

(No Model.)

M. P. BRAY.
GARMENT CLASP.

No. 299,725.

Patented June 3, 1884.

Fig. 1

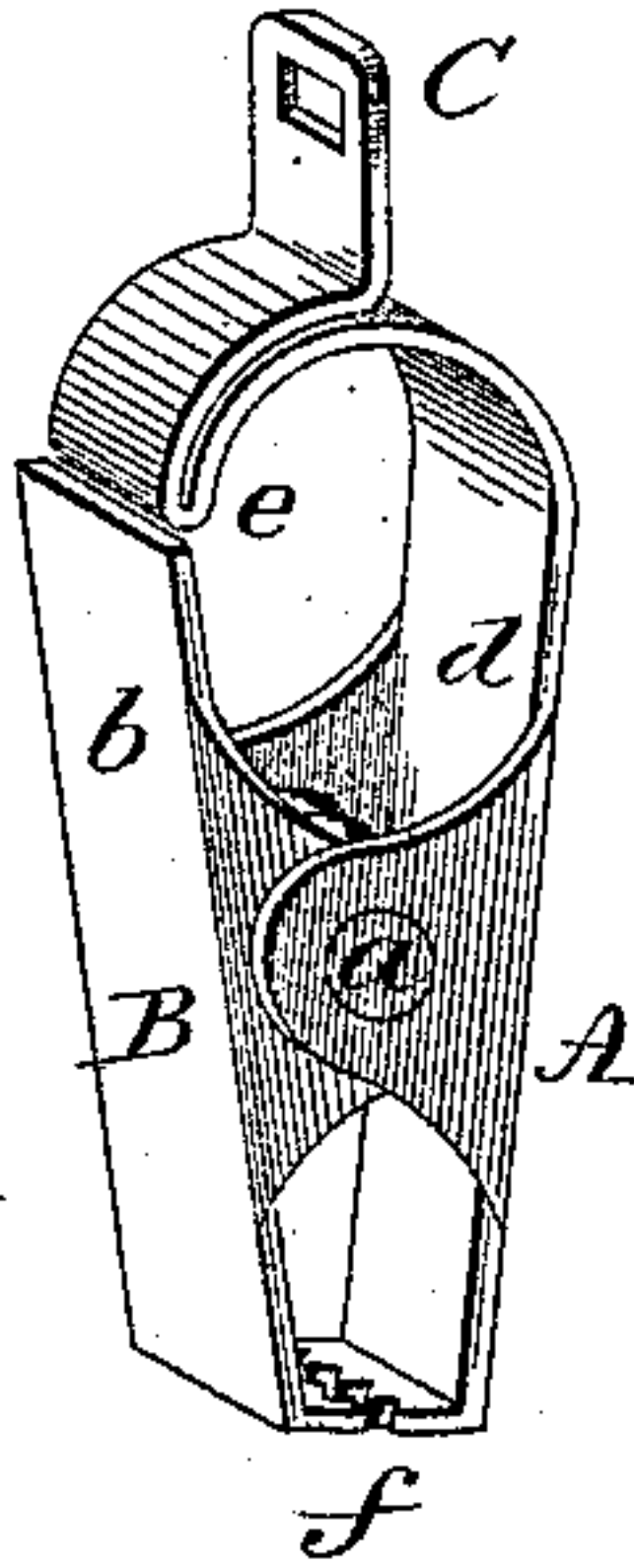


Fig. 2

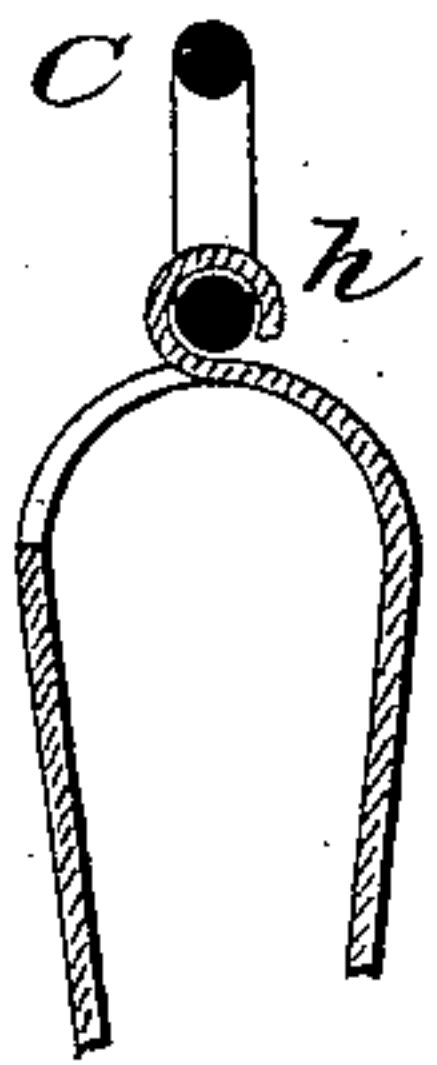
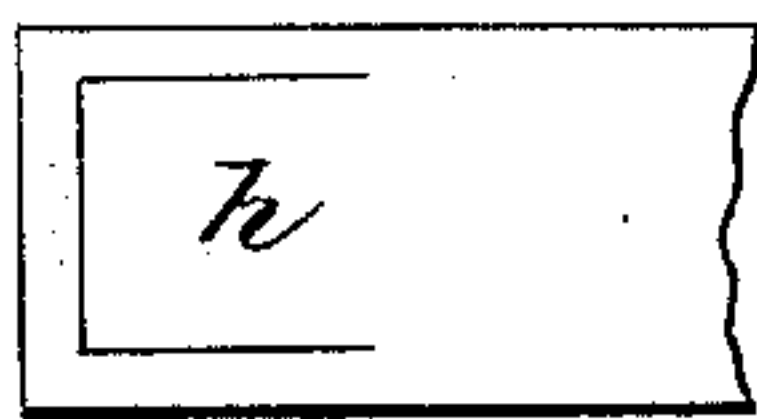


