

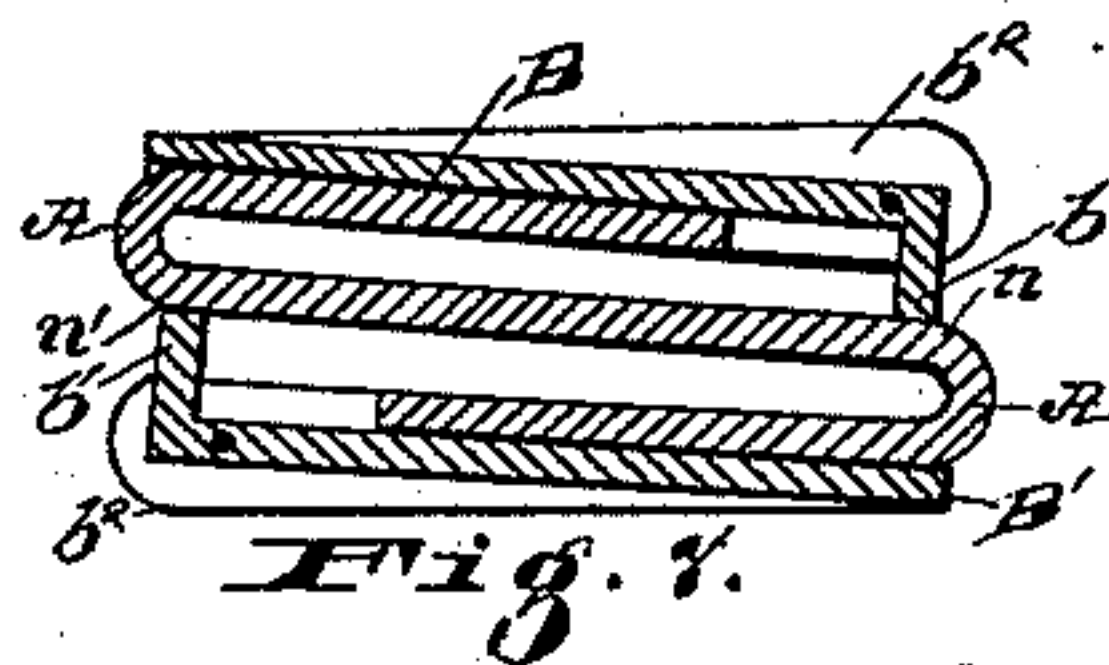
