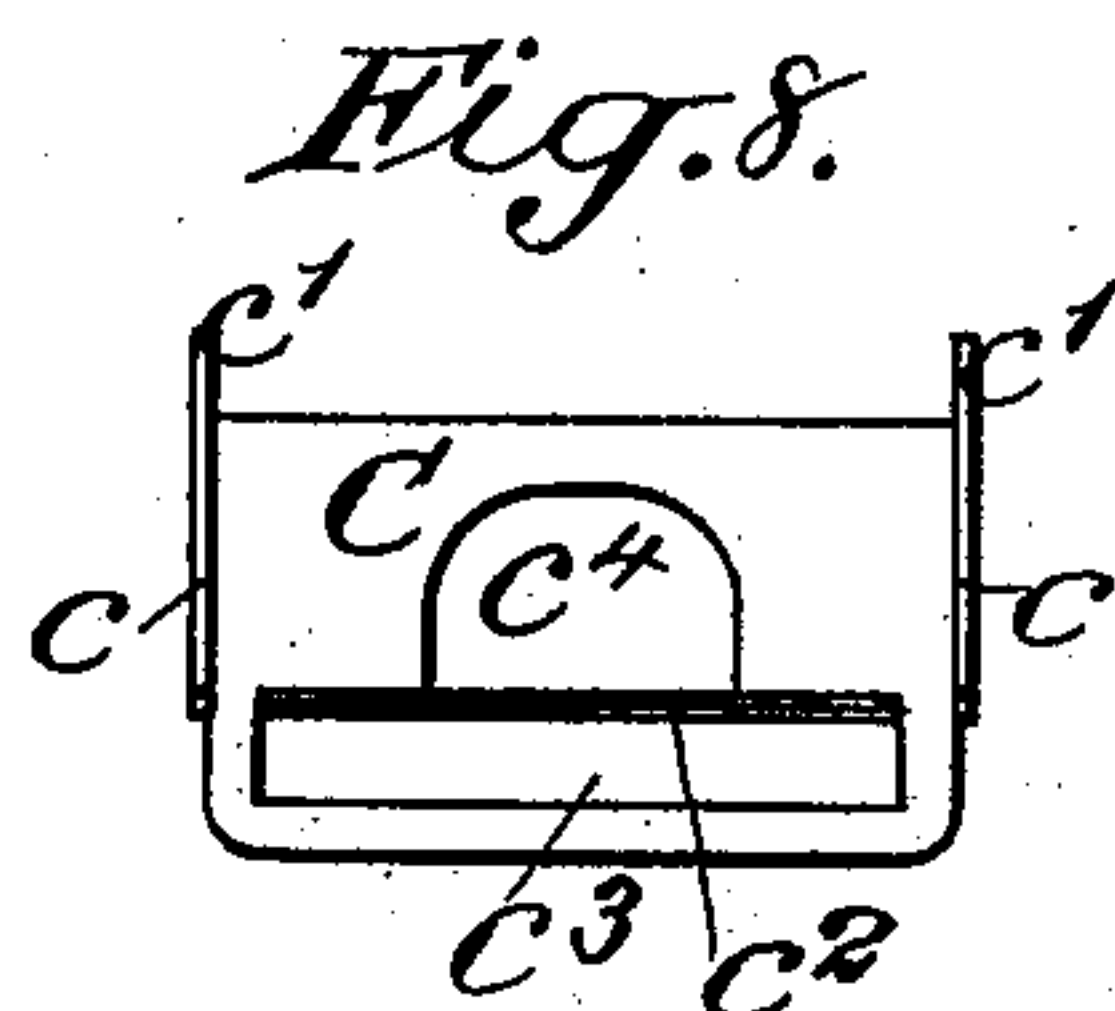
