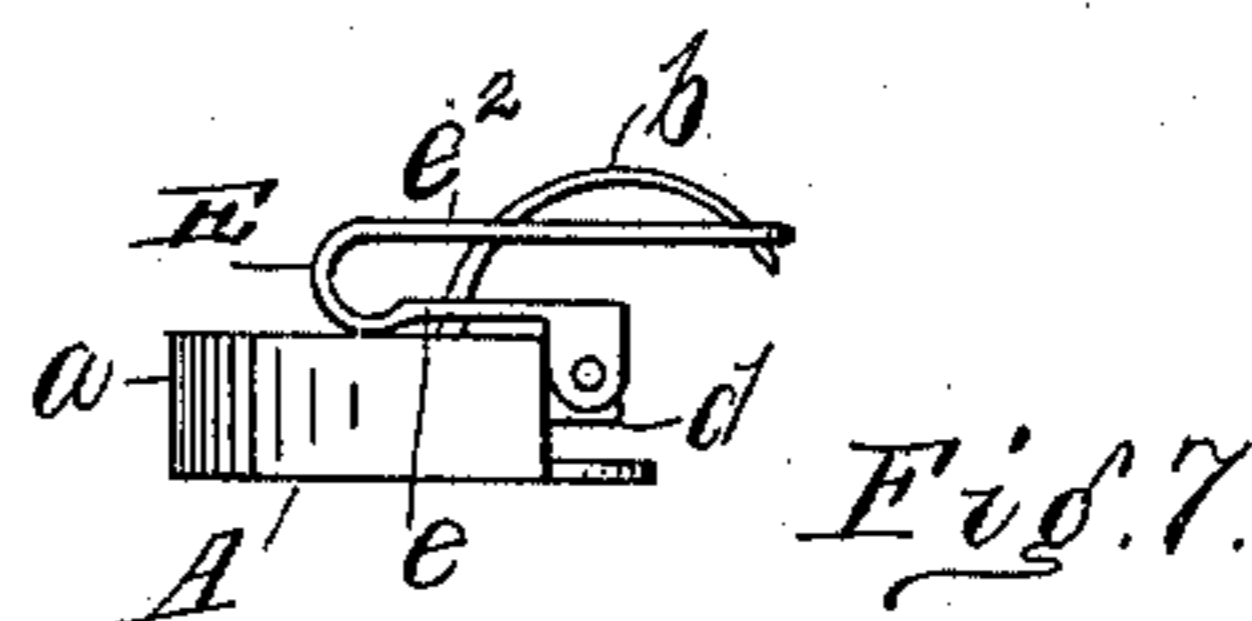
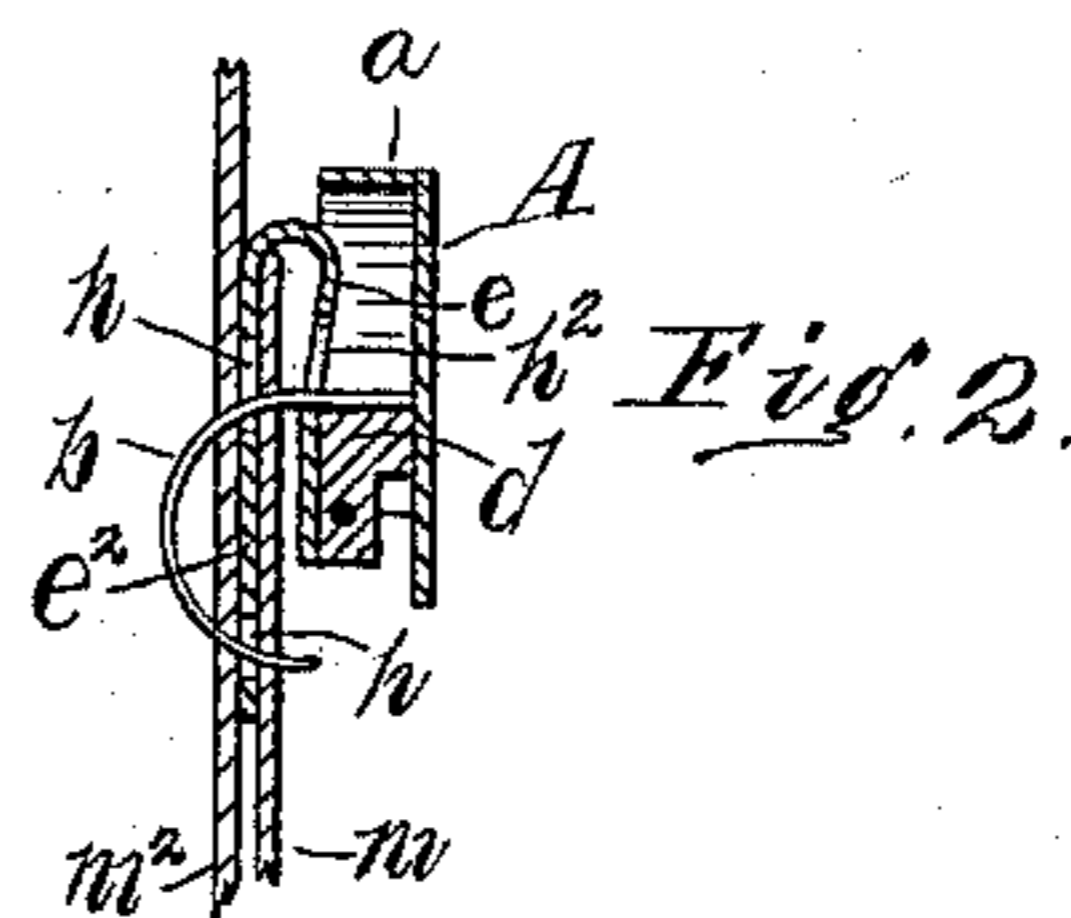
