

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

T. O. POTTER.
SUSPENDER CLASP.

No. 353,813.

Patented Dec. 7, 1886.

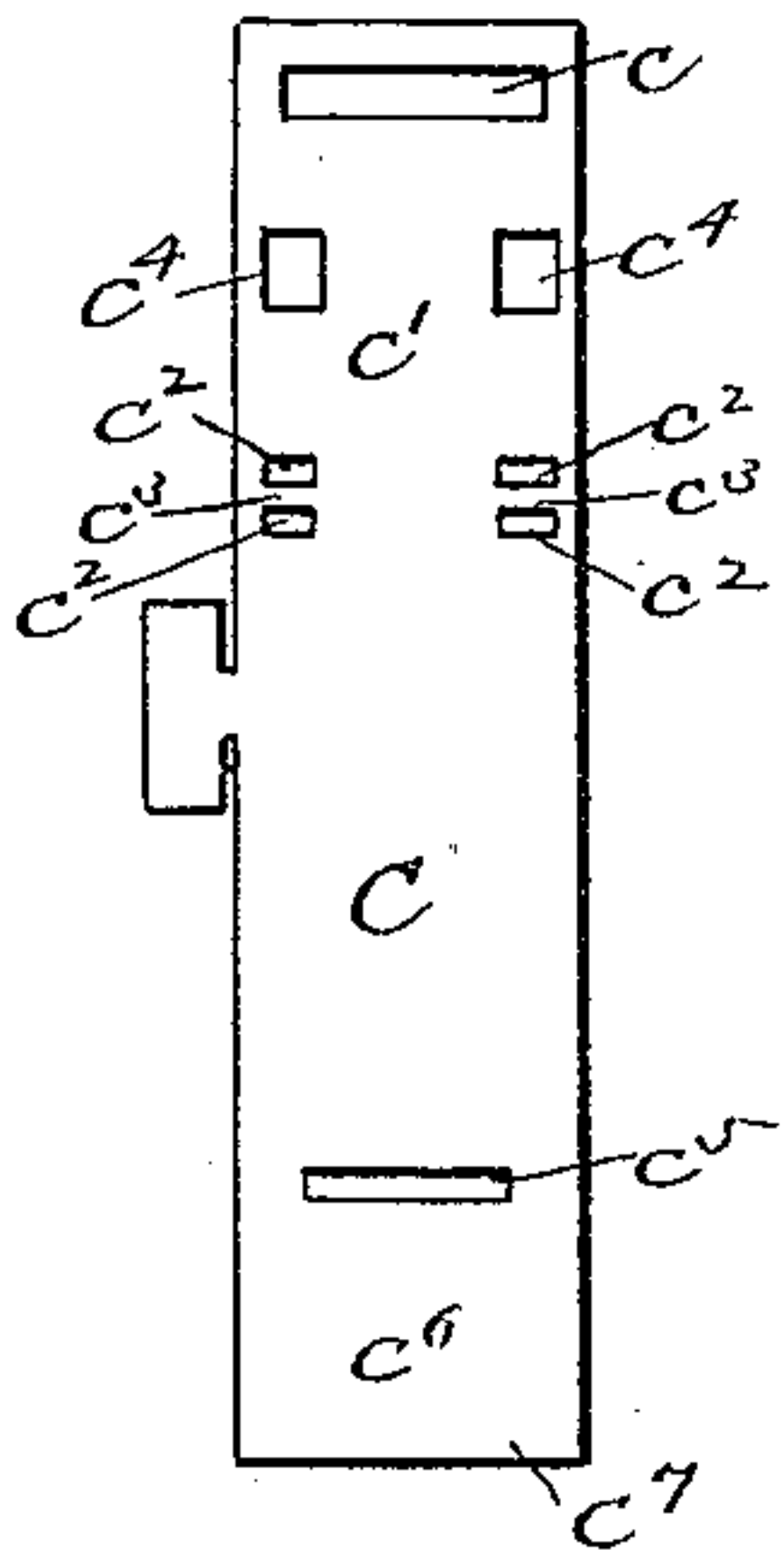


Fig. 1.