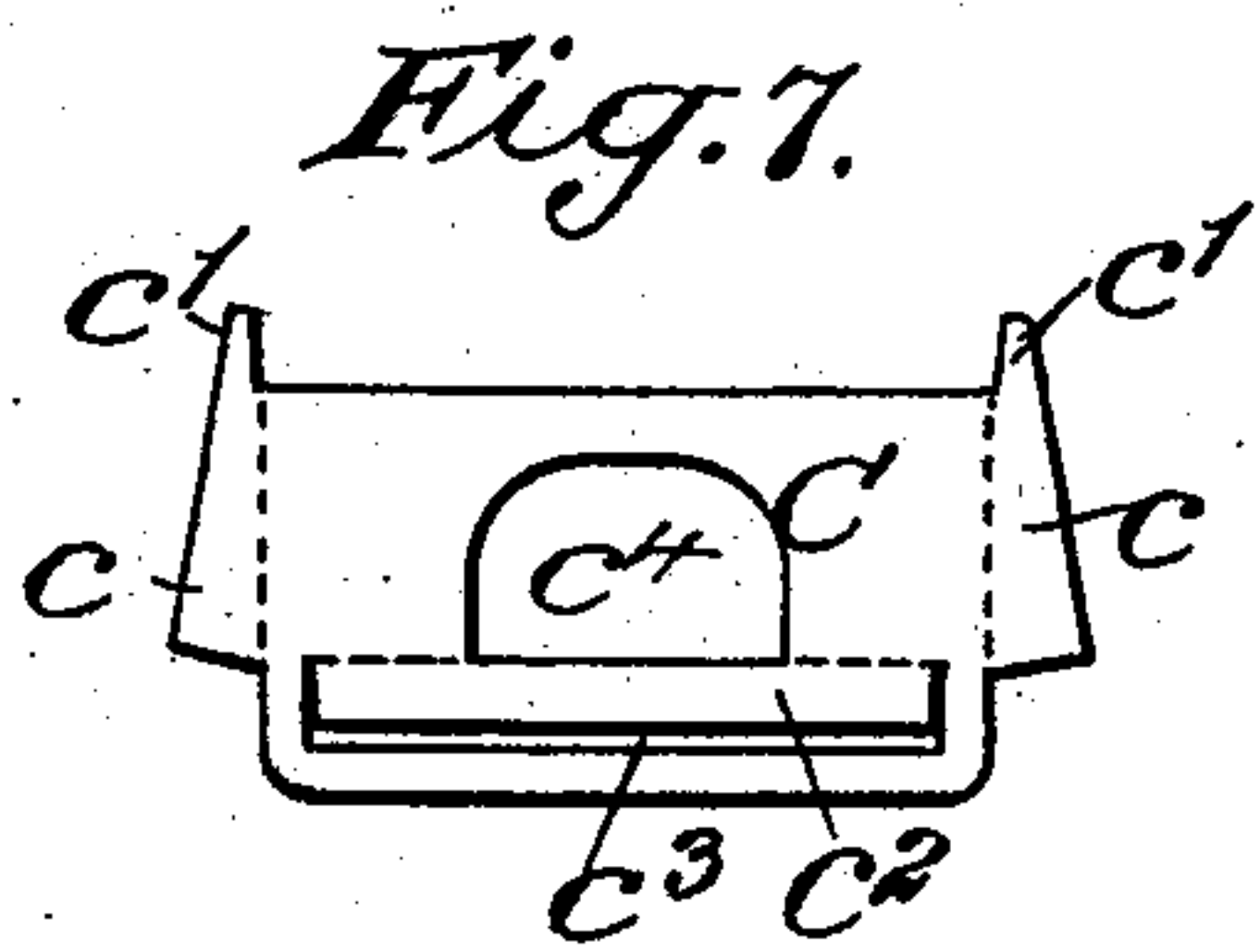
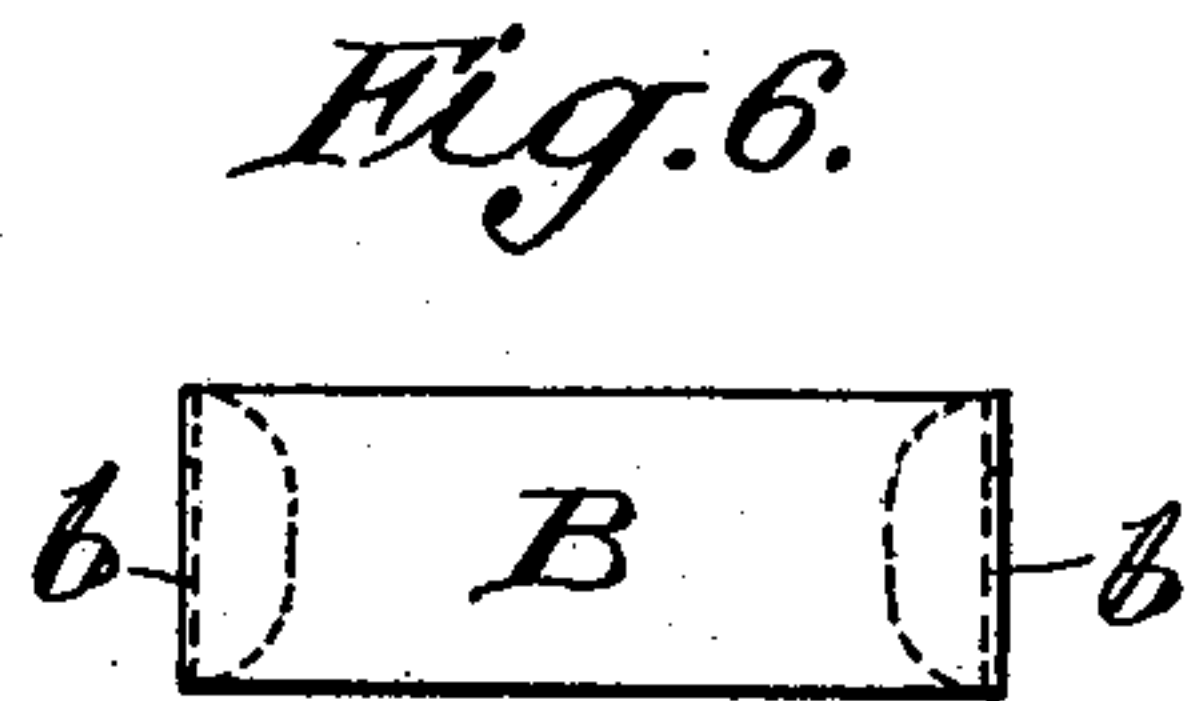