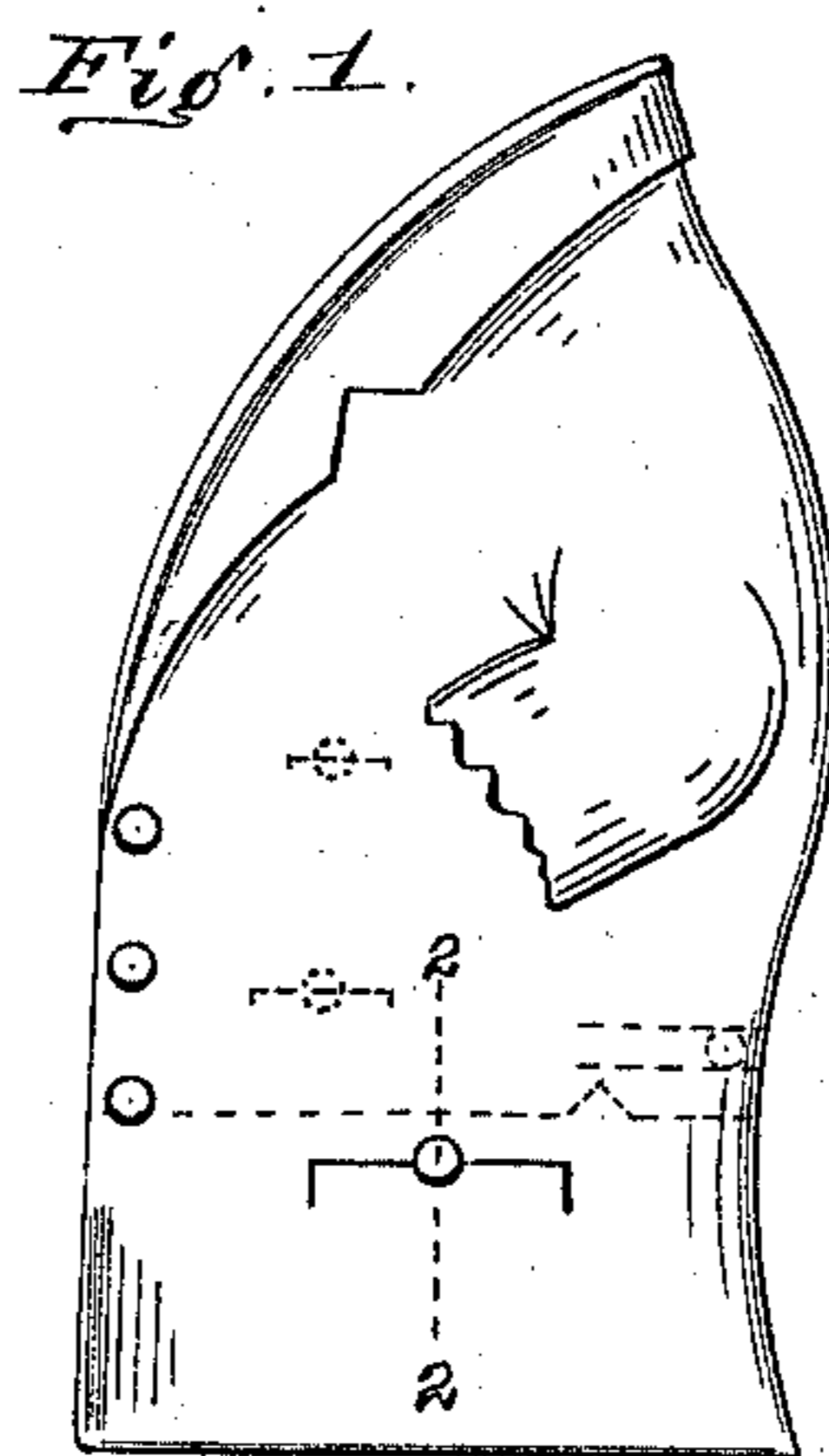