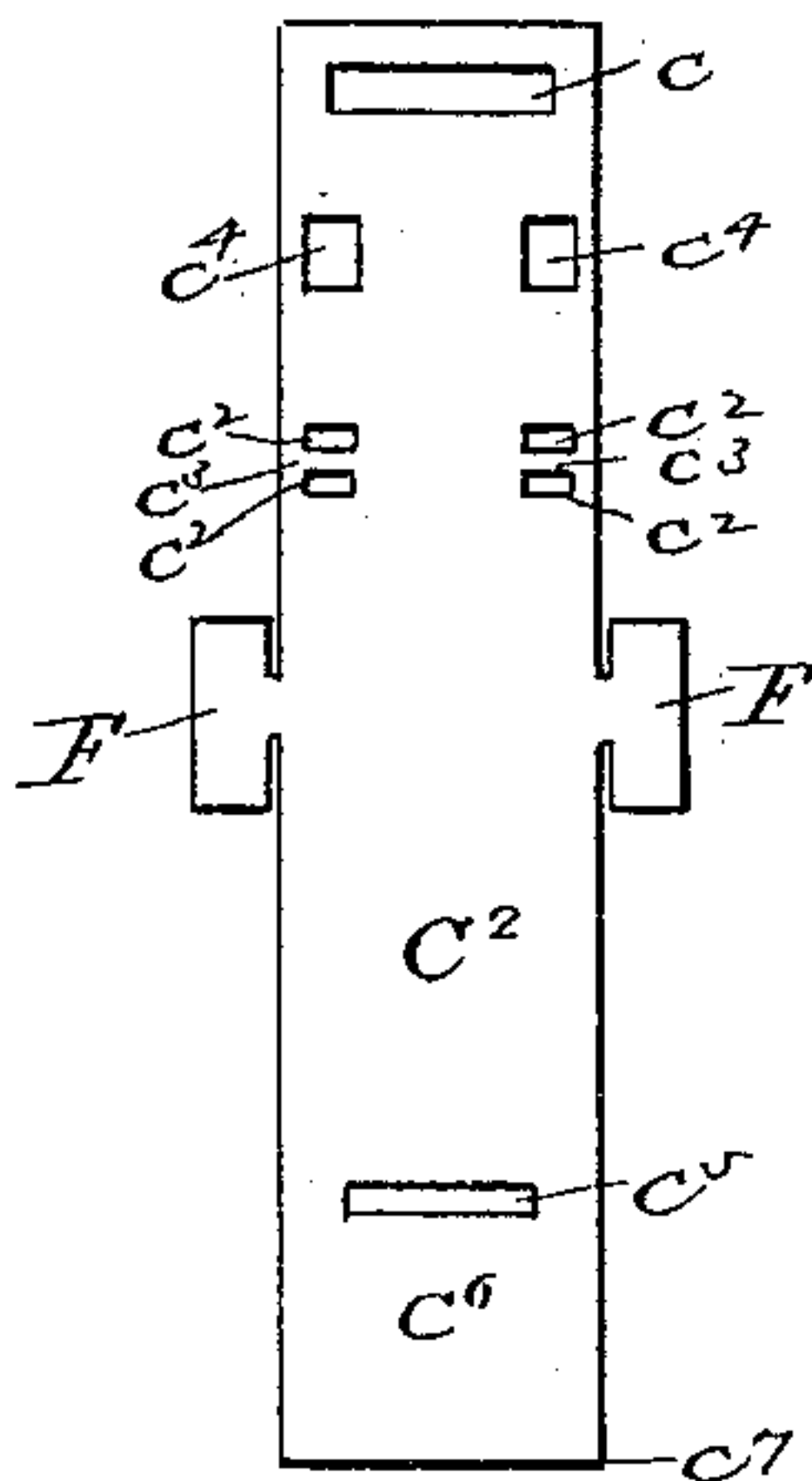


Fig. 2.

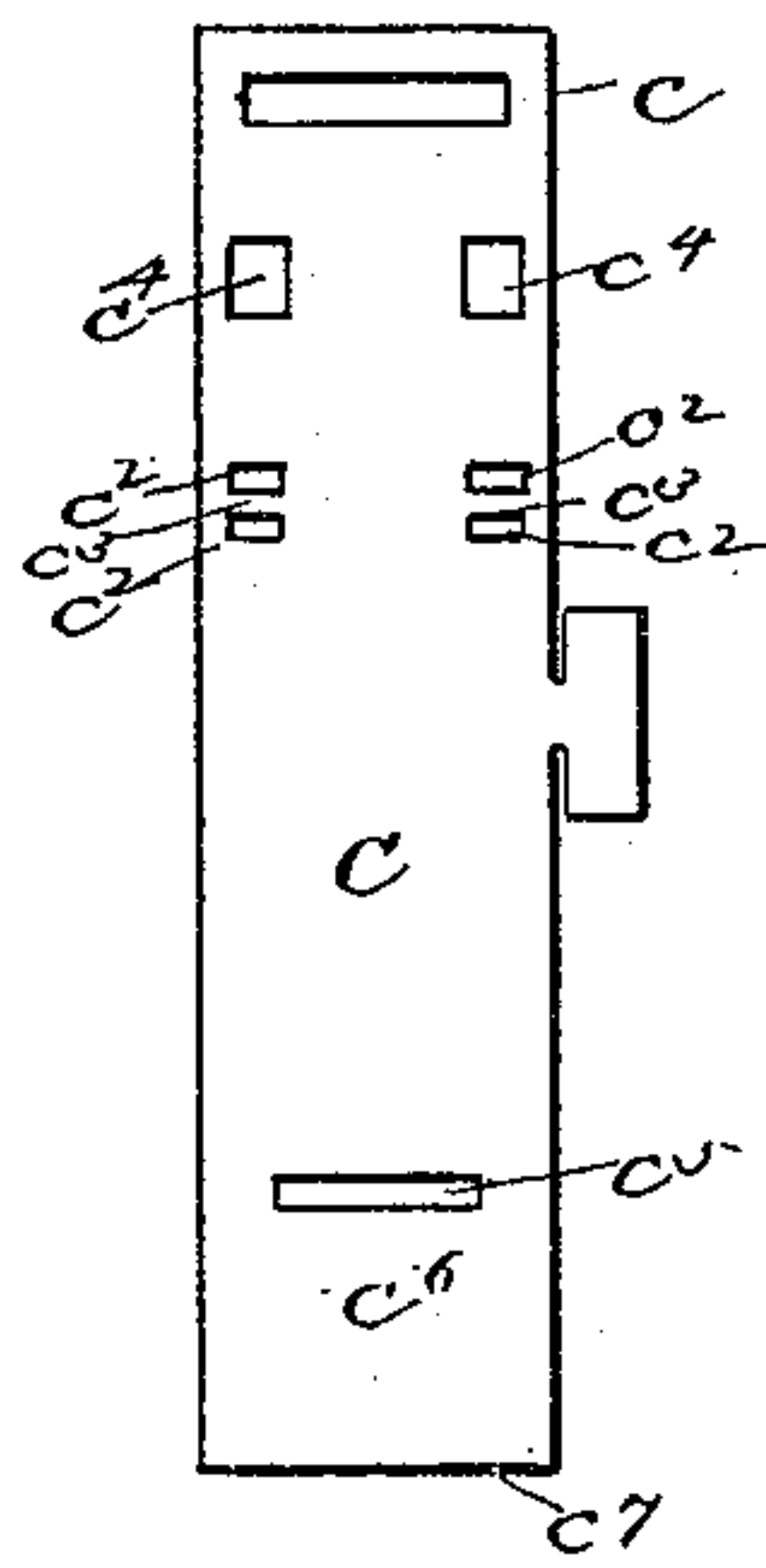


Fig. 3.

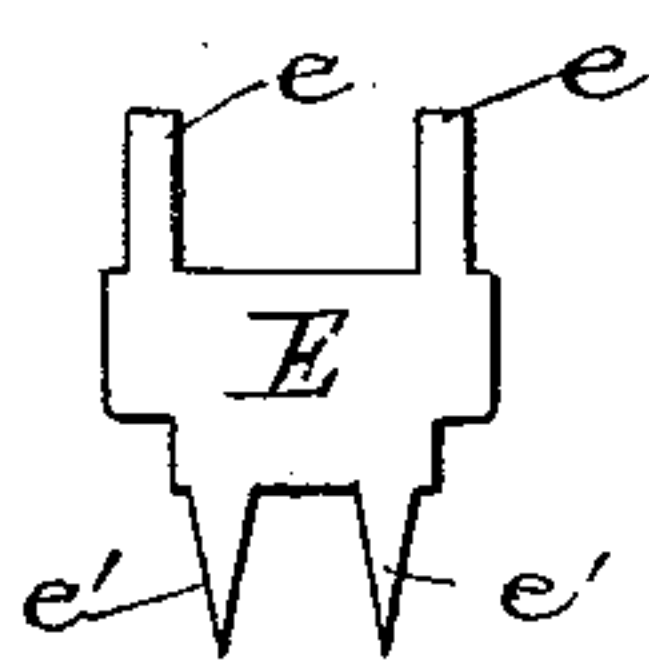


Fig. 4.

