

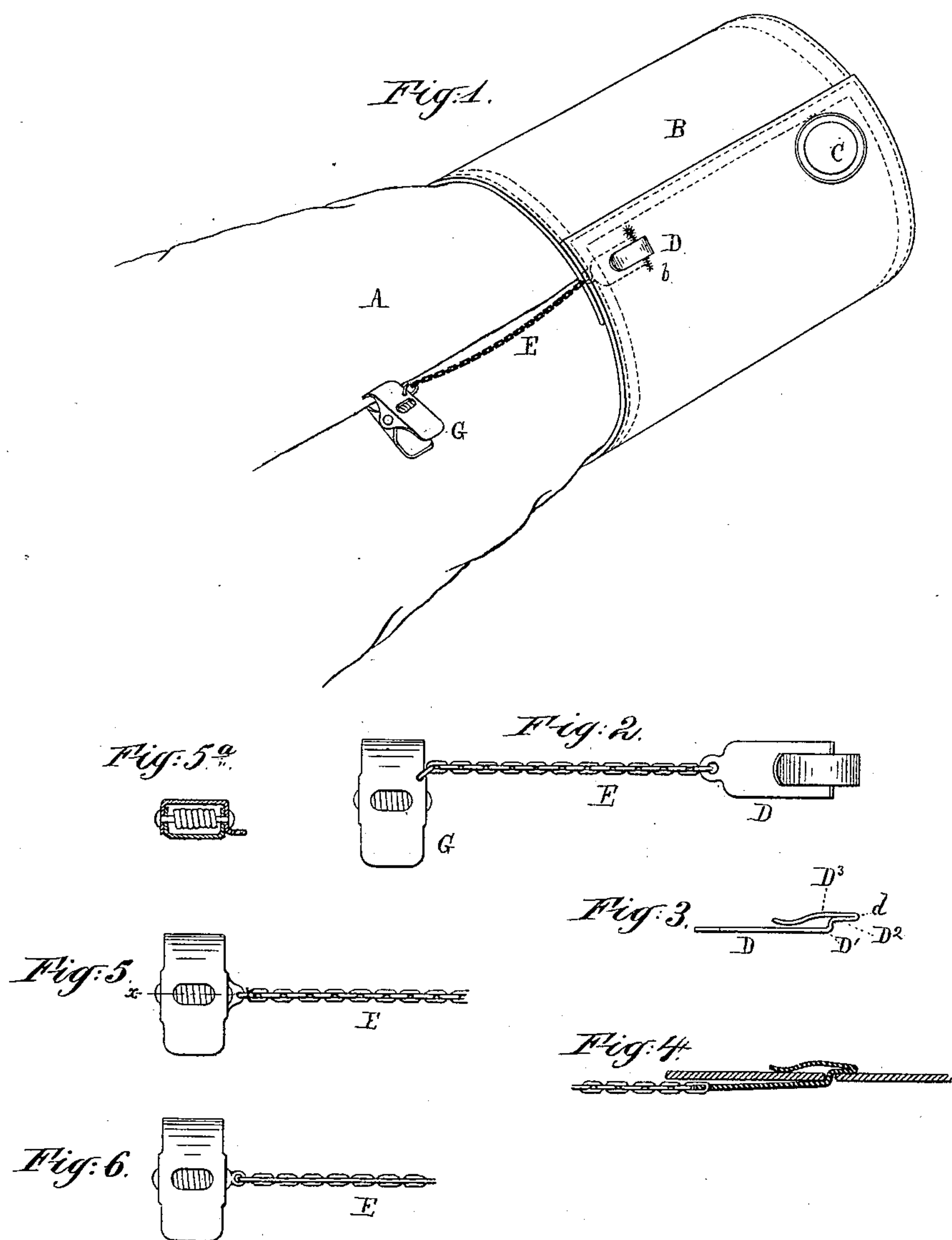
(No Model.)

H. C. FRANK.

CUFF HOLDER.

No. 373,556.

Patented Nov. 22, 1887.



Witnesses:

H. A. Johnston.

M. J. Boyle

Inventor:

Henry C. Frank
by his attorney
Thomas Drew Stetson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY C. FRANK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CUFF-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 373,556, dated November 22, 1887.

