

(No Model.)

W. F. GILBERT.

FASTENING FOR CORSET CLASPS.

No. 287,660.

Patented Oct. 30, 1883.

Fig 1

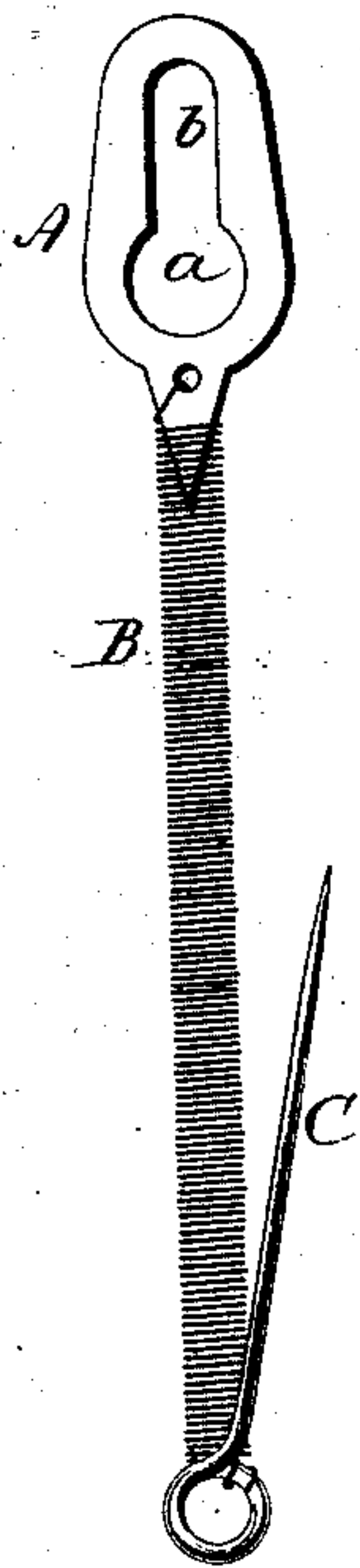


Fig 2

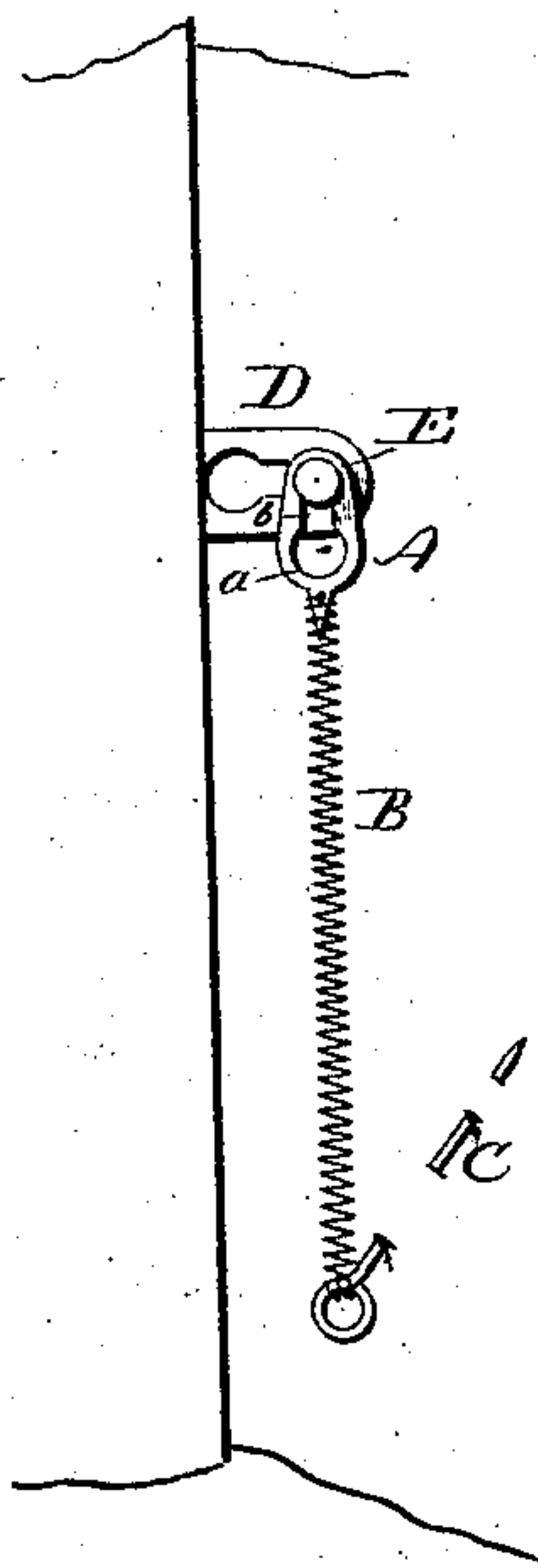
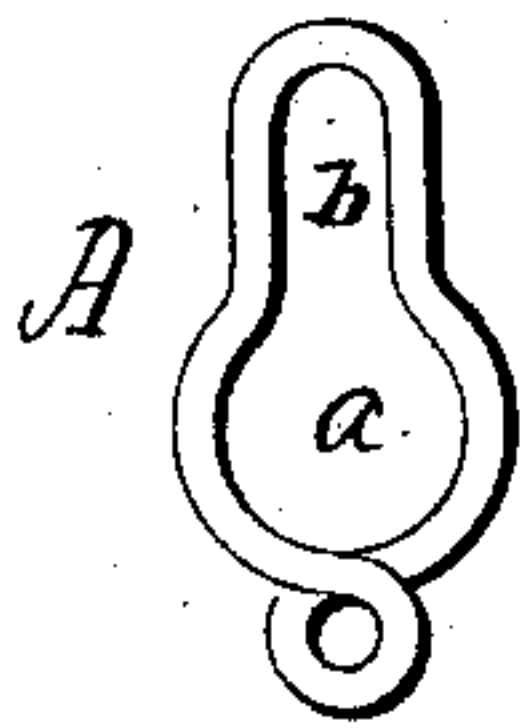


