

(No Model.)

J. H. RUSSELL.  
CLOTHES PIN.

No. 495,518.

Patented Apr. 18, 1893.

Fig. 1.

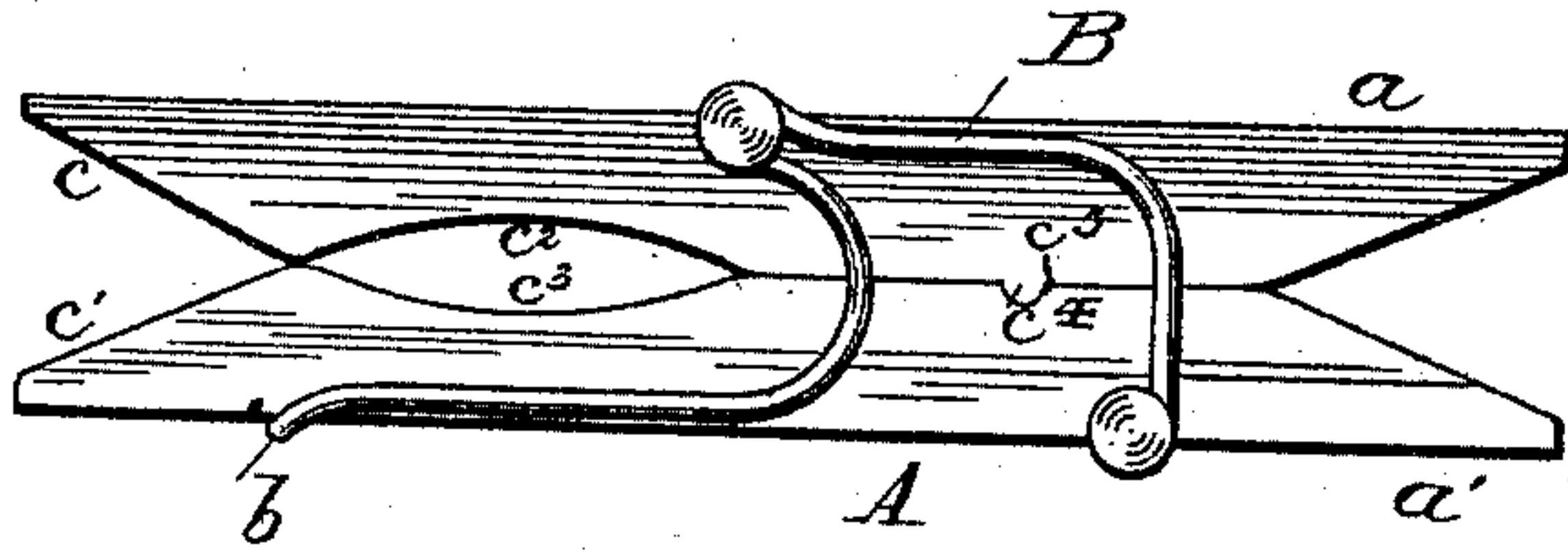


Fig. 2.

