(No Model.)

O. L. MASON & R. C. COLE.

GARMENT HOOK.

No. 531,442. Patented Dec. 25, 1894.

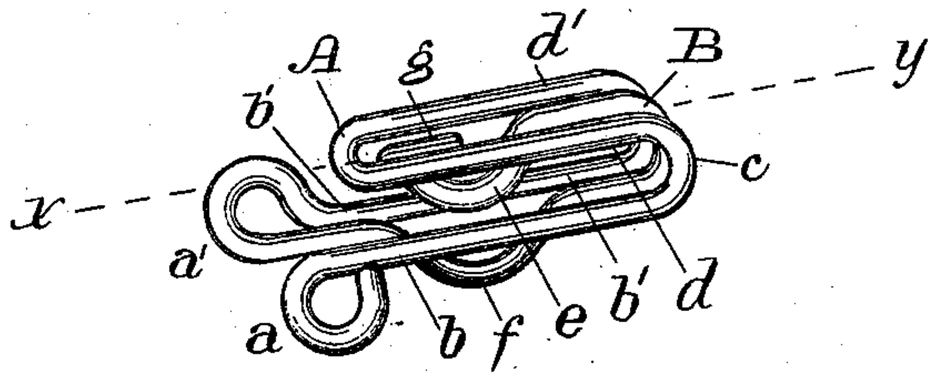

Fig. 1

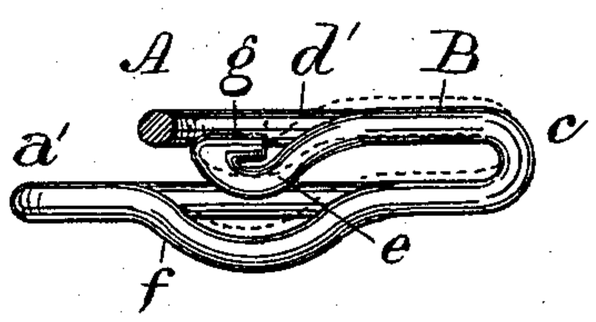

Fig. 2

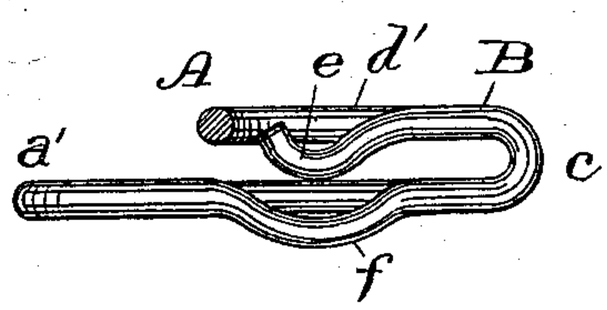

Fig. 3

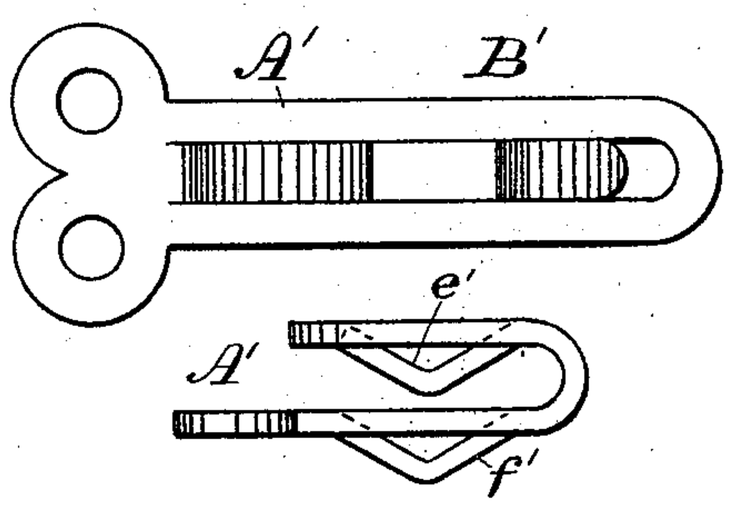

Fig. 4

Witnesses;

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ORVILLE L. MASON AND ROMAINE C. COLE, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

GARMENT-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 531,442, dated December 25, 1894.