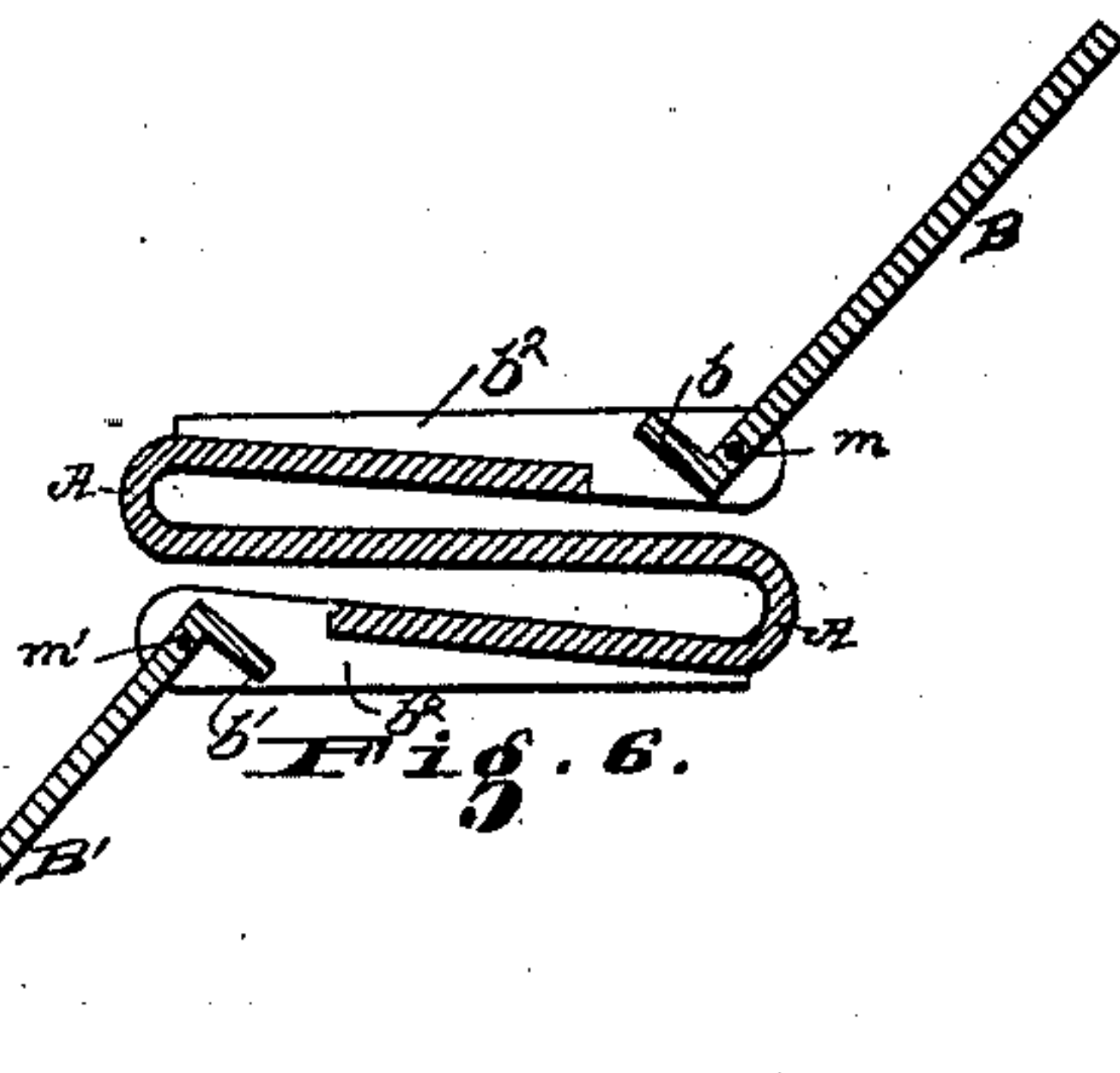