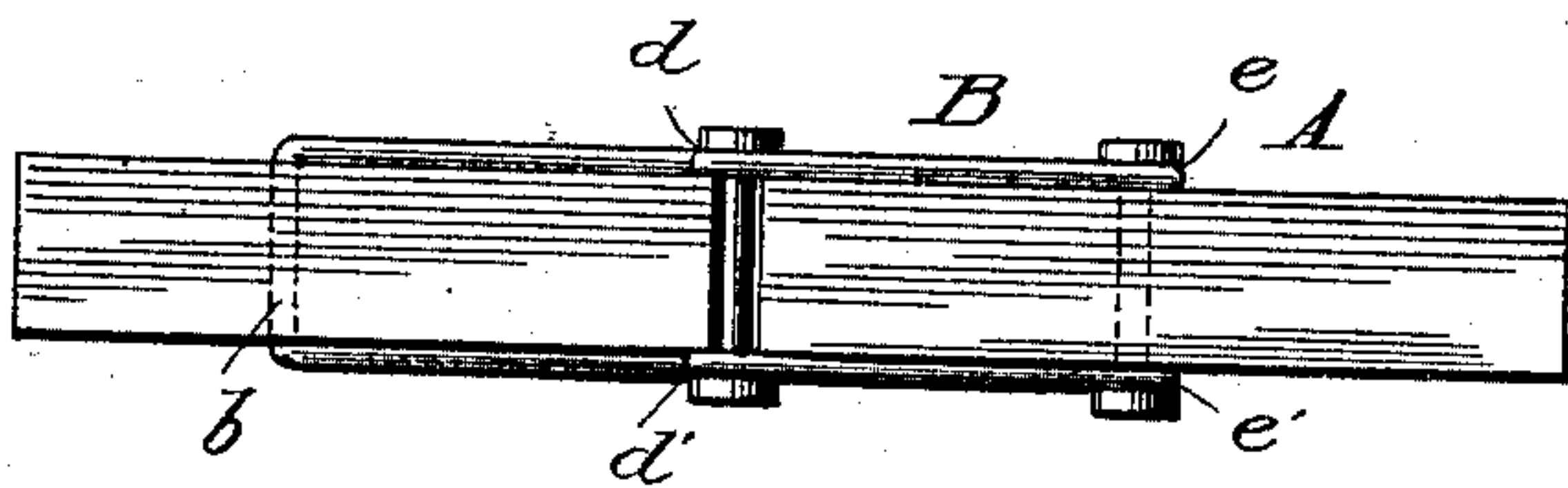


Fig. 3.

