

(No Model.)

L. J. BULLARD.

CLASP.

No. 388,020.

Patented Aug. 21, 1888.

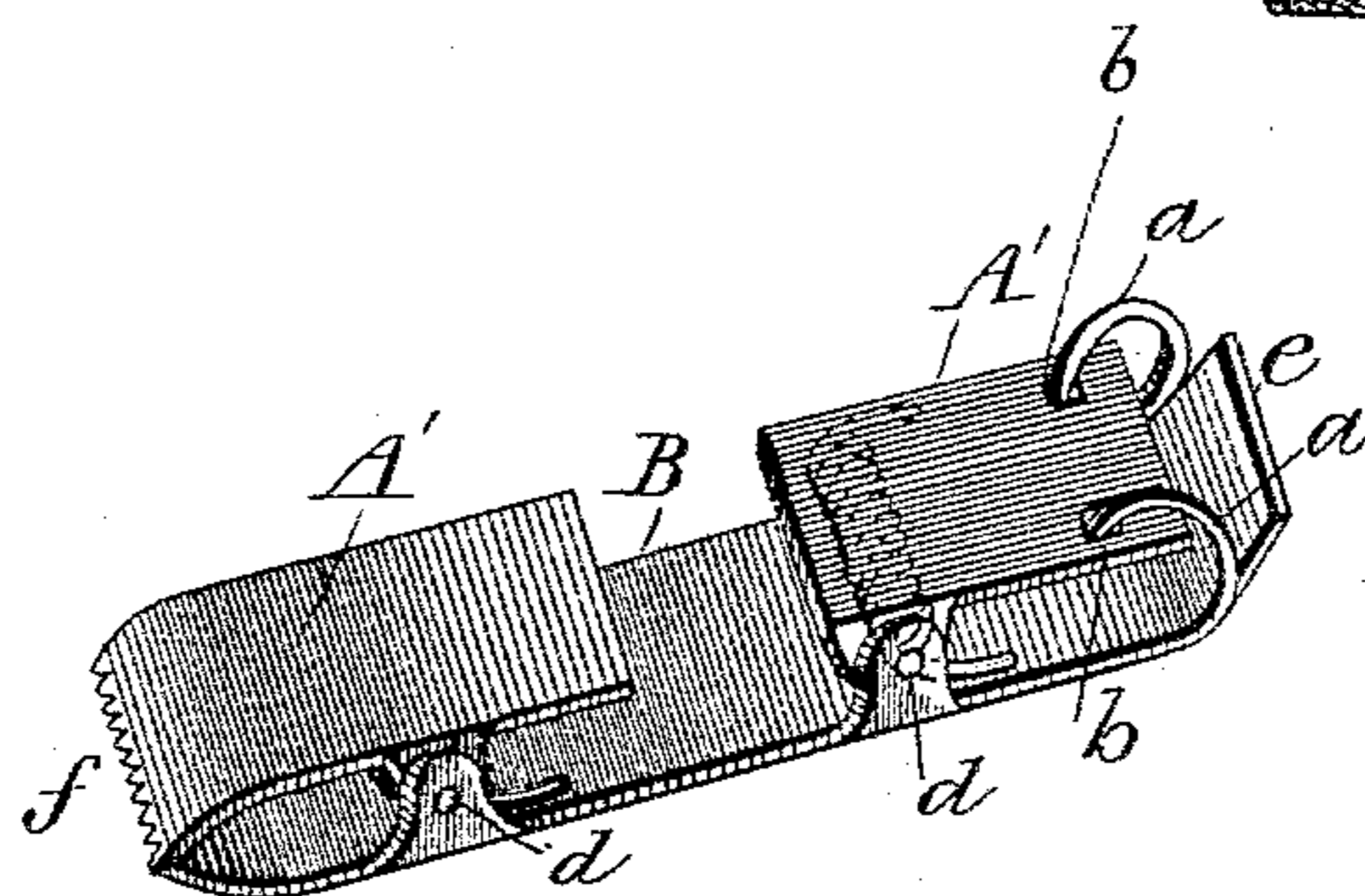
