

(No Model.)

J. SCHMIDT.
CLASP.

No. 421,086.

Patented Feb. 11, 1890.

FIG. 1.



FIG. 3.

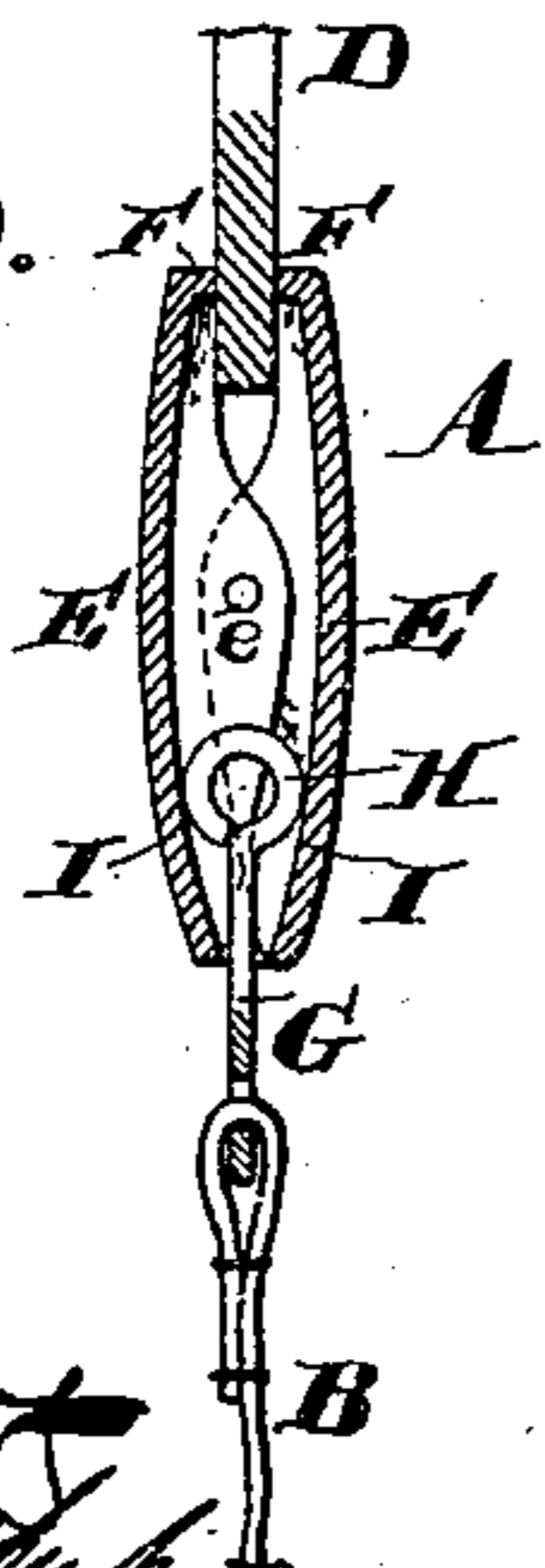
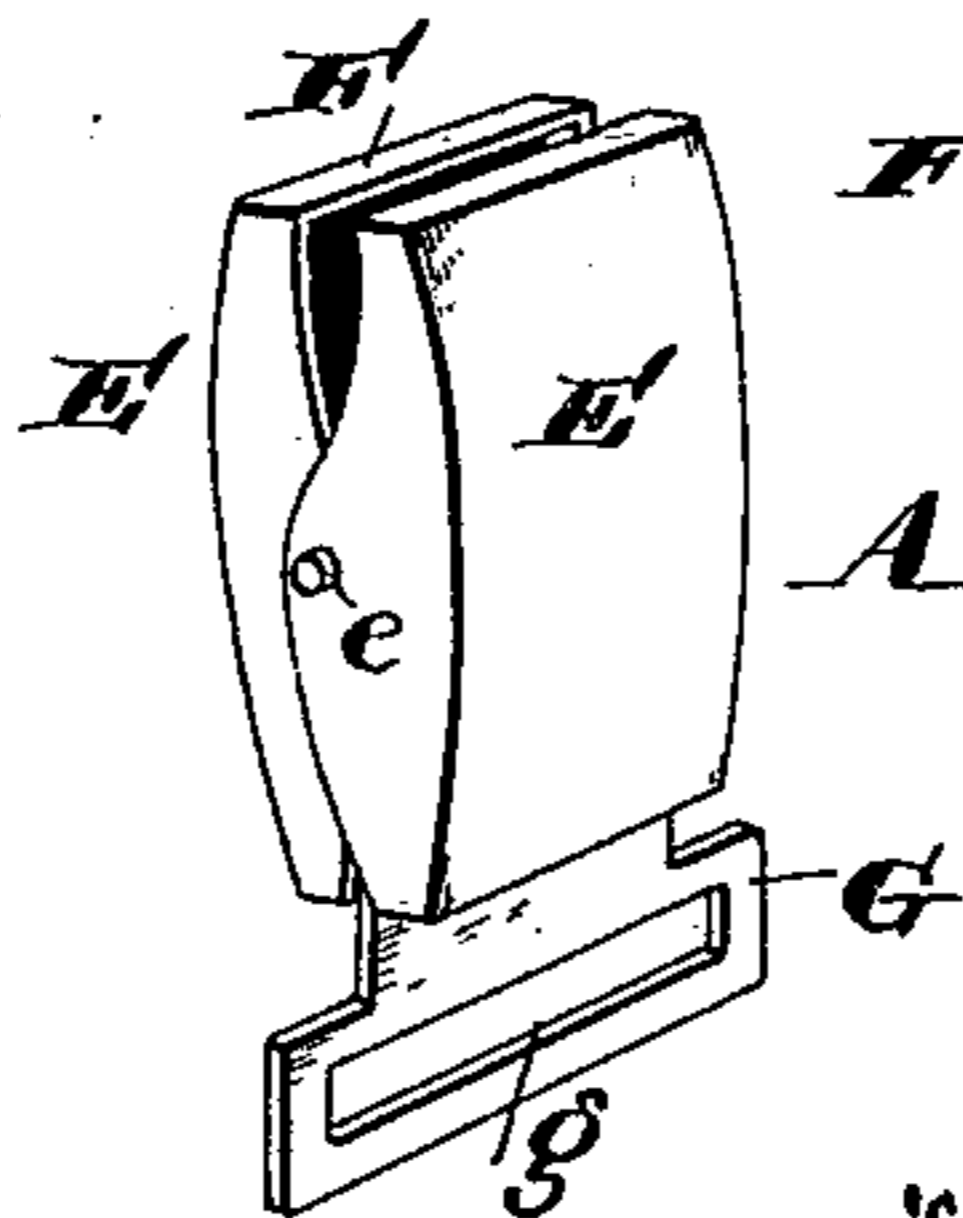


