

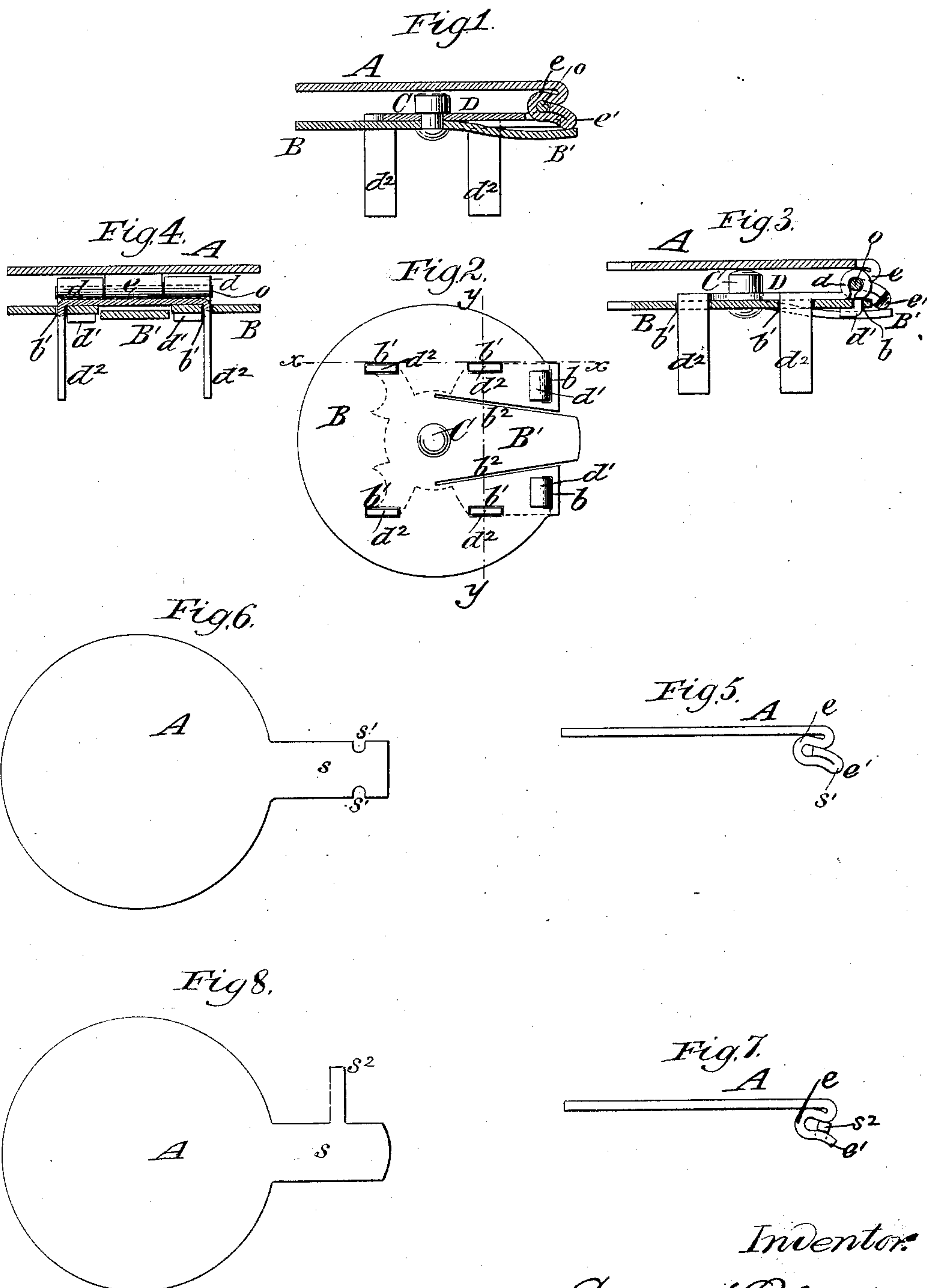
(No Model.)

E. A. OLDENBUSCH.

SPRING OR SNAP CLASP FOR POCKET BOOKS.

