

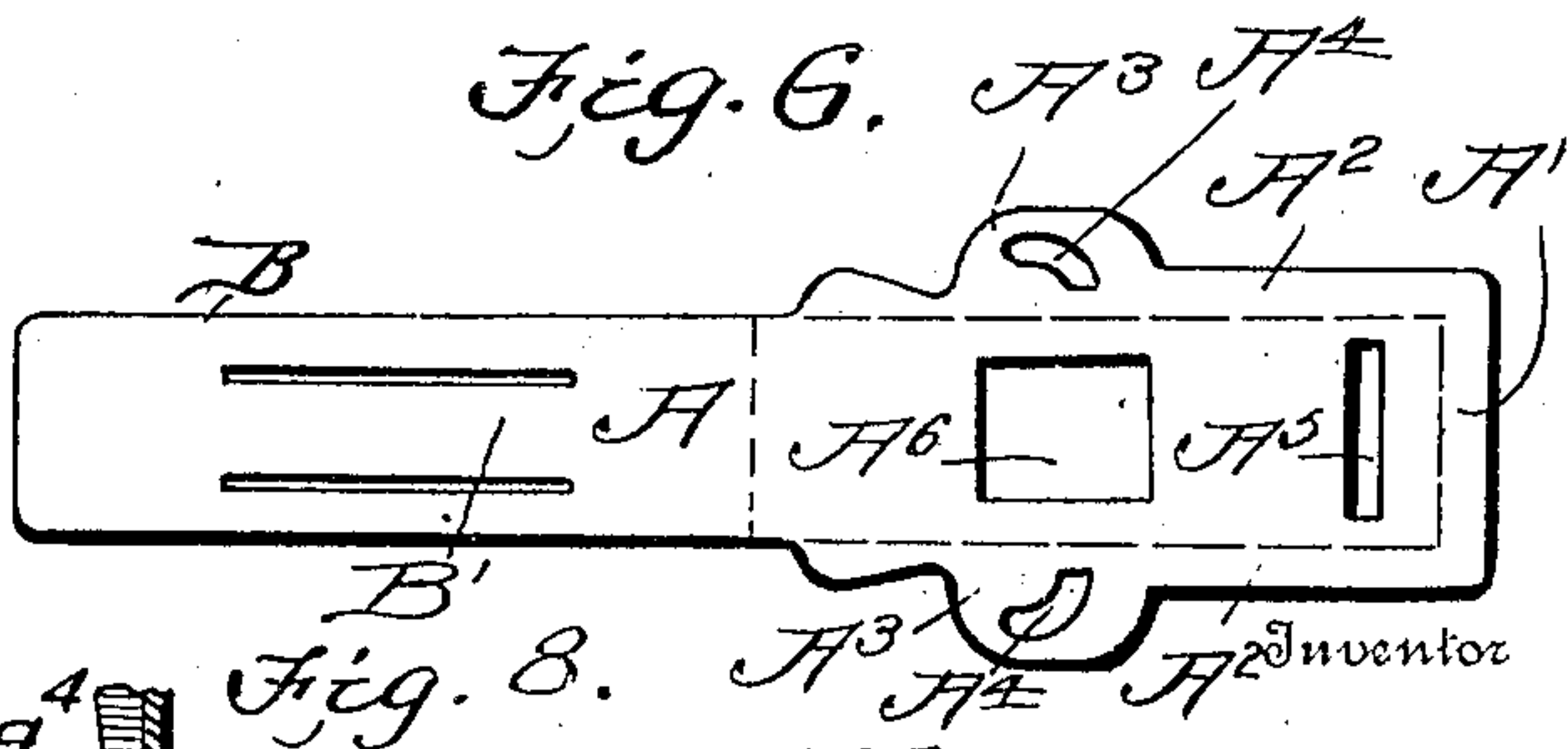