FIG. 2.



Witnesses:

Henry Drury
[Signature]

Inventor:

Josephine Schmidt
By her attorney
[Signature]

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPHINE SCHMIDT, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 421,086, dated February 11, 1890.

Application filed January 2, 1890. Serial No. 335,600. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPHINE SCHMIDT, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improve-
5 ment in Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to clasps for supporting garments, &c.; and it consists of certain improvements, which are fully set
10 forth in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings, which form a part thereof.

My apparatus is so constructed that it will firmly clasp and hold the article to which it
15 is applied without tearing or injuring it by the usual teeth or indented clamping-edges, and is so formed that an increase in the tension or pulling of the free end of the clasp will tend to tighten the clamping-jaws upon
20 the article between them.

My improved clasp is particularly suited for supporting women's stockings from the bottom of the corset of the wearer, because the clasp in no way injures the corset, and any
25 tendency of the stocking to fall down tightens the jaws upon the corset and secures them more firmly thereto, pulling upon the free end of the clasp. It may, however, be applied to a great variety of uses, such as holding up
30 sleeves, cuffs, &c.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an illustrative view showing my improved clasp as applied to use in supporting stockings. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the clasp, and Fig. 3 is a
35 sectional side elevation of the same.

A is the clasp.

B is a supporting-band, of elastic or other material, connected to the clasp A, as herein-
40 after described, to which the stocking C or other article to be supported is attached. The stocking C may be held, if desired, by a clasp similar to my improved clasp A, or it may be attached to the band B by any convenient means.

45 D is the corset or other article to which the clasp A is applied. The clasp is formed of two corresponding metal pieces E E, having their edges bent over and pivoted together at e. These pieces E E are provided with flanges
50 or inwardly-projecting ends F F; forming the clamping-jaws, and having their outer or free ends I I curved or inclining inwardly to a slight degree, so as to approach each other at the rear end. (See Fig. 3.) The two metal

pieces E E are preferably formed of stamped
sheet metal. 55

G is a link having an enlarged end or head H, preferably formed by bending or rolling over the link G. This enlarged end or head H fits between the inclined faces K of the
60 ends I I, and is loosely held between them and prevented from falling out laterally by means of the bent-over side edges of the pieces E E. The band B may be attached to this link G in any convenient manner. 65

Material D to be clamped is placed between the flanged ends F F, which I prefer to form with teeth or indentations to prevent tearing of the material, and when the link G is pulled or drawn rearwardly the enlarged
70 end or head H is brought farther out between the curved or inclined faces K K of the ends I I, and forces these ends farther apart, thus removing the clamping or gripping jaws F F closer together upon the material D, and the
75 greater the tension upon the link G the tighter will these jaws be clamped. It is apparent that by pushing the link in so as to release the pressure of the enlarged head H against the faces K K the jaws F may be
80 opened to release the material D. The parts of the clasp may be formed of stamped sheet metal and are inexpensive to manufacture.

While I prefer the mere details of construction which are here shown, it is appar-
85 ent that they may be modified without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters
90 Patent, is—

A clasp consisting of two jaws pivoted together and having their rear ends inclined toward each other, and a strap-link having an enlarged head arranged between and directly
95 in contact with the inner inclined faces of said rear ends, whereby when said strap-link is moved rearwardly the enlarged head presses directly against the inclined faces of the rear ends of the jaws and forces them apart, thereby pressing the forward or clamp-
100 ing jaws together.

In testimony of which invention I have hereunto set my hand.

JOSEPHINE SCHMIDT.

Witnesses:

ERNEST HOWARD HUNTER,
MAURICE H. HOLMES.