No. 885,188.

PATENTED APR. 21, 1908.

J. M. SINER.

CLASP FOR GARMENT SUPPORTERS.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 11, 1906.

Fig. 1.

