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Patented Nov. 4, 1902.

C. E. DEVINE.
CORSET CLASP.

(Application filed May 22, 1902.)

(No Model.)

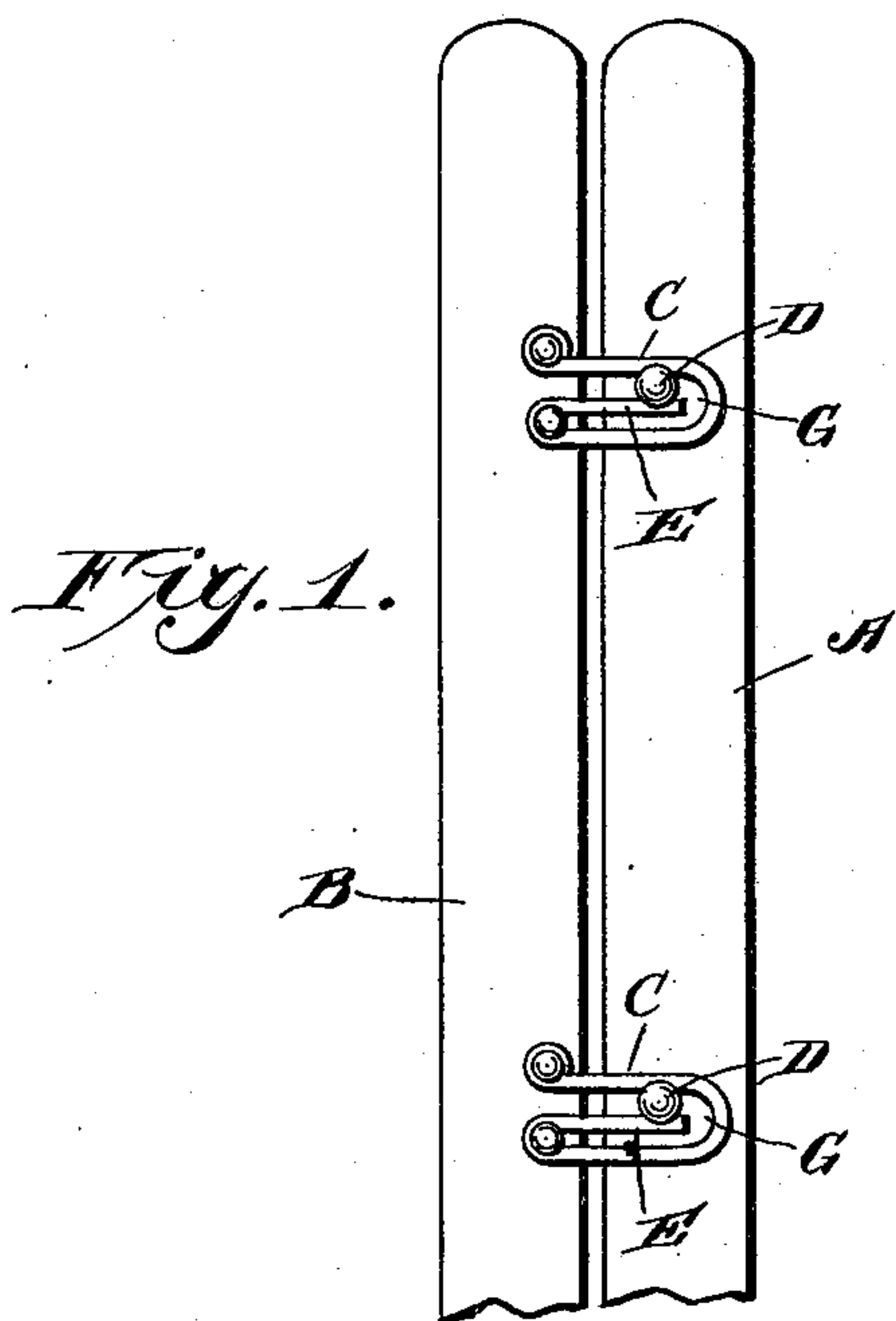
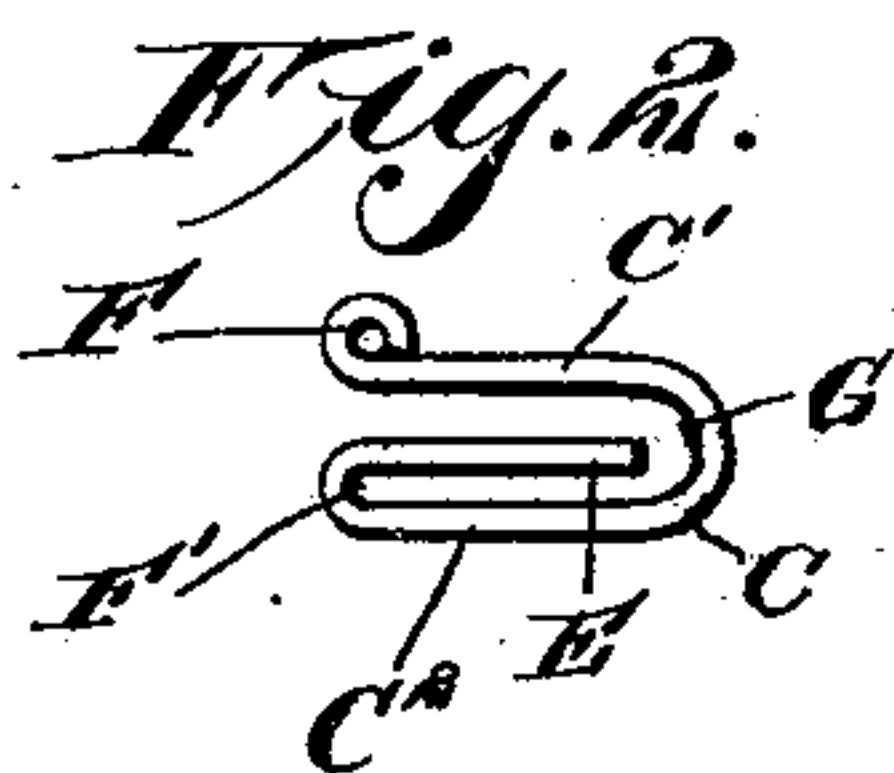


