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PATENTED OCT. 15, 1907.

J. M. Siner.
SEPARABLE FASTENER FOR GARTERS.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 2, 1907.

Fig. 1.

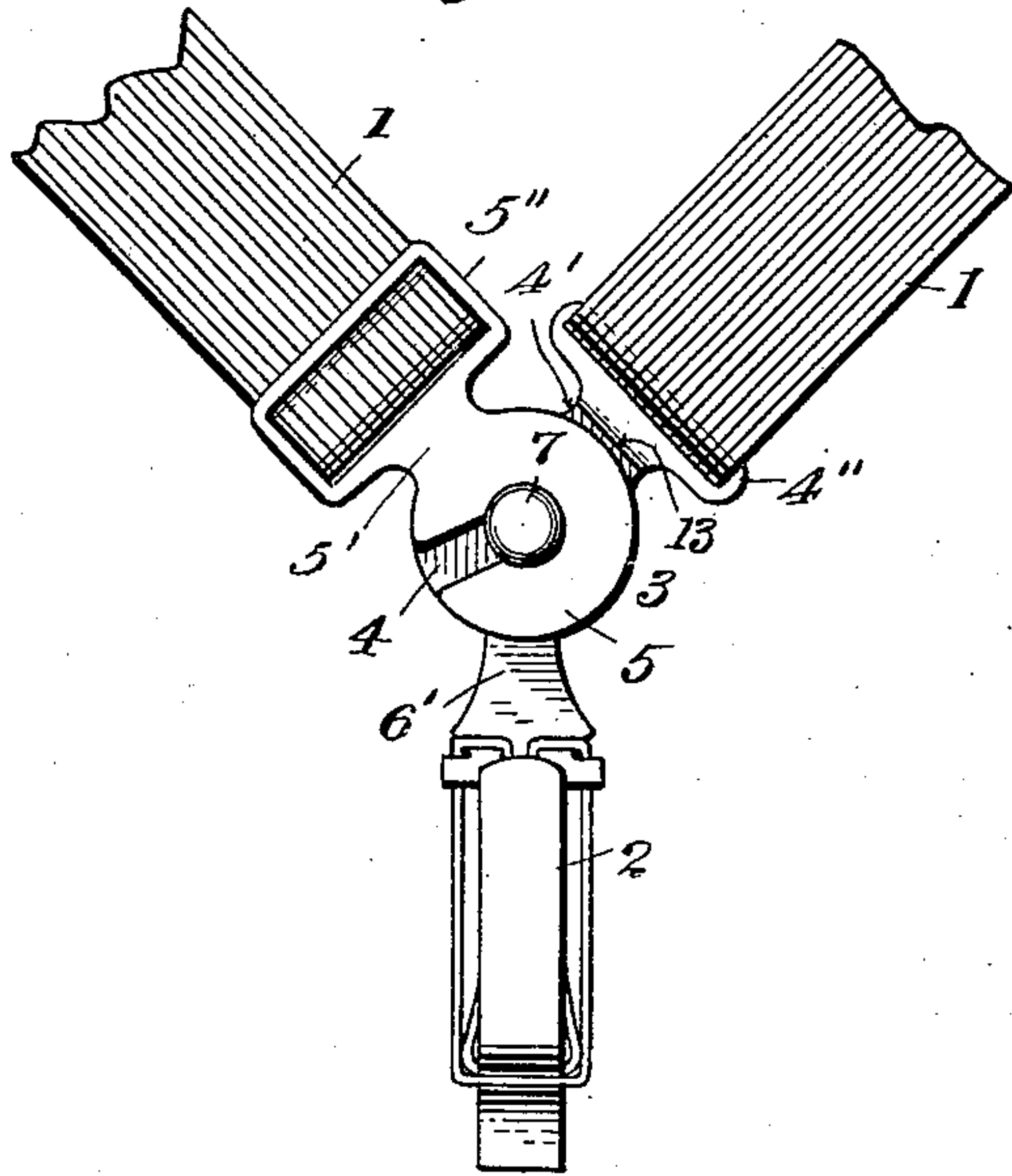


Fig. 2.