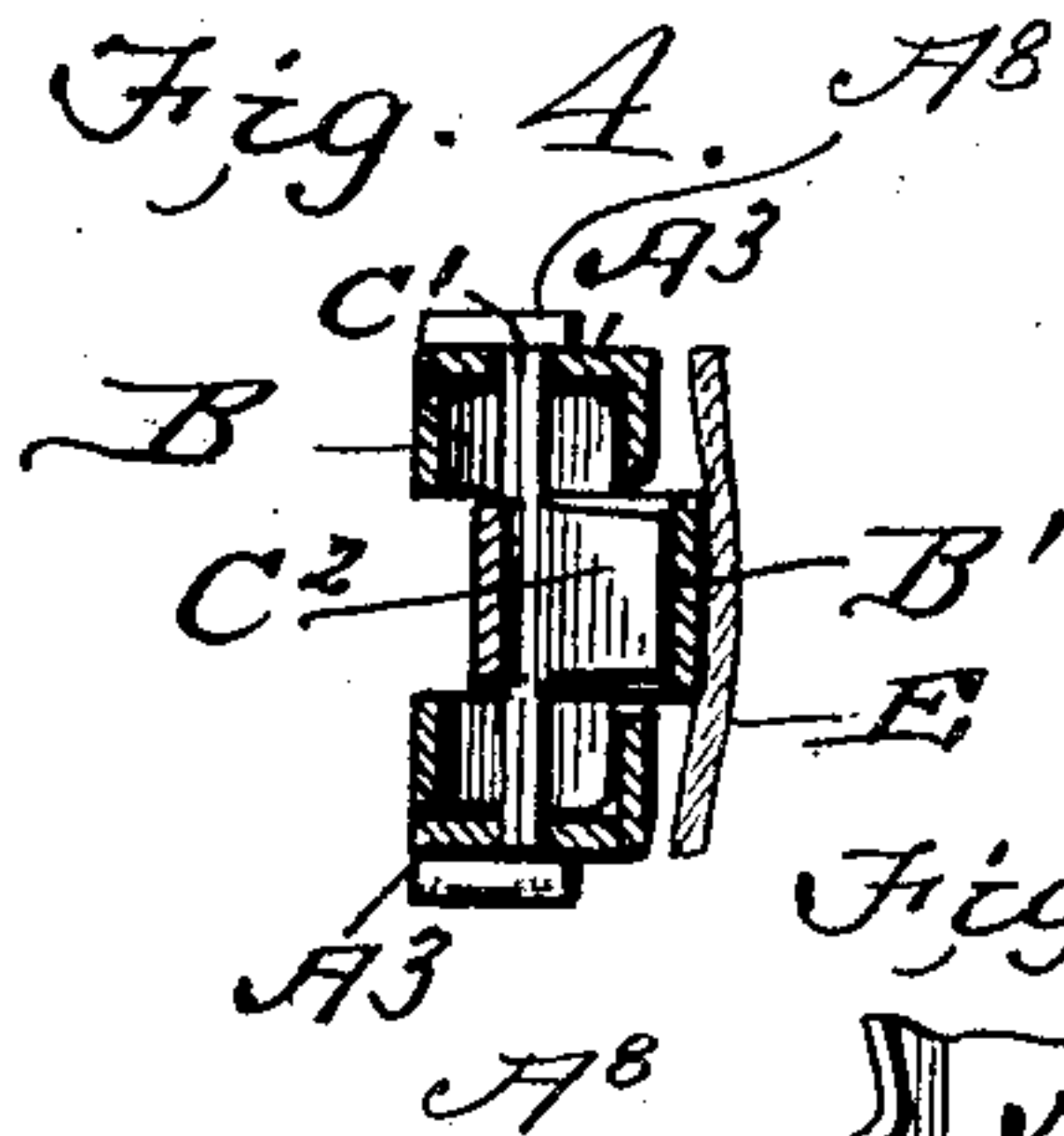
