

No. 863,860.

PATENTED AUG. 20, 1907.

F. W. LOWE.
GARMENT CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 11, 1907.

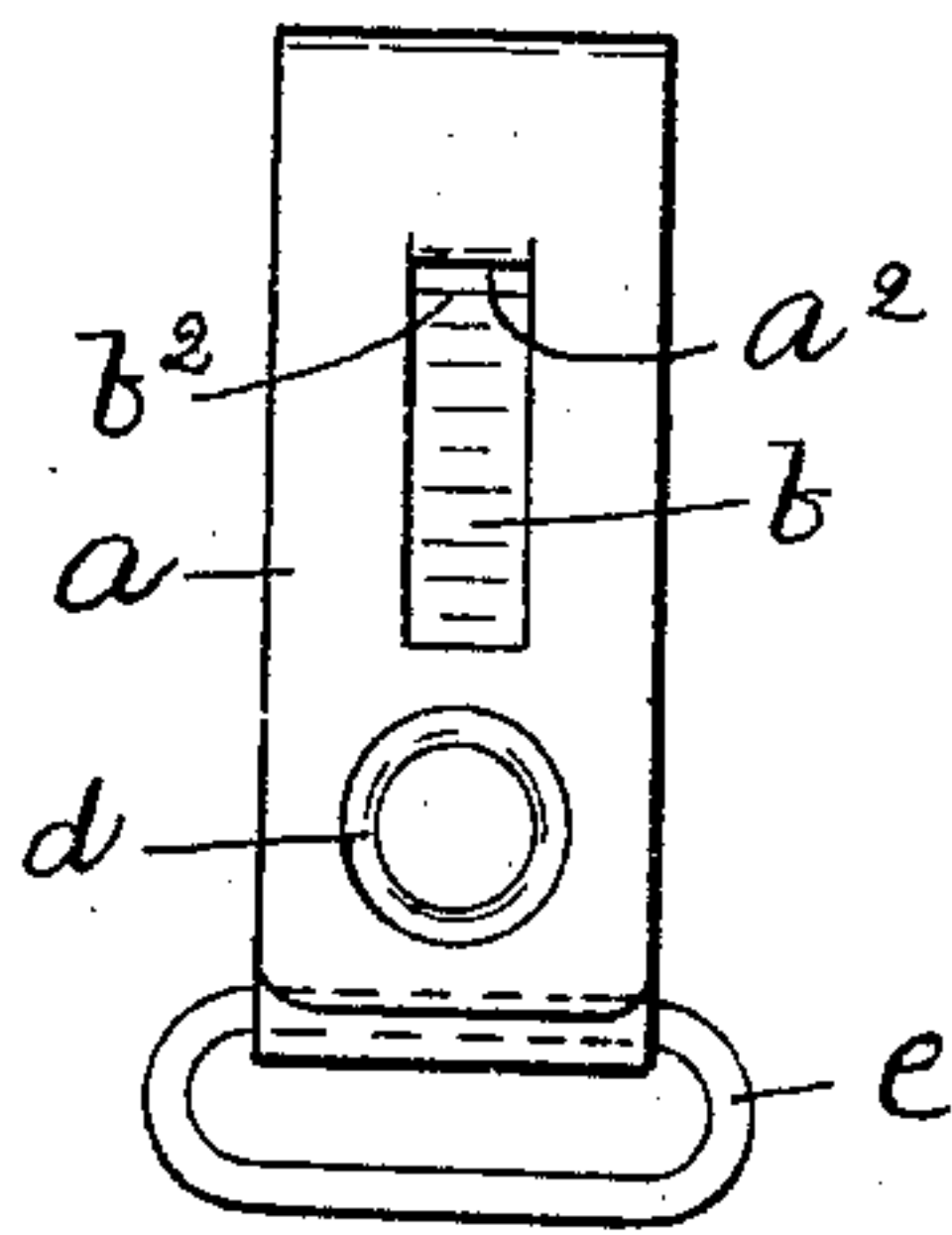
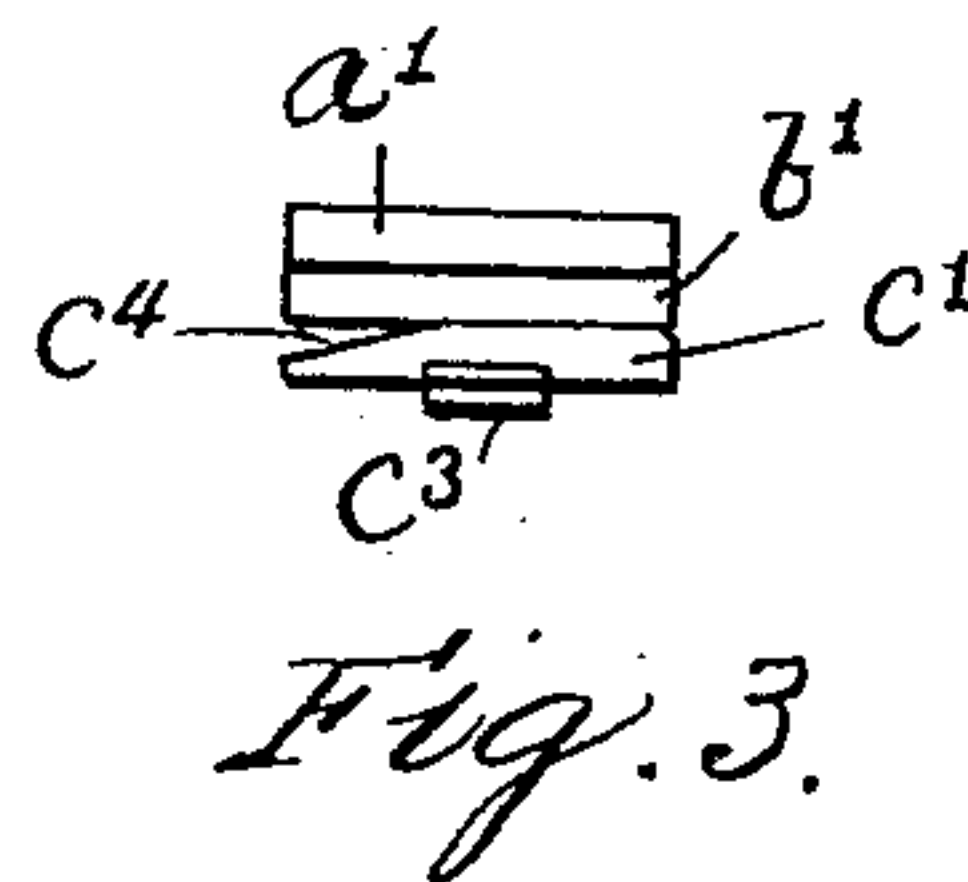
