No. 884,040.

PATENTED APR. 7, 1908.

J. H. PILKINGTON.

GARMENT CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 23, 1907.

Fig. 1.

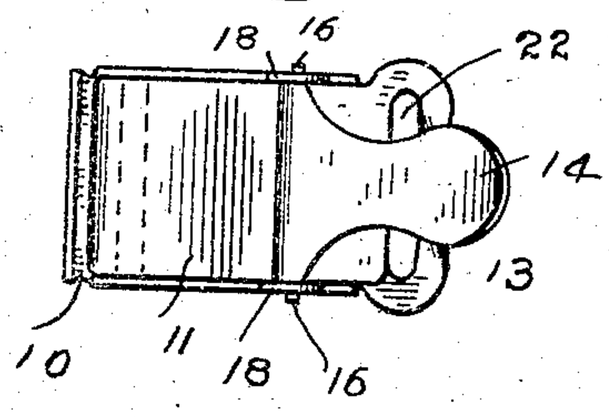


Fig. 2.

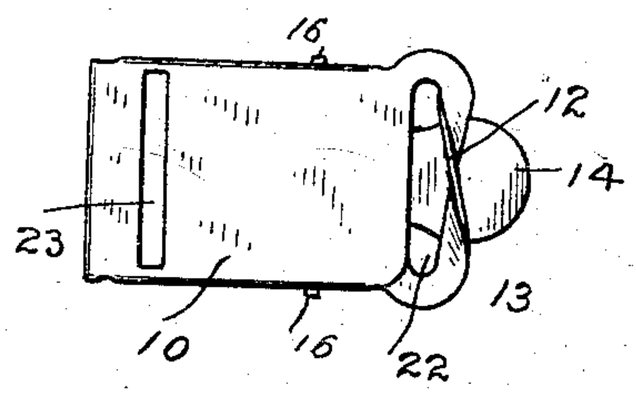


Fig. 3.

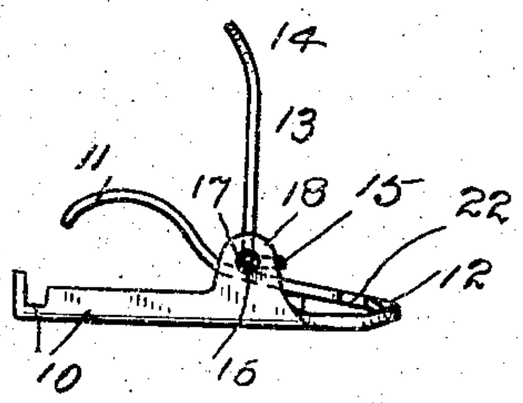


Fig. 4.

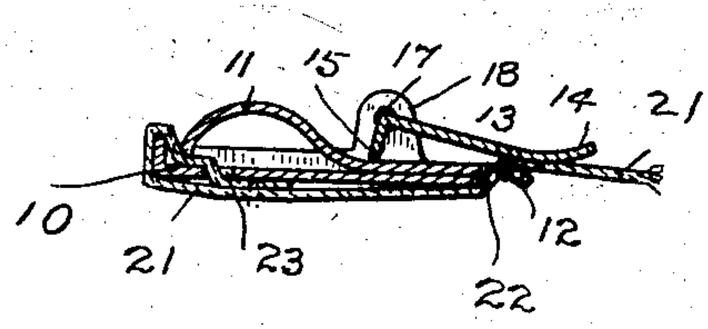


Fig. 5.

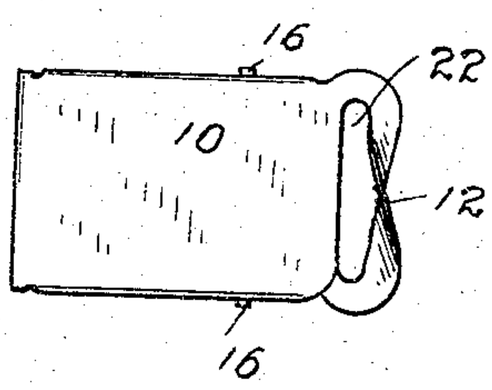
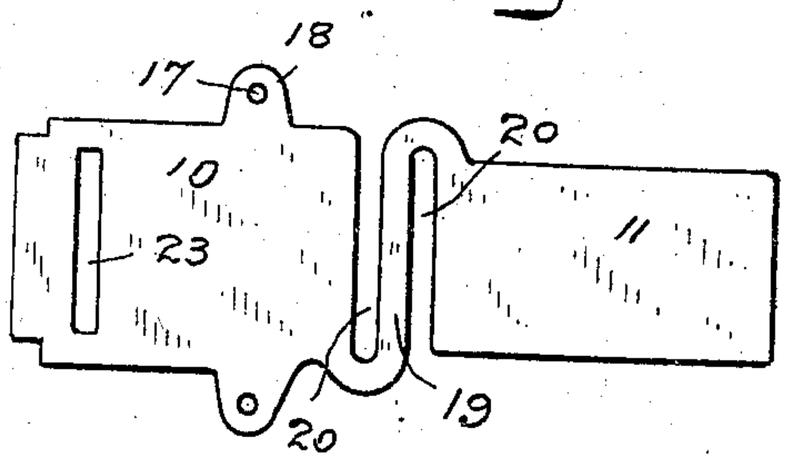


Fig. 6.