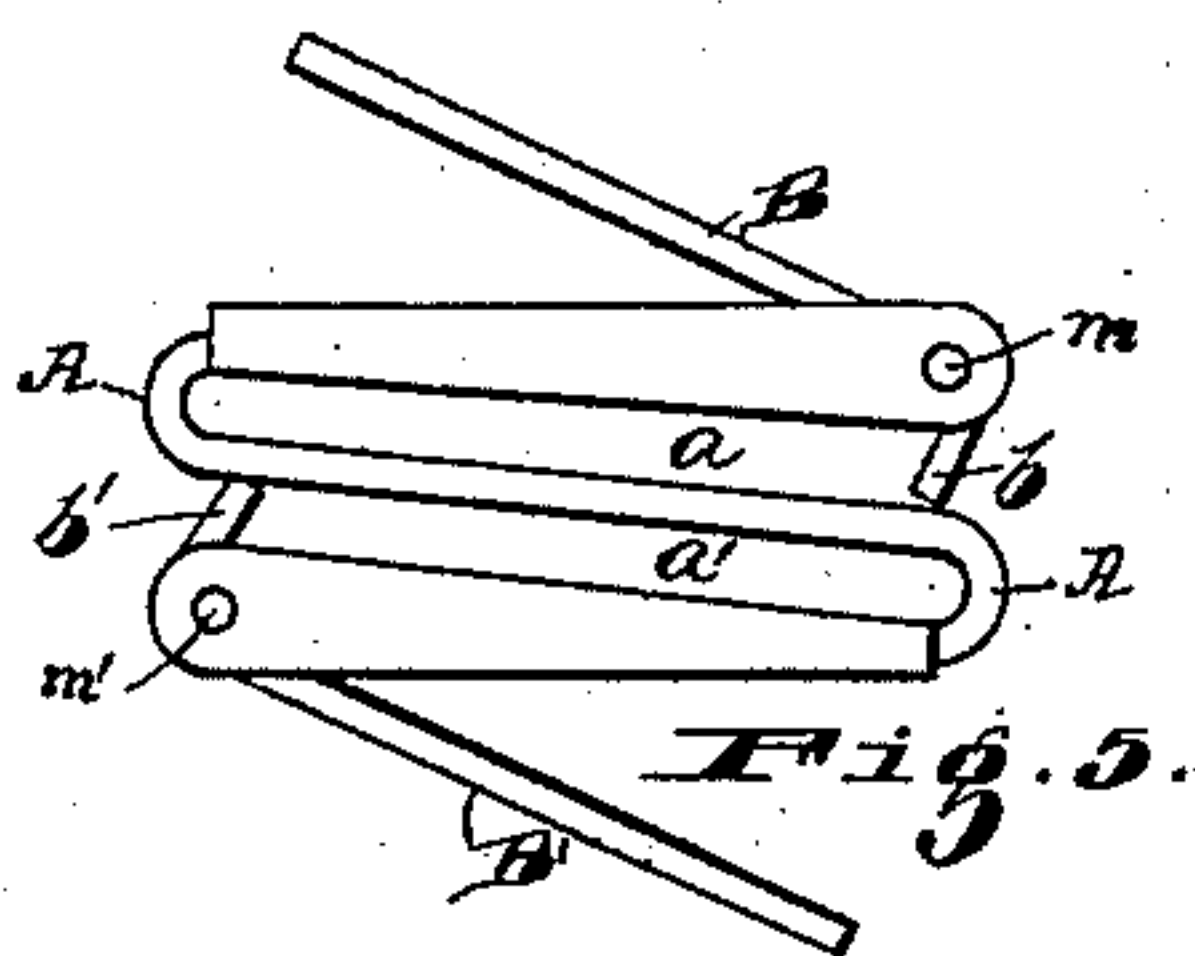
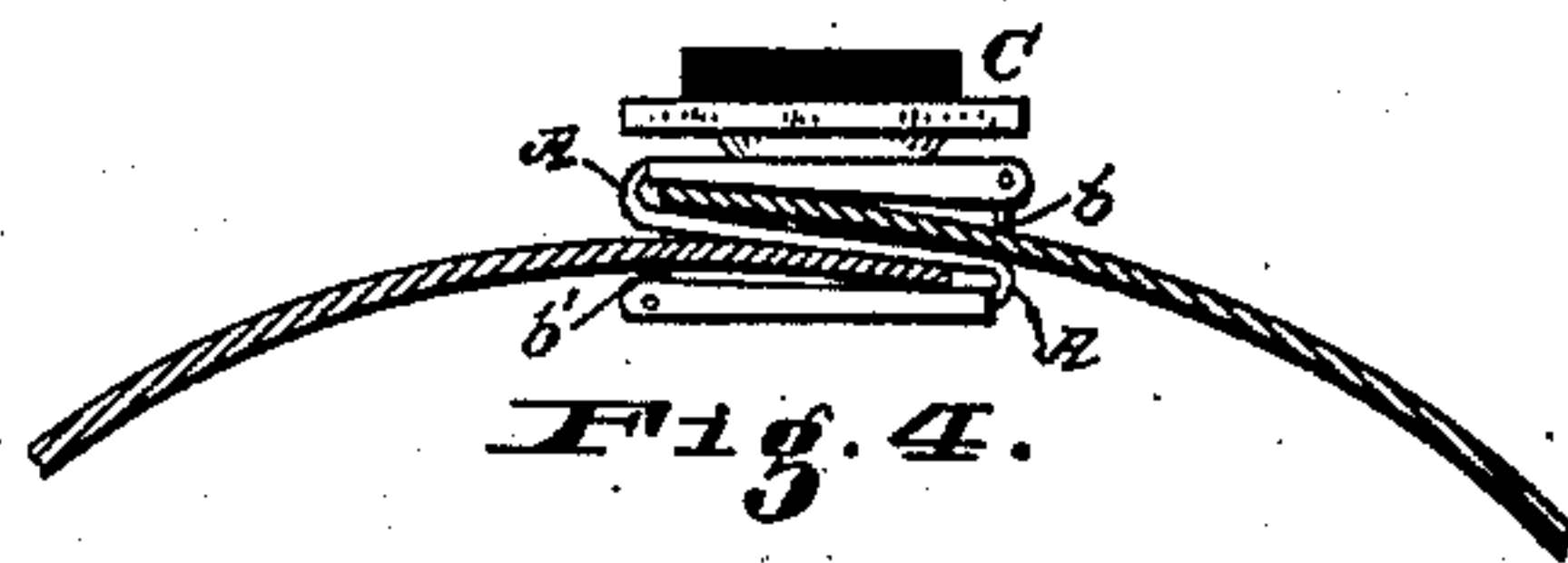