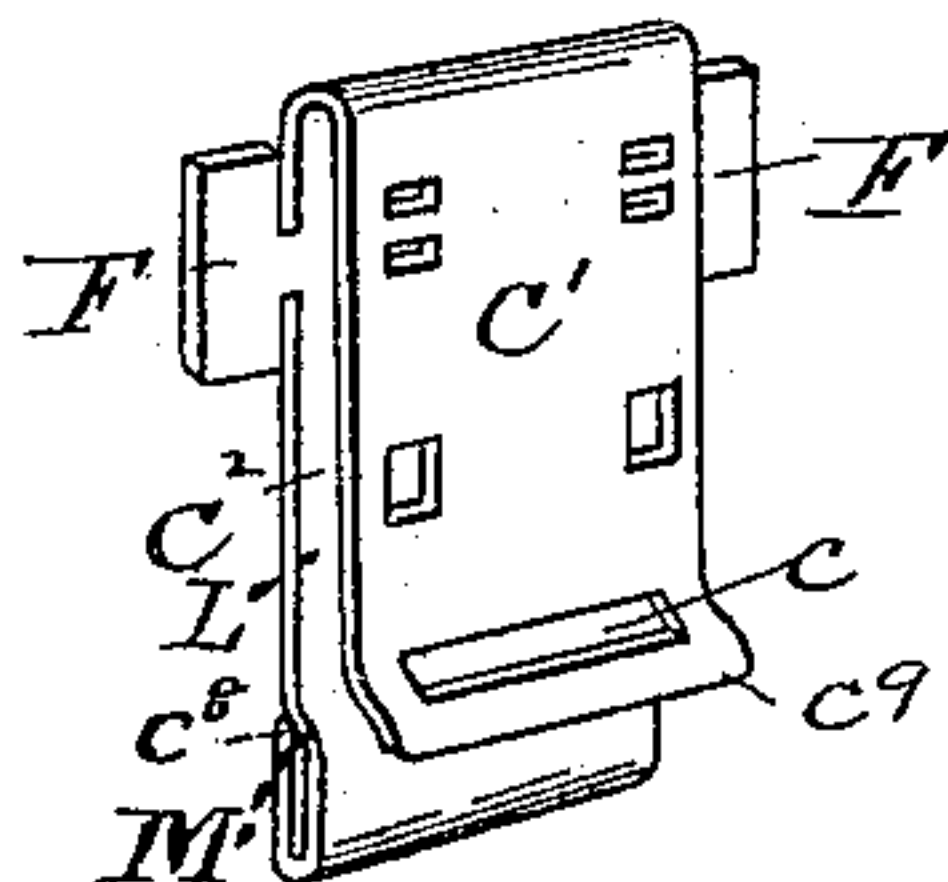


Fig. 5.

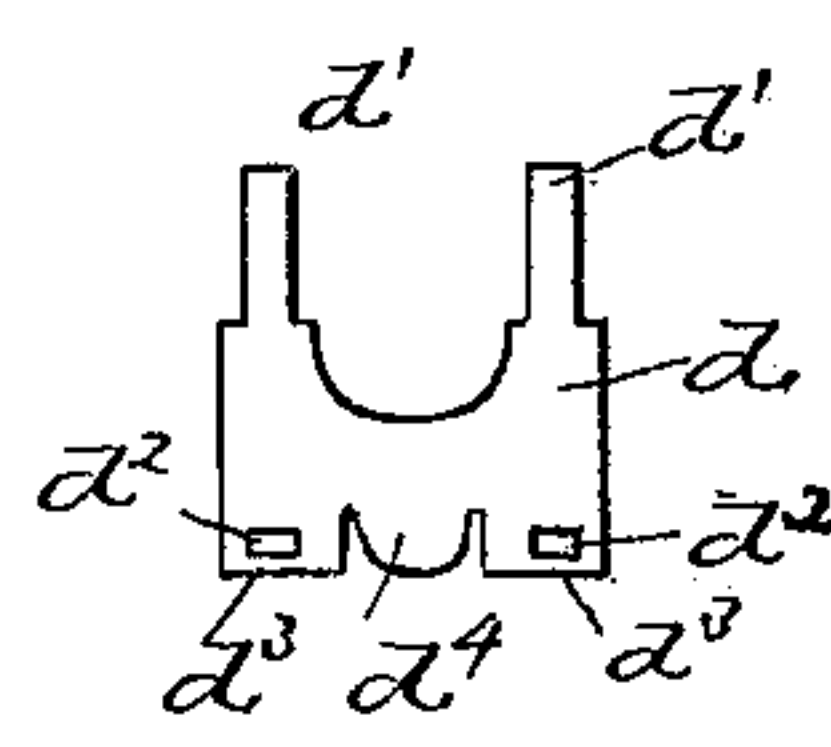


Fig. 6.

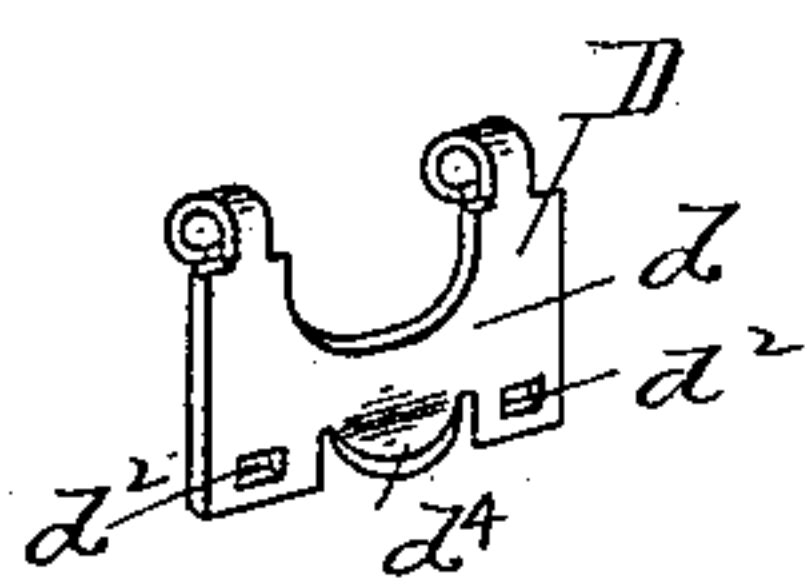


Fig. 7.

