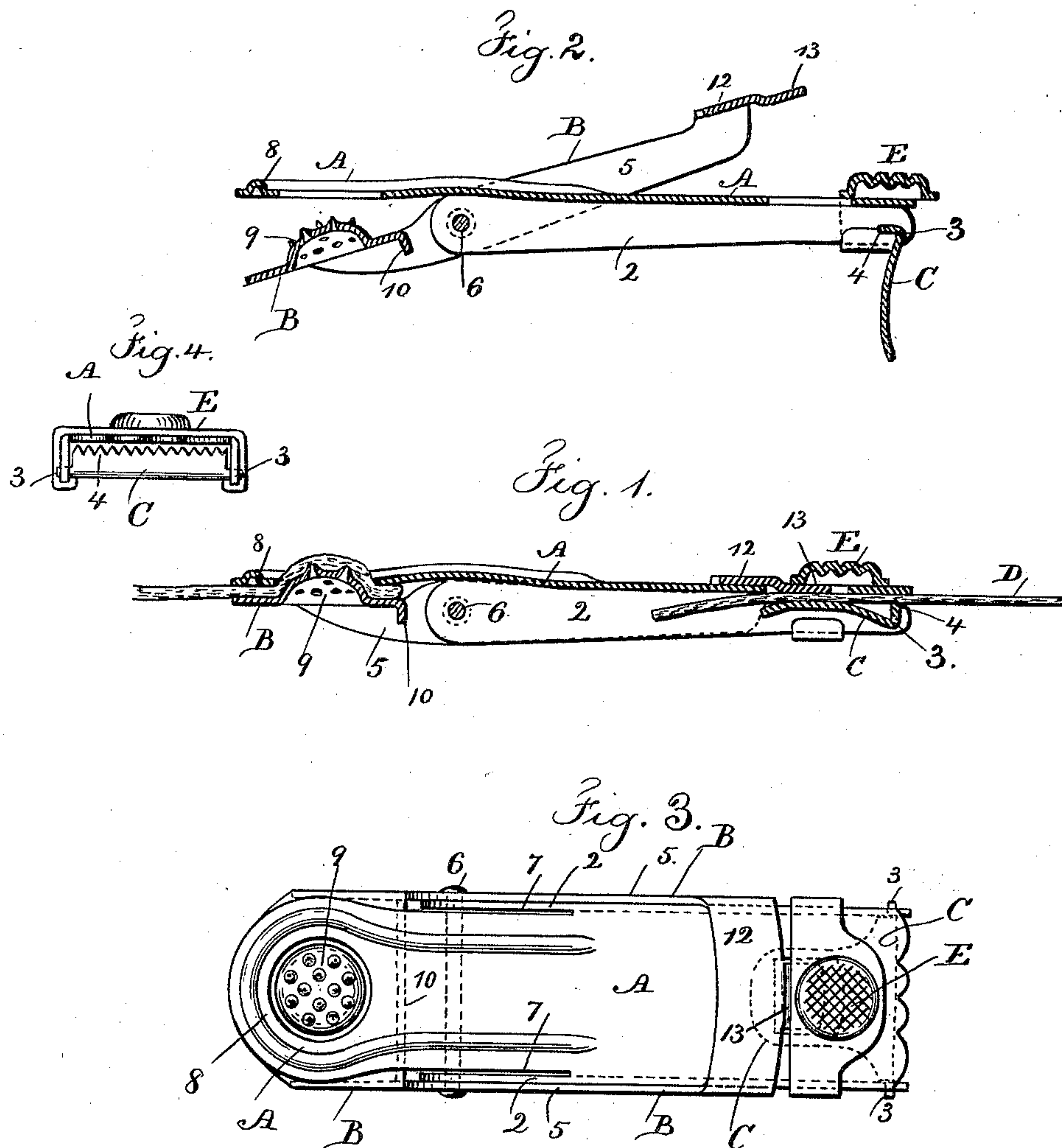


(No Model.)

W. A. BERNARD.  
GARMENT FASTENER.

No. 432,177.

Patented July 15, 1890.



Witnesses

Chas. N. Smith  
J. Stail

Inventor

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att'y

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. BERNARD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO BERNARD,  
WALKER & RICE, OF SAME PLACE.

## GARMENT-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 432,177, dated July 15, 1890.

Application filed October 18, 1889. Serial No. 327,430. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. BERNARD, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and State of New York, have invented an  
5 Improvement in Garment-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

Garment supporters or fasteners have been made of two jaws. Sometimes these have been connected by pivots, and in other instances  
10 they have been made with spring-arms riveted or formed together at the distant ends from the jaw.