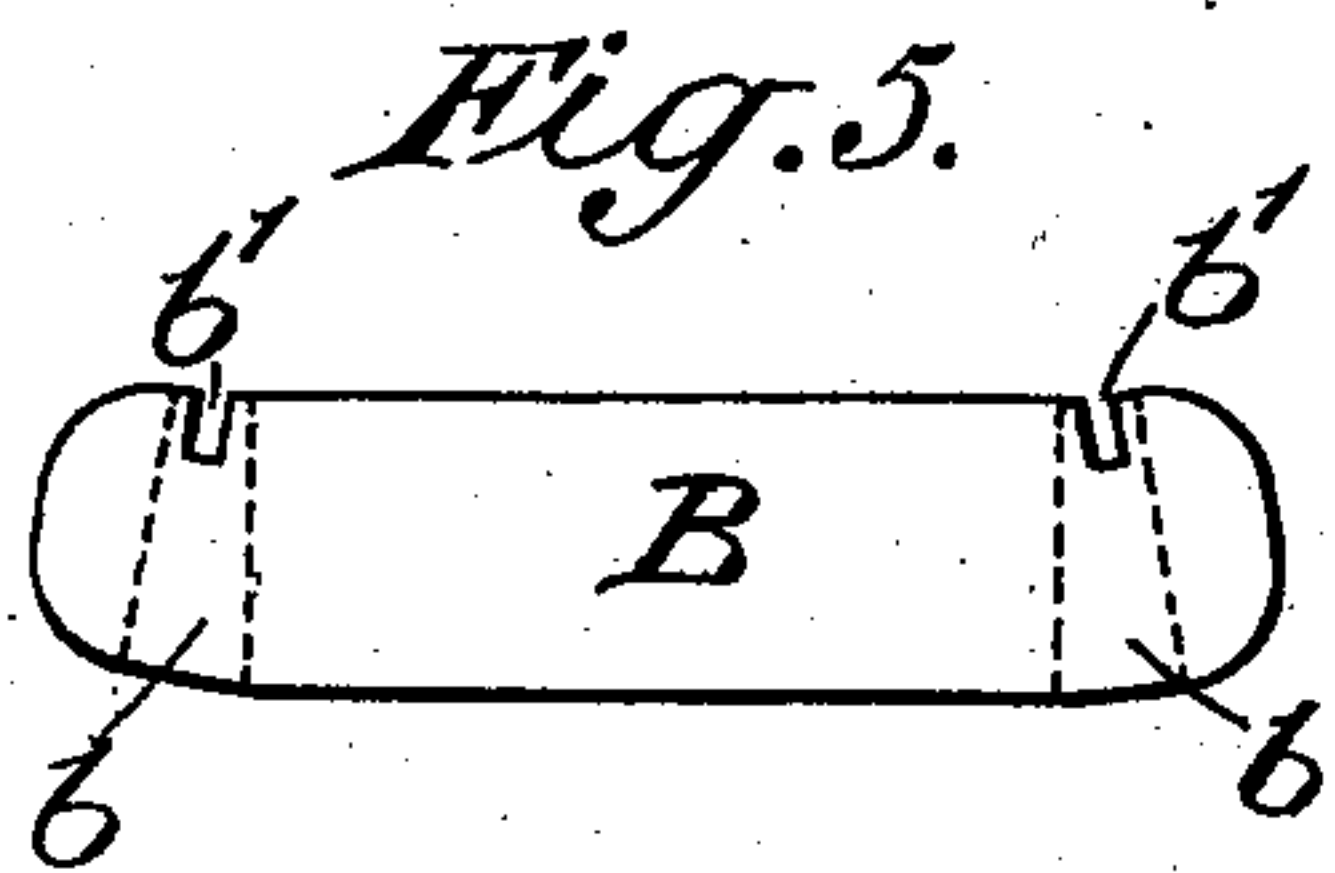