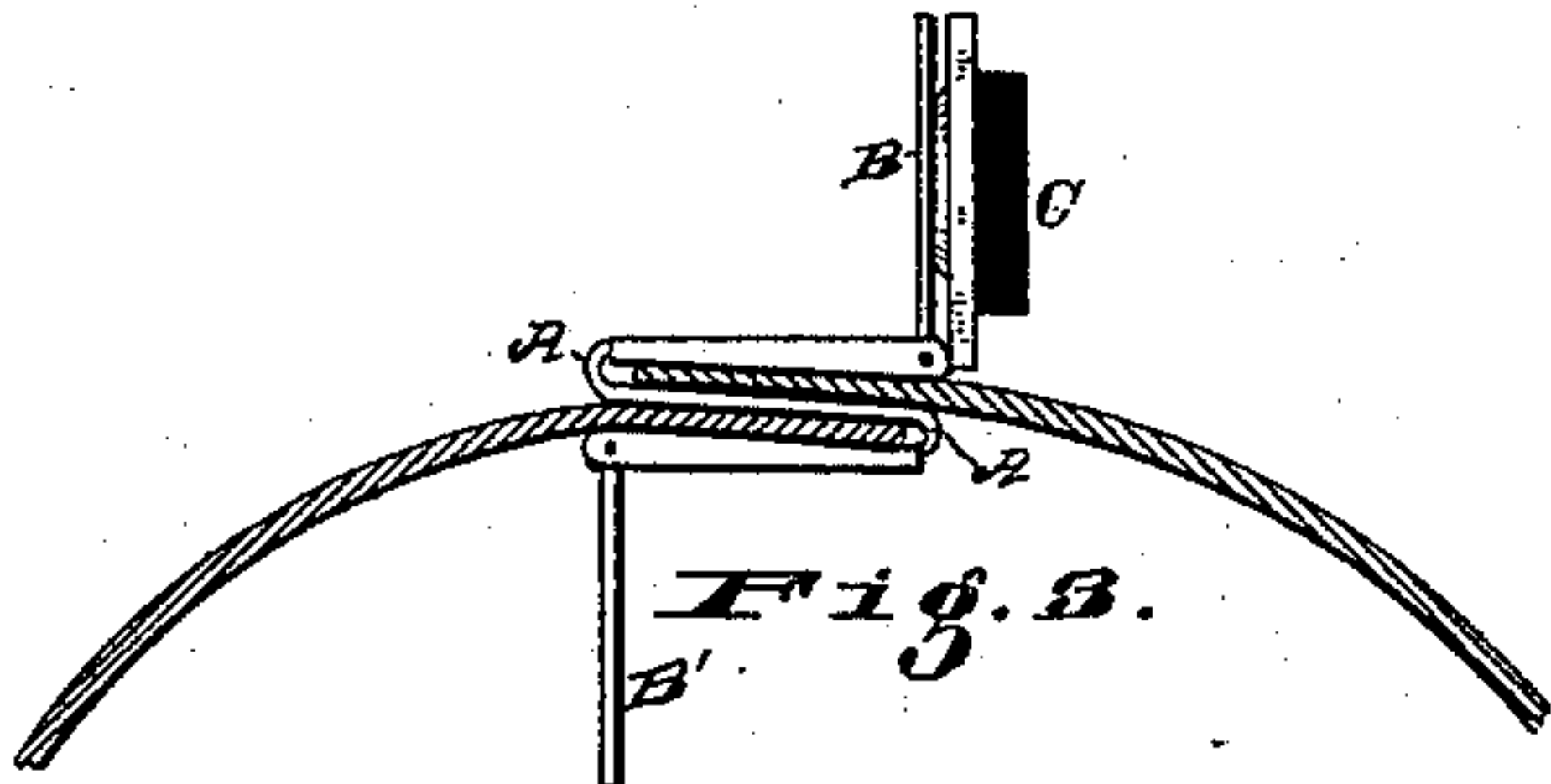
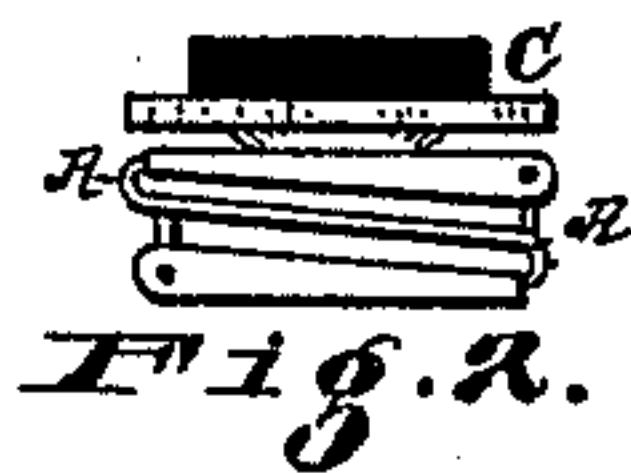
(No Model.)