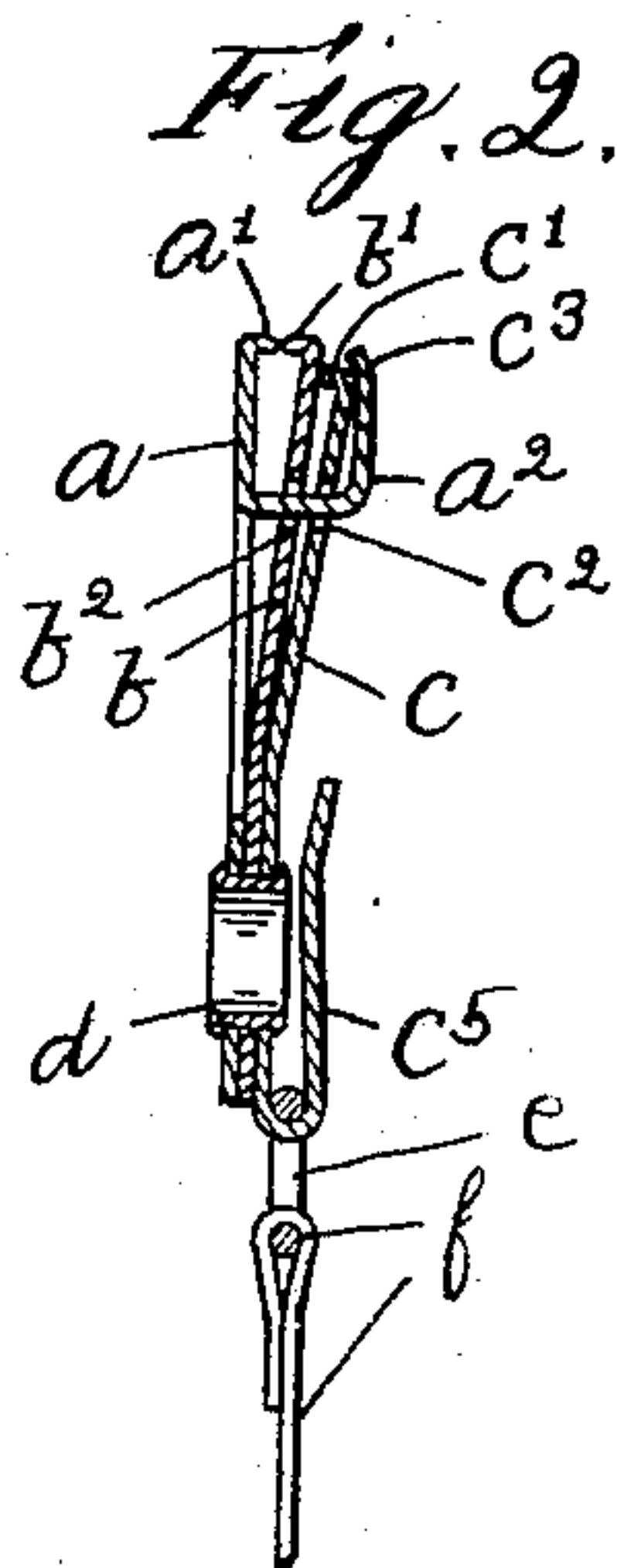
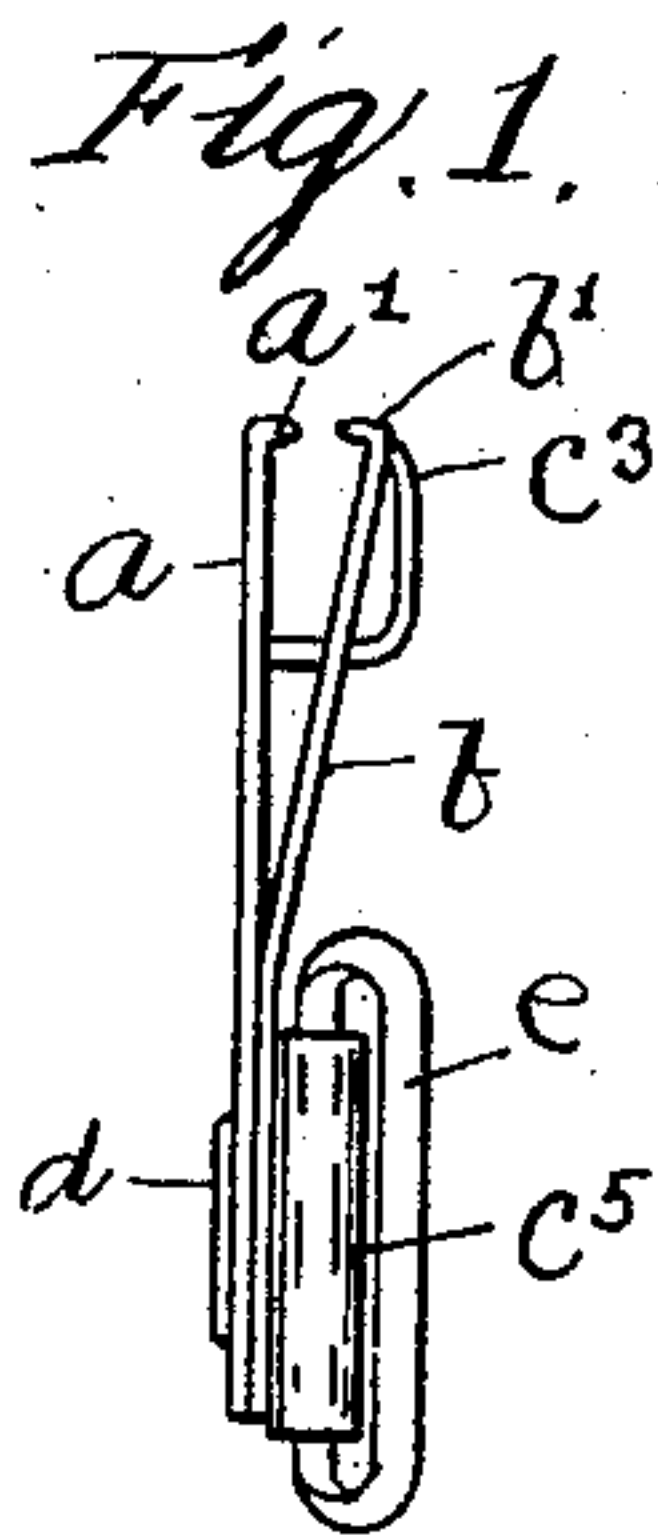