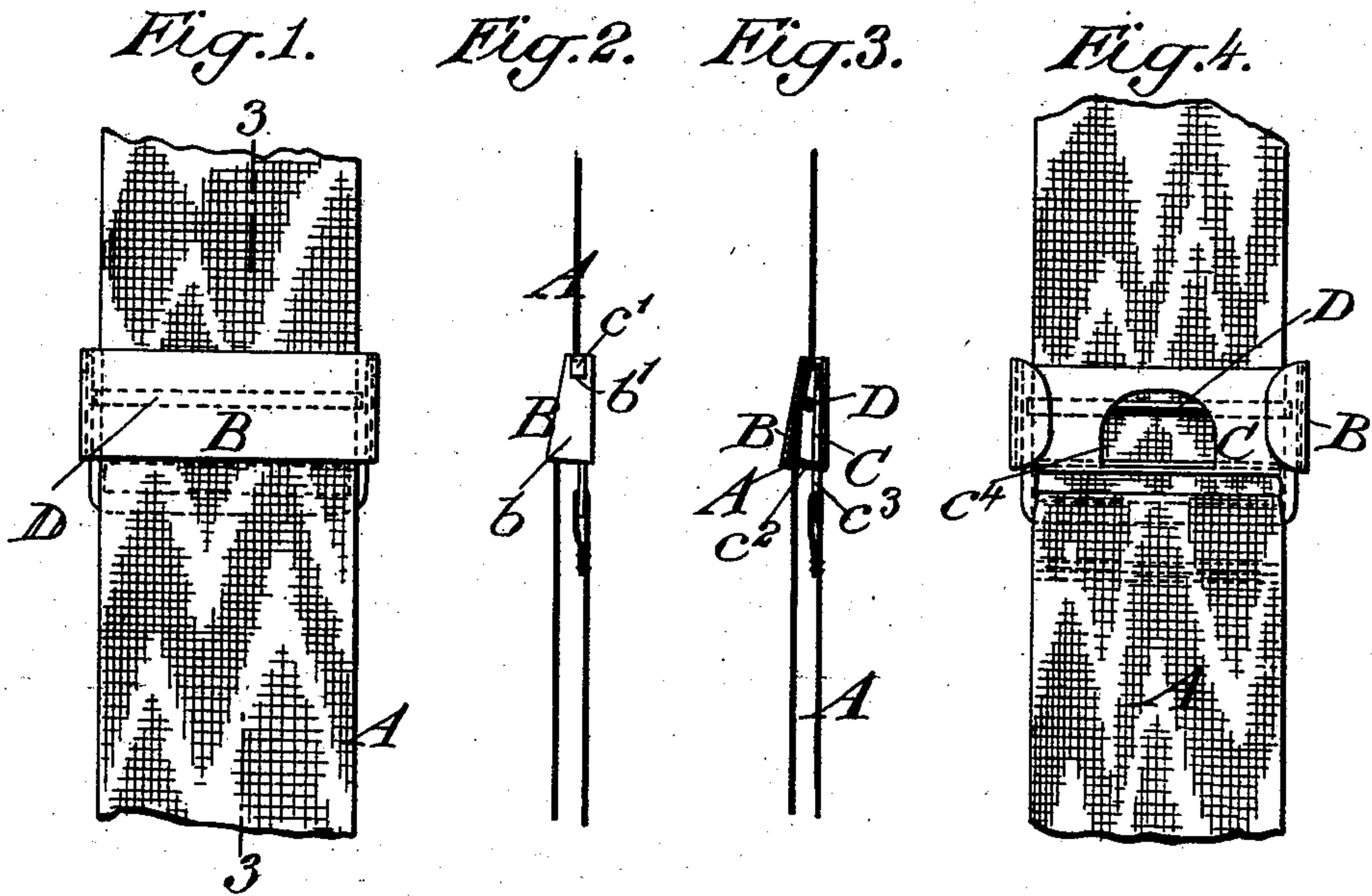