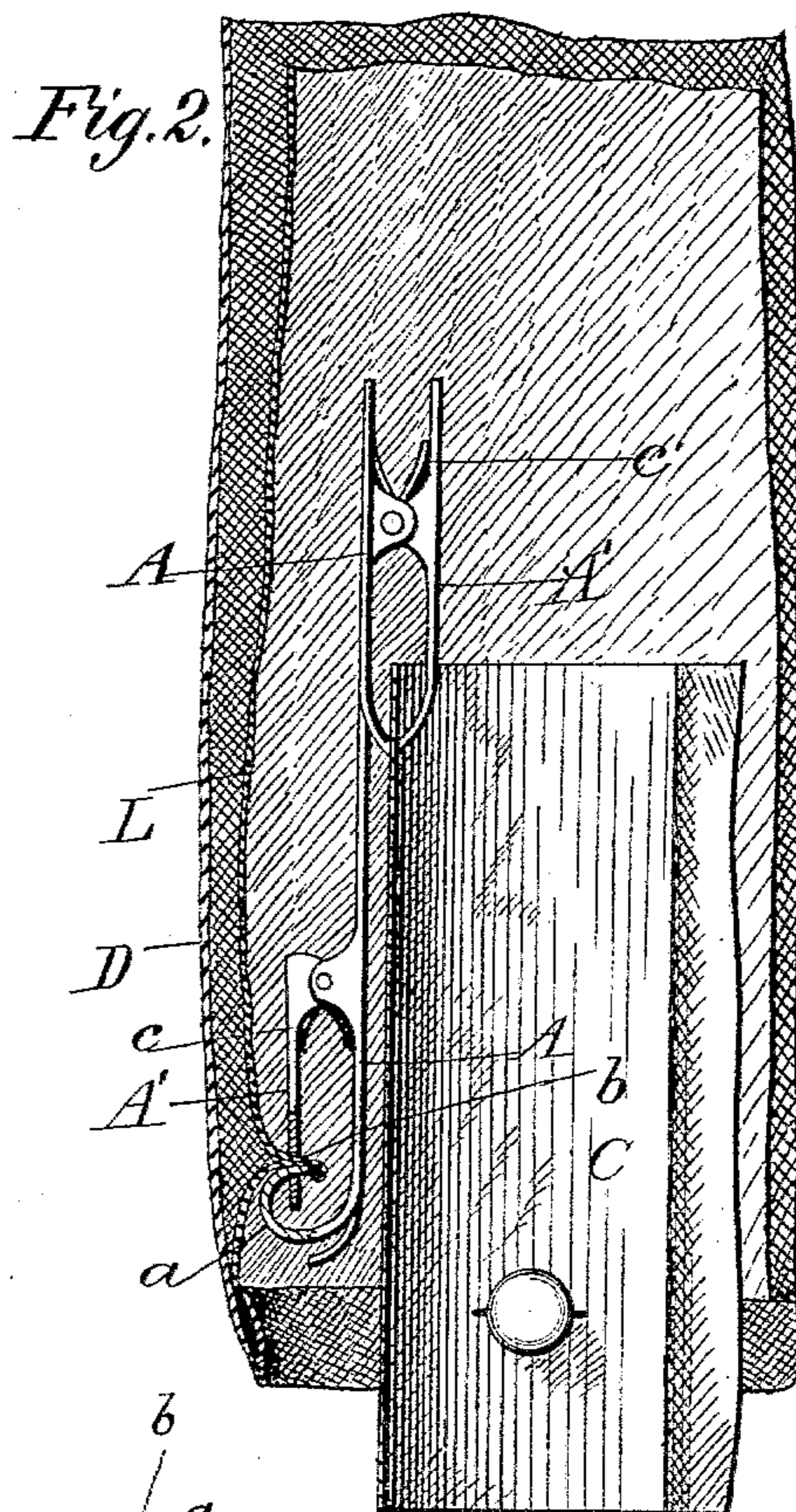
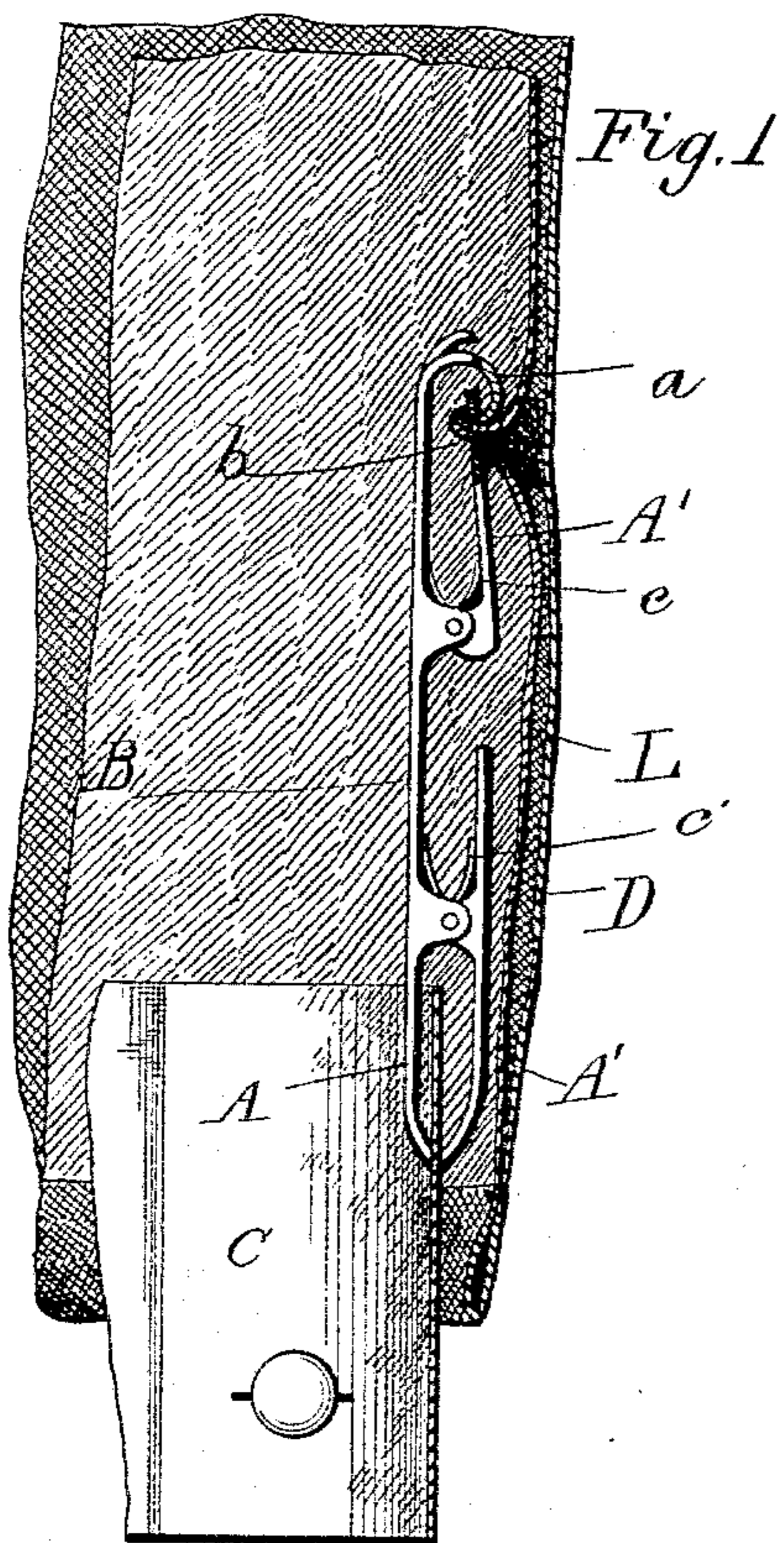