No. 367,544.

Patented Aug. 2, 1887.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SPRING OR SNAP CLASP FOR POCKET-BOOKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 367,544, dated August 2, 1887.

Application filed May 23, 1887. Serial No. 239,079. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ERNEST A. OLDENBUSCH, of the city and county of New York, in the State of New York, have invented a new and  
5 useful Improvement in Spring or Snap Clasps for Pocket-Books, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to snap-clasps, such as are used on pocket-books, and which severally  
10 comprise a back plate or bottom secured upon the body of the pocket-book, and provided with a pin projecting from its face, which receives upon it the flap of the pocket-book, and a hinged front plate or top which  
15 is actuated by a spring to hold it down upon the end of the pin and to secure the flap in place or to hold it in its raised or open position.

As heretofore constructed, the bottom plate  
20 or back has usually had the hinge-bearer divided transversely or formed double and produced integral with it, and at the back of the back plate has been secured a plate or piece having prongs or spurs extending from it, and  
25 the spring-plate has been held and secured between such prongs or spurs, thus forming four principal parts of the device—namely, the front plate or top, the back plate or bottom, the fastening-plate with its fingers or prongs,  
30 and the spring-plate.

An important object of my invention is to simplify the construction of this device, and to this end I form the spring for the snap integral with the bottom or back plate—that is  
35 to say, I slot or cut the back plate so as to form the spring therefrom. I also place the securing plate or piece with its prongs upon the upper or outer side of the back plate, or I may have said prongs projecting through slots in  
40 the back plate, or I may and I do form the divided hinge-bearer upon the fastening plate or piece, and not upon the back plate or bottom, as heretofore. The securing plate or piece is secured against turning relatively to the back  
45 plate or bottom by the prongs or spurs which pass through the back plate or bottom, and is additionally secured by projections or spurs which extend through perforations in the back plate or bottom, and are riveted or turned over  
50 at the ends. With this construction it is absolutely impossible for the back plate or bot-

tom to turn relatively to the securing or fastening plate on which are the hinge-bearers, and the spring will therefore always be held in proper position to act upon the snap-lip of  
55 the top or front plate.

Another feature of my invention consists in a novel formation of the hinge-bearer on the top or front plate and the lip on which the spring bears to form the snap, both said bearer  
60 and lip being formed integral with the front plate or top and without solder.

This feature of the invention consists in the combination, with the bottom and spring of a snap-clasp for pocket-books, of a hinged top  
65 having its bearer and the snap-lip formed by a bent tongue which projects from the top, and which has a portion folded inward upon the tongue itself to complete the bearer. The folded-in portion may consist of a projection  
70 from the side of the tongue, bent over upon the top of the tongue itself to complete the bearer.

The invention will be more fully hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the  
75 claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a transverse section of a clasp embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan thereof. Fig. 3 is a sectional view upon the plane of  
80 the dotted line *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a sectional view upon the plane of the dotted line *y y*, Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is an edge view of the front plate or top with its bearer and integral lip. Fig. 6 represents a blank, from which the front  
85 plate with its hinge-bearer and lip may be formed; and Figs. 7 and 8 are respectively an edge view of the front plate or top and a plan of the blank from which it is formed, illustrating a preferred modification of my in-  
90 vention.

All the figures are drawn upon a scale much larger than actual size, and in all of them the same letters of reference designate correspond-  
95 ing parts.

A designates a front plate or top, and B a back plate or bottom provided with a pin, C, on the end of which the front plate bears.