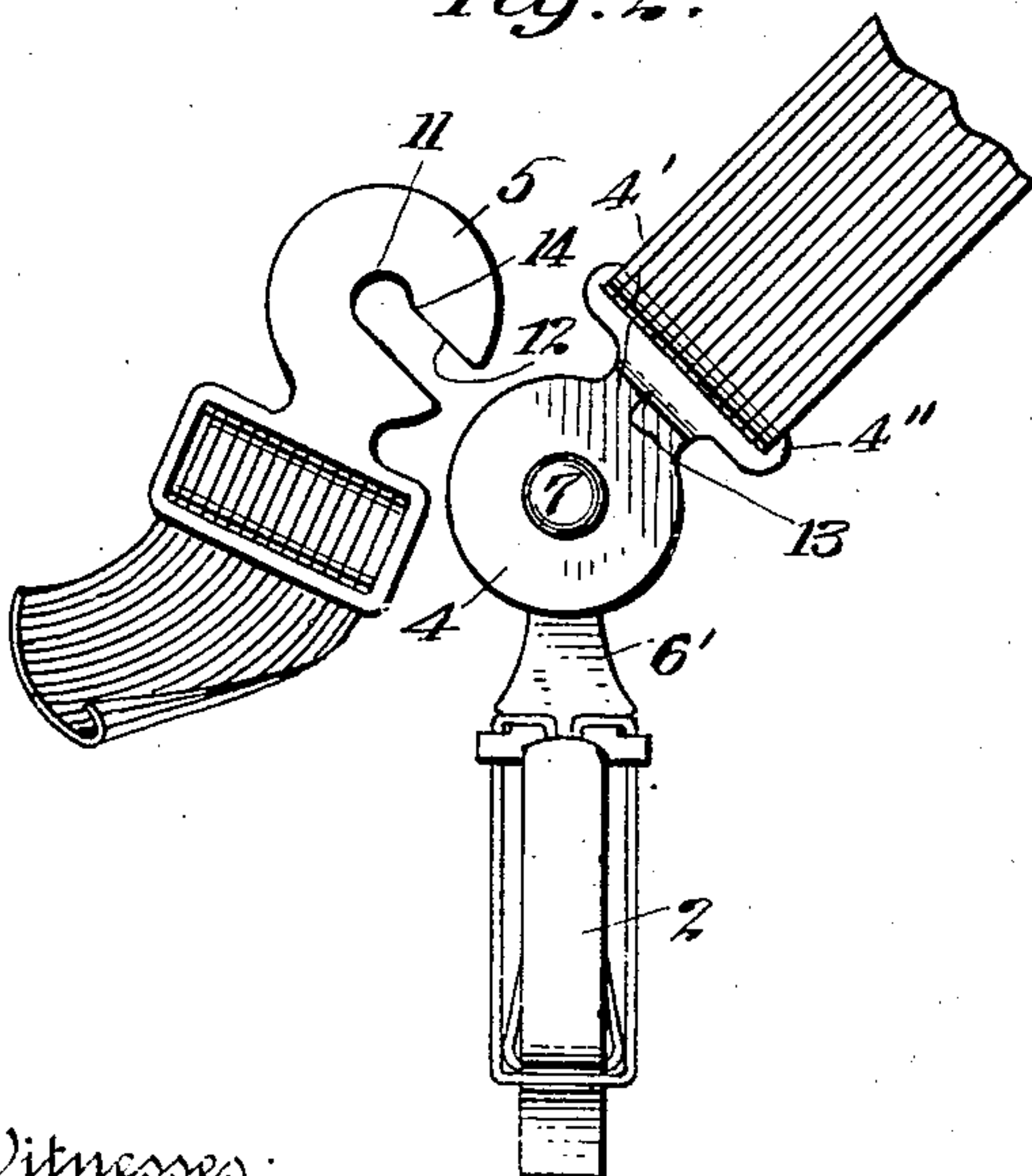
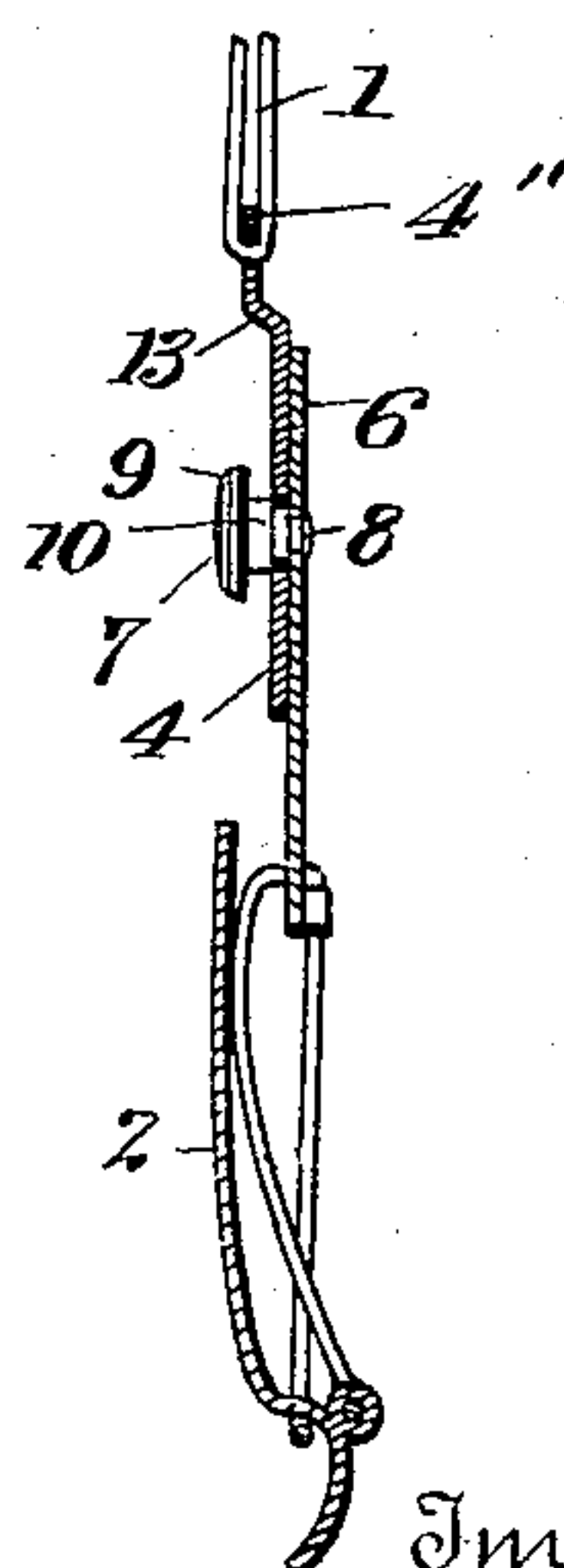


