No. 754,462. PATENTED MAR. 15, 1904.

A. J. KRIENITZ.

GARMENT CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 4, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

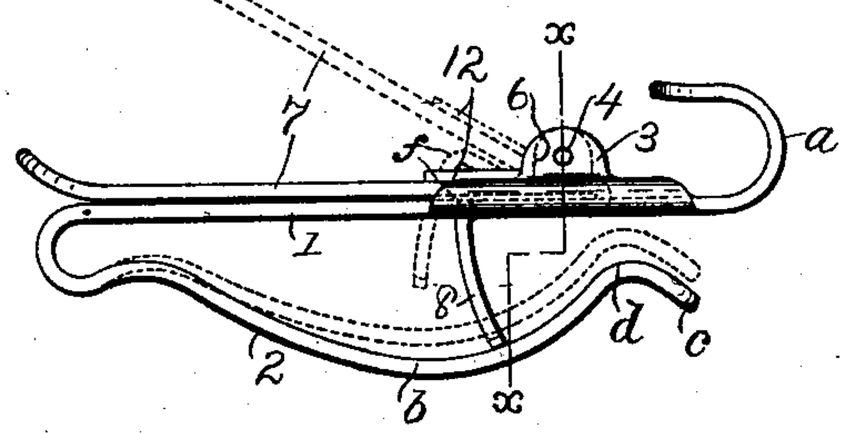


Fig. 2.

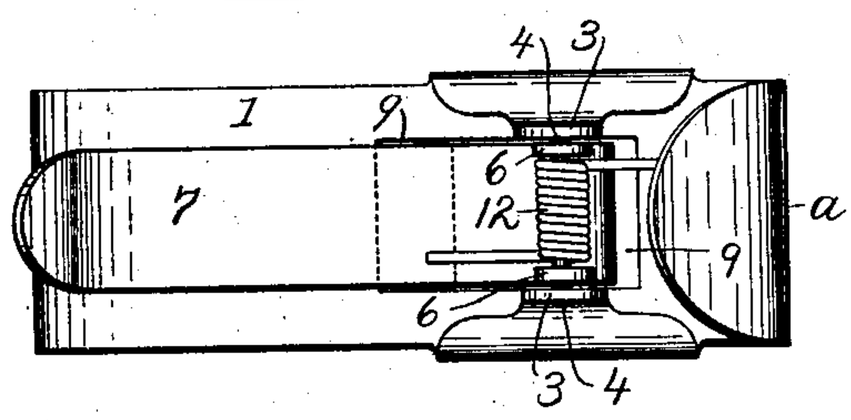


Fig. 3.

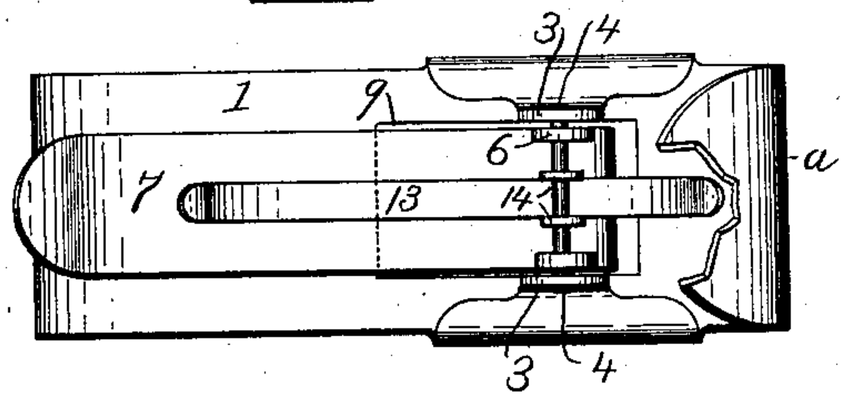
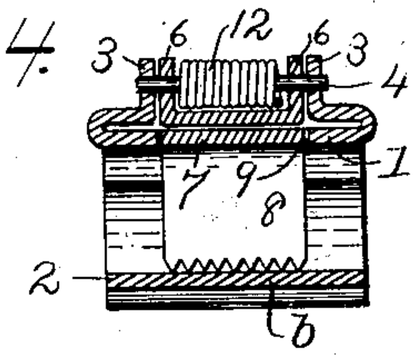


Fig. 4.



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No. 754,462. Patented March 15, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED J. KRIENITZ, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO HENRY G. RUENZEL AND EDWARD H. MUNDT, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

GARMENT-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 754,462, dated March 15, 1904.

Application filed September 4, 1902. Serial No. 122,094. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED J. KRIENITZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Milwaukee, county of Milwaukee, and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Garment-Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in garment-clasps.

The object of my invention is to provide a form of clasp especially adapted for the support of undergarments from the waistbands of trousers, although the device may also be used for numerous other purposes.

In the following description reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is also a plan view showing a modified form of spring. Fig. 4 is a sectional view drawn on line *x x* of Fig. 1.

Like parts are identified by the same reference characters throughout the several views.

