No. 850,864. PATENTED APR. 16, 1907.

C. C. WRIGHT.

CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 7, 1906.

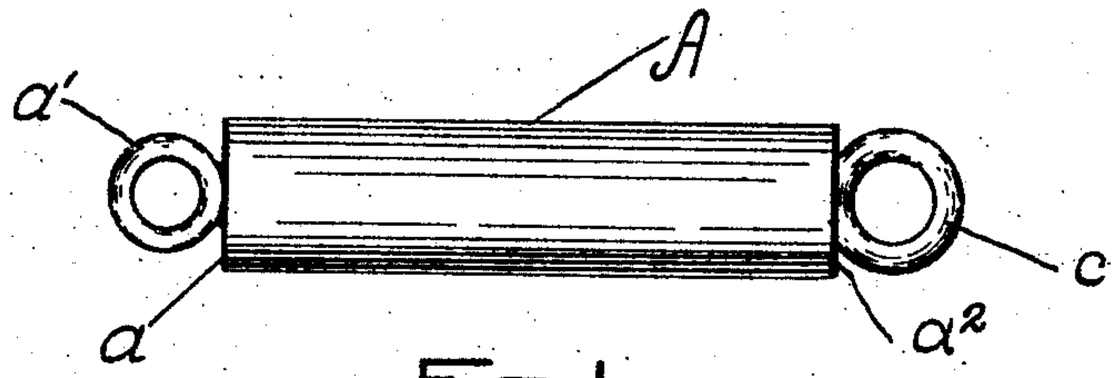

FIG. 1.

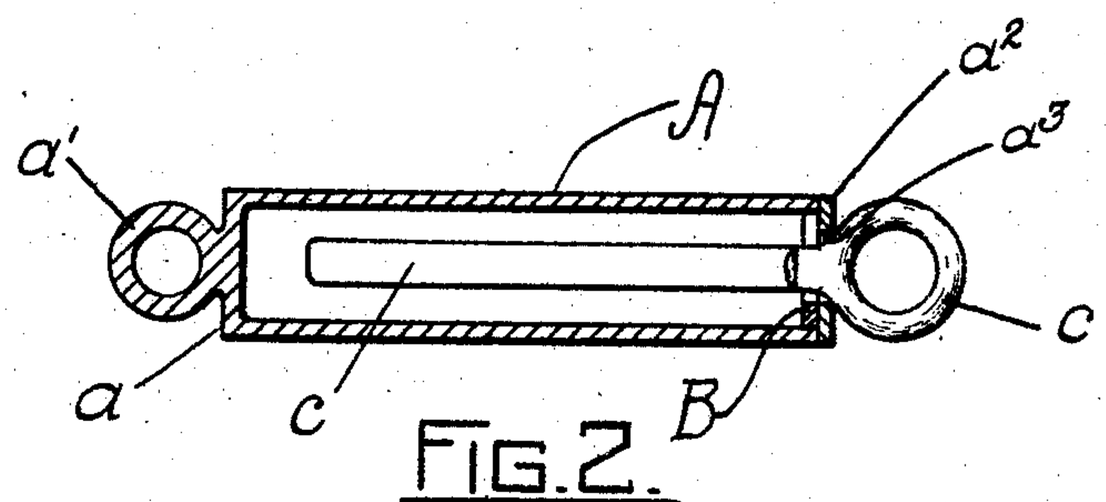

FIG. 2.

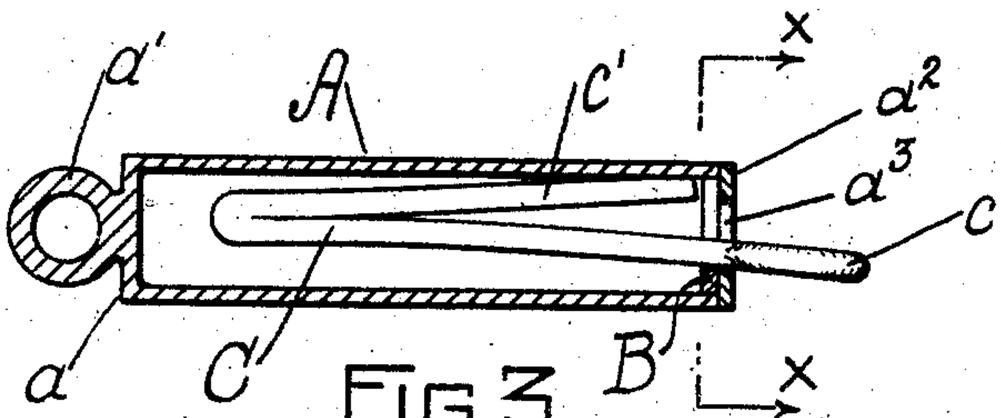

FIG. 3.

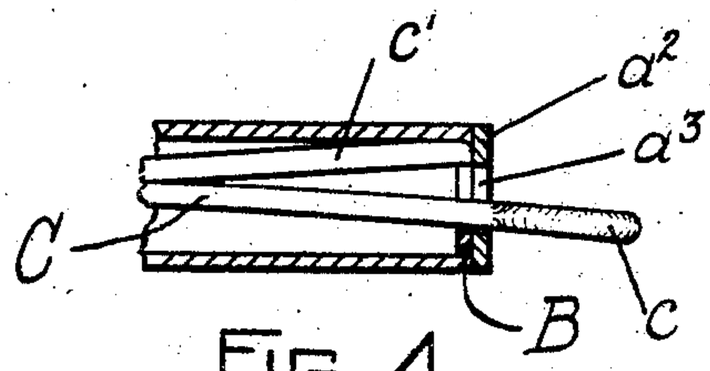

FIG. 4.