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SEPARABLE FASTENER FOR GARTERS.

No. 868,298.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 15, 1907.

Application filed March 2, 1907. Serial No. 360,126.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN M. Siner, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Separable Fastener for a Garter, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to garters, particularly those which are worn by men around the calf of the leg for supporting the socks, although it is evident that the garter is not limited in this respect, and the features thereof are applicable to other uses such as belts, straps, suspenders, and the like.

In my prior application, Serial No. 347,327, I have shown a construction accomplishing the above purposes more particularly relating to the member for engaging and gripping the fabric of the sock. The present case is based on the same general construction, but relates particularly to the features of the clasp, which, as above indicated, is not only applicable to the use shown, but to other uses of varied character.

An important characteristic of all clasps, and particularly garter clasps, is that they should be easily hooked or fastened in place, but should be firm and permanent in their attachment so as not to become accidentally loosened. It is also desirable that the clasp have a maximum amount of flexibility in all directions. In a garter such as is worn by men there are three independent straps which branch out from one another in different directions, and each of these should be freely swiveled or flexible with respect to the other two. The present invention secures these results and consists in the features of construction and combination hereinafter set forth and claimed.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a fragmentary view showing the clasp of a man's garter embodying the principles of my invention with the usual bands extending therefrom in substantially the directions they assume in use; Fig. 2 is a view of the clasp in disengaged relation; this figure shows the way in which the parts are positioned with respect to one another when they are about to be clasped or fastened; and Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the clasp looking edgewise at the same.

