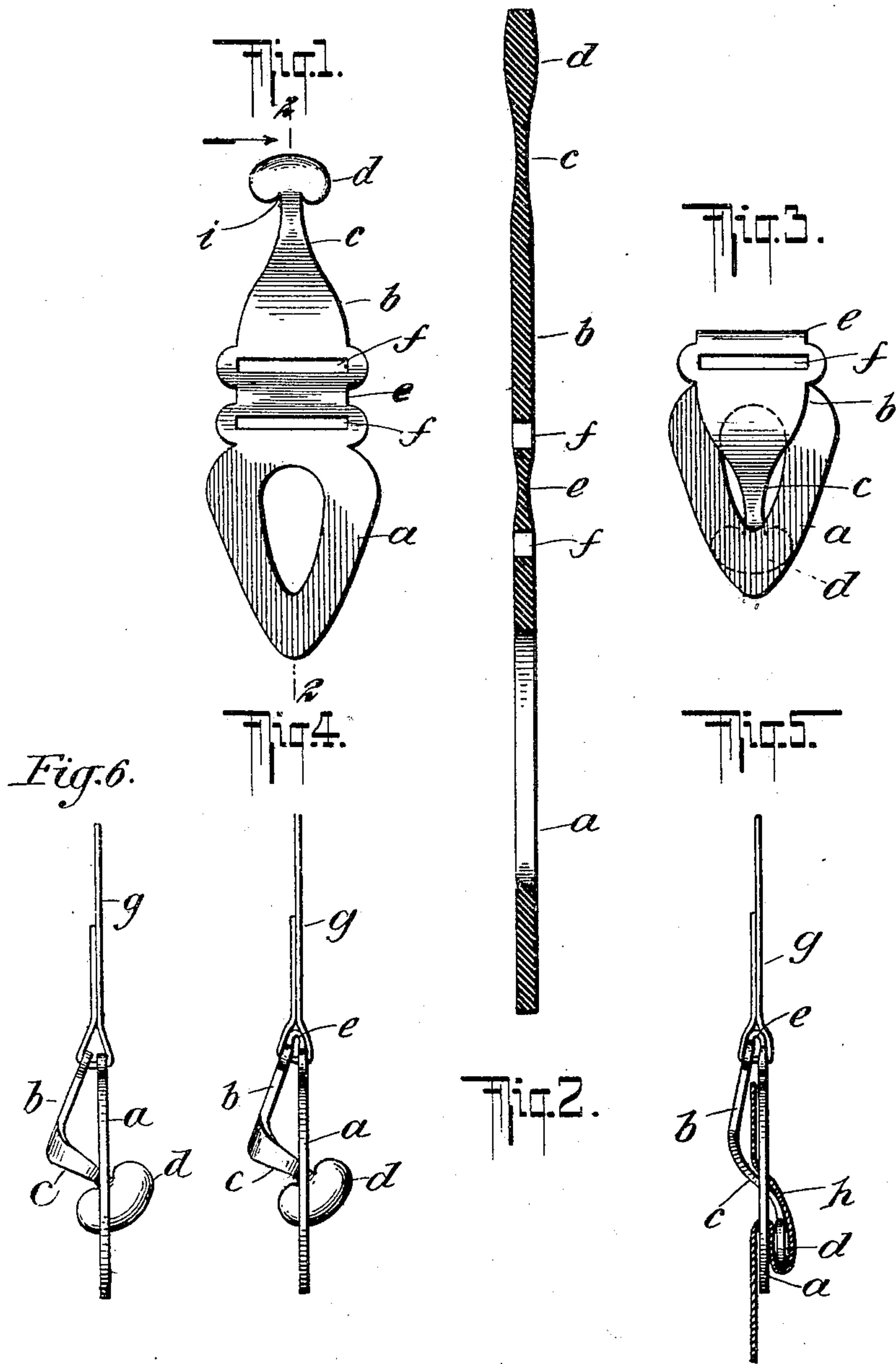


No. 824,332.

PATENTED JUNE 26, 1906.