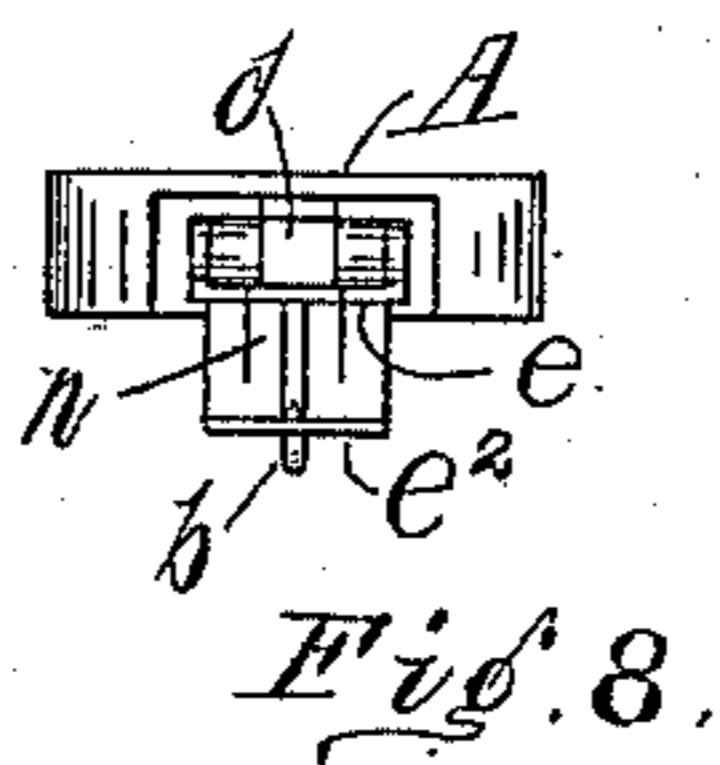
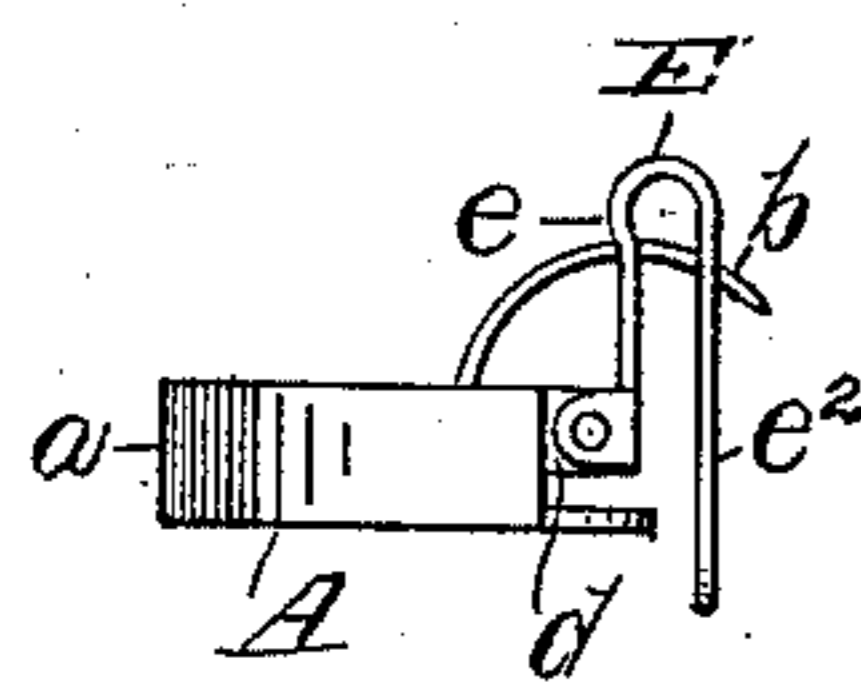