Fig. 3.

Lowell J. Bullard.

Witnesses:
Jacob Romberg.

Edmund Romberg

Inventor:
by a.s. Cushman.
his atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOWELL J. BULLARD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 388,020, dated August 21, 1888.

Application filed January 7, 1888. Serial No. 260,107. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOWELL J. BULLARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Nippers, of which the following is a full, clear, exact, and concise description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The object of my invention is to provide a cuff-holder which may be readily attached to a sleeve or lining and detached therefrom at will, and which shall be free from liability to accidental displacement or disengagement. This I accomplish by my device, which consists in a double clasp, one clasp of which is an ordinary outwardly-opening clasp for holding a cuff, the other clasp of such double clasp being an inwardly-opening clasp, the fixed jaw of which is provided with introverted or curved prongs, and the movable jaw of which is provided with corresponding apertures, openings, or depressions fitted to receive such prongs and conjointly adapted for attachment to the lining or sleeve by the engagement of the prongs therewith, both clasps being connected to each other by a shank common to both to form a cuff-holder.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my double clasp, showing the mode of attachment of my terminal inwardly-opening clasp to a sleeve-lining, and of suspension of a false cuff by the other terminal outwardly-opening clasp, together with the shank common to both clasps. Fig. 2 is a like view of the same with the cuff-end clasp inverted or reversed and the sleeve-end clasp as terminal at the bottom of the shank. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the double clasp shown in Fig. 1.