WITNESSES

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GARMENT-CLASP.

No. 884,040. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 7, 1908.

Application filed July 23, 1907. Serial No. 385,196.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH H. PILKINGTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waterbury, county of New Haven, State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Garment-Clasp, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the lever type of garment clasps and has for its object to produce an improved clasp having a spring jaw closed by a lever and adapted for general use as upon stocking and other garment supporters and as a necktie holder, the special object of the present invention being to simplify and cheapen the construction and to both shorten the clasp and increase the resiliency of the spring jaw, thereby greatly improving the operation of the clasp in use.

With these and other objects in view I have devised the novel clasp, of which the following description in connection with the accompanying drawings is a specification, reference characters being used to indicate the several parts:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of my novel clasp, the lever and spring jaw being in the closing position; Fig. 2 an inverted plan view corresponding therewith; Fig. 3 a side elevation, the spring jaw being in the open position; Fig. 4 a longitudinal section, the clasp being shown as attached to a web and the spring jaw and lever being in the closing position; Fig. 5 an inverted plan view showing a form in which the web slot at the forward end is omitted; and Fig. 6 is a plan view of the blank from which both jaws and the spring are formed.

The novel feature of the present invention lies in the fact that both jaws and the spring are formed from a single piece of metal, the jaws being connected by a strip attached to opposite sides of the rear ends of the jaws, the connection being given a half turn or twist when the jaws are placed parallel to each other and the torsion of the connection providing the necessary spring.

10 denotes a jaw which for convenience I will term the fixed jaw, 11 the spring jaw, 12 the spring connection and 13 the closing lever as a whole. The closing lever comprises a finger piece 14, a bearing piece 15 which engages the spring jaw to force it to the closing position, and lugs or trunnions 16 which engage holes 17 in ears 18 which are formed integral with the fixed jaw and are bent to a position at right angles thereto. Spring connection 12 is formed by cutting slots 20 in the blank on opposite sides of a connection, which is indicated by 19, said slots extending inward from opposite sides of the blank and being preferably rounded, as shown, at the closed ends. The jaws are blanked out, as shown in Fig. 6, with the connection 19 between them, formed by cutting the slots 20 on opposite sides thereof. The connection is attached to the opposite sides of the inner ends of the jaws. In order to give ample length to the connection, it may be blanked out as in Fig. 6, in which the connection is shown as extending outward from the portion of the blank which forms the rear end of the spring jaw, then curved and extending parallel with the ends of the jaws, between them, and then curved inward and connected to the portion of the blank which forms the rear end of the fixed jaw.

Having formed the blank and imparted the desired shape to the fixed jaw, the clasp is completed by placing the jaws in a superposed position. In placing the jaws in this position, a half turn or twist is given to the connection, thereby making of it a torsion spring, the action of which is to throw the spring jaw to the open position. This twisting of the connection and the formation thereby of a torsion spring enables me to make the jaws of a clasp just as short as may be required. I thus make a very neat and compact clasp with ample spring power and at a greatly reduced cost of construction, as I am enabled to effect not only a saving in the amount of metal required but a reduction of the number of operations required to complete the clasp.

The special shape of the jaws or the mode of connecting the web thereto is wholly unimportant so far as the present invention is concerned, as my novel spring connection is equally applicable to the various styles of lever clasps in general use. The web, which is indicated by 21, may be secured to the clasp by passing it through the slot 22, in the rear end thereof, which is produced when the connection is twisted and the portions of the blank which form the jaws are bent to the superposed position, the slot 22 of the completed clasp corresponding with and comprising the slots 20 on the opposite sides of the connection 19 of the blank, and the closed ends of slots 20, which are on opposite sides of the blank, forming the closed ends of slot 22 of the clasp.

If preferred, the web may be attached to the clasp by passing it downward through slot 22, then forward under the fixed jaw, upward over the outer end of the fixed jaw and downward through a web slot 23 near the forward end of the fixed jaw.

In Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive, the fixed jaw is shown as made box-like in form. This, however, is wholly immaterial so far as the principle of the invention is concerned.

Having thus described my invention I claim:

1. A clasp comprising jaws and a spring connection attached to the jaws and given a half twist when the jaws are superposed.

2. A clasp comprising jaws and a spring connection attached to opposite sides of the rear ends of the jaws and given a half twist when the jaws are superposed.

3. A clasp comprising jaws and a spring connection formed integral, said spring connection being attached to the rear ends of the jaws and given a half twist when the jaws are superposed.

4. A clasp comprising jaws, a spring connection attached to the jaws and given a half twist when they are superposed and acting to retain the jaws in the open position and means for closing the jaws.

5. A clasp comprising jaws, a spring connection attached to the jaws and given a half twist when they are superposed, one of said jaws being provided with ears and a closing lever pivoted in said ears and comprising a bearing piece and a finger piece.

6. A clasp comprising jaws and a spring connection formed from a blank having slots extending inward from opposite sides leaving a connection between them, said connection being given a half twist when the jaws are superposed and the slots in the blank forming a closed-ended slot in the completed clasp.

7. A clasp comprising flat jaws connected by a twisted spring integral with said jaws.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH H. PILKINGTON.

Witnesses:

A. M. CAREY,

ROBERT DENNISON.