My present invention relates to a garment-fastening in which the two principal parts are  
15 pivoted together, so that the jaws may be opened or closed, and one of the jaws is at the end of a spring that extends past the fulcrum that unites the jaws together, so that such spring is of sufficient length to act freely  
20 in holding the garment that is introduced between the jaws, and the spring accommodates different thicknesses of material and allows the jaws to be parallel, or nearly so, to each other, even when different thicknesses of ma-  
25 terials may be between the jaws.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of the fastening as closed. Fig. 2 is a similar view open. Fig. 3 is a plan of the garment-fastening, and Fig. 4 is an end view  
30 of the same.

The two principal parts A and B of the fastening are made of sheet metal. The part A has side flanges 2 2, between which is received a lever-clamp C, having end pivots 3  
35 and teeth at 4, so that a strap, elastic, tape, or similar device introduced between the lever-clamp C and the sides 2 2 of the plate A can be clamped by turning the lever C down and bringing the teeth 4 forcibly into contact  
40 with such strap or strip D. The part B of the fastening is formed with side bars 5, which are pivoted at 6 to the sides or flanges 2 of the plate A, and there are incisions or separations at 7 between the flanges 2 and the body of  
45 the plate A, which incisions extend past the pivot 6 toward the lever-clamp C, so as to form a spring tongue or jaw at the end portion of the plate or part A of the fastening.

This jaw end is marked 8, and is preferably  
50 made with a central opening or hole, as shown

in Fig. 3. The jaw 9 upon the part B of the fastening extends across between the side bars 5, and it is preferably made with a dome with points struck up in the sheet metal that form  
55 claws to detain and hold the fabric of the garment when placed between the jaws 8 and 9, and the dome on the jaw 9 is small enough to pass freely into the opening in the jaw 8, and the jaw 9 is strengthened by a rib or flange  
60 10 of the sheet metal bent downwardly at the back edge of the jaw. The back ends of the side bars 5 are united by a cross-bar 12, which is preferably formed with a projecting tongue  
65 13 at the rear, which tongue passes down into a mortise or opening in the plate A, and there is a sliding clip E, the ends of which are passed  
70 down and turned up around the lower edges of the side flanges 2, and this clip is free to be moved laterally over the tongue 13 to hold the same in place when the jaws of the fast-  
75 ening are closed or to be drawn back for liberating such fastening. It will now be understood that this fastening is adapted to shirt-sleeves, cravats, suspenders, or to form  
80 drawer-supporters, or to be used to hold any portion of one garment to another, and in consequence of the length of the part or plate A from the jaw portion 8 to the end of the incisions 7 such plate is free to spring and hold  
85 various thicknesses of garment to which the fastener may be applied, and the jaws 8 and 9 will be parallel, or nearly so, to each other, regardless of the thickness of material that may be introduced between such jaws.

The clamping-lever C, with the teeth 4, al-  
85 low for this garment-fastening being easily connected with a strap or tape or other part of the clothing, and for adjusting its position on such strap without requiring the fastening to be riveted, sewed, or permanently attached  
90 to the strap or other portion of the garment. By making a rib in the sheet metal around the jaw and extending back a greater or less distance on the plate the metal will be stiff-  
95 ened to obtain the necessary strength and spring action in comparatively thin sheet metal.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a garment-fastener, the part A, hav-  
ing the side flanges 2 and the spring-jaw 8 100



between these side flanges, the part B, having the cross-bar 12 at one end, the jaw 9 at the other end, and the side flanges 5, and the pivot-pin 6, passing through the side flanges 5 2 and 5, and the sliding clip E for holding the jaws together, substantially as specified.

2. The garment-fastener having a part A, with flanges 2, and a jaw B, with side bars 5, pivoted to the flanges 2, in combination with the 10 lever-clamp C, pivoted between the flanges 2, and the sliding clip E for holding the parts of the garment-fastening when closed, substantially as set forth.

3. In a garment-fastener, the part A, having the side flanges 2 and the jaw 8, and slot- 15 ted longitudinally adjacent to the flanges to form the spring, the part B, having the cross-bar 12 at one end, the jaw 9 at the other end, and the side flanges 5, and the pivot-pin 6, passing through the side flanges 2 and 5, sub- 20 stantially as specified.

Signed by me this 14th day of October, 1889.

WILLIAM A. BERNARD.

Witnesses:-

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,

WILLIAM G. MOTT.