A A are fixed jaws; A' A', a movable jaw in each inwardly-opening clasp; A² A², a movable jaw in each outwardly-opening clasp; B B, connecting-shank; C, cuff; D, cloth or sleeve; L, lining of same; a a, prongs; b b, apertures or depressions; c c', springs to movable jaws; d d, pivots to jaws and supports to springs. e is a projecting boss or hold.

For convenience of reference I term the inwardly-opening clasp end the "sleeve end," as

distinguished from the outwardly-opening clasp end, which I term the "cuff end."

The cuff-end clasp needs no description, as it is the well-known form in ordinary use as a clasp, and is similar to those used as a substitute for clothes-pins.

The upper terminal portions of the double clasp shown in Fig. 1 and the lower terminal shown in Fig. 2, and the right-hand portions of Fig. 3, beyond the shank B, represent my inwardly-opening clasp. The clasps shown at the other extremities of the same figures are outwardly-opening clasps. In the former portions the movable jaw A', actuated by spring c, seated upon pivot d, is represented as engaged at apertures b b with prongs a a upon the introverted fixed jaw, A, which is also provided with boss e.

The sleeve-end clasp differs from other known inwardly-opening clasps in being provided with one or more prongs, a, upon the fixed jaw A, and also in the movable jaw A', being provided with apertures or depressions b, into which such prongs loosely fit and engage with the movable jaw, as is shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. A shank or band, B, of metal or other suitable material, connects and supports the two terminal clasps to form a double clasp, of which the cuff-end clasp holds and carries the cuff C and the sleeve-end clasp engages with the lining L or cloth of the dress-sleeve D to support the cuff in place. It is apparent that when the lining or other fabric is caught by the prongs it will be penetrated or partially penetrated by them or doubled upon itself and held between the prongs on the fixed jaw and the edges of the apertures or depressions in the movable jaw, and thus be prevented from slipping out of the clasp until it is intentionally released. Both clasps are provided with springs acting upon their movable jaws in the ordinary manner. The clasps are made of any material suitable for other clasps of like character. The prongs may be struck up integral with the fixed jaw or subsequently rigidly affixed thereto, as may be most convenient. They are sufficiently prolonged and introverted beyond the edge of the fixed jaw to engage within the openings or depressions provided for that purpose in the upper face of the movable jaw, and to allow sufficient space

for the introduction of a fold of the lining or sleeve between them and the surface of the opposing movable jaw when the latter is depressed to receive it.

5 To facilitate the manipulation and adjustment of my pronged clasp within a sleeve or lining, I have also provided a boss or projection, *e*, of the fixed jaw, which is intended to furnish a more convenient hold for retaining
10 the fixed jaw in one's grasp while the movable jaw is being depressed toward it in attaching it to or detaching it from the sleeve.

The operation of my device is as follows: It is inserted with the movable jaw in close proximity to or resting against the inside of the sleeve or lining to the desired distance. The
15 movable jaw is thereupon depressed by pressure exerted through the sleeve upon the jaw, which causes a fold of the fabric to slide upon
20 the jaw and under the prongs, which thus catch and hold such fold. The pressure is then relaxed and the movable jaw actuated by its spring *c* securely confines the fold. When it is desired to detach the device, it is only necessary
25 to exert a similar pressure upon the

movable jaw and slightly raise the fabric and device sufficiently to disengage the prongs, when by straightening the fold the clasp may be withdrawn, as the prongs only engage inwardly and no longer hold the fabric. 30

I claim—

1. An inwardly-opening clasp provided with introverted prongs upon its fixed jaw and corresponding apertures in its movable jaw adapted to engage such prongs, such movable jaw
35 being actuated by a spring to engage the prongs and apertures, substantially as described.

2. A double clasp consisting of a cuff-end spring-clasp, a sleeve-end spring-clasp, and a connecting-shank common to both clasps, the
40 sleeve-end clasp being inwardly opening and provided with prongs upon its fixed jaw and with corresponding apertures in its movable jaw for engagement with such prongs upon an interposed fabric, substantially as described. 45

LOWELL J. BULLARD.

Witnesses:

THOS. H. SUTTON,
JAS. A. KEHLBECK.