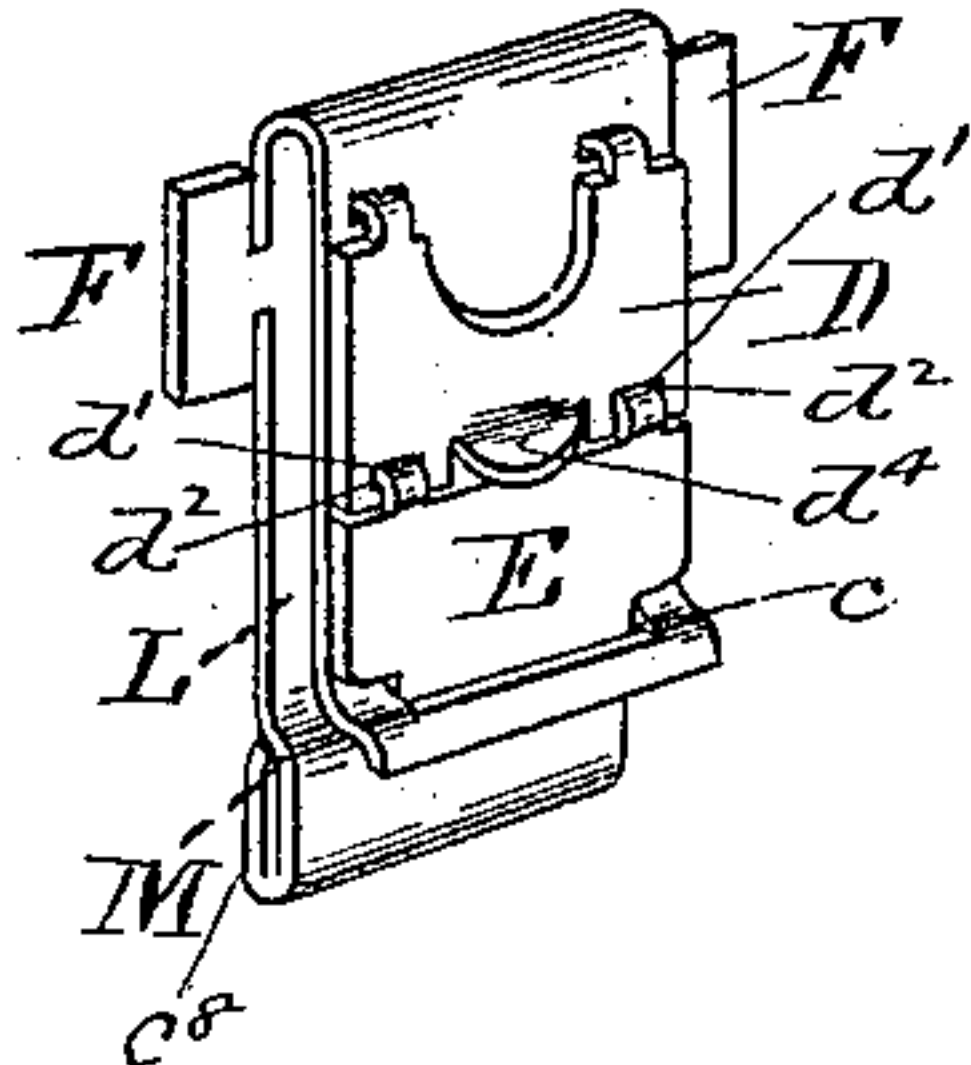


Fig. 8.

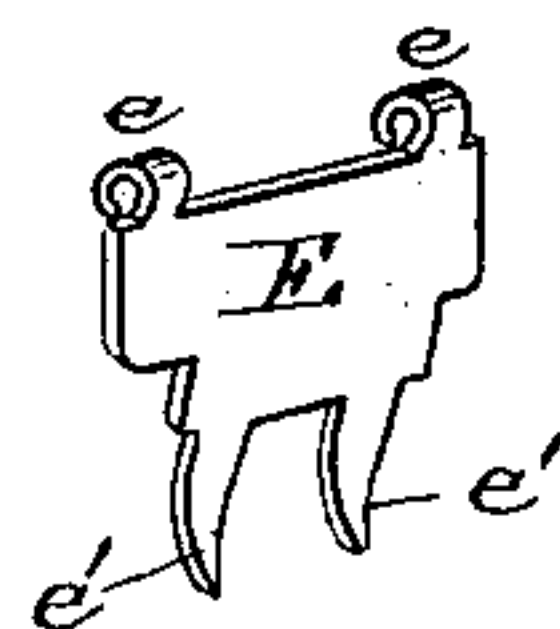


Fig. 9.