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CORSET-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 712,773, dated November 4, 1902.

- Application filed May 22, 1902. Serial No. 108,485. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. DEVINE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Toledo, county of Lucas, and State of Ohio, have
5 invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Corset-Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in corset-clasps, and has for its
10 object to provide a corset-clasp by which the corset can be fastened by bringing the two parts together at right angles to the body.

With this end in view this invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth and
15 then specifically designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains may understand how to make and use the same, the construction and operation will now be described in
20 detail, referring to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a portion of
25 the two front steels of a corset with my improved clasp applied thereto; Fig. 2, an elevation of the spring-eye by itself; Fig. 3, an elevation of a modified form of the spring-eye made of sheet metal.

30 In corset-clasps as now used it is necessary in fastening or unfastening the corset to press the front steels together at least a quarter of an inch farther than they will be held normally, for in clasps now in use the eye is
35 formed with a buttonhole-slot and the corset has to be squeezed together until the knob will pass through the large portion of the buttonhole-slot and then a retrograde movement or loosening of the corset occurs while
40 the shank of the knob is traveling backward in the narrow part of the buttonhole-slot. In my invention the corset is clasped by a direct movement at right angles to the body by pressing the knob into the spring-eye, and
45 therefore the corset can be clasped as tightly as desired, as there is no retrograde movement whatsoever, and as the corset is clasped by a movement at right angles to the body instead of parallel with it the eye is not apt
50 to become accidentally unclasped in use.

In the drawings, A and B represent the two

front steels of the corset. To the steel B are secured the spring-eyes C, and to the steel A are secured the knobs D. These spring-eyes are formed with a spring-tongue E, extending
55 into the eye, and while these eyes may be made of sheet metal, as shown in Fig. 3, I prefer to construct the same of wire, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, as I consider the wire
60 would be much cheaper, and on account of the rotundity of the wire it is much easier to force the knob into the spring-eye. The eye is formed of one piece of wire bent at one end to form the eyelet F, then passes outward in
65 a straight line beyond the steel B, as represented at C', then is bent around to form the loop G, then backward upon itself to a point opposite the eyelet F, forming the straight
70 portion C², parallel with C'. Then it is bent toward the eyelet, so as to form the loop F', and then the other end is bent so as to extend
75 in between the two parallel wires C' and C², and thus forms the spring-tongue E. The spring-eyelet is secured to the steel B by means of rivets H, which are passed through
80 the eyelet F and also through the loop F', thus holding the eye C securely to the steel.

When it is desired to clasp the corset, the knobs D are forced in between the wire C' and the spring-tongue E, the spring-tongue E
85 giving to allow the head of the knob D to pass and then springing back to its normal position upon the shank, thus holding the corset clasped unless a reverse movement is made, and the corset can only be unclasped by moving
85 the eye C away from the steel E, or vice versa.

By reason of the corset being held clasped by the spring-tongue E these spring-tongues will give with the movements of the body, particularly when a very stout person is bending
90 over, and they will prevent the steels from breaking to a great degree.

Of course I do not wish to be limited to the exact construction here shown, as slight modifications could be made without departing
95 from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful is—

1. In a corset-clasp, two corset-steels, a series of knobs secured to one of the steels, a series of spring-eyes secured to the other steel,
100

said spring-eyes consisting of a wire fastened at one end to the corset-steel and extending outward to form a loop, then back over the corset-steel, and then the free end of the wire
5 turning and passing into the loop, this free end forming a spring-tongue between which and one side of the loop the knob upon the opposite corset-steel is adapted to be held.

2. An eye for corset-clasps, consisting of
10 one piece of wire bent at one end to form an eyelet, and then extending outward in a straight line, then bent around to form a loop, and then backward in a straight line to a point opposite the eyelet to form a second loop, then

outward again and terminating inside of the
loop to form a spring-tongue, and rivets passing through the eyelet and the second loop opposite the eyelet, and also through one of the front steels of the corset, as and for the purpose specified. 15 20

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES E. DEVINE.

Witnesses:

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