H. H. BARNUM.
GARMENT CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 30, 1903.



WITNESSES:
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HENRY H. BARNUM, OF LEONIA, NEW JERSEY.

GARMENT-CLASP.

No. 824,332.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 26, 1906.

Application filed December 30, 1903. Serial No. 187,152.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY H. BARNUM, a citizen of the United States, residing in Leonia, Bergen county, and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Garment-Clasp, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to furnish a simple, convenient, and substantial device for use in supporting stockings, skirts, and other garments and one that can be cheaply made and easily applied and that will hold securely. Its main feature is a tongue of flexible material which, together with a loop, through which it passes, pinches the garment to be held.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of my garment-clasp open and before the suspending-strap is attached to it. Fig. 2 is a cross-section on line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows the clasp in the position which it assumes when in use. Fig. 4 shows my garment-clasp with the suspending-strap attached and the manner of inserting the tongue-anchor into the loop. Fig. 5 shows my garment-clasp with the suspending-straps attached as it appears when it supports a stocking or other piece of fabric. Fig. 6 shows a modification in which the loop and tongue are made of separate pieces of material.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

My garment-clasp is preferably made of a single piece, as shown in Fig. 1, so that it may conveniently be stamped out of a strip of the material of which it is to be made and may conveniently be handled or manipulated. I prefer to make my garment-clasp of leather, or rubber, or rubber reinforced by cloth, or other flexible material having a yielding surface; but any flexible material of sufficient rigidity will serve my purpose.

My garment-clasp consists of a loop *a*, preferably having an opening larger at its upper than at its lower end, and a tongue *b*, having a tapering neck *c* and ending in an anchor *d*. The tongue and the loop are joined by a connecting-piece *e* and are provided each with a slot or opening *f*.

My clasp when in use is folded, as shown in Figs. 3, 4, and 5, and is provided with the suspending-strap, of elastic or other fabric, *g*, which is inserted through the two slots or openings *f*, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, and sewed down upon itself, so as to form a

means of supporting the clasp from some portion of the body of the wearer in the usual manner.

When it is intended to support a piece of fabric by means of the clasp, the fabric is laid upon the tongue *b*, its tapering neck *c* and anchor *d*, and between the same and the loop *a*. The anchor *d*, pushing the fabric before it, is then pushed through the upper larger portion of the opening of the loop or is given a slight turn and pushed through any convenient portion of the loop in the manner shown in Fig. 4 and pulls through the opening a portion of the fabric. The anchor is then drawn downward by a pull upon the fabric, and the respective parts assume the position shown in Fig. 5, in which *h* represents the piece of fabric. The fabric is prevented from slipping by being pinched between the tongue and the loop and also by the anchor *d*. The sides of the opening in the loop are tapered in order to assist in securing a grip upon the fabric.

The clasp is easily and quickly manipulated and because of its flexibility and the yielding nature of its surface prevents a slipping or a tearing of the garment.

By the word "connected" I intend to refer to any means for joining the tongue and the loop, whether by the web *e* or otherwise.

The clasp may be made of the same thickness throughout; but I prefer to make the connecting-piece *e* somewhat thinner than the remaining portion of the clasp in order to facilitate the folding of the clasp into the position shown in Figs. 3, 4, and 5, and I also prefer to make the tapering neck *c* somewhat thinner than the remaining portion of the clasp in order to render it more flexible, and thus to facilitate the introduction of the anchor into the loop *a*. I prefer to provide the anchor *d* with one or more indentations *i* in order to make the grip upon the fabric more secure.

The loop *a* may be made of metal without departing from the spirit of my invention, or it may be made of metal covered with rubber, cloth, leather, or other material having a yielding surface. However, I prefer to make the entire loop of rubber or leather or rubber reinforced by a textile material, so as to insure the flexibility and elasticity of the entire clasp.

The clasp may be made in two parts by omitting the connecting-piece *e*, as shown in Fig. 6, in which case the supporting-strip,

looped through the two slots, serves to hold the two parts in place.

By the word "anchor" used in the specification and claims I intend to designate the attachment or extension at the lower end of the tongue broader than said end of the tongue, the purpose of the attachment or extension being to afford a grip upon the textile or fabric which partially surrounds the same.

