

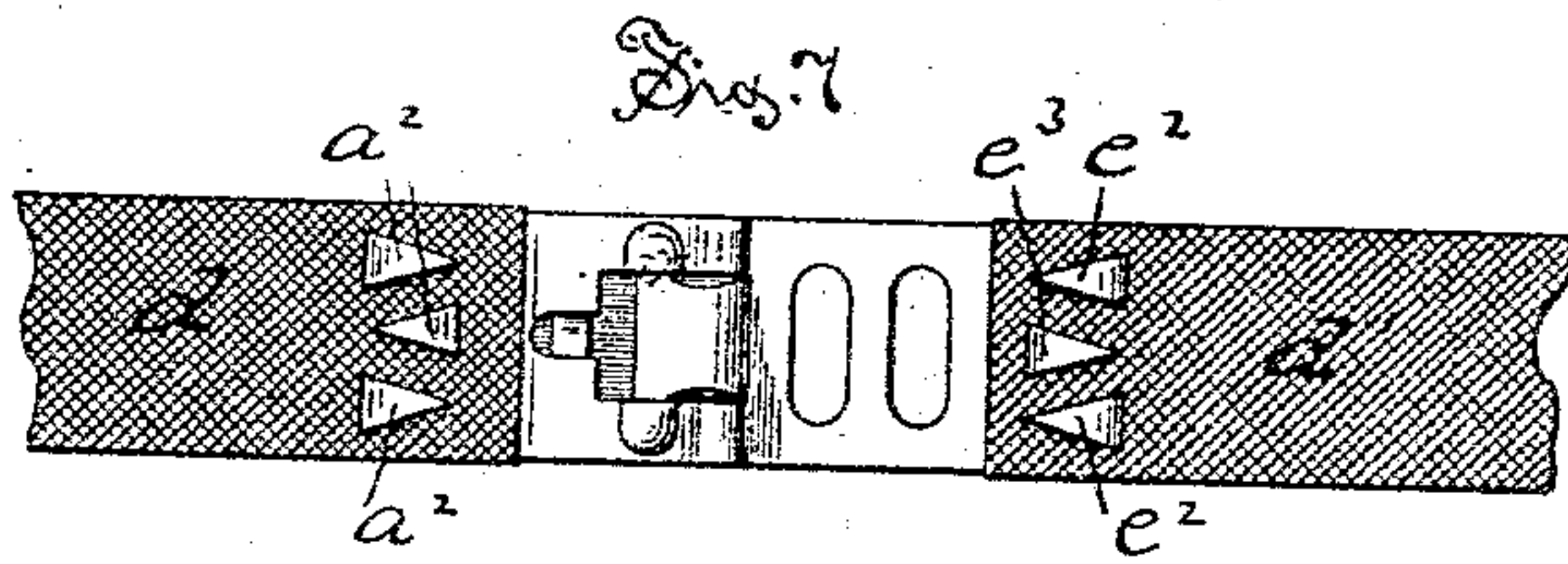