J. F. BEDFORD.

CLASP.

No. 286,991.

Patented Oct. 23, 1883.



ATTEST.

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CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 286,991, dated October 23, 1883.

Application filed July 9, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH F. BEDFORD, a resident of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps for Fastening Cuffs and other Clothing, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to mechanism for clasping various articles of clothing, and is very advantageously employed as a cuff-fastener, to which application I have devoted the larger portion of the drawings.

The objects and advantages of the various features of my invention will be apparent from the following description:

Referring to the drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a top view of a clasp embodying my invention and combined with the ornamental face or piece usually constituting the outer side or portion of the cuff-button. Fig. 2 is an end view of the device shown in Fig. 1, illustrating the application of my invention. Figs. 3 and 4 illustrate the application of my invention to a cuff or to articles of clothing. Fig. 5 represents the clasp without ornament and in condition to be used, generally, as a clothing-clasp. Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section through the clasp. Fig. 7 is a longitudinal section through the clasp closed. Fig. 8 is the same longitudinal section, a button being connected to one of the levers.

The clasping device consists of an S-spring, A, made of a narrow strip of spring metal, and by reason of the shape of this spring two recesses, a a' , are formed, opening in opposite directions at or near the ends of the spring A. At the openings of the recesses a a' are pivoted the levers B B'. The lever B works on a pivot or fulcrum, m , located near one end of the lever. This lever is provided with a flange or suitable projection, b , rigid with the lever and connected to that end of the lever near which is fulcrum m . When the lever B lies flat on the clasp, (see Fig. 7,) the flange b engages with that side, n , of the central portion of the S-spring or clasp which is nearest to said flange. When the free end of lever B is lifted and the lever is moved back, as in Figs. 3 or 6, the flange no longer engages the side n , but is moved away from the spring. At the opposite side of the clasp to where lever B is located is lever B',

working on a fulcrum, m' , located near one end of the lever. This lever is provided with a flange or suitable projection, b' , and when the lever lies flat on the clasp (see Fig. 7) this flange engages with the side n' of the central portion of the spring or clasp. When this lever B' is raised, the flange b' is removed from that side n' of the clasp which is before engaged. When the levers are opened or moved away from the spring, the recesses a a' are open, as shown in Fig. 6. The sides of the ends of the spring to which the levers B B' are pivoted are preferably provided with flanges b^2 , which flanges will respectively conceal the levers B B' when the latter are closed down upon the spring. The fulcrums of the levers B B' may be supported in any suitable manner and by any suitable means. A convenient mode of supporting them is to connect them, as shown, to flanges b^2 . Thus these flanges will then perform the double function of supporting the fulcrums of the levers, and also conceal the latter when closed down on the spring.

The mode in which my invention operates is as follows: The levers B B' first, by having been opened out, (see Figs. 3 and 6,) one edge of the cuff or similar article—as a collar—to be clasped is inserted, and the other edge of the cuff or collar is inserted in recess a' in the recesses a . Where two articles are to be connected together, the edge of one article is inserted in recess a and the edge of the other article in recess a' . The levers B B' are now closed down and the article or articles are thus clamped between the ends of flanges b b' on the levers and the opposite sides of the recesses—viz., sides n n' , respectively—as shown in Figs. 2, 4, and 7.

If desired, the ends of the flanges b b' may be provided with teeth or serrations, which will prevent any tendency the article may have to come or slip out of the recesses.

When the clasp is to be used as a fastener for cuffs or similar articles, a top, C, of any desired pattern, is preferably secured to one of the levers B or B', and when connected to the cuff it will present the appearance of an ordinary cuff-button.

By the above construction the clasp may be connected to the ends of the cuff without passing through any button-holes or other open-

ings in the cuff, and yet the cuff will be firmly held.

When the clasp is to be employed for fastening articles of clothing other than cuffs, the top C may, if desired, be omitted. When the top C is present, it may be secured to the lever B or B' in any suitable manner. This top C may be a button or hook, (see Fig. 8,) to which an article of clothing, &c., may be connected, the clasp in the meanwhile holding a cuff, collar, or other article or articles of clothing. (See Fig. 8.)

What I claim as new and of my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

1. A clothing-clasp consisting of a double-curved or S-spring, forming two recesses opening in opposite directions, and clamp-levers having fulera connected to the reverse ends of said spring, near the openings of said recesses, the pivoted ends of said levers being formed to engage those portions of said spring which are opposite to its ends, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. The S-spring A, forming the recesses *a a'*, in combination with the levers B B', having pivots or fulera connected to the ends of said spring, near the openings of said recesses, each

of the levers being provided with flanges *b*, adapted to oppose the side of the recess which is opposite to the end of the spring to which the lever is pivoted, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. The S-spring A, forming the recess *a a'*, and consisting of the portions A and side flanges, *b²*, in combination with the levers B B', having pivots or fulera connected to the ends of the flanges near the openings of said recess, each of the levers being provided with flanges *b*, adapted to oppose the side of the recess which is opposite to the end of the spring to which the lever is pivoted, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

4. The herein-described cuff and clothing clasp, consisting of an S-spring, A, forming recesses *a a'*, and the clamp-levers B B', formed substantially as described and pivoted to the ends of the spring near the openings of said recesses, a top, C, being secured to one of said levers, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

JOSEPH F. BEDFORD.

Witnesses:

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