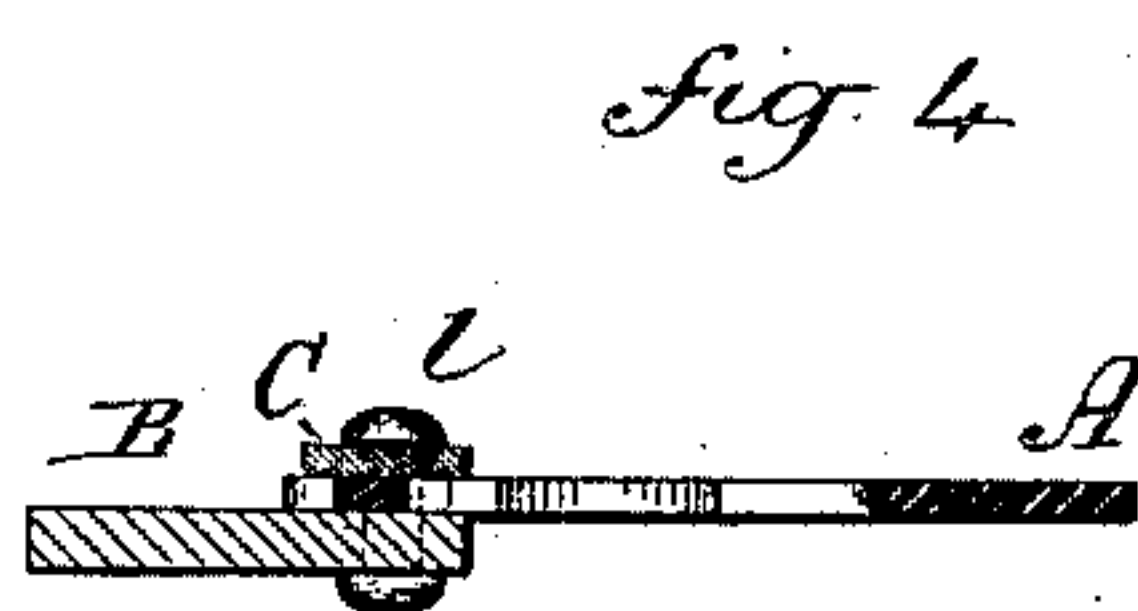
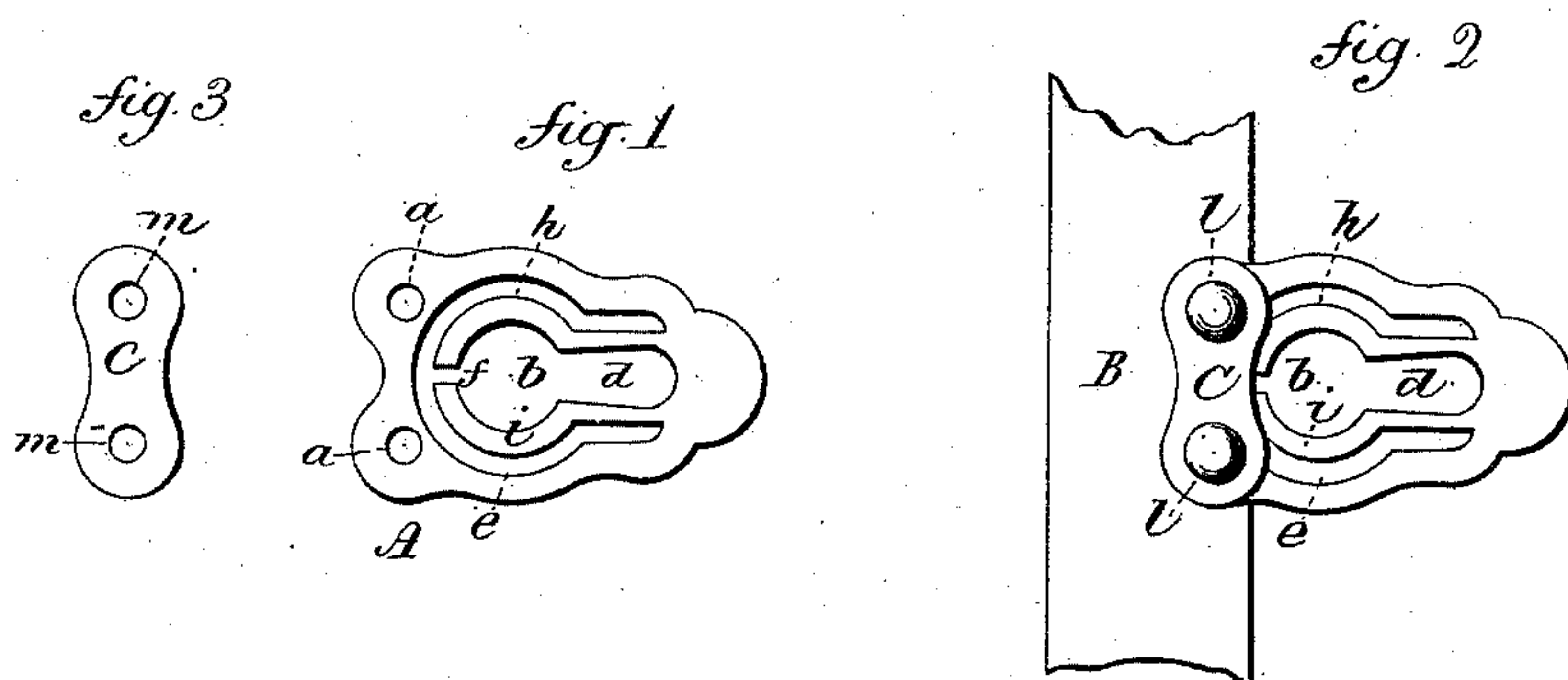


(No Model.)