The principle which I have noted in connection with men's garters, and of which I avail myself in the construction, depends upon the fact that the supporting strap or band which encircles the leg of the wearer in use is deflected quite sharply downward into a V-shape at the point where the tension of the stocking is applied. This is the normal condition in use, but when the garter is initially positioned and clasped it is most readily applied in a direct and horizontal line or plane around the leg rather than in the deflected manner which it afterwards assumes in use. The garter constructed in accordance with my invention is adapted to be freely clasped

in the above mentioned horizontal relation, but becomes tightly locked against disengagement when the strain of the stocking deflects the band downward.

Referring to the drawings in which like parts are designated by the same reference sign, 1 denotes the usual elastic band which encircles the calf of the leg in a garter, and 2 denotes the gripping device which depends into a position to be secured to the sock or stocking which has to be held.

3 denotes the swivel clasp embodying the principles of my invention. The clasp 3 has what I shall term the main or base plate 4, and a hook plate 5. There is also a swivel plate 6, which appears particularly in Fig. 3. Each of these plates have narrow extensions or neck portions denominated 4', 5' and 6' respectively, and these necks or extensions are in turn connected to the buckles or other fastening or gripping means 4'', 5'' and 2. The part 2 in the present case constitutes a specially formed gripper for receiving the fabric of the stocking, but it is evident that these devices may be of any convenient or approved character.

The main plate 4, and the swivel plate 6, are permanently engaged to one another through the rivet or stud 7. This rivet or stud is reduced at 8, where it is tightly fixed to the swivel plate 6 by being peened or riveted over upon the same. At its other end the rivet has a head 9, and an enlarged portion 10, immediately adjacent to said head, and which also forms a shoulder engaging the main plate 4. The main plate 4 loosely surrounds the body of the rivet 7 between the enlargement 10 and the swivel plate 6 to which the rivet is fixed. In this way the main plate and the swivel plate are freely pivoted together, and at the same time a projecting head or button is formed by the head 9 of the rivet, together with the enlarged part 10. The head or button thus formed coöperates with the hook plate 5 so as to provide a detachable swivel fastening. In this action the parts not only form a detachable swivel connection, but one which is locked in normal use. The construction by which these functions are secured is most clearly shown in Fig. 2. Referring to Fig. 2 it will be seen that the hook plate 5 is generally circular in its outside contour, corresponding to the form of the main plate 4 and the swivel plate 6. At the center there is a circular orifice 11, the size of which corresponds to the enlargement 10 of the rivet 7. The orifice 11 is of sufficient size to fit loosely upon such enlargement. Extending in a diagonal direction from this orifice 11 is a slot 12, the width of which also corresponds to the enlargement 10. The slot 12, however, does not extend in a direct radial line from the orifice 11, but is slightly offset therefrom toward the neck of the hook plate. The inclination of the slot 12 is also toward the neck of the hook plate.

In addition to the above features of construction

there is one additional and very important detail, which lies in the formation of a ledge or shoulder 13 in the material of the neck 4' of the main plate 4. This ledge or shoulder is immediately adjacent to the circular part of the main plate. In this way the ledge or shoulder is in a position to cooperate with the hook plate and prevents said hook plate from coming accidentally unfastened. The slot of the hook plate is in such a diagonal direction that when the garter is in use, the slot extends directly away from the ledge or shoulder 13, so that such ledge or shoulder opposes any possible disengagement of the hook, while the garter is in use. This relation is clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing.