My improved snap-clasp is distinguished from those most commonly made in having  
100 the bearers *d*, or rather the divided bearer *d*, formed upon a securing plate or piece, D,



which is upon the upper or outer side of the back plate or bottom B, and is secured to the face of the back plate or bottom by a rivet formed from the stud C, and by prongs or spurs  $d'$ , formed upon the securing plate or piece D, inserted through perforations or holes  $b$  in the back plate and clinched or riveted over. Between the two portions of the divided bearer  $d$  is received a bearer,  $e$ , upon the top or front plate, A, and this bearer has formed integral with it a lip,  $e'$ , on which a spring, B', bears to produce the snap of the clasp. As here represented, this spring B' is produced integral with the back plate or bottom, B, by slitting it at the points  $b^2$ . The securing plate or piece D has prongs or spurs  $d^2$ , which are bent from it, as shown in Fig. 4, and which project through perforations or slots  $b'$  in the back plate or bottom, B, as best shown in Figs. 2 and 4, but also in Fig. 3. The prongs or spurs  $d^2$  are to be inserted through the body of the pocket-book and serve to hold the clasp securely in place thereon, while the flap is placed over the pin C, and is secured by the front plate or top, A, closing down with a snap upon the end of the pin.

It is desirable to form the spring B' integral with the back plate or bottom, B, as thereby a separate spring-plate is saved, and inasmuch as the fastening plate or piece D and the bottom B are securely held against turning by the prongs or spurs  $d^2$ , passing through the bottom, and by the spurs or projections  $d'$ , riveted over at the perforations  $b$ , the spring B' will always be held in the proper position to bear directly upon the snap-lip  $e'$ .

In Figs. 5 and 6 I have represented more fully the manner of producing the front plate or top, A, with the hinge-bearer  $e$  and the snap-lip  $e'$ . The front plate or top, A, or the blank from which it is formed, as shown in Fig. 6, is produced with a tongue,  $s$ , extending from it and notched at the points  $s'$ . As best shown in Fig. 5, the portion of the tongue  $s$  inward of the notches is bent into approximately U-shaped form, and the portion thereof which is beyond the notches is folded inward upon the upper surface of the tongue, so as to complete the bearer and securely hold in place the hinge pin or pintle  $o$ . This construction is desirable because it gives a rounded form to the end of the lip  $e'$ , and also because the notches  $s'$  reduce the width of bearing-surface of the spring B' upon the lip  $e'$ , and thereby enables the clasp to work easier.

In the construction shown by Figs. 8 and 9

the tongue  $s$ , projecting from the blank of the front plate or top, A, has a lateral projection,  $s^2$ , from its side, and that portion of the tongue  $s$  which is inward of the lateral projection  $s^2$  is bent into U-shaped form to produce the bearer  $e$ , while that portion of the tongue which is beyond the lateral projection  $s^2$  constitutes the snap-lip  $e'$ . The lateral projection or tongue  $s^2$  is bent inward upon the surface of the tongue  $s$ , in order to complete the bearer for the reception of the hinge pin or pintle  $o$ .

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the front plate or top of a hinged pocket-book clasp having a hinge-bearer and snap-lip at its edge, of a bottom or back plate having cut from it a spring-tongue bearing on the lip, and a securing plate or piece on the upper or outer side of the bottom or back plate, having a hinge-bearer for receiving a pintle, whereby it is hinged to the front plate or top, and a pin on which the front plate or top closes, and also having prongs or spurs projecting through slots in the bottom or back plate and for insertion through the leather of the book, substantially as herein described.

2. The combination, with the front plate or top, A, having a hinge-bearer and a snap-lip, of the back plate or bottom, B, having slots  $b$   $b'$ , and a spring-tongue formed from it, the securing plate or piece D, having a hinge-bearer and prongs or spurs  $d^2$ , which pass through the slots  $b'$ , and prongs or spurs  $d'$ , which are clinched in the slots  $b$ , and the pin C, forming a stud or rivet to secure the parts B D together, substantially as herein described.

3. The combination, with the bottom and spring of a snap-clasp for pocket-books, of the hinged top A, having its bearer and a snap-lip formed by a bent tongue which projects from the top, and which has a portion folded inward upon the tongue itself to complete the bearer, substantially as herein described.

4. The combination, with the bottom and its spring, of a top hinged thereto and having its bearer and a snap formed by a bent tongue,  $s$ , and a lateral projection,  $s^2$ , from the side of the tongue, bent over upon the tongue to complete the bearer, substantially as herein described.

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