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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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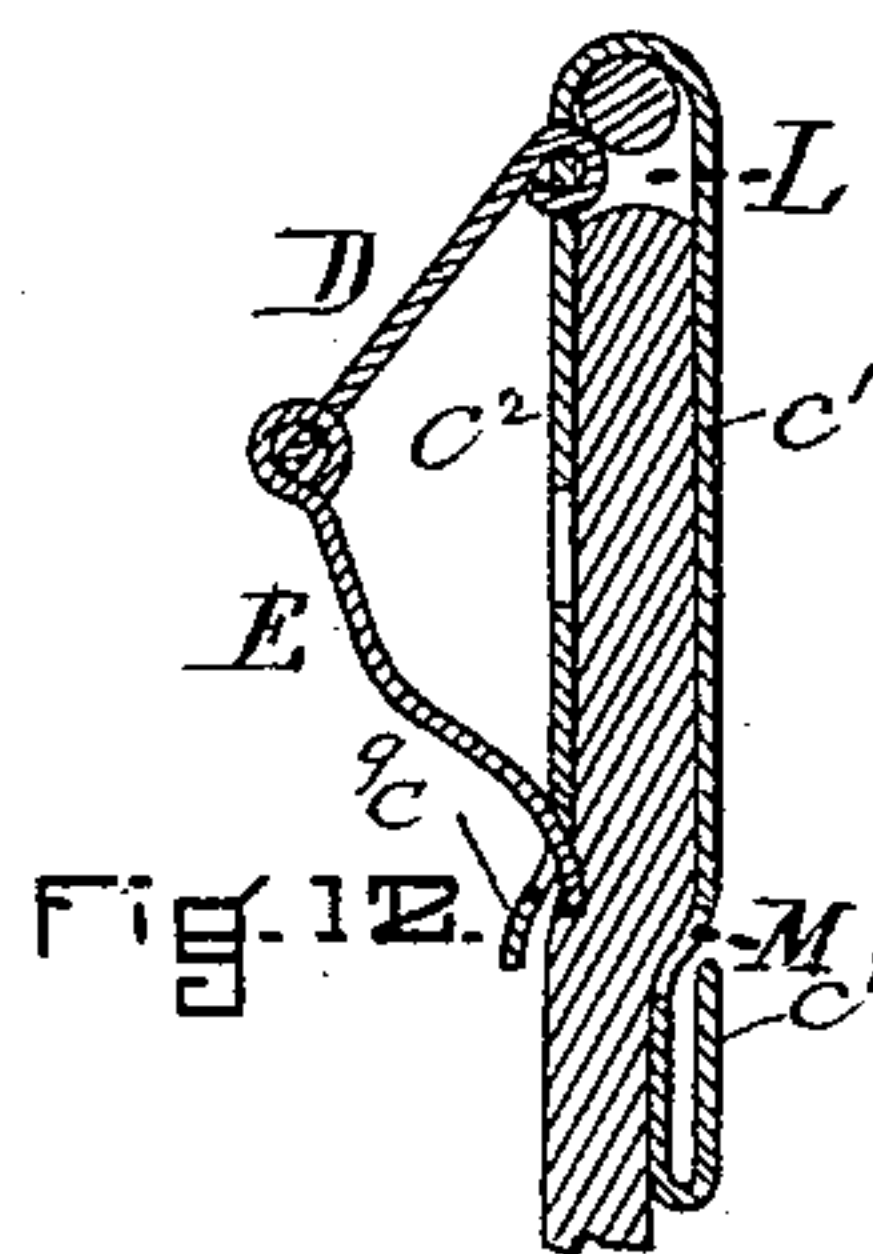
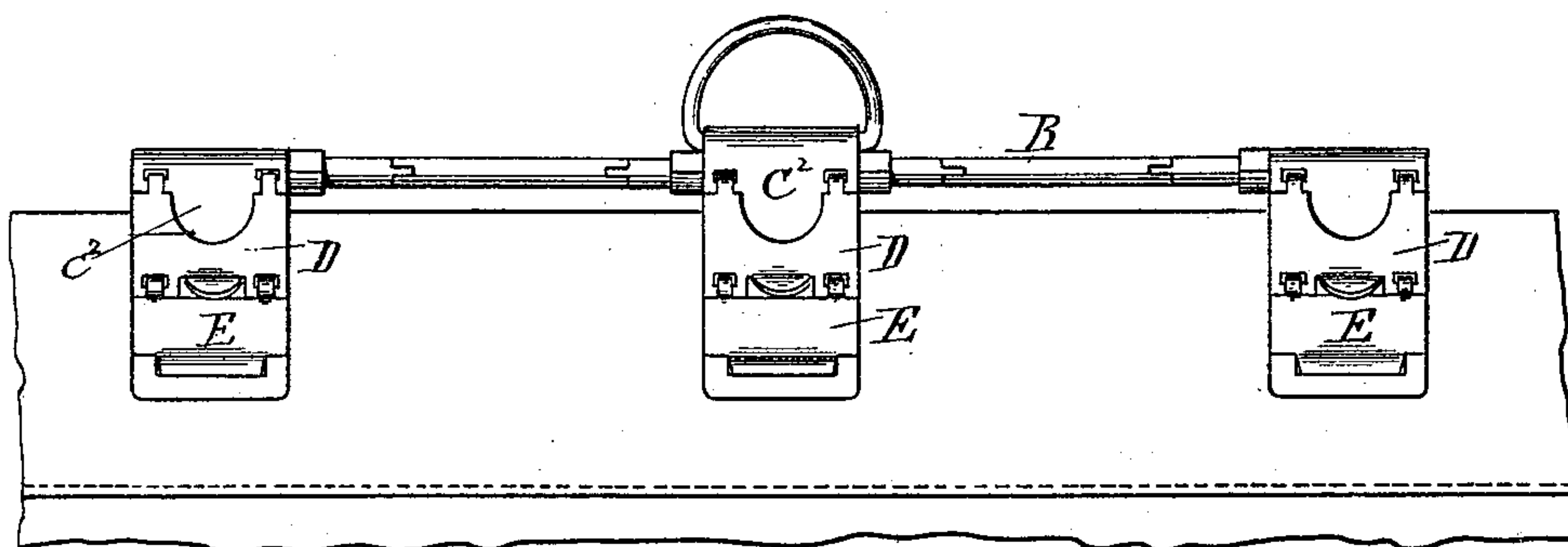
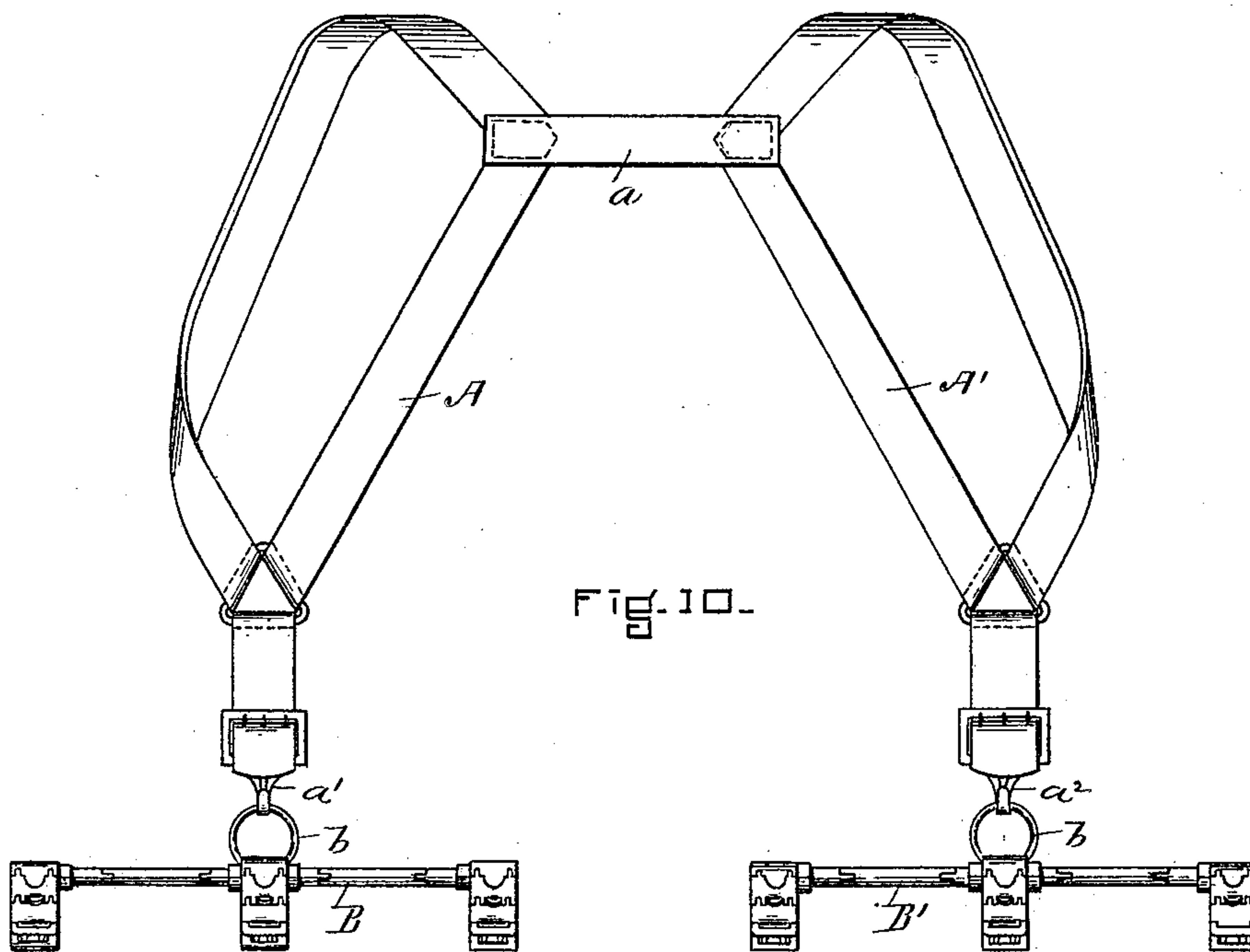


FIG. 11.