M. P. BRAY.
CORSET CLASP.

No. 277,671.

Patented May 15, 1883.



Witnesses.
J. H. Murray
Jos. D. Earle

Morris P. Bray.
Inventor
By Atty.
John D. Earle.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORRIS P. BRAY, OF NEW HAVEN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO WALLACE & SONS, OF ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT.

CORSET-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 277,671, dated May 15, 1883.

Application filed March 23, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORRIS P. BRAY, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Corset-Clasp Eyes; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a face view of the eye complete; Fig. 2, the eye as attached to its spring; Fig. 3, the collar which overlaps the free ends of the spring; Fig. 4, a longitudinal central section of the spring and eye.

This invention relates to an improvement in the eye by which one part of a corset is clasped to the other. These eyes are fixed to one of the springs which form the busk and the headed studs to the other. The eyes have an opening through them corresponding to the head of the stud, or so that the head of the stud will pass freely therethrough, and from this opening a slot is made, into which the body of the stud will pass, the head of the stud overhanging the sides of the slot.

Various devices have been provided to prevent accidental disengagement of the eyes from the studs, this disengagement being due to the movement of the body, which permits the studs to slip backward and come into the larger part of the eye, so that the head may escape therefrom. In some cases these locking devices have been made by a spring arranged on the surface of the eye—as from wire or sheet metal—and in some cases a spring-tongue has been cut from near the opening, so as to spring down back of the body of the stud after it has passed into the slot; but in all such devices the springs are liable to derangement by catching upon the garments, or in the introduction or removal of the stud, and hence are impracticable and little used.

The object of my invention is to produce an eye which shall have a spring formed as a part of itself, and yet protected from the derangements to which many of the other devices are liable; and the invention consists in the construction of the eye, as more fully hereinafter de-

scribed, and particularly recited in the claims.

The eye is cut from sheet metal, substantially such as usually employed for this purpose, and which has a certain degree of elasticity. The external shape of the eye A may conform to any outline required by the consumer. As shown in Fig. 1, it does not differ materially from the usual shape. At one end perforations *a* are made for the attachment of the eye to the busk. Through the blank an opening, *b*, is made, sufficiently large to permit the free passage of the head of the stud, and from this a slot, *d*, extends forward in substantially the usual manner, except that the slot *d*, at the point where it opens from the enlarged part *b*, is slightly narrower than the diameter of the stud, and increases in width forward from that point, as shown. Outside the slot and opening I cut a slot, *e*, preferably following the outline of the opening *b* and its slot *d*, that is parallel or concentric therewith, as seen in Fig. 1. This separates the central portion of the eye from the body, except at the forward end. At the extreme rear end I cut this separated portion, as at *f*, and so as to leave a spring, *h*, on one side, and *i* on the opposite side, which are an integral part of the eye itself. The cut-away portion *e*, which separates the spring part from the body, leaves sufficient play for the springs *h i*. The eye is attached to the busk B by rivets *l*, in the usual manner, the eye being arranged on the busk, as seen in Fig. 2, so that the ends of the springs *h i* will lie upon the surface of the busk B, and thus form a support for those ends against the strain upon the studs. Preferably over the rivet end of the eye I place a double collar, C, said collar having holes *m*, corresponding to the holes in the eye and busk, and extend the rivets through the collar C. This collar overlies the ends of the springs, as seen in Fig. 2, and so that the ends of the springs rest between the busk B and the collar, but yet free to play therein. This construction prevents any derangement of the springs *h i*, holds them firmly in their place, and yet permits their freedom of movement for the introduction or removal of the stud. As the stud enters the slot *d* it forces the two springs apart until the stud has passed into

its slot. The springs, returning, contract the space through which the stud passed, so as to make the return of the stud difficult without the application of force thereto, and which force, as in disengaging the eye, throws the spring backward, and permits the stud to pass into the opening *b*. One of the springs is sufficient for the purpose; but I prefer to make two, first because half the movement only is required in the one spring, but also to give to the sides of the eye a uniform appearance, and make the construction an ornament to the eye rather than otherwise. I therefore do not wish to limit my invention to the making of the two springs. The springs may not of necessity be separated, as shown, and the slots on the sides, by which the springs are formed in the eye, run together at the rear end, so as to completely detach the springs at that end from the body of the eye. In that case the amount of spring is only that which will exist between the two confined ends of the spring.

I claim—

1. A corset-clasp eye having an opening, *b*,

with the slot *d* extending forward therefrom, the spring *h*, formed as an integral part of the eye, and extending from the forward end rearward, forming one side of the said slot and opening, and extending to the busk, its free end resting upon the busk, substantially as described.

2. A corset-clasp eye having an opening, *b*, the slot *d*, extending therefrom, the spring *h*, cut from the metal of the eye, and forming one side of the slot and opening, its free end resting upon the busk *B*, to which the eye is riveted, combined with the collar *C*, substantially as described.

3. A corset-clasp eye having the opening *b*, and the slot *d*, extending forward therefrom, with the springs *h i*, cut from the metal of the eye, and forming the two sides of the said opening and slot, substantially as described.

MORRIS P. BRAY.

Witnesses:

JOS. C. EARLE,

J. H. SHUMWAY.