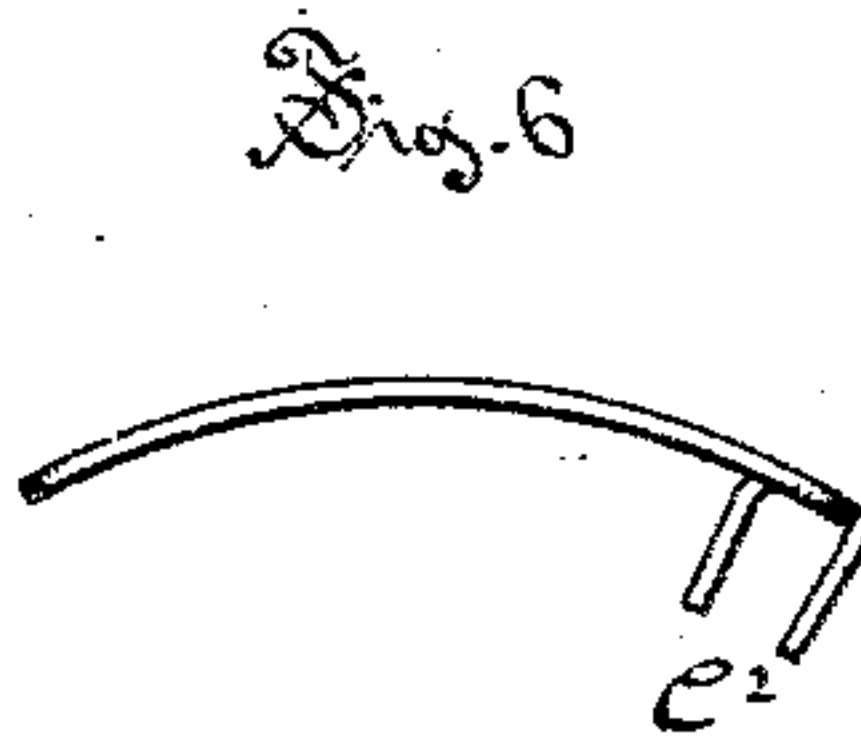
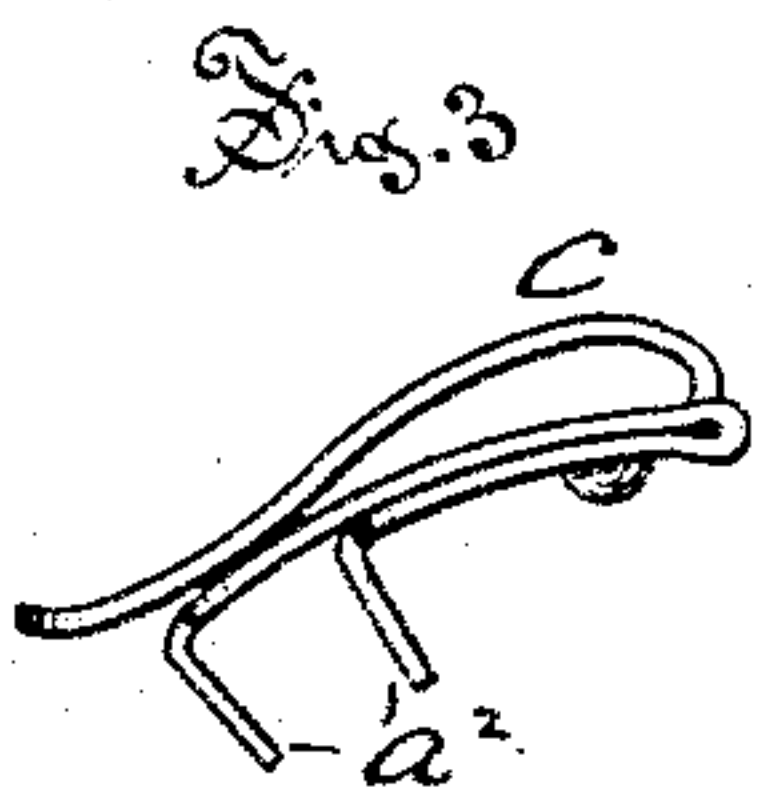