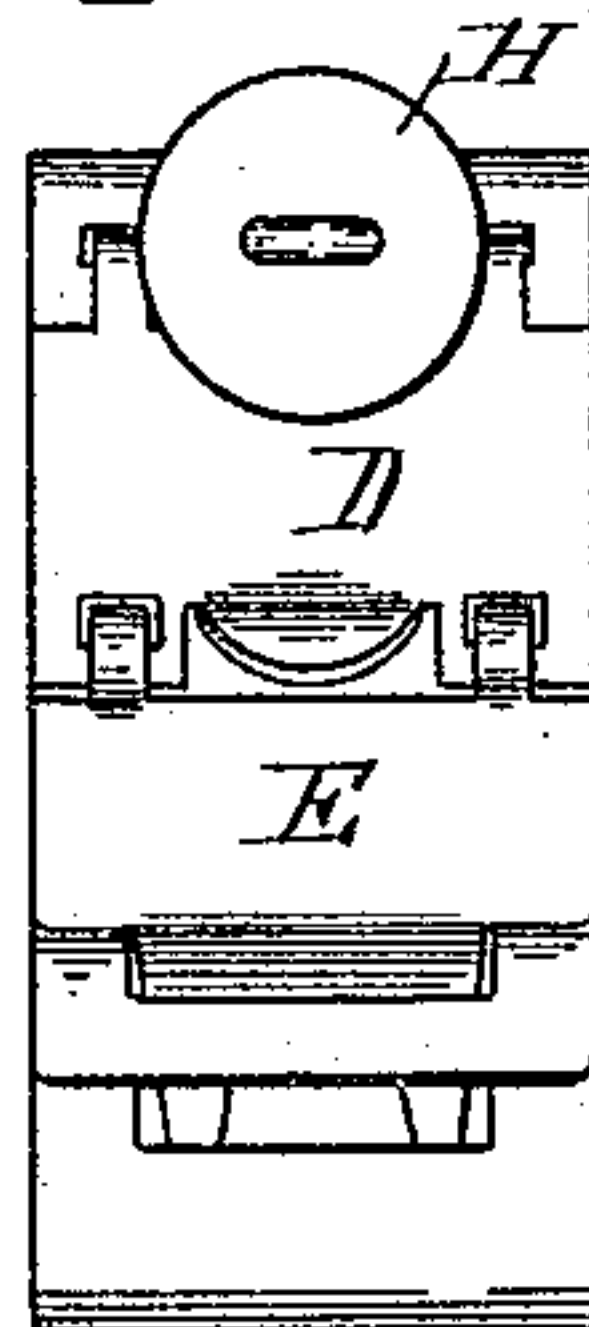


FIG. 13.

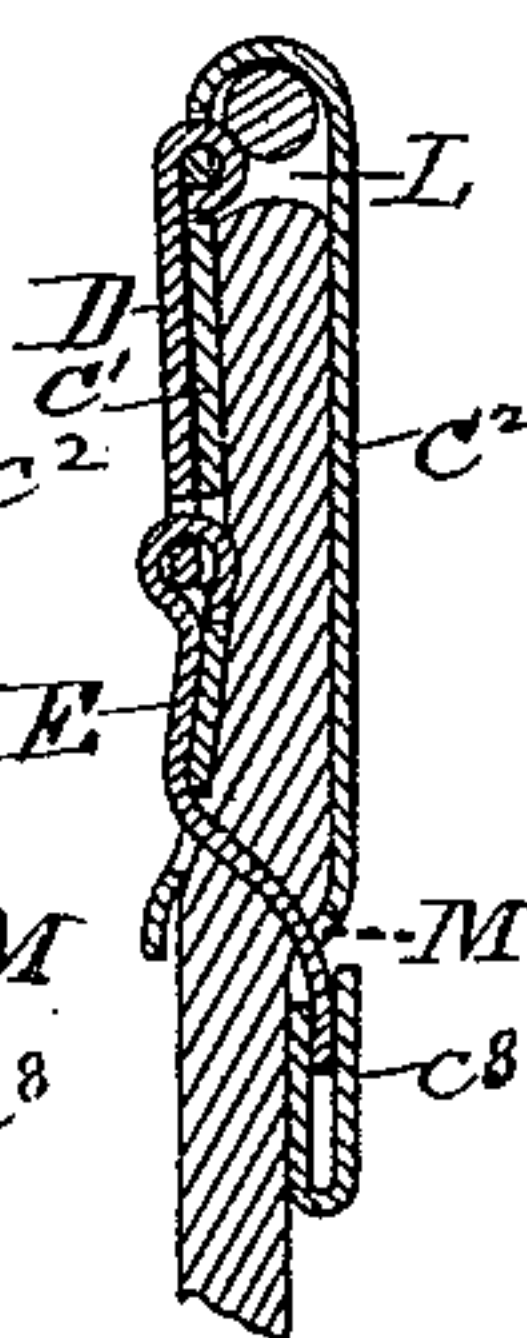


FIG. 14.