The operation is as follows: It being desired to engage a garter having my clasp embodied therein in a position to hold up the socks or stockings, the main plate 4 and the hook plate 5 are first placed with respect to one another as shown in Fig. 2. In this way the slot 12 is made to lie in a direction about parallel to the ledge or shoulder 13. The hook plate can then be freely passed over the rivet 7. As soon as the rivet is received in the central orifice 11 of the hook plate, the latter is allowed to turn until it comes into the position shown in Fig. 1, which is the position of normal use. In this position the slot 12 lies on the opposite side of the rivet from the ledge or shoulder 13, so that the parts are absolutely precluded from becoming unfastened. But although all the parts are absolutely secured in this way, they are capable of free pivotal or swiveling movement with respect to one another. The swivel plate 6 is capable of free swinging movement with respect to either the main plate or the hook plate, and either the main plate or the hook plate is capable of free swiveling movement with respect to the other and to the swivel plate. Those are the important conditions to be satisfied in a garter clasp. In addition to the functions of the ledge or shoulder 13 as above outlined, there is a further provision for holding the hook in proper clasped relation in use. This is the arrangement by which the slot 12 is not located on a radial line from the rivets 11, but is slightly offset therefrom. The effect of offsetting the slot in this way is to produce a projecting shoulder 14, which cooperates with the rivet 7 when the parts are assembled, to prevent accidental dislodgment.

What I claim, is:—

1. In a clasp of the class described, a main plate having a ledge or shoulder, a stud extending from said plate, and a hook plate having an orifice and slot opening inward from the circumference of the hook plate to cooperate with said stud and angularly movable thereon to a position where said stud is freely removable through said slot, said hook plate being locked against disengagement by said ledge or shoulder in normal use.

2. In a clasp of the class described, a main plate having a ledge or shoulder, a stud extending from said plate, and a hook plate having an orifice with a slot extending outwardly therefrom to the circumference of the hook plate and angularly movable on said stud to a position where said stud is freely removable through said slot, said hook plate having a circular contour to cooperate with said shoulder in its swiveling movement on the stud.

3. In a clasp of the class described, a main plate having a swivel plate permanently swiveled thereto, a stud extending from said plate, and a hook plate having a central orifice and a slot extending outwardly therefrom and adapted to be received on said stud so as to have a free pivotal movement with respect to the main plate and to the swivel plate.

4. In a clasp of the class described, a swivel plate having a rivet or stud fixed thereto, a main plate permanently assembled on said rivet and capable of swinging movement thereon, and a hook plate having a slot and a central orifice adapted to be placed loosely over said rivet or stud.

5. In a clasp of the class described, a swivel plate having a rivet or stud fixed thereto, a main plate permanently associated on the stud and loosely surrounding said rivet, said rivet having an enlarged portion against which the main plate bears to prevent lateral displacement, and a hook plate having an orifice adapted to be loosely placed over said enlarged portion of the rivet or stud.

6. In a clasp of the class described, a stud or rivet having a head, an enlarged portion and a reduced portion, a swivel plate riveted to the reduced portion, a main plate loosely surrounding the portion between the enlarged and reduced portions, and a hook plate adapted to be removably received on the enlarged portion.

7. In a clasp of the class described, a stud or rivet having a head an enlarged portion and a reduced portion, a swivel plate riveted to the reduced portion, a main plate loosely surrounding the portion between the enlarged and reduced portions, and a hook plate adapted to be removably received on the enlarged portion, said main plate having a ledge or shoulder cooperating with the hook plate to prevent removal thereof except when said parts are moved into a predetermined relation.

8. In a clasp of the class described, a main plate having a rivet or stud projecting therefrom and having a ledge or shoulder and a hook plate having a circular contour and having a slot opening inward from the circumference of the hook plate and received over the rivet or stud and extending away from said ledge or shoulder in normal use, said hook plate being angularly movable on said rivet to a position where said rivet is freely removable through said slot.

9. In a clasp of the class described, a main plate having a rivet and a ledge thereon, and a hook plate adapted to engage said ledge and having a central orifice and a slot extending from its central portion, said slot opening into the circumference of the hook plate and being offset from a radial path with respect to said orifice so as to produce a shoulder or protuberance cooperating with the rivet, said hook plate being angularly movable thereon to a position where said rivet is freely removable through said slot.

In witness whereof, I subscribe my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN M. SINER.

Witnesses:

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