Application filed September 21, 1887. Serial No. 250,235. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY C. FRANK, of New York city, in the State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Cuff-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The invention is intended more particularly for holding gentlemen's cuffs by engaging one part in one of the innermost button-holes, while the outer button-holes hold the cuff together by any ordinary or suitable cuff-button, and the other portion of the fastener taking hold of the shirt-sleeve at the edge of the ordinary opening a little above the cuff. I will describe it as thus applied; but some of these points may be varied. I employ a short length of flexible cord or chain with a strong hook of flat metal at one end, connected by the chain to the spring-clasp engaging with the shirt. The "bight" of the hook is peculiarly formed to insure its being again automatically engaged, even if the hook is by any ordinary or extraordinary force thrust endwise so as to temporarily lose its hold on the cuff.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification and represent what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.

Figure 1 is a general perspective view showing the device in use holding a cuff to the sleeve of a shirt. The remaining figures are on a larger scale. Fig. 2 is a corresponding or face view of the device detached. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the hook portion alone. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section of the hook as it is engaged in a button-hole. The remaining figures show modifications. Fig. 5 is a face view of the clasp formed with a lip to receive the chain. Fig. 5^a is a corresponding cross-section on the line *xx* in Fig. 5. Fig. 6 shows a modification in which the chain is attached to an eye formed on the rivet or axis of the clasp.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures where they occur.

A is a portion of the shirt-sleeve and B an ordinary cuff having button-holes *b*, which receive an ordinary cuff-button, C. One of the button-holes on the other edge receives a hook, D, certain portions of which will be designated, when necessary, by additional marks,

as D'. A chain, E, connects this hook with a spring-clasp, G, composed of two parts with a connecting-rivet and actuating-spring. I can, if preferred, in any case use the clasp set forth in the patent to me dated June 6, 1882, No. 259,002, and in such case either end may be engaged with either edge of the shirt presented to the opening, or both ends can be thus engaged; but, for simplicity, it is sufficient to use a single clasp, and I will represent it as such. The teeth of the clasp take a firm hold of the fabric and maintain it by the spring. The clasp may be instantly set free by simply pinching together the outer ends.

The hook D is formed of strong and elastic metal. I have in my experiments used hard brass, about No. 25. The main body is flat, with a hole at one end for engaging with the chain E. The other end is bent sharply to or near a right angle with the body D, forming an offset, as indicated by D'. Thence, and after extending but a little more than the thickness of a cuff, the metal again extends onward nearly in the direction of the main body D, as indicated by D². Extending thus a little way it is completely folded upon itself and returns in the form of a spring-arm, D³, extending beyond the offset D' and having its free end deflected toward the body. It terminates in a slight curvature outward or from the body. The elasticity of the spring-arm D³, and also of the metal D² and D', is available to allow the hook to be drawn upon and engaged with the portion of the cuff immediately adjacent to the button-hole. When thus placed, the bight or fold *d* lies outside of the cuff. The pressure of the spring-arm D³, clamping the cuff between itself and the body D, will hold the hook against any slight force tending to disengage it; but in any possible case that the hook may be momentarily disengaged by a vigorous rubbing of the sleeve against any object or other sufficient force the fact that the bight *d* lies always outside of the cuff and above the button-hole insures that the hook shall, on being thrust out of place, move on the outer and not on the inner face of the cuff, and that so soon as the conditions allow the chain to again exert its tension and move the hook back again the spring-arm D³ will again engage the cuff, as before.

Modifications may be made without depart-

ing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages of the invention. I have shown the spring-arm D^3 and the adjacent portion D^2 as narrower than the body D , and prefer to give such form to the parts; but this is not absolutely essential. It is sufficient that the spring-arm be narrow enough to be received in the button-hole. If the main body is wider than the arm, it will maintain its plane condition without appreciable springing, all of the elastic yielding being done by the spring-arm D^3 . If the body D is no wider than the spring-arm, it will contribute its own elasticity to that of the spring-arm and of the parts $D^1 D^2$, so that the whole will yield when the hook is engaged on a cuff. The bight d should be so much beyond the offset D' as will effectually lock the hook against the bight, being urged through the button-hole by ordinary action; but when it is desired to remove it the wearer can easily push the bight through the button-hole and then easily disengage it.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a cuff-holder, in combination with a clasp adapted to engage with the shirt-sleeve, and a flexible chain or cord, a hook having an offset and an extension beyond the offset, so as to be locked and unlocked by passing the bight or fold through the button-hole in one direction and the other, as herein specified.

2. In a cuff-holder, a hook having the spring-arm D^3 , bight d , extension B^2 , offset D' , and body D , in combination with a chain and spring-clasp, as herein specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand at New York city, New York, this 20th day of September, 1887, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY C. FRANK.

Witnesses:

M. F. BOYLE,

H. A. JOHNSTONE.