(No Model.)

J. FORSHEIM.
CLASP.

No. 603,401.

Patented May 3, 1898.



Witnesses:-
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH FORSHEIM, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 603,401, dated May 3, 1898.

Application filed September 8, 1897. Serial No. 650,901. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH FORSHEIM, of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in clasps which are more particularly adapted for use in connection with suspenders, garters, and the like, the object being to provide a clasp which will consist of a very small number of parts so secured together as to do away with the necessity of soldering or riveting, whereby the cost of manufacturing the said clasp is materially reduced.

A practical embodiment of my invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a front or face view of the clasp with a portion of a suspender or garter strap passed therethrough. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical section in the plane of the line 3 3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a reverse or back view of the clasp and strap. Fig. 5 represents the blank which forms the front plate, the dotted lines indicating where the blank is to be bent. Fig. 6 is a face view of the front plate. Fig. 7 is a view of the blank which forms the back plate, the dotted lines indicating where portions of the said blank are to be bent; and Fig. 8 is an inside view of the back plate.

The strap is denoted by A, one end of which is adapted to be secured permanently to the clasp and its other end adapted to be removably engaged therewith. The front plate is denoted by B, the back plate by C, and the locking-roller, which is adapted to be interposed between the two plates, by D.

The back plate C is provided with a pair of wings *c*, having inclined edges, as shown. These wings *c* are provided at their narrow portions with projecting tongues *c'*, which are adapted to be bent over to secure the front plate permanently to the back plate.

The front plate B is provided with laterally-extended flaps *b*, which are adapted to embrace the wings *c* of the back plate and overlap the outer face of the back plate. The portions of the flaps *b* which engage the wings *c* are preferably provided with notches *b'*,

which are adapted to receive the tongues *c'* when the said tongues are folded outwardly, thereby insuring a smooth surface upon the opposite sides of the clasp and at the same time securely fastening the front plate to the back plate.

Because of the inclined edged wings *c* the front plate is spaced from the back plate at an inclination thereto, leaving a small opening or slot along one edge and a wider opening or slot along the other edge for the passage through the clasp of the free end of the strap A. A stop *c²* projects inwardly from one of the plates—in the present instance the back plate—which stop partially fills the larger opening through the clasp and retains the roller within the clasp in operative position.

The bending inward of the stop *c²* serves to form a loop *c³*, to which one end of the strap A may be permanently secured.

The back plate C is further provided with a thumb or finger opening or hole *c⁴* therethrough, whereby the roller may be held at the wider portion of the clasp when it is desired to partially or wholly withdraw the strap.

The operation of the clasp is as follows: When it is desired to adjust the strap, it is drawn through the clasp in one direction freely, the roller seeking the wider portion of the clasp, and when force is exerted tending to withdraw the strap it will roll the roller toward the narrower portion of the clasp, thereby clamping the strap between the front plate and the roller. When it is desired to withdraw the strap, the roller is engaged by the thumb or finger of the person and held against movement toward the narrower portion of the clasp, thereby preventing it from locking the strap.

By constructing the clasp as above described I am enabled to do away with the use of solder or rivets, the clasp at the same time being formed of only three pieces—viz., the front plate, the back plate, and the roller, the front and back plates being readily stamped from blanks of sheet metal, if so desired.

It is evident that slight changes might be resorted to in the construction, form, and arrangement of the several parts without departing from the spirit and scope of my in-

vention. Hence I do not wish to limit myself strictly to the structure herein shown and described; but

What I claim is—

5 A clasp comprising a blank forming a back plate having inclined edged wings bent inwardly therefrom, the said wings being provided with securing-tongues and a stop bent inwardly from the blank thereby forming a
10 strap-retaining loop, a second blank forming

a front plate which front plate is provided with notches for the reception of the said tongues carried by the back plate for securing the front plate thereto and a locking-roller interposed between the said plates, substantially as set forth. 15

JOSEPH FORSHEIM.

Witnesses:

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