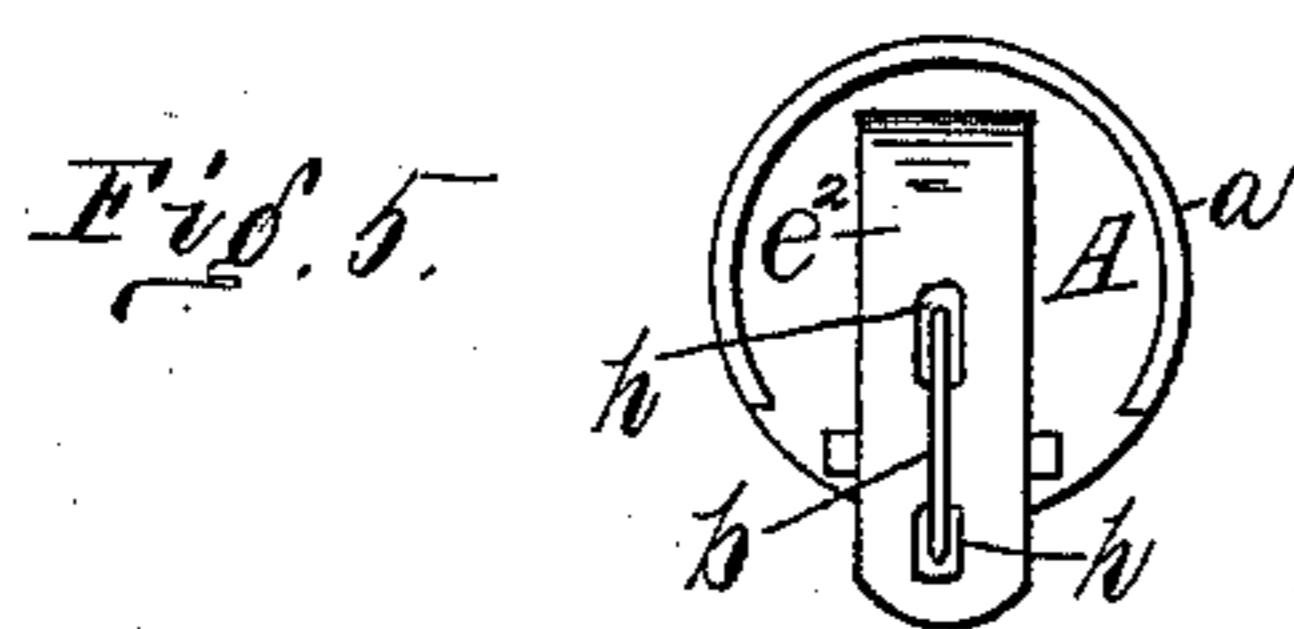