A fulcrum-plate 1 and clamping-plate 2 are preferably formed integrally of a single piece of metal, as shown. The fulcrum-plate is preferably curved or hook-shaped at *a* near one end to keep other articles of clothing away from the fulcrum-pivot. For example, if the device is applied to clamp an undergarment to the waistband of a pair of trousers the hook *a* will keep the coat of the wearer away from the fulcrum-pivot, or if the device is used on a necktie the part *a* will keep the vest away from the pivot-pin, where it might otherwise get caught and torn. The clamping-plate is formed with an arch *b* and an outwardly-curving extremity *c*, the intervening crown *d* serving as an abutment for one arm of the clamping-lever. Ears 3 project outwardly from the sides of the fulcrum-plate, and a transverse pin 4, supported by the ears, serves as a fulcrum. The clamping-lever consists of a plate of less width than the fulcrum-plate, with ears 6, (similar to the ears 3 on the fulcrum-plate,) through which the pin 4 passes, as shown. The operating-arm 7 of this lever extends along the upper surface of the fulcrum-plate, and the clamping-arm 8 extends through a slot 9 in the plate and backwardly underneath the pivot to a point *f*, where it is bent in the form of an elbow and projects into the arch *b*, with its extremity in close proximity to the clamping-plate 2 when the operating-arm 7 is in the position in which it is shown in Fig. 1. When this arm 7 is raised to the position in which it is shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, the elbow *f* is lifted through the slot 9 as the clamping-arm 8 is drawn away from the plate 2, thus permitting the insertion of the edge of the garment or article to be supported. When the lever is again returned to clamping position, the garment or article to be supported will be engaged between the extremity of the clamping-arm and the plate 2. If desired, the parts may be so formed that the clamping-arm will come into forcible engagement with the plate 2, depressing the latter slightly, as indicated in Fig. 1, thus affording a very effective clamping pressure. The lever is held in its normal or clamping position by means of a spring 12, which is coiled upon the pivot-rod with one end resting upon the arm 7 of the lever and the other end engaging the fulcrum-plate 1 on the opposite side of the fulcrum or pivot-rod. Any other form of spring may, however, be substituted for the coiled spring 12. In Fig. 3 I will illustrate a form of flat spring 13, which is provided with ears 14, through which the pivot-rod passes, the spring being arranged to bear upon the operating-arm of the lever and the fulcrum-plate, as shown. The lower end of the clamping-arm of the lever is preferably serrated. It will be observed that the arms of the lever project upon opposite sides of the fulcrum-plate, but on the same side of the perpendicular plane of the fulcrum-pivot. The strain of the material clamped between the clamping-arm and the plate 2 is thereby exerted in a manner to increase the pressure of the clamping-arm of the lever in the direction of the plate 2. The clamping pressure is therefore made to increase in proportion to the strain exerted.

In use, assuming that the device is to be used to support an undergarment from the

waistband of a pair of trousers, the clamping-lever will be raised, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1, and the edges of both garments inserted between the fulcrum and clamping plates, as shown in said figure. The lever is then depressed to bring the arm 8 into forcible contact with the cloth, the clamping-plate yielding slightly and by reactionary pressure against the extremity of the lever in advance of the elbow *f*, holding the lever in clamping position. The lever is also held in clamping position by the weight of the cloth, which tends to pull the end of the lever toward the crown *d* and increase the pressure of the clamping end of the lever proportionally to the strain exerted.

The device is used to clamp undergarments to skirts or trousers, the edges of both garments being inserted between the lever and clamping-plate, or for clamping the ends of neckties together, or for holding pieces of superposed fabric in position pending the operation of stitching them together, or in any other relation where clamps of the described class are found serviceable.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a device of the described class, the combination of a slotted fulcrum-plate; a lever pivotally secured thereto and extended through the slot; a clamping-plate connected with the fulcrum-plate at one end and formed with an arch extending around one arm of the lever; and a spring for holding the lever, with said arm, in clamping relation to an inwardly-curving side of said arched portion of the plate.

2. The combination of a fulcrum-plate and a clamping-plate connected at one end, with the free end portion of the clamping-plate curved inwardly toward the fulcrum-plate; a clamping-lever pivotally secured to the fulcrum-plate, with one end projecting toward the clamping-plate, and adapted to bear against the inwardly-curving portion of the clamping-plate, whereby material engaged between the lever and clamping-plate, will, when subjected to strain, draw the lever against the angular face of the inwardly-curving portion of the clamping-plate.

3. In a device of the described class, the combination of a slotted fulcrum-plate; an elbowed lever pivotally secured thereto, with one arm extended through the slot and the other arm normally parallel with the plate; a clamping-plate connected with the fulcrum-plate at one end, arranged to form an arch *b*, and an inwardly-curving crown *d*, near its free end, the arm of the lever which projects through the slot in the fulcrum-plate being arranged to extend into the arch of the clamping-plate, and adapted to engage the inwardly-curving portion of the latter in the rear of the crown *d*, said clamping-plate being adapted to yield resiliently to pressure exerted by the lever.

4. In a device of the described class the combination of a slotted fulcrum-plate; a lever pivotally secured thereto, with one arm extending through the slot and doubled backwardly along the under side of the fulcrum-plate, with a downwardly-extending end portion 8; a clamping-plate having resilient connection at one end with the fulcrum-plate and arched around the end of the portion 8 of the clamping-lever.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ALFRED J. KRIENITZ.

Witnesses:
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