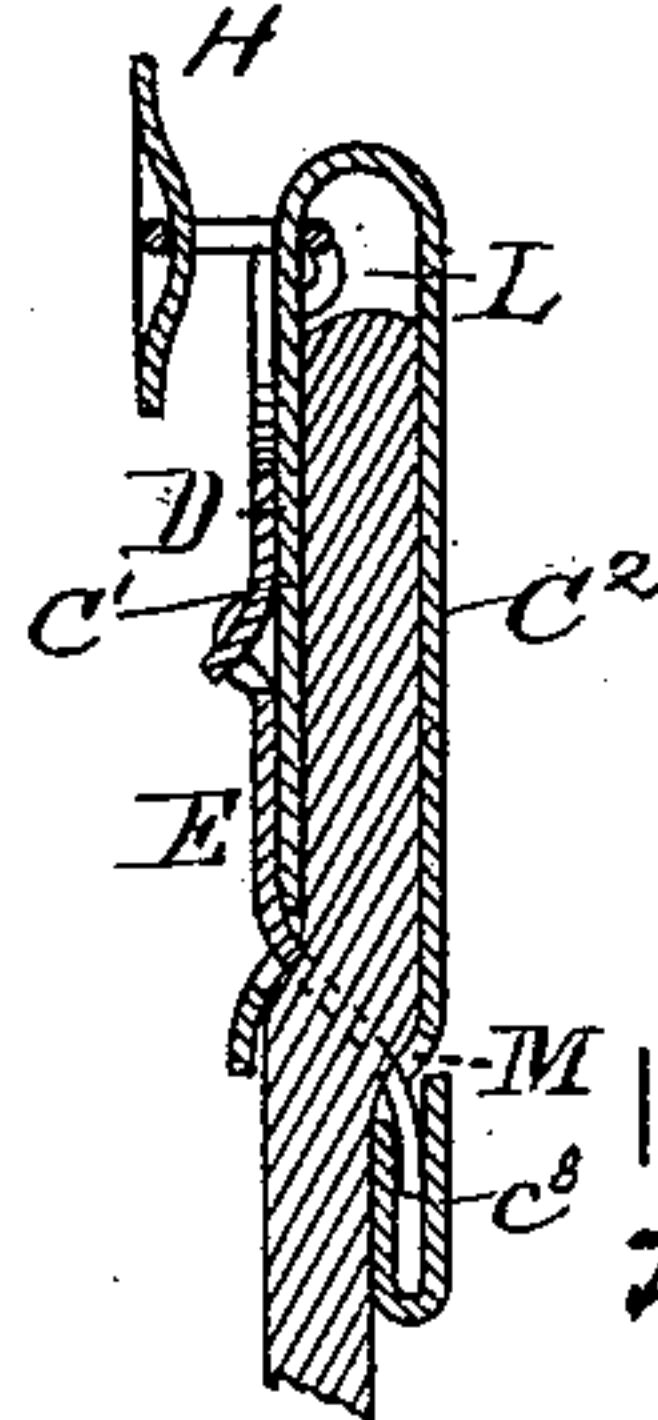


FIG. 15.

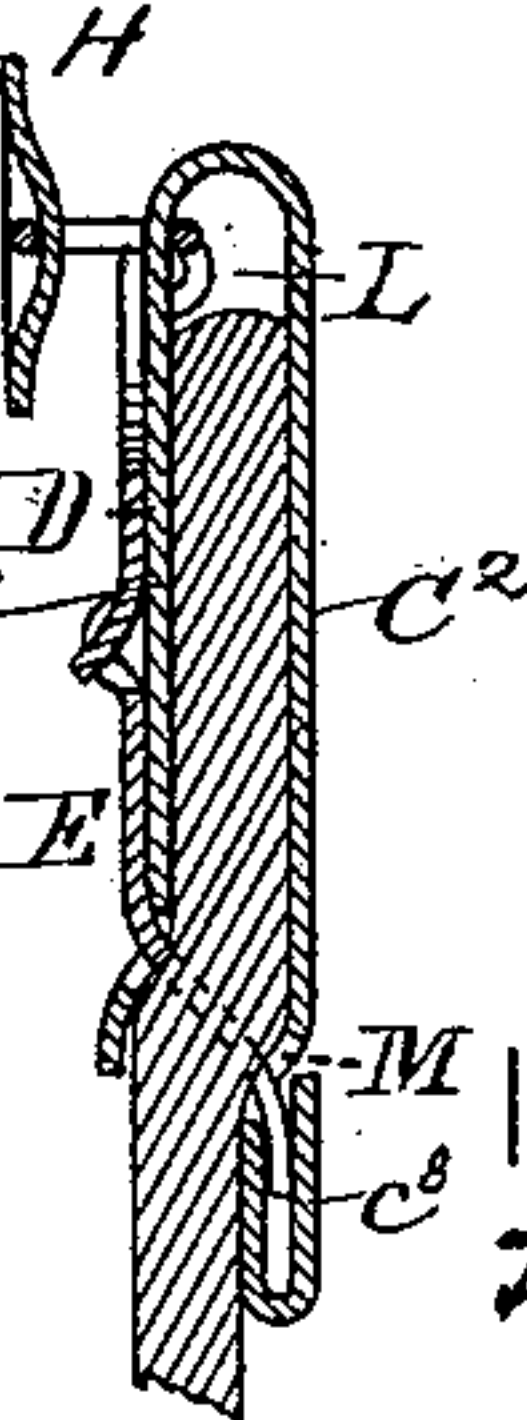


FIG. 16.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS O. POTTER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

SUSPENDER-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 353,813, dated December 7, 1886.

Application filed June 28, 1886. Serial No. 206,385. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS O. POTTER, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, a citizen of the United States, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Suspenders, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in explaining its nature.

The invention relates, especially, to a clasp or attaching device to be used in connection with or to form a part of the suspenders such as are described in my Patent No. 322,480, and it is adapted to be fastened or secured to the rod or device for supporting the pantaloons or other article of dress, for the purpose of affording a sufficient means for attaching or securing the rod or support of the suspenders to the waistband of the pantaloons or other article of wearing-apparel, and one that can be readily applied.

In the drawings, Figures 1, 2, and 3 are plans of blanks from which the clasp or attaching devices are made. Fig. 4 is a plan view of a blank from which its pronged jaw is made. Fig. 5 is a view showing the blank represented in Fig. 2 formed or bent to shape, but before the jaw and its operating device are attached thereto. Fig. 6 is a plan of the blank from which the link which connects the jaw with the front plate of the attaching device is made. Fig. 7 represents it in perspective formed to the desired shape. Fig. 8 is a view in perspective of the complete attaching device before it is secured to its support or rod. Fig. 9 is a view in perspective of the complete jaw made from the blank shown in Fig. 4. Fig. 10 is a view in elevation of the complete suspender, representing the attaching devices as secured to the waistband bars or rods. Fig. 11 is an enlarged view of one of the waistband bars or rods with the attaching devices secured thereto, and also showing a section of a waistband. Fig. 12 is a view in vertical section through one of the attaching devices, representing it as applied to a waistband, and the withdrawn position of the jaw to permit the insertion of the waistband. Fig. 13 is a view of the same parts shown in Fig. 12, the jaw having been passed through the material of the waistband to fasten the attaching devices

thereto. Fig. 14 represents a slight change in the form of the front plate of the attaching device, reference to which is hereinafter made. Fig. 15 is a view in elevation, and Fig. 16 in vertical section, illustrating the attaching device as employed for holding a button and securing it to the waistband or other article.

In the drawings, A A' represent the shoulder-straps, which are connected by the cross back-strap *a*. They support hooks *a'* *a''*, which engage rings *b*, carried by the supports B B'. Each of these supports preferably has three waistband-attaching devices, which engage or lay hold of the waistband of the pantaloons or other article of dress at as many points.

The attaching device comprises, essentially, a back plate having a slot or recess, a front plate carrying a sliding or movable jaw having prongs, and a toggle or link for moving the sliding plate and for locking it in position, the prongs being moved from one plate through the waistband of the pantaloons or other article, and in a downward direction into a pocket, slot, or recess in the back plate. The device is otherwise constructed so as to be secured to the suspender rod or support, and also to provide means for holding the ring with which the suspender-hook engages. This ring, however, is used only in connection with the central attaching device or fastening. The back and front plates are preferably made from one blank.