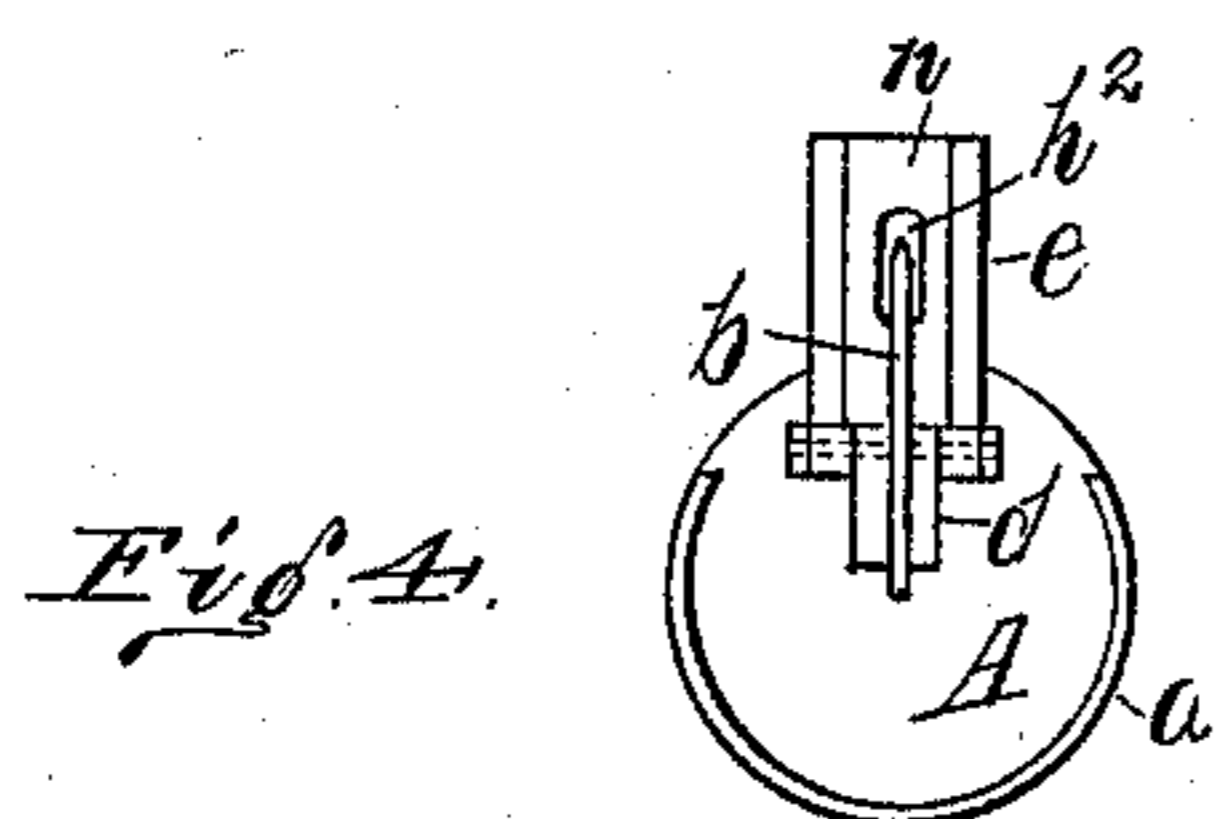
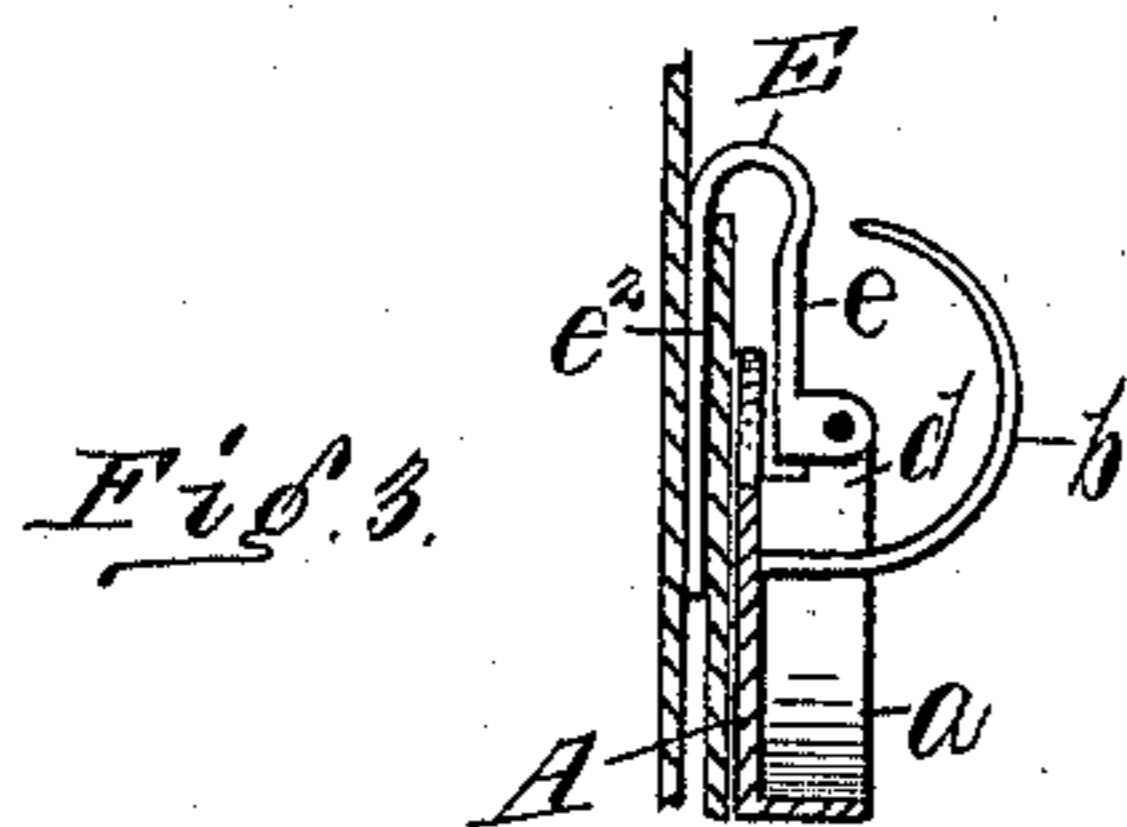