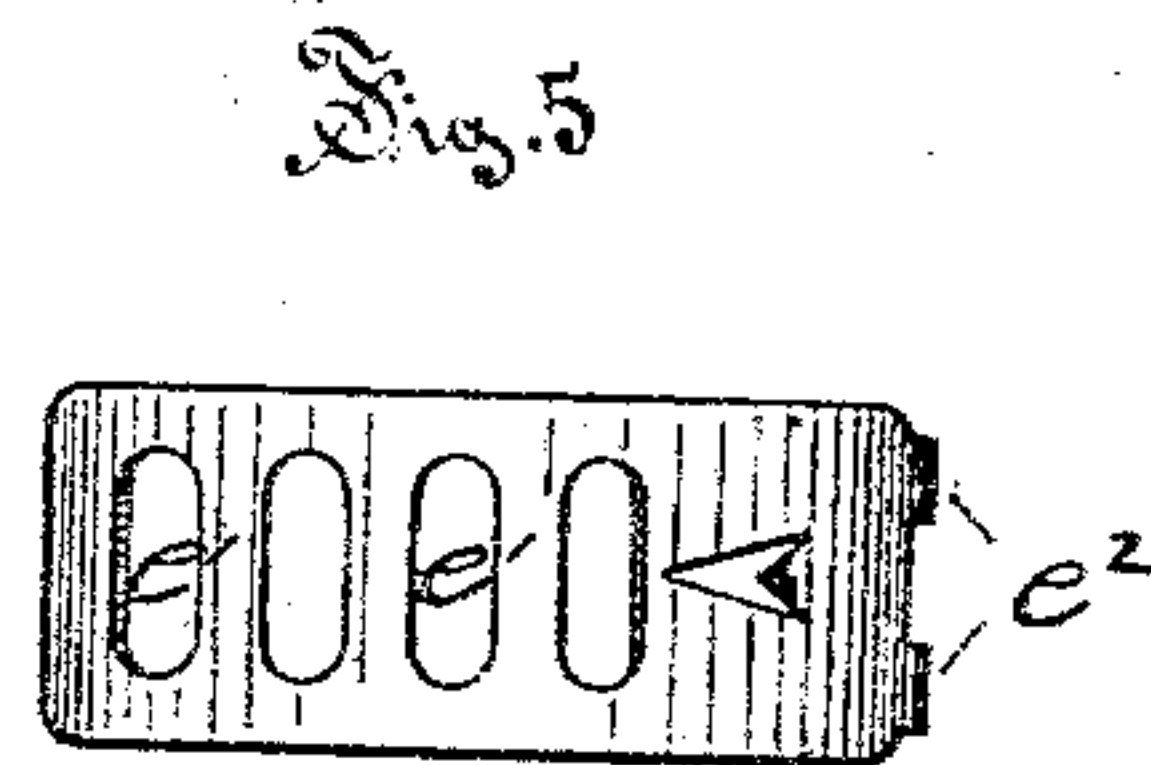