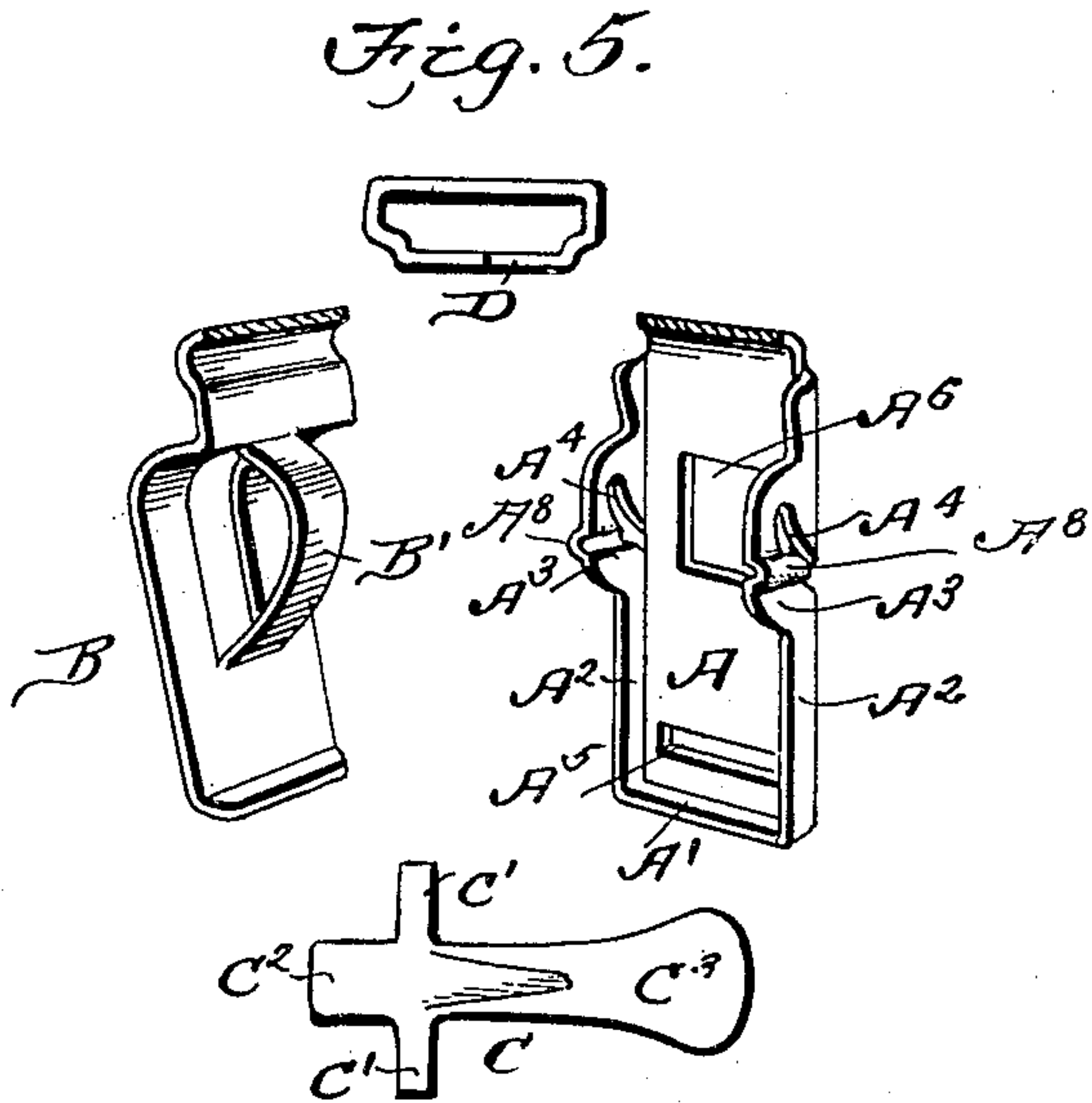