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

1. A garment-clasp comprising a loop and a tongue, the tongue being made of flexible material and having a relatively flat anchor, of flexible material, said tongue and loop being connected so as to be normally parallel when in inoperative position, the anchor being of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A garment-clasp comprising a loop and a tongue, the tongue being made of flexible material and having a relatively flat anchor, said tongue and loop being connected so as to be normally parallel when in inoperative position, the anchor being composed of flexible material having a yielding surface and being of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A garment-clasp comprising a loop provided with an opening larger at its upper than at its lower portion and a tongue made of flexible material connected therewith so as to be normally parallel therewith when in inoperative position, the tongue having a relatively flat anchor, which anchor is composed of flexible material having a yielding surface and is of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. A garment-clasp comprising a loop and a tongue so connected as to be normally parallel when in inoperative position, the tongue being made of flexible material and having an anchor at its end, which anchor has indentations at its point of meeting with the tongue and is of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

5. A garment-clasp comprising a loop and a tongue so connected as to be normally parallel when in inoperative position, the tongue being made of flexible material and having a relatively flat anchor which is composed of flexible material and has indentations at its point of meeting with the tongue and is of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

6. A garment-clasp comprising a loop of flexible material and a tongue so connected therewith as to be normally parallel therewith when in inoperative position, the tongue

being made of flexible material and having a relatively flat anchor composed of flexible material and of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

7. A garment-clasp comprising a loop of flexible material and a tongue so connected therewith as to be normally parallel therewith when in inoperative position, the tongue being made of flexible material and having a relatively flat anchor composed of flexible material having a yielding surface, the anchor being of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

8. A garment-clasp comprising a loop of flexible material provided with an opening larger at its upper than at its lower portion and a tongue so connected therewith as to be normally parallel therewith when in inoperative position, the tongue being made of flexible material and having a relatively flat anchor, which anchor is composed of flexible material and is of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

9. A garment-clasp comprising a loop of flexible material provided with an opening larger at its upper than at its lower portion and a tongue so connected therewith as to be normally parallel therewith when in inoperative position, the tongue being made of flexible material and having a relatively flat anchor, which anchor is composed of flexible material having a yielding surface and is of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

10. A garment-clasp comprising a loop and a tapering tongue of flexible material so connected as to be normally parallel when in inoperative position, the tongue having at its narrower end a relatively flat anchor composed of material having a yielding surface and of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

11. A garment-clasp comprising a loop provided with an opening larger at its upper than at its lower portion and a tapering tongue of flexible material so connected therewith as to be normally parallel therewith when in inoperative position, said tongue having at its narrower end a relatively flat anchor, which anchor is composed of material having a yielding surface and is of such proportions as to enable it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

12. A garment-clasp comprising a loop and a tapering tongue of flexible material so connected therewith as to be normally parallel therewith when in inoperative position, said tongue having at its narrower end a relatively flat anchor composed of flexible mate-

rial having a yielding surface, the anchor being of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

5 13. A garment-clasp comprising a loop and a tongue of flexible material so connected therewith as to be normally parallel therewith when in inoperative position, said tongue having an anchor of such proportions
10 as to permit it to pass entirely through a loop, that portion of the tongue where it meets the anchor being more flexible than the body of the tongue.

15 14. A garment-clasp comprising a loop and a tapering tongue of flexible material so connected therewith as to be normally parallel therewith when in inoperative position, said tongue having at its narrower end an anchor of such proportions as to permit it to
20 pass entirely through the loop, that portion

of the tongue where it meets the anchor being more flexible than the body of the tongue.

15. A garment-clasp comprising a flexible loop, a tongue, normally parallel to said loop and made of flexible material, having a rela- 25
tively flat anchor of flexible material, said tongue and loop being connected, the anchor being of such proportions as to permit it to pass entirely through the loop, and said clasp being provided with means adjacent 30
the connected ends of the tongue and loop whereby it may be connected with a suspending-strap, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of 35
two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY H. BARNUM

Witnesses:

FRITZ V. BRIESEN,
OTTO V. SCHRENK.