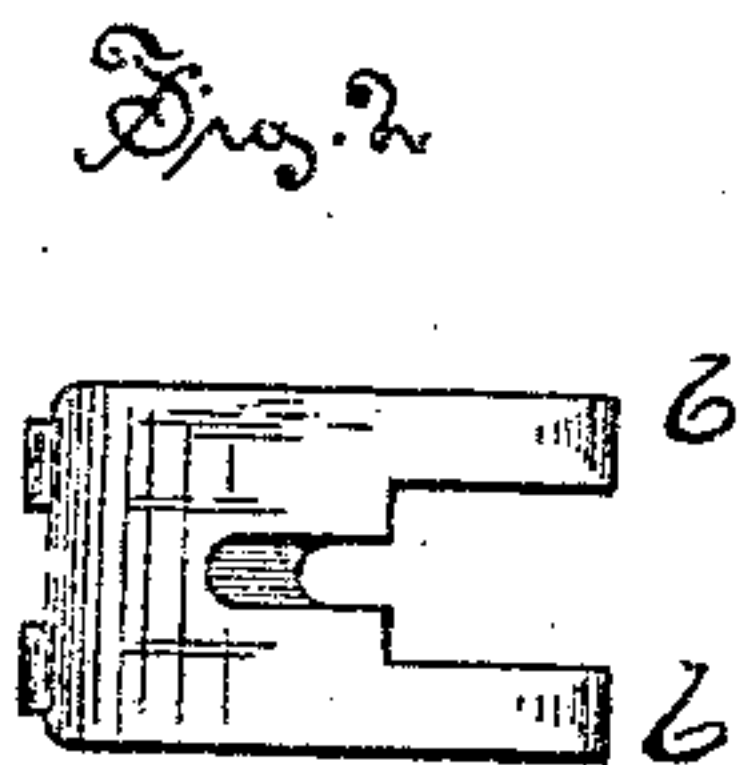
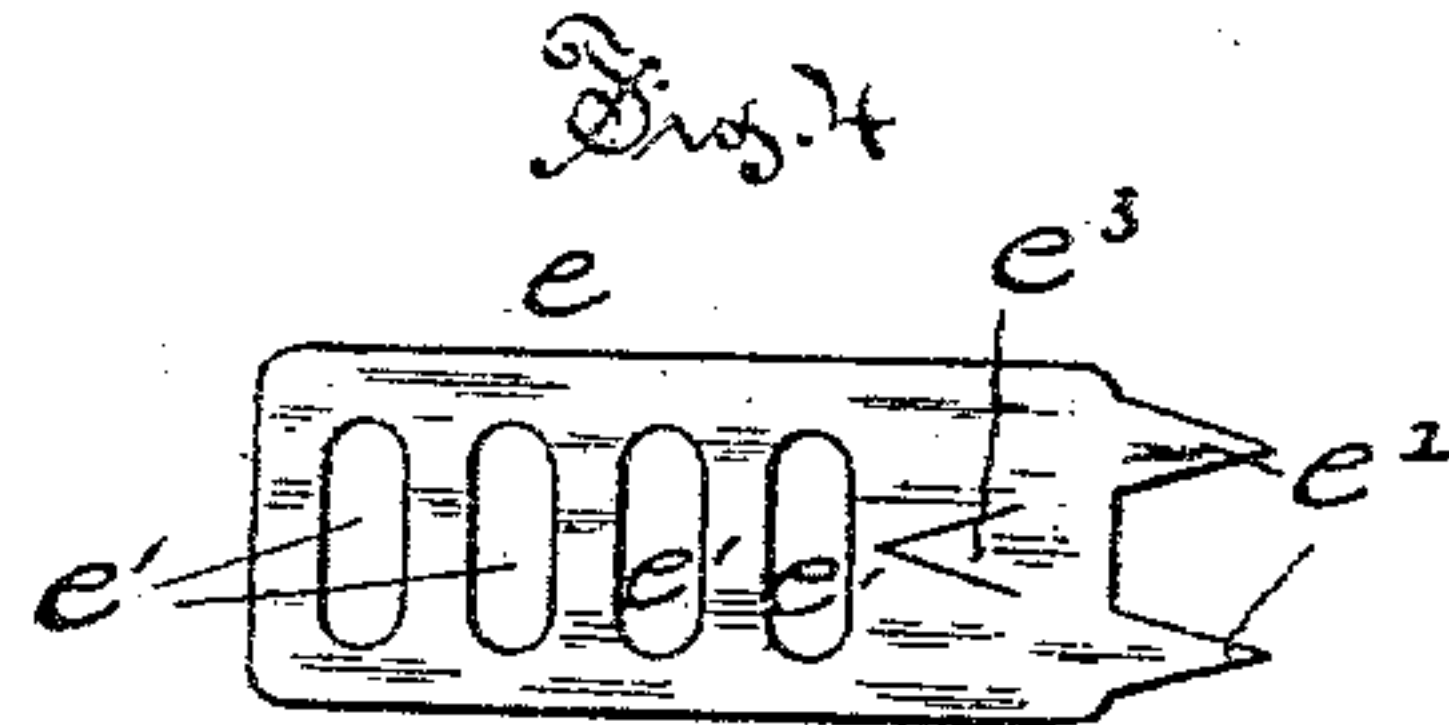