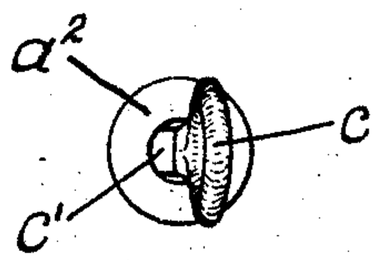

FIG. 6.

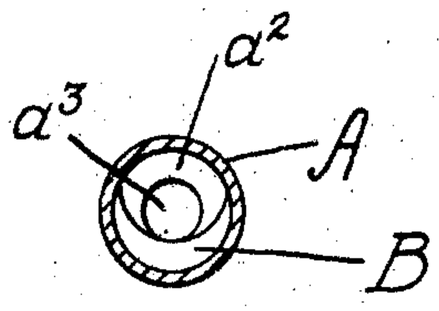

FIG. 7.

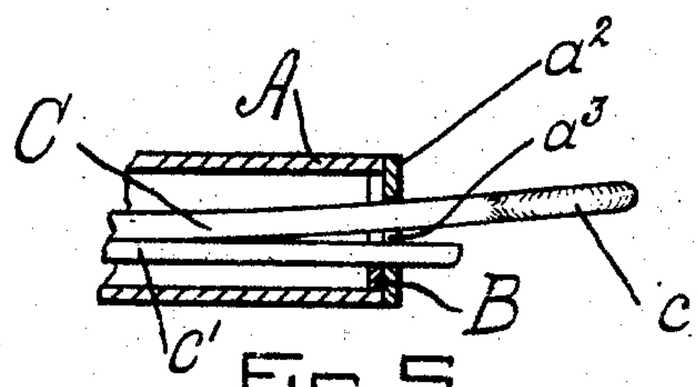

FIG. 5.

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CLASP.

No. 850,864. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 16, 1907.

Application filed September 7, 1906. Serial No. 333,618.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES C. WRIGHT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to clasps for use upon articles of jewelry, but more particularly to necklace-clasps, and has for its essential objects security and simplicity in operation and structure, together with cheapness.

To the above ends my invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the novel clasp; Fig. 2, a longitudinal central section of the barrel, showing the catch in elevation; Fig. 3, a similar view of the same, showing the catch in position preparatory to withdrawal; Fig. 4, a similar section of a portion of the barrel, showing the catch partially removed; Fig. 5, a like section of the same, showing the catch in final position of removal; Fig. 6, an end elevation of the clasp, and Fig. 7 a section of the same on line $x\,x$ of Fig. 3.

Like reference characters indicate like parts throughout the views.

My clasp comprises a cylindrical barrel A, provided at one end as with a ring a', fixed thereto or forming a part thereof, adapted to receive one end of the necklace. The other barrel end a^2 is provided with an opening a^3 to receive the catch member, which will be hereinafter described. Soldered to the inner face of the end plate a^2 is a crescent cam-plate B. As shown in Fig. 7, the middle portion of the concaved margin of the cam-plate is coincident or flush with the periphery of the opening a^3 in the plate a^2.

The catch member comprises a bar C, provided with a terminal ring c to receive the second end of the necklace and an integral spring or compressible arm c', the whole constituting a V spring-catch. In engaged position the arm or tongue c' abuts against the inner face of the cam-plate B. In order to disengage the parts, the ring c is manually pulled in an outward direction and simultaneously twisted from the positions shown in Figs. 2 and 3 until the tongue c', as shown in Fig. 4, passes within the plane of the plate b and contacts with the plate a^2. The described movement of the catch as it is continued slides the tongue c' along the curved margin of the cam B, whereby the tongue is compressed toward or against the bar C sufficiently to allow the escape of the tongue through the opening a^3, as shown in Fig. 5.

It will be observed that since the detachment of the parts requires a double or compound movement no opportunity for accidental separation of the parts exists.

It is deemed important that the plate B be of such shape and size as to extend upon both sides of the vertical and transverse diameters of the opening a^3, as seen in Fig. 7, so as to compress the spring-arm as the catch is turned, and, furthermore, this crescent-shaped plate serves to materially strengthen the end of the barrel. Furthermore, this form of plate greatly facilitates the easy and gradual compression of the catch to avoid undue strain, which it is essential to guard against in this class of delicate devices.

What I claim is—

1. In a clasp, the combination with a barrel with a ring rigid therewith at one end and an opening at the other end, of a catch member adapted to enter said opening and comprising a bar with ring at one end and a spring-arm, and means within the barrel against the end thereof with a portion of its face coincident with the opening in such end, the free end of said spring-arm constructed to engage the inner wall of said end of the barrel, said means within the barrel having a cam-surface extending upon both sides of the transverse and vertical diameters of said opening for engagement with the free end of said spring-arm for compressing the same.

2. In a clasp, the combination with the barrel provided with an opening to receive a catch member, of a crescent cam-plate extending upon both sides of the transverse and vertical diameters of said opening and fixed within the barrel against the end thereof adjacent the opening and having a portion

of its concave margin flush with the adjacent periphery of the opening, of a catch member adapted to enter the barrel through the opening, and a compressible arm upon the catch member adapted, when the catch member is rotated to engage the curved face of the cam-plate.

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

CHARLES C. WRIGHT.

Witnesses:
J. C. SIPE,
C. C. BROWY.