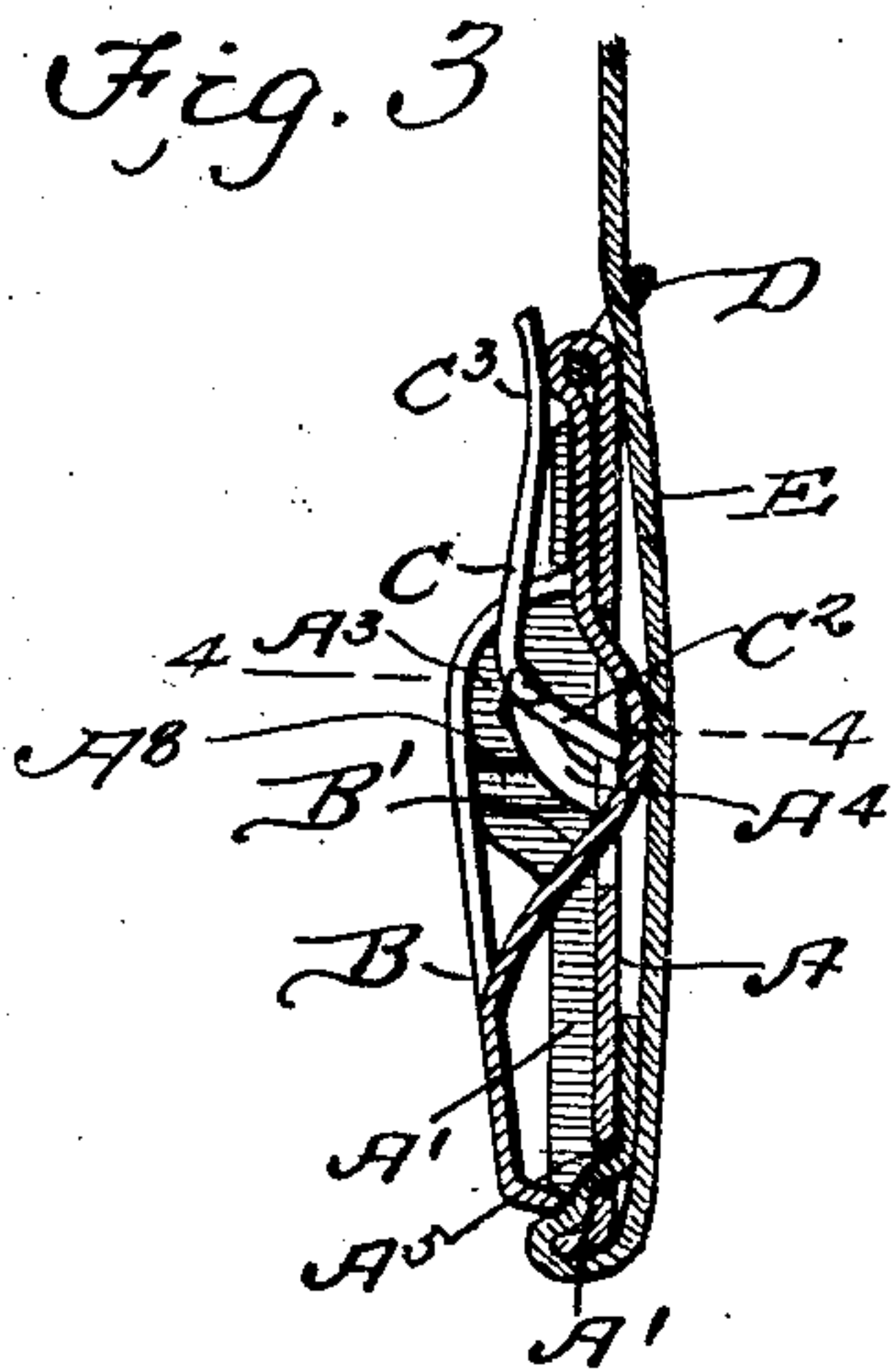