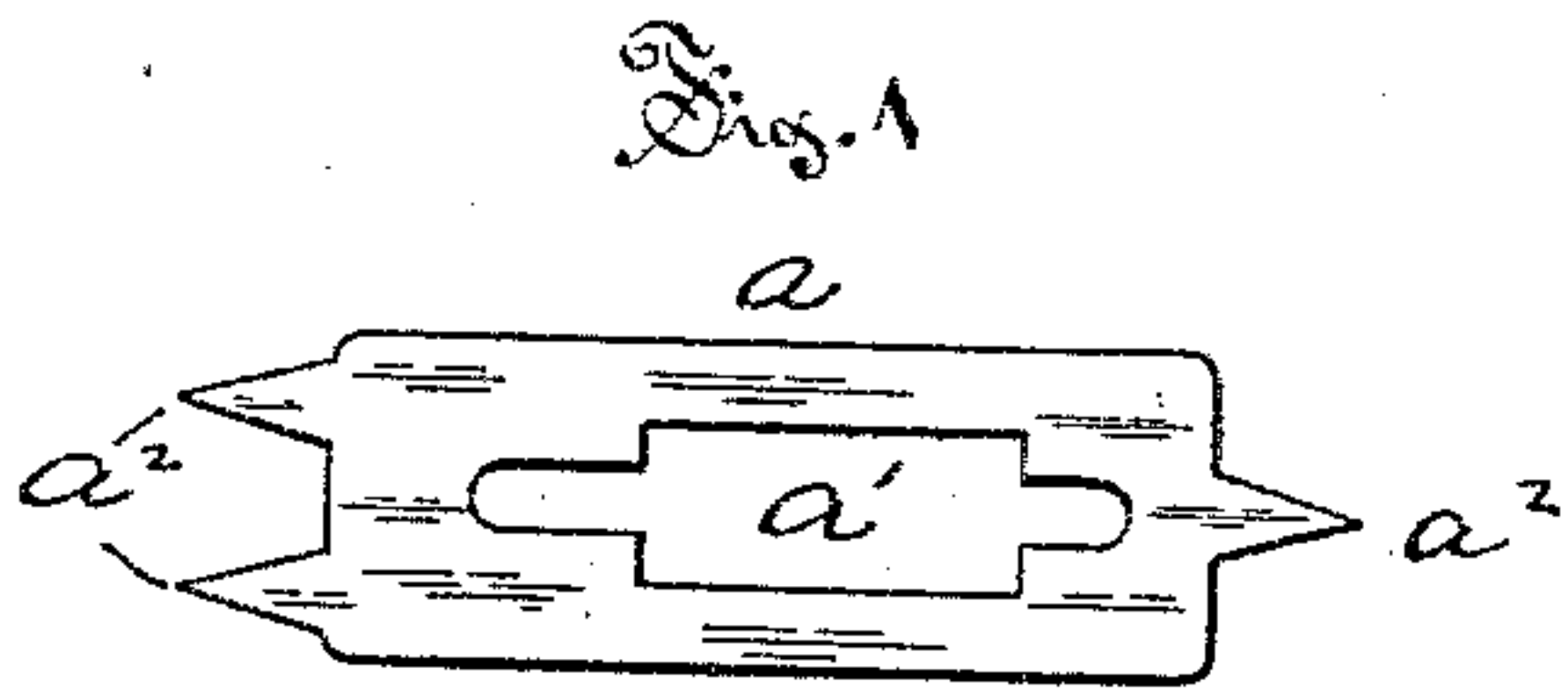
(No Model.)