Fig. 4.

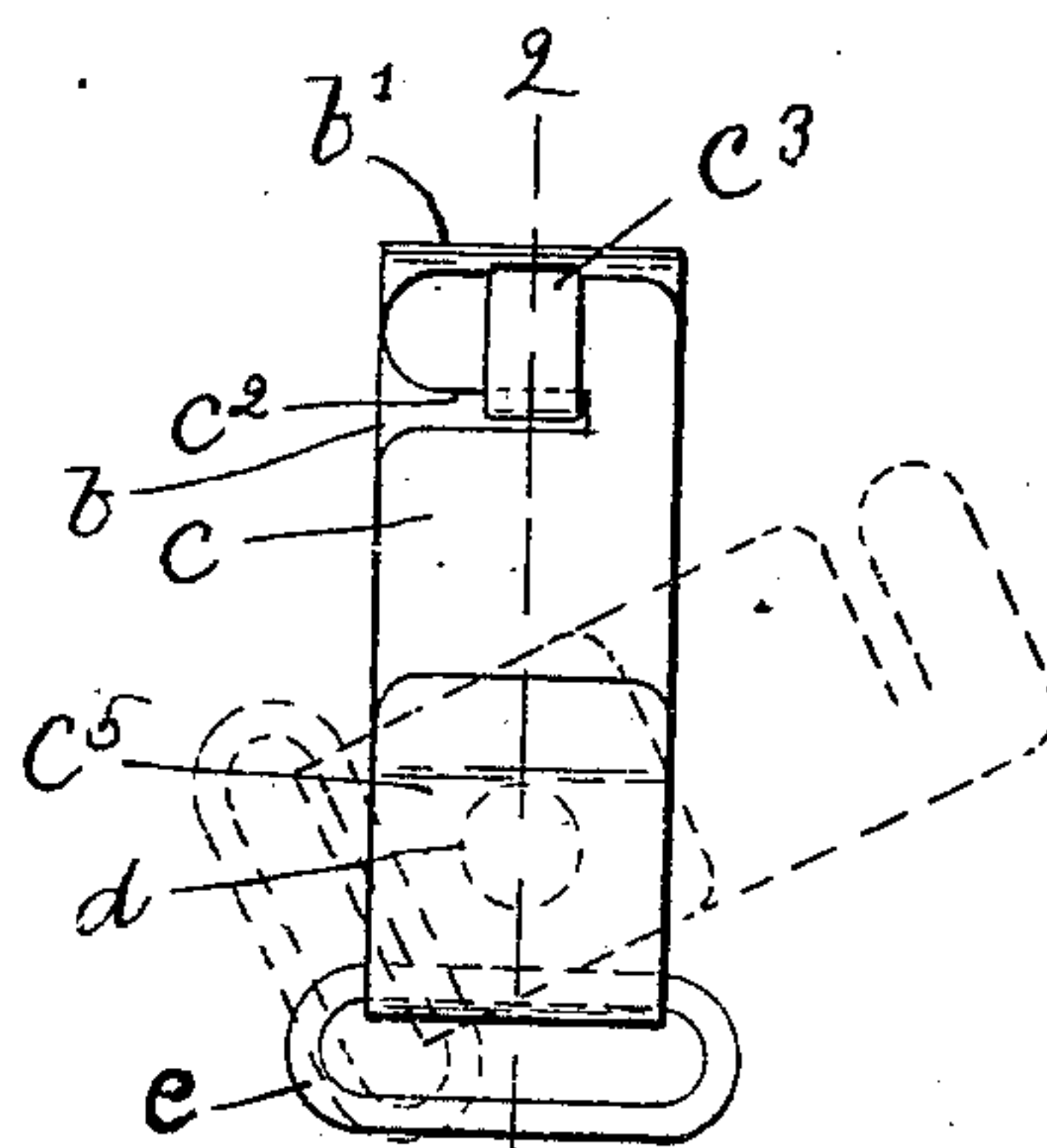


Fig. 5.

Witnesses:
H. B. Davis.
Cynthia Doyle

Inventor:
Frank W. Lowe
by *Adrian K. Hamman*
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK W. LOWE, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

GARMENT-CLASP.

No. 863,860.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 20, 1907.

Application filed February 11, 1907. Serial No. 356,659.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK W. LOWE, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Garment-Clasps, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like characters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention particularly relates to that class of garment clasps which are especially adapted to be attached to the lower edge of a corset, where the material engaged is of considerable thickness, and a form of clasp is desired which cannot be readily disconnected.

My invention has for its object to provide a clasp of this character which may be securely attached and is unlikely to become detached by accident, and which is composed of parts of such form that they may be readily stamped from sheet metal, so that a device may be produced which is inexpensive to manufacture.

For an understanding of the means which I employ in carrying out the above objects, reference is made to the accompanying drawing, in which,

Figure 1 is an edge elevation of a garment clasp made according to my invention, and shown in unlocked position. Fig. 2 is a central section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 5, showing the parts in locked position. Fig. 3 is an end view of the clamping jaws in locked position. Fig. 4 is a back elevation of the clasp. Fig. 5 is a front elevation thereof.