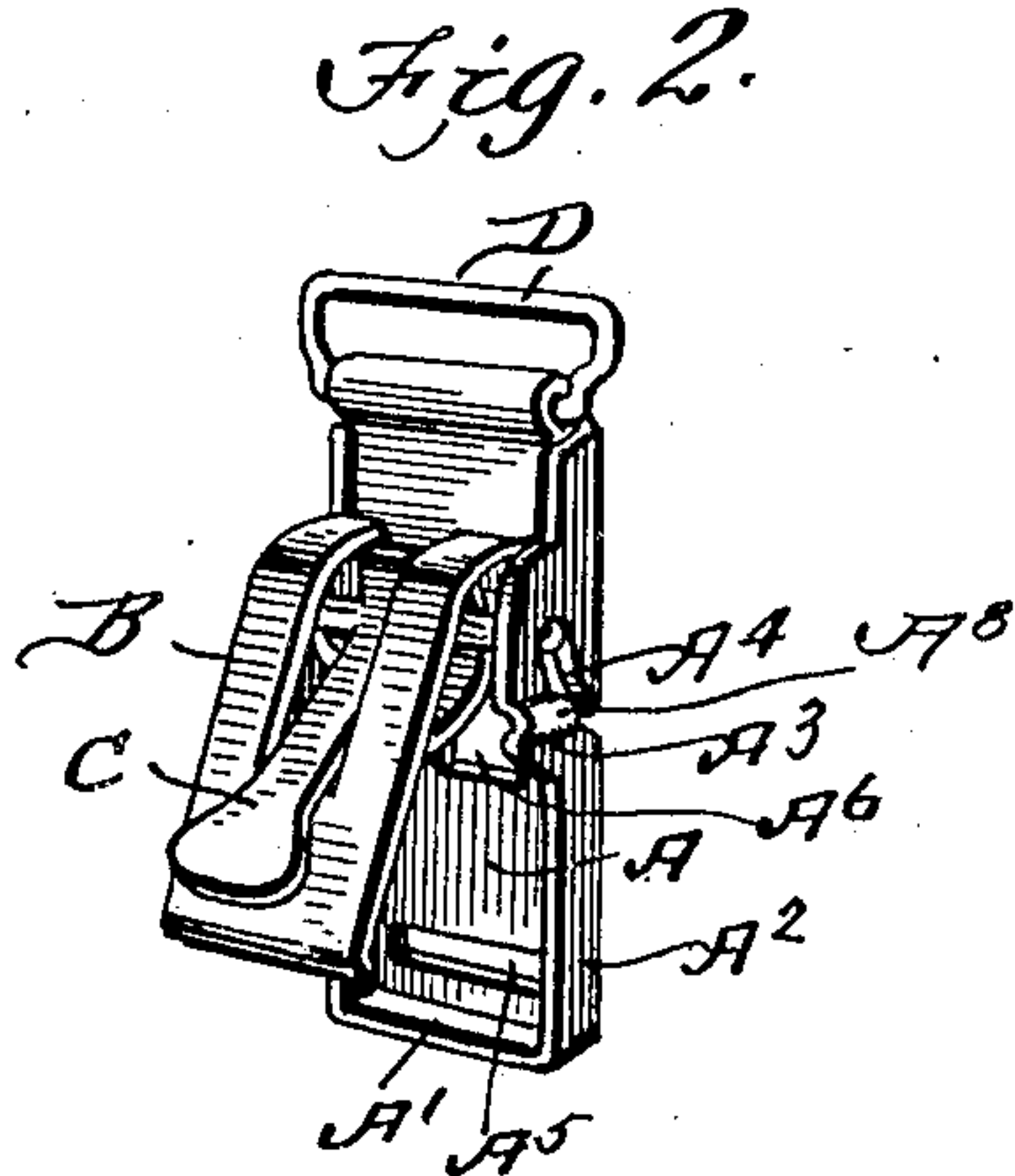