J. C. HAMMOND, Jr.

SHOE CLASP.

No. 321,495.

Patented July 7, 1885.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH C. HAMMOND, JR., OF ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT.

## SHOE-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 321,495, dated July 7, 1885.

Application filed April 27, 1885. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH C. HAMMOND, Jr., of Rockville, in the county of Tolland and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Clasps, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, where—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved tongue-plate blank ready for bending to final shape. Fig. 2 is a top view of the tongue-plate folded to grasp the tongue, which is omitted, however, in this view. Fig. 3 is a side view of the tongue-plate with tongue in place. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the catch-plate blank. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the catch-plate blank with the fastening-spurs bent down. Fig. 6 is a side view of the catch-plate shown in Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a bottom view of the clasp with the tongue and catch-plate engaged, showing the relative position of the spurs and the manner of securing the plates to the straps.

My invention relates to the class of buckles and clasps commonly used on articles of wearing-apparel, and it is particularly intended to apply to those clasps used on overshoes of the class known as "arctics."

This invention consists in an improved shoe-clasp, the tongue-plate and catch-plate of which are made of metal, each plate having a plural number of integral points or spurs particularly arranged and adapted for fastening the respective pieces to the straps or like parts of the article bearing the clasp.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter *a* denotes a tongue-plate blank, which is preferably stamped or cut from a sheet of thin metal, and is oblong in outline, with a central opening, *a'*, and has on the opposite ends of the blank the projecting points or spurs *a''*. These spurs are preferably arranged with their broadest part lying widthwise across the plane of the plate. This blank, in the process of making the clasp, is next doubled back upon itself in such manner as to form on the front part of the doubled plate the projecting arms *b*, between which the tongue swings. This tongue *c* is pivotally connected to the plate, preferably by folding the plate upon the pivot or trunnions common to the tongue, and holding the latter, when closed, in the position il-

lustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawings. The central opening, *a'*, in the blank is contracted at each end, substantially as shown, for the purpose of giving to the arms on the front part of the plate when it is folded about the same degree of elasticity, to strengthen them at their junction with the plate and to lighten the structure.

The projections or spurs *a''* on the blank are bent downward into a position substantially at right angles to the plane of the plate, and when the latter is doubled to the form shown in Figs. 2 and 3 the spurs stand with a greater or less distance between them lengthwise of the plate, as shown in Fig. 3. This peculiar arrangement of the spurs or fastening-points at each end of the blank, and the manner of folding the plate so that they are brought quite near each other on the under side of it, enables them to serve not only as a means for attaching the plate to the shoe, but also for holding the two parts of the folded blank firmly closed upon each other. This insures the thorough closing of the pivot-socket and holds the tongue against displacement. In order to fasten this portion of the clasp—that is, the tongue-plate—to any article, as to the strap *d*, the spurs *a''* are pushed through the fabric of the strap and are then bent downward toward each other, as illustrated in Fig. 7, and are clinched flatwise upon the under side of the fabric. The points of the spurs in clinching are turned slightly downward, and when lying with their broadest portion across the strap, and being arranged with an interval or space between them, hold in the strap very firmly, with no chance of tearing the fabric or of catching in any fabric against which they may lie.

The catch-plate blank *e* illustrated in Fig. 4 is cut from a sheet of metal in like manner as the tongue-plate blank, and has the transverse opening *e'* for the passage of the tongue of the clasp, and also bears upon one end projecting spurs *e''*, and, cut through the body of the plate near this end, a single spur, *e'''*. These spurs are bent downward at substantially right angles to the plate when the latter is curved to the form in which it is ordinarily used, and illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, and these spurs are used to fasten the catch-plate to the strap or fabric *d'* in a similar manner, as al-



ready explained, of attaching the tongue-plate to the like strap.

I am aware that buckles and like articles have been made which have projecting spurs or parts adapted for securing the said articles to articles of wearing-apparel, and such I do not, broadly, claim.

I claim as my improvement—

1. The improved tongue-blank formed of thin metal, with a central opening contracted at each end, and the sharpened integral projections or spurs on each end of the blank, which lie with their broadest part widthwise of the plate, all substantially as described.

2. In a shoe-clasp, the tongue-plate formed of a single piece of metal folded back upon itself, with the projecting tongue-holding arms between which the tongue is pivoted, and with the respective ends of the plate bearing the

integral spurs broadened at the base and lying widthwise across the plane of the plate, in combination with the tongue pivoted to said plate, all substantially as described.

3. In a shoe-clasp, in combination with a tongue with its pivot held between the folded parts of the tongue-plate, the tongue-plate formed of a single piece of metal folded upon itself, with the projecting tongue-holding arms, between which the tongue is located, and with the respective ends of the plate bearing the integral spurs, whereby the plate is firmly attached to any article and its parts closed upon the tongue-point, all operating substantially as shown and described.

JOSEPH C. HAMMOND, JR.

Witnesses:

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