Application filed April 25, 1894. Serial No. 508,913. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ORVILLE L. MASON and ROMAINE C. COLE, citizens of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Hooks; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates to improvements in hooks for garments, and has special reference to hooks of the class customarily used with an eye, and hence commonly known as "hooks and eyes," although applicable also to other hooks. Its object is to improve the action of the hook and obviate defects found in the present forms of such hooks.

Our invention consists of a hook provided with a spring-tongue intermediate of the side bars of the shank and hook proper, and which tongue is provided with a retaining bend or angle, forming the usual lock for the eye, and with a relieving bend or angle opposite to the same, whereby a new effect is obtained and the objections found to the use of other hooks are obviated, as will be fully hereinafter explained.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 represents a garment hook embodying our invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation thereof, taken on the line *x*—*y* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a like sectional view showing a modification of form, and Fig. 4 represents a modified form of hook embodying our invention and adapted to different uses from the form shown in Fig. 1.

A represents the hook of the form commonly used with an eye, and is preferably formed of a continuous piece of wire bent into the loops *a*, *a'*, the straight sides *b b'* of the shank, the bend *c*, and the straight sides *d d'* of the hook proper.

From the loop *a'*, which completes the hook alone, the wire is continued in the tongue B, lying between the sides *b b'* of the shank and *d d'* of the hook, and having near the middle of the part lying within the hook sides *d d'* a downward extending bend or angle *e*, reaching nearly to the plane of the upper sides of the shank part *b b'* of the hook. As the eye is passed into the hook between the parts *b b'* and *d d'* it lifts the hook part of the tongue B by means of the bend or angle *e*, which springing down again behind the eye, locks it in the hook. In hooks having such a locking bend or angle, either on the shank or hook proper, or both, great difficulty has heretofore been experienced in unhooking the eye, owing to the fact that when sewed upon the garment the eye cannot be readily or firmly grasped by the fingers, and the spring of the parts being so short and slight considerable force was required to effect the unhooking of it, as it was necessary to bend the two parts forming the tongue apart from each other.

In our improved hook the length of the part that springs in hooking or unhooking is more than double that of other forms, being all of the tongue from the eye *a'* around the bend *e*, and to prevent the binding of the eye between the bend *e* and the shank portion of the tongue, as it otherwise would, we form a downward bend or angle *f* in the shank part of the tongue opposite to the bend *e*, which allows the eye to pass between the shank sides *b b'* and the bend *e* without contact with the shank portion of the tongue. At the same time the bend *e* offers sufficient resistance to the unhooking of the eye to prevent its being accidentally unhooked.

Although it is preferable, to continue the tongue backward in the line of the hook, as shown at *g*, so as to wholly or partially close the open part of the bend *e*, yet the tongue is entirely efficient if terminated just within the point of the hook, as shown in Fig. 3, without the continuation *g*, and such construction is equally within our invention.

By locating the backward extension *g* below the plane of the hook proper, we entirely prevent the possibility of the tongue catching in the fabric to which the eye is attached, which it would be liable to do if it protruded above the hook while the eye is being passed under the tongue. By our construction the eye in passing under the bend *e* only lifts the end *g* to a level with but not above the hook proper, as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 2.

It is obvious that the hook can as well be made of sheet metal, by stamping out the blanks of the form shown in the upper part of Fig. 4, and bending the same to form the hook A', which is suitable for uses which re-

quire a heavier and stronger hook than can conveniently be made of wire. Such a hook is suitable for use in suspenders, dress supporters, curtain fasteners, &c., and is equally equally within our invention.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A hook having a tongue extending through the shank and hook proper between the side bars thereof, said tongue having a retaining bend extending from the hook portion toward the shank portion and a relieving bend in the shank portion opposite to the retaining bend and in the same direction therewith, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof we hereto affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

ORVILLE L. MASON.
ROMAINE C. COLE.

Witnesses:
ROLAND RIDER,
E. D. STARK.