In Fig. 1 I have represented in plan a blank of metal from which the back and front plates are made or formed. This blank is subjected to the operation of suitable punching and forming or stamping devices, whereby a long slot, *c*, is formed in the end or section *c'*, which forms a part of the front plate, C', and the holes *c''* and cross-bars *c'''*, provided to form a part of the hinge or joint by which the toggle or link is secured to the front plate, as hereinafter specified. The blank may further have holes *c''* for the reception of the hinges or joints of the jaw and the toggle or link; also the long slot, *c''*, in the part or section *c''*, which forms a portion of the back plate, C'', and which is adapted to receive the ends of the prongs. The blank is further shaped by bending the end section, *c''*, inward upon the line of the slot, so as to bring the slot *c''* into the position represented in Figs. 5 and 12, and by bending

its end backward upon itself to form the cover c^8 to the slot, and thereby acting to receive the ends of the prongs and prevent them from projecting out from the back plate of the device. The end section, c^9 , is also bent to bring the slot c^8 into the position represented in Figs. 5 and 12. After the formation or shaping of the blank in this manner the link and sliding jaw preferably are attached. The link D preferably is made of a blank, d , shaped as shown in Fig. 6, and it has the ears d' and holes d^2 , to form the pivots or cross-bars d^3 . The ears d' serve when bent to connect it with the front plate, C' , the ears being turned or bent about the cross-bars c^3 to form a hinge or joint. The blank also has a little thumb-piece, d^4 , turned outwardly therefrom. The jaw E is made from a blank shaped substantially as shown in Fig. 4, and it has the ears e and the prongs e' , which are bent to project from the remainder of the plate, substantially as shown in Fig. 9. This pronged plate is attached to the link D by the ears e , the ears being bent about the cross-bars or pieces d^3 and forming a hinge or joint.

When the device is employed in connection with a suspender rod or support, such as above referred to, the back plate has, additionally, one or two wing-pieces, F, as preferred, by which it is secured to the rod or support. When the device is attached to the end of the supporting-rod, only one wing-piece is necessary, and that is arranged to project upon the end of the rod or support, and so that the end of the rod or support may be brought flush with the side edge of the attaching device. When it is used as the central attaching device upon the rod or support, then there may be two wing-pieces used, as represented in Fig. 5. The wing, it will be observed, is of sufficient length and so shaped as to be turned or bent about the rod to support the attaching device in place.

When a ring, G, is used, as it always is, in connection with the rod or support, the blank from which the front and back plates are made may be longer, so as to enable it to be placed over the ring and fasten it to the bar or rod, or the ring may be independently secured to said bar or rod.

I would say that I do not limit the use of the invention to suspenders having the construction above indicated, but may use it for any other purpose where it is desired to obtain an attaching device for securing a strap or other article in place. It may be used also as a means for holding buttons, and in Fig. 16 I have represented a button, H, attached to the front plate; but this I consider substantially an equivalent for the wing piece or pieces F.

It will be seen that the front and back plates of the attaching device are separated from each other so as to form a receiving recess or space, L—that is, a space adapted to receive the waistband or other thing to which the fastening may be attached—and that by bend-

ing the lower edge, c^9 , of the front plate outwardly not only is the slot c brought into a desirable position for the reception of the jaw E, but a somewhat wider opening to the recess is provided than if this part of the front plate were straight. It will also be seen that the back plate not only has a slot or pocket for the reception of the prongs of the jaw E, but that it also has a shoulder, M, which, preferably, is upon the same line with the hole or slot which receives the ends of the jaw-prongs e' .

From what I have stated it will be noticed that the essential features of the device are the plate having a prong-receiving hole, slot, or pocket, another plate arranged in relation to the first to provide a receiving-space, L, a jaw held in place to, the last-named plate, and adapted to be moved by a link or hinge across said receiving-space.

In use the material to which the attaching device is to be secured is placed in the receiving space or recess between the front and back plates, the slide plate or jaw of course having first been moved outwardly. After the material has been thus placed the jaw or sliding plate is moved inwardly, the prongs entering the material passing through the same and extending into the slot or pocket upon the other side, and they are held locked in place by the straightening of the link or toggle. It is preferable that the front plate be curved or shaped as shown in Fig. 14, so that the toggle or link will be forced inward or broken toward the plate upon the application of strain to the prongs, as by so doing a more permanent and better locking of the jaw is obtained.

It will be seen that the prongs of the jaw and their holding-pocket occupy such relation to each other that the strain or downward pull of the material is to a very considerable extent against the shoulder M of the back plate, and that such downward pull or strain also serves to hold the toggle and link straight and the jaw locked.

In my application of even date herewith, Serial No. 206,383, I have shown a waistband-support comprised of short links having vertical pivots, by which horizontal flexure is given them, and I would state that I do not herein claim the said construction or the construction shown in the drawings of that case.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. An attaching device for suspenders and other articles, comprising a back plate having a slot, and a cover, c^8 , to said slot, adapted to form a pocket for receiving and shielding the ends of the jaw, a movable jaw, E, provided with prongs e , formed to pass into said slot c^8 , and the link D, hinged to said movable jaw and to the front plate of the device, outside the receiving-recess of the device, substantially as described.

2. The combination, in an attaching device, of a back plate having a slot, c^8 , and a shoul-

der, M, adjacent thereto, a front plate in continuation of said back plate, and forming in connection with said back plate a recess for the reception of the garment, and a movable jaw, E, attached to said front plate and of which the free end is formed, and adapted to be passed from the front of the front plate across the said recess and through the slot c^5 in the back plate, substantially as described.

3. In an attaching device for suspenders and other articles, a back plate, C^2 , having a shoulder, a slot, c , and a slot-covering plate, c^3 , a front plate attached to or integral with the back plate and forming in connection therewith a receiving recess or space, provided with a slot or recess, c , a jaw or slide-plate, E, having prongs e' , movable across said receiving space or recess, and a link or hinged plate, D, connecting said jaw or slide-plate with the plate C' , substantially as described.

4. An attaching device for suspenders and other articles, consisting of a back plate having a recess for receiving and holding the prongs of a holding-jaw, another or front plate connected with the plate first named, and adapted to form in connection with the back plate a recess for the reception of the band of the garment to be supported, and an independent or separate jaw hinged to or connected

with said front plate, having terminal prongs and movable through a slot formed in said last-named plate across the garment-receiving recess into the prong-receiving recess in the back plate, whereby the garment is inclosed between two plates and is supported by the prongs of a jaw, which pass through the material, and each end of which jaw is supported by the plates closely to the said receiving-recess, substantially as described.

5. A fastening device for suspenders and other articles, having a sliding jaw provided with prongs, and a link or hinged connecting-piece provided with a thumb-piece or projection, d^4 , substantially as described.

6. An attaching device for suspenders and like articles, consisting of front and back plates arranged to form or provide a receiving recess or space between them, a separate jaw or slide, E, movable across said receiving space or recess, as specified, and connected with the front plate by the link D, and the attaching-wing or side piece or pieces, F, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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