As shown in the drawing, the device is composed of three pieces of sheet spring metal stamped out in different forms, said pieces comprising a pair of clamping members *a* and *b* having clamping jaws *a'*, *b'* at their respective ends, oppositely disposed and cooperating with each other, and a locking member *c* having a cam portion *c'* at one end, said parts *a*, *b* and *c* being connected side by side in their shank portions by an eyelet, or rivet *d*. The inner or base member *a* has a tongue *a²* extending at right angles therefrom, said tongue being cut from the main part of the member and extended through an aperture *b²* in the spring member *b*, through a transverse, open ended slot *c²* in the locking member *c*, and then at right angles into engagement with the outer side of the locking member *c* adjacent its cam *c'*. The opposite end of the locking member *c* from its cam *c'* is bent to provide a hook *c³* which is upturned and adapted to receive a ring *e* to which the garment supporter *f* is attached. As the tongue *a²* fits tightly in the aperture *b²* of the member *b*, it will be apparent that said tongue acts to prevent relative rotation of said clamp members *a* and *b*, but the slot *c²* is arranged to permit locking member *c* to be turned to the right on the eyelet *d* as a pivot into the dotted position of Fig. 5. All the parts are preferably of spring metal and the member *b* is set in such a form that, when the locking member *c* is swung out of engagement with the tongue *a²*, it will spring away from the member *a*

until it engages the end of the tongue *a²*, in which position the jaws will be fully opened, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