(No Model.)

H. ZERING.  
GARMENT CLASP.

No. 540,290.

Patented June 4, 1895.



Witnesses

Chas. J. Ruffin.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY ZERING, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

## GARMENT-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 540,290, dated June 4, 1895.

Application filed February 2, 1895. Serial No. 537,054. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY ZERING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, Hamilton county, State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Clasps, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and economic clasp for fastening together and locking two pieces of cloth or other fabric, in the manner substantially as hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 illustrates my improved clasp as applied to the lappel of a pocket to lock the same and prevent the contents from becoming lost or stolen, and also used as buttons, thus doing away with the buttonhole and allowing the garment to be adjusted as tightly or as loosely as desired. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view on dotted line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 illustrates the clasp with the pivoted lock-plate swung out to receive the fabric to be locked. Fig. 4 is a top view of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a top view of the clasp with the lock-plate swung back in a locked position in connection with the fixed circularly-bent pin. Figs. 6 and 7 illustrate the lock-plate in two different positions on its fixed pin in the act of locking the clasp. Fig. 8 is an edge view taken at right hand of Fig. 7, inverted, showing the spring-tongue and angular lug for holding the lock-plate in the different positions illustrated.

When constructed as shown, my improved clasp consists of a base A, having, preferably, an upturned flange *a* for about two-thirds its circumference, to which base is attached one or more bent pins, *b*, (one only being shown.) To this base, adjacent said pin is secured an angular lug, *d*, to which is pivoted the lock-plate, E, the latter being bent upon itself forming the two portions *e* and *e*<sup>2</sup>, the latter being provided with two elongated openings *h* (see Figs. 2 and 5), while the portion *e* is provided with one such opening *h*<sup>2</sup> (see Fig. 4) which openings are to permit of the bent pin *b* passing through them when the lock-plate is manipulated in the manner presently to be described.

The lower bent portion *e* of the pivoted lock-plate is provided with a suitable spring which impinges against the angular lug *d*, to retain

said plate in a closed position as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 5, and 7, in an opened position, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, or in a semi-closed position as shown in Fig. 6. This spring is preferably formed by forming two longitudinal cuts in the position *e* of the lock-plate (see Figs. 4 and 8) thus forming an intermediate tongue, *n*, which impinges against the lug *d* at all times.

The operation of my improved clasp is as follows: The outer fabric, *m*, is placed between the two portions *e* and *e*<sup>2</sup> of the lock-plate, as shown in Fig. 2, and by dotted lines in Fig. 3, while the other piece of fabric *m*<sup>2</sup> is pressed against the outer face of portion *e*<sup>2</sup>, as shown; and, when in this position the operator grasps the base A and swings it toward the slotted lock-plate, which movement causes the pin *b* to pass through the opening *h*<sup>2</sup>, thence through the fabric *m*, thence through one of the openings *h*, fabric *m*<sup>2</sup> and out through the other opening *h*. This operation causes the pin *b* to pass twice through the two pieces of fabric. If more than one pin is employed it will require additional openings *h* and *h*<sup>2</sup> for each pin.

The base, A, of the clasp is preferably formed round same as an ordinary button, and, when locked to place, the outer face of this base is all that is visible, as the fabric will hide the lock-plate. This base may be of any other desired shape, and may be plated or cloth-covered as desired.

The device is quite simple of construction, reliable in operation and cheap of manufacture, while the uses to which it may be applied are too numerous to herein attempt to enumerate.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of base A having an angular lug *d* and a bent pin *b* attached thereto, lock-plate E pivoted to said lug, said plate being bent upon itself forming the two portions *e* and *e*<sup>2</sup> having therein, respectively, the openings *h*<sup>2</sup> and *h* through which the said pin is adapted to pass, and a suitable spring for retaining said base and lock-plate in a fixed position relative to each other.

HARRY ZERING.

Witnesses:

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