Fig. 3



Witnesses:
John H. Murray
John C. Earle

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Inventor.
By Atty.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORRIS P. BRAY, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO THE ELM CITY SUSPENDER CO., OF SAME PLACE.

GARMENT-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 299,725, dated June 3, 1884.

Application filed March 3, 1884. (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 Garment-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 perspective view of the clasp complete; Fig. 2, a vertical section of modification; Fig. 3, a plan view of the extension, showing the method of producing the modification.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of clasps which are used for stocking and like supporters, and which consist of a pair of jaws hinged together, one of the jaws extending above the hinge-pivot, and provided with a loop by which the strap is attached, the other jaw also extending above the pivot, so that the two extensions of the jaws serve as handles by which the jaws may be opened and a spring applied to force the jaws into their clasping position when free, the object of the invention being to cover or close the space between the tails or handles of the jaws to prevent catching upon the garments; and the invention consists in the construction as hereinafter fully described, and more particularly recited in the claims.

A represents one jaw, and B the other, the two hinged together, as at *a*. The one jaw, B, is provided with an extension, *b*, above the pivot. The other jaw, A, is also extended above the pivot to form a corresponding tail or handle, *d*, but is further extended and curved over toward the tail of the other jaw, and so as to come into the same plane as that second jaw, and so that that jaw will be substantially a tangent from the extreme end of the jaw A. To form the loop C, by which the clasp is to be attached, I further extend the jaw A and turn it back upon itself, so as to form the end *e*, this turned-back portion extending to the vertical center, and there turned upward in a vertical central line, the extreme end having the loop formed therein, as seen in Fig. 1. This construction doubles the end *e* of the jaw, giving

a neat rounded edge as well as strengthening the clasp at that point.

The meeting ends of the two jaws, as at *f*, are constructed in the usual manner. By this construction the second jaw, B, is made straight and flat throughout, its upper end, fully and completely protected by the extension from the jaw A, turned over and downward toward and into substantially the same plane as the jaw B, so that the upper or otherwise open end of the clasp is completely closed, and any possible interference with the garments is avoided. Again, because of the projection or extension of the jaw A into the same plane with the jaw B, that extension serves as a guard to prevent an accidental opening of the jaws, for in any ordinary use whatever might strike the tail of the jaw B, tending to open it, would also strike the projecting end of the jaw A.

Instead of doubling the extension of the jaw A back upon itself, so as to form the loop, jaw, and its extension complete in one piece, the extension of the jaw may have a tongue; *h*, cut from it, as seen in Fig. 3, and a wire loop, C, placed thereon, the tongue *h* turned over around one bar of the loop, as seen in Fig. 2. This brings the loop into the same vertical central plane as in the first instance, and leaves the projecting end of the one jaw turned over into the plane of the other jaw.

I do not wish to be understood as claiming, broadly, the formation of the tail end of the jaws, so as to protect the space between the tails to prevent catching the garments, as I am aware that this has been done in various constructions; but I am not aware that this protection has been produced by one jaw alone, its end being turned over and downward to substantially meet or stand in the same plane with the tail end of the other jaw, which is the gist of my invention.

I claim—

1. The herein-described garment-clasp consisting of the jaws A B, hinged together, provided with a spring between them tending to force the jaws together, the one jaw, B, extended above the pivot to form the flat tail *b*, the other jaw extended above the pivot to form the tail *d*, its upper end bent over and downward toward the jaw B in semicircular shape,

its extreme end substantially meeting or in the same plane with the tail of the jaw B, the semicircular bend provided with a loop, C, at the center and in the vertical central plane, 5 substantially as described.

2. The herein-described garment-clasp, consisting of the jaws A B, hinged together, provided with a spring between them tending to force the jaws together, the one jaw, B, extended above the pivot to form the flat tail *b*, 10 the other jaw extended above the pivot to form the tail *d*, and bent over and downward

semicircular shape to substantially meet and stand in the same plane with the jaw B, the extension turned back upon itself to double 15 the end of the extension, the extreme end of the extension turned up into a vertical central plane, and provided with a loop, substantially as described.

MORRIS P. BRAY.

Witnesses:

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J. H. SHUMWAY.