In attaching the clasp to the garment, the jaws *a'*, *b'* will be opened, as before described, and the garment will be inserted therebetween, and then the locking member *c* will be swung back into coincidence with the members, *a*, *b*. To permit the cam *c'* to ride easily up onto the member *b*, the end of the cam which first engages the edge of the member *b* is inclined at *c⁴* to the side thereof, as shown in Fig. 3. As the member *c* is pressed inwardly it will pass beneath the tongue *a²*, and the latter will act to reinforce the member *c*, and cause or assist in causing the latter to press the jaws together or into engagement with the garment which is inserted therebetween. As the tongue *a²* is of spring metal it acts to press the jaws *a'*, *b'* yieldingly together, permitting said jaws to yield according to the thickness of the material engaged. In this position the parts are tightly locked together and there is no pressure or force which is likely to be applied to the locking member in ordinary use which would tend to push it to the side so as to liberate the jaws or permit them to become disengaged from the garment.

The hook *c³* serves the double function of an attaching means for the supporter and a convenient handle for turning the locking member.

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

1. A garment clasp comprising a pair of jaws, and means for locking them together comprising a tongue connected to one of said jaws, and extending transversely therefrom to the opposite side of the other jaw and longitudinally of the latter to provide an engaging face, and a locking member movable independently of said jaws between said engaging face and the adjacent jaw to lock said jaws together, substantially as described.

2. A garment clasp comprising a pair of jaws, and means for locking them together comprising a tongue connected to one of said jaws, and extending transversely therefrom to the opposite side of the other jaw and longitudinally of the latter to provide an engaging face, and a locking member having a wedge shaped portion adapted to be forced between said engaging face and the adjacent jaw to draw said jaws together and lock them in this position, substantially as described.

3. A garment clasp comprising a pair of jaws, and means for locking them together comprising a tongue connected to one of said jaws, and extending transversely therefrom to the opposite side of the other jaw and longitudinally of the latter to provide an engaging face, and an independent locking member pivotally connected to said jaws and adapted to swing on its pivot between said engaging face and the adjacent jaw to lock said jaws together, substantially as described.

4. A garment clasp comprising a pair of clamp members connected at adjacent ends and having coacting jaws at their opposite ends, a tongue connected to one of said members and extending transversely thereof through the other member and then longitudinally thereof to provide an engaging face, and a locking member pivotally mounted at one end on said clamping members adjacent their con-

5 nected ends and having a cam portion at its opposite end adapted to be moved between said engaging face and the adjacent side of the adjacent clamp member, as it is swung on its pivot, to draw said jaws together, substantially as described.

10 5. A garment clasp comprising a pair of clamp members and a locking member disposed at one side of said clamp members, a pivot connecting all of said members at adjacent ends and said clamp members having coacting jaws and said locking member having a cam portion at their opposite ends, the clamp member next the locking member having an aperture and said locking member having a transverse slot leading to one edge thereof and registering with said aperture in certain positions of said locking member, a tongue connected to the other clamp member and extending through said aperture and longitudinally of said members in position to permit said cam portion to pass between it and the adjacent clamp member, as the locking member is swung on its pivot, to cause said cam portion to draw said jaws together, substantially as described.

20 6. A garment clasp comprising a pair of jaws, and means for locking them together comprising a tongue connected to one of said jaws, and extending transversely

therefrom to the opposite side of the other jaw and longitudinally of the latter to provide an engaging face, a locking member pivotally connected intermediate its ends to said jaws and having an engaging portion at one end and a supporting hook at the other, said engaging portion being disposed to engage the face of said tongue and the adjacent clamping member to force said jaws together, substantially as described. 25 30

7. A garment clasp comprising a pair of jaws and means for locking them together comprising a transversely extending projection connected to one of said jaws and having a transversely yielding tongue extending at an angle thereto adjacent the outer side of the other jaw, and a locking member movable independently of said jaws between the last named jaw and said tongue to draw said jaws together, substantially as described. 35

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses. 40

FRANK W. LOWE.

Witnesses:

L. H. HARRIMAN,
H. B. DAVIS.