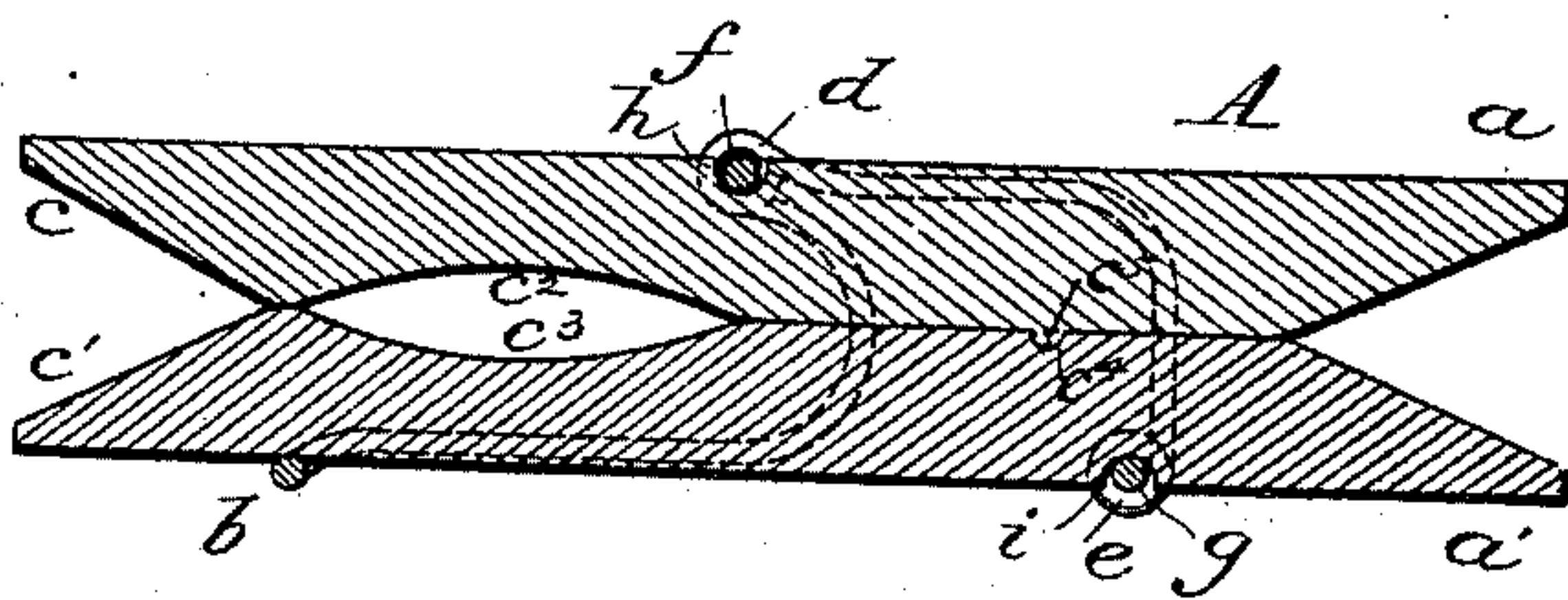
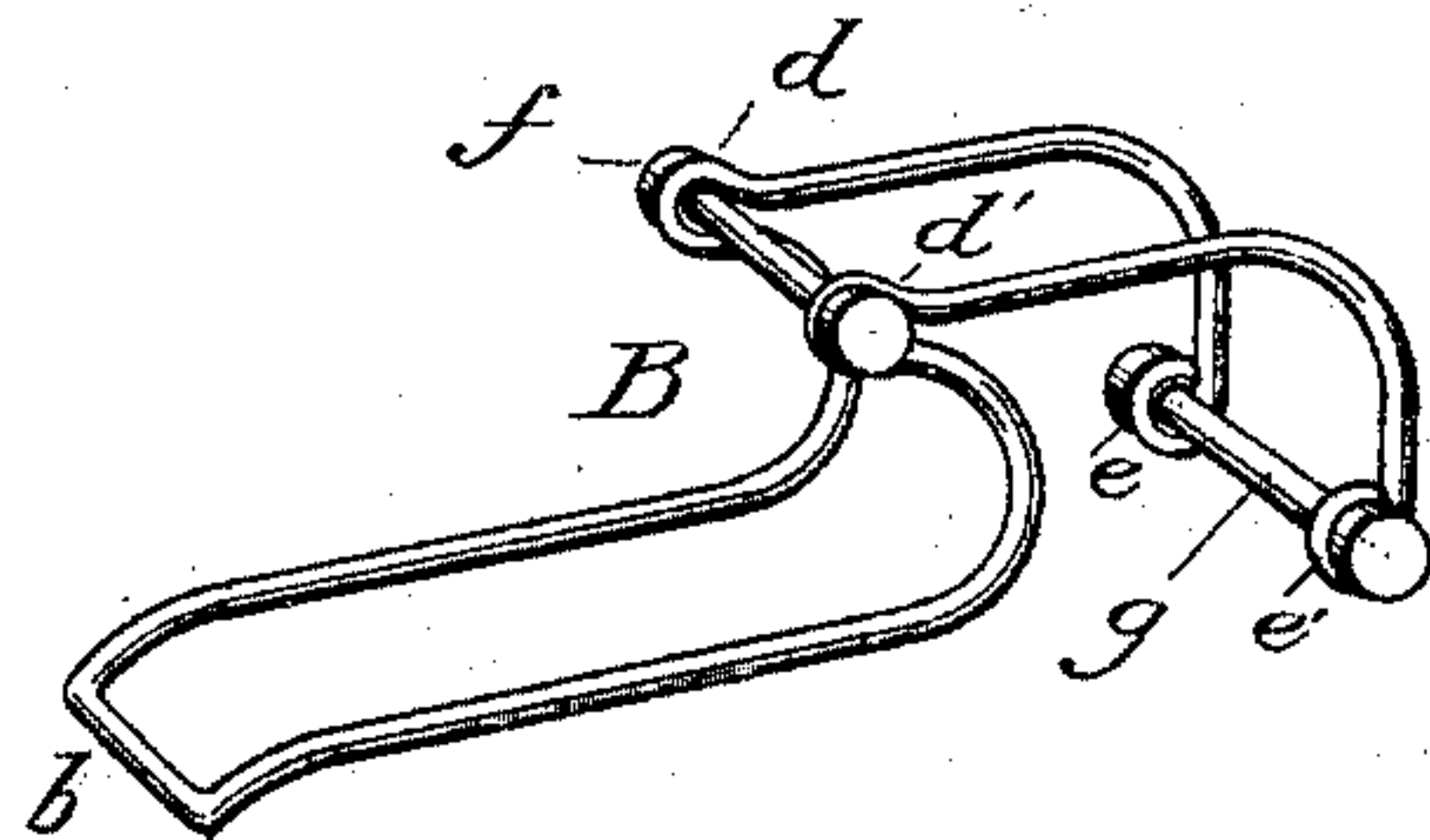


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

Raymond A. Barnes.  
J. S. Chubb.