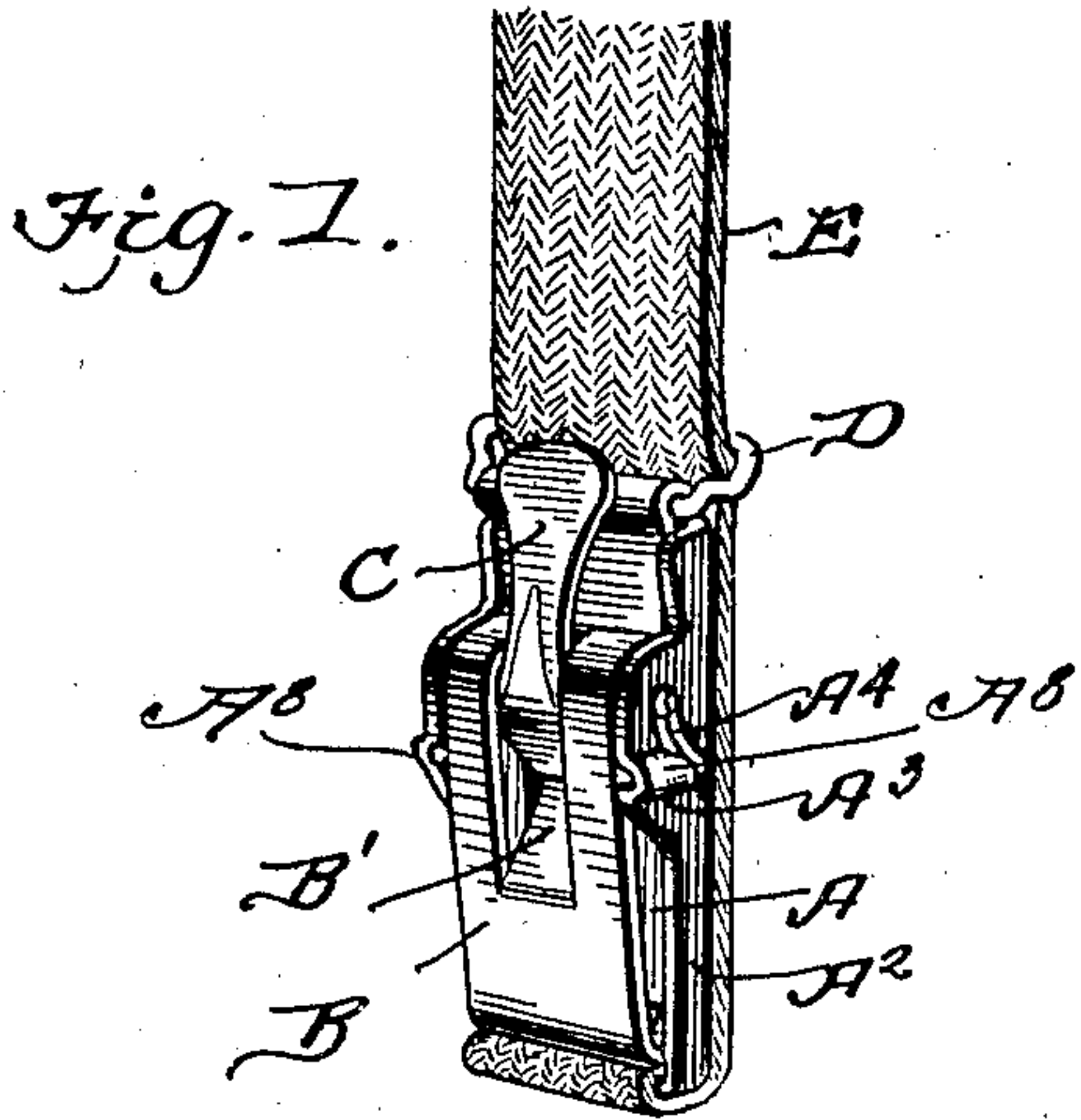
No. 876,161.