Fig. 3



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## FASTENING FOR CORSET-CLASPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 287,660, dated October 20, 1883.

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

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. GILBERT, of Derby, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Fastenings for Corset-Clasps; 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 front view enlarged; Fig. 2, the fastening as applied to the corset; Fig. 3, a modification of the eye-piece enlarged.

This invention relates to a device for locking the clasps of corsets.

Various devices have been applied and constructions made upon the parts of a corset-clasp designed to prevent the accidental disengagement of the clasps when secured around the person; but generally these are too complicated or expensive for general use. The clasp, to be effective and practical, must be one which is readily understood without explanation, and it is also desirable that it should be made without change of the common and well-known eye and stud.

The object of my invention is to produce such a securing device; and it consists in an eye-piece having a hole through it corresponding to, and so as to pass on over the head of, the stud, with a narrower slot opening therefrom, combined with a connection with the corset independent of the clasps, and whereby the said eye-piece may be hooked on over the stud after the corset is clasped, and so as to hold the eye-piece in such engaged position, and thereby prevent the eye of the clasp from passing off from the stud, as more fully hereinafter described.

A represents the eye-piece, which is best made from sheet metal. In this eye-piece a hole, *a*, is made, so as to pass on over the head of the stud on the one busk, with a slot, *b*, opening therefrom, but narrower than the diameter of the hole *a*, or corresponding substantially to the body of the stud. To this eye-piece a connection, B, (here represented as a helical wire spring,) is attached by one end, and to the other end a pin, C, is attached.

This fastening is applied as seen in Fig. 2.

The pin C is stuck into the corset at a distance from the clasp to be secured little greater than the length of the spring. Then, after the eye D of the one busk has been placed over the stud E of the other busk, the eye-piece A is passed on over the stud, the spring B being extended in so doing. Then the reaction of the spring draws the eye-piece onto the stud bringing the slot *b* onto the body of the stud and beneath the head, and when so engaged the eye D cannot escape from the stud, no matter to what extent it may work or play thereon, until the person removes the eye-piece A, which is done by simply drawing the eye-piece into a position to bring the hole *a* directly beneath the head and then draw it off from the head.

By making this fastening device with a pin, C, and spring B attached the fastening constitutes an article independent of the corset, and which may be applied to any corset having a common stud-clasping device; but instead of making the fastening device as this detached article, the end of the spring opposite that to which the eye is attached may be secured to the corset by stitching or otherwise, taking care, however, that it be at a distance from the stud little more than the spring, and so that the spring must be extended to pass the eye-piece on over the stud. Then the reaction of the spring will draw it onto the stud.

The spring B may be india-rubber, wire, or any suitable spring. While I prefer the spring-connection, it may be a flexible connection—as, for instance, a light metal chain or cord. I therefore do not wish to limit the invention to an elastic connection.

Instead of making the eye-piece of sheet metal, it may be made from wire, as seen in Fig. 3, bent into the required shape.

I claim—

1. The herein-described fastening for the clasps of corsets, consisting of the eye-piece A, constructed with an opening to pass on over the head on the stud, and with a narrower slot extending therefrom, combined with a connection, B, to one end of which the eye-piece is connected, the other end secured to the corset, substantially as described.

2. The herein-described fastening for the



clasps of corsets, consisting of the eye-piece A, constructed with an opening to pass on over the head on the stud, and with a narrower slot extending therefrom, combined with a  
5 spring-connection, B, to one end of which the eye-piece is connected, the other end secured to the corset, substantially as described.

3. The eye-piece A, constructed with an opening, *a*, and a slot, *b*, therefrom, combined  
10 with a connection, to one end of which the eye-piece is attached, and with a pin, C, attached to the opposite end, substantially as described.

4. The eye-piece A, constructed with an opening, *a*, and a slot, *b*, therefrom, combined 15 with a spring-connection, to one end of which the eye-piece is attached, and with a pin, C, attached to the opposite end, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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