Inventor

J. H. Russell  
By P. T. Dodge  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. RUSSELL, OF MANISTEE, MICHIGAN.

## CLOTHES-PIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 495,518, dated April 18, 1893.

Application filed July 16, 1892. Serial No. 440,271. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES H. RUSSELL, of Manistee, county of Manistee, and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clothes-Pins, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to clothes-pins, and more particularly to those in which two clamping fingers are combined with a spring in such manner that the latter will hold the fingers normally together but will permit them to readily yield when the pin is in use.

The invention consists in certain improvements designed to cheapen and simplify the construction of the pin and to render the same effective in operation.

The invention also consists in the details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings,—Figure 1 is a side elevation of a clothes-pin embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the clamping spring detached.

Referring to the drawings,—A represents my improved pin, consisting of two fingers  $a$   $a'$ , of any suitable material, and of a clamping spring B, applied to said fingers, and acting to hold them normally forcibly together. The two fingers have their forward ends beveled, as shown at  $c$   $c'$ , to leave a space for the entrance of the clothes or other object to be clamped. They are further recessed in their contiguous faces, as at  $c^2$   $c^3$ , so that an opening is left within which the clothes are embraced, as usual. In rear of this opening the meeting faces of the fingers are flat so that they may lie closely together, from which point they extend rearward and have their inner faces beveled outward in opposite directions, as shown, so that by pressing upon these extended ends the forward ends of the fingers may be opened. They are prevented from moving relatively longitudinally by means of a rib  $c^4$ , on the inner flat face of the finger  $a$ , which is arranged to enter a groove  $c^5$ , in the companion finger  $a'$ .

The clamping spring B, consists of a single piece of spring wire which is bent so as to extend on both sides of the two fingers. This spring has a horizontal portion  $b$ , arranged to

bear on the under side of the finger  $a'$ , near its forward end from which point the spring extends in two parts rearward on the sides of the fingers, then upward and forward to the upper side of the finger  $a$ , at which point the two portions are bent suddenly backward forming two eyes  $d$   $d'$ , thence they extend rearward and then downward, terminating at the lower edge of finger  $a'$ , in the form of eyes  $e$   $e'$ . The eyes  $d$   $d'$  and  $e$   $e'$  are adapted to receive respectively pins  $f$   $g$ , which are seated in transverse recesses  $h$   $i$ , formed respectively in the upper side of the finger  $a$ , and the under side of the finger  $a'$ . The pins are provided with heads to prevent them from slipping laterally from the eyes.

In the foregoing construction it will be seen that the pressure of the spring is applied near the forward end of the finger  $a'$ , on its under side, on the upper side of finger  $a$ , about midway of its length, and on the under side of the finger  $a'$ , near its rear end; the result being that the full elastic effect of the spring is developed so that the fingers will readily yield when in use to admit the clothes and, thereafter will be held tightly together to clamp the same.

It will be observed that no permanent fastening devices are necessary inasmuch as the pins are seated loosely in the recesses of the fingers and are held by the spring, the pins serving to maintain the spring in position.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination with the two fingers, of the clamping spring applied thereto and arranged to bear on one of the fingers near its ends and on the other finger between its ends.

2. The combination with the two fingers, one having a transverse notch in its outer side near one end and the other a notch also in the outer side near its center, of the spring formed with an integral bar  $b$ , at one end, eyes or loops in the two arms near the center and at the free ends, and the transverse pins  $f$ ,  $g$ , supported in said eyes or loops and seated in the transverse notches of the fingers, the bar  $b$ , and the pin  $g$ , lying against one finger, and the bar  $f$ , against the other.

3. The combination with the two fingers provided on their upper and under sides with recesses, of the clamping spring extending on

opposite sides of the fingers and provided with the horizontal portion *b*, bearing on the under side of one of the fingers near its forward end, and with the eyes, and the pins  
5 seated in the recesses and extending into the eyes.

4. The combination with the two fingers provided in their upper and under sides with recesses, of the clamping spring consisting of  
10 the single piece of wire formed with the horizontal portion *b*, to bear on the under side of one of the fingers near its forward end and with the eyes *d d'* and *e e'* arranged in rear

of the horizontal portion at the upper and under sides of the fingers, and the transverse  
15 pins seated in the said recesses and extending into the eyes in the spring, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand, this 27th day of May, 1892, in the pres-  
20 ence of two attesting witnesses.

JAMES H. RUSSELL.

Witnesses:

G. R. GIESMAN,  
EDWIN RUSSELL.