PATENTED JAN. 7, 1908.

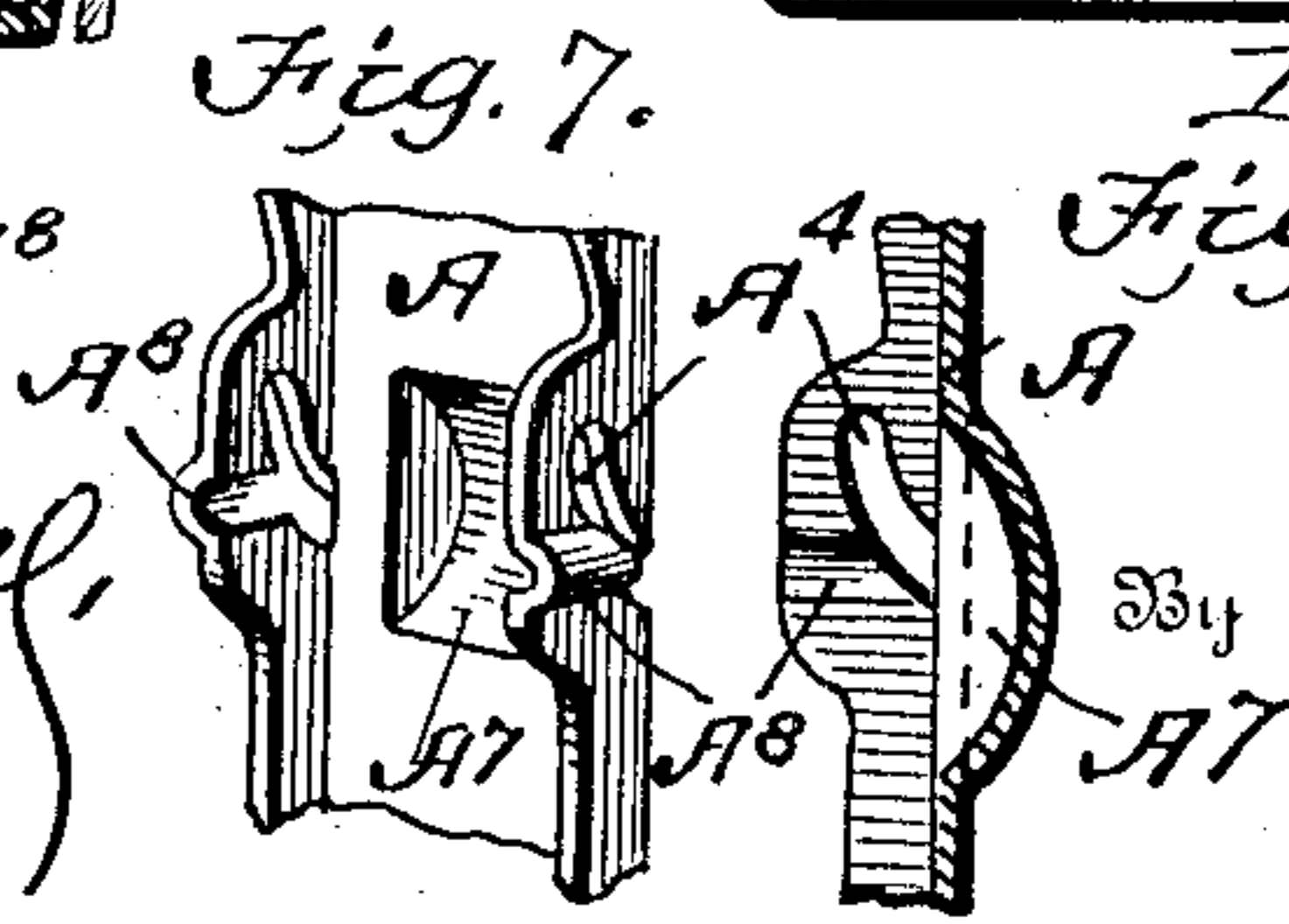
W. C. FINNEY.

CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 21, 1906.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM C. FINNEY, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

CLASP.

No. 876,161.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 7, 1908.

Application filed June 21, 1906. Serial No. 322,720.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. FINNEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clasps, of which the following is a specification

This invention relates generally to clasps and more particularly to a clasp intended to be used in connection with a garter or hose supporter, the object of the invention being to provide a clasp which will be flat in appearance, one which will not tear the stocking, and one which will be simple and efficient in operation and inexpensive in construction.

With these various objects in view the invention consists essentially in making a clasp preferably from a single piece of spring metal and comprising a base member and a gripping member, the gripping member having an inwardly projecting longitudinal tongue, the base member having an opening adapted to receive said tongue when the members are brought together and a lever connected to the base member and adapted to bear upon the tongue of the gripping member for the purpose of bringing the free ends of the said members together.

The invention consists also in constructing the various parts in such a manner that the lever can be quickly and easily attached and detached as desired.

The invention consists also in certain details of construction and novelties of combination all of which will be fully described hereinafter and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a clasp constructed in accordance with my invention, said clasp being closed. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the clasp open, the elastic being detached from the clasp. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section of the clasp closed. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a view showing the various elements of the clasp, the base and gripping members being separated from each other. Fig. 6 is a plan view of the blank from which the clasp is made. Fig. 7 is a detail perspective view showing a slight modification in the base. Fig. 8 is a detail sectional elevation of said modified part.

In constructing a clasp in accordance with my invention I employ a single piece of

spring metal which is cut in the shape of the blank shown in Fig. 6, and which is then bent centrally upon itself providing the base member A, and the gripping member B. The base member A is formed with a lip A' at its lower end and side flanges A², said side flanges being provided with ears A³ which have curved or inclined slots A⁴ for the purpose hereinafter explained.

A transverse slot A⁵ is produced in the base member adjacent the lower end for the purpose of attaching the webbing or elastic to the clasp as most clearly shown in Fig. 3 and between the slotted ears, the base plate is formed with an opening A⁶, and in Figs. 1 to 6, this opening is complete and by that it is meant that the metal is completely removed whereas in Figs. 7 and 8 the metal is simply depressed thereby providing an opening or recess A⁷.

The gripping member B is of such size and shape as to rest within the flanges and ears of the base member and this gripping member has an integral longitudinal tongue B' punched therefrom, said tongue projecting inwardly toward the base member and when the members are brought together as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, the central portion of the longitudinal tongue will be received in the opening A⁶ or A⁷ in the base plate as most clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

For the purpose of bringing the members together I employ a bent or curved lever C having laterally projecting pivots C', a head C² and a handle portion C³. The pivot C' fits into the slots of the ears and works freely therein and by having the ears slotted as described, the lever can be quickly and easily inserted or removed as desired. The head of the lever is adapted to bear upon the outer face of the longitudinal tongue and when the lever is thrown back as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, the head of the lever bearing upon this tongue, will force the free ends of the base and gripping members together.

When the lever is thrown forward or downwardly as shown in Fig. 2, the inherent elasticity of the metal will immediately cause the gripping members to spring downwardly thereby opening the clasp.

In Figs. 7 and 8 I have also shown a slight modification in which the slotted ears are also crimped or grooved as shown at A⁸, said crimps or grooves leading into the inclined slots at their lower ends, the purpose of said crimps or grooves being to facilitate the in-

section and removal of the lever as the ends of the pivots will work freely through said crimped or grooved portions into and out of the slots whenever it is desired to insert or
5 remove the said lever.

A ring D is connected to the clasp at the central bend between the base and gripping members as most clearly shown, and the elastic E, after being fastened to the lower
10 end of the base member is passed upwardly along the rear face of the clasp and through the ring D.

It will thus be seen that I provide an exceedingly neat and compact form of clasp,
15 one which can be produced at a low cost inasmuch as it consists of an exceedingly small number of parts and it will also be noted that owing to the peculiar construction and arrangement of said parts an ex-
20 ceedingly firm grip is had upon the article to be clasped.

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

25 1. A clasp formed from a single piece of spring metal comprising a base member and a gripping member, an ear at each side provided with an inclined slot, each ear being

crimped to form a groove leading to the slot, the gripping member having an integral lon- 30
gitudinal tongue punched therefrom and bent inwardly toward the base member, and a detachable lever having pivots working in the inclined slots in the ears and a head bearing upon the longitudinal tongue of the grip- 35
ping member for the purpose of bringing the free ends of the base and gripping members together.

2. A clasp comprising a base member having ears upon its opposite sides, said ears be- 40
ing each provided with an inclined slot, and said base member being centrally punched out between the ears, a gripping member connected to the base member and having a tongue punched therefrom, each end of the 45
tongue being integral with the gripping member, and a lever having pivots fitting loosely in the slots of the ears, the head of the lever bearing upon the said tongue and forcing the same into the opening formed in 50
the base.

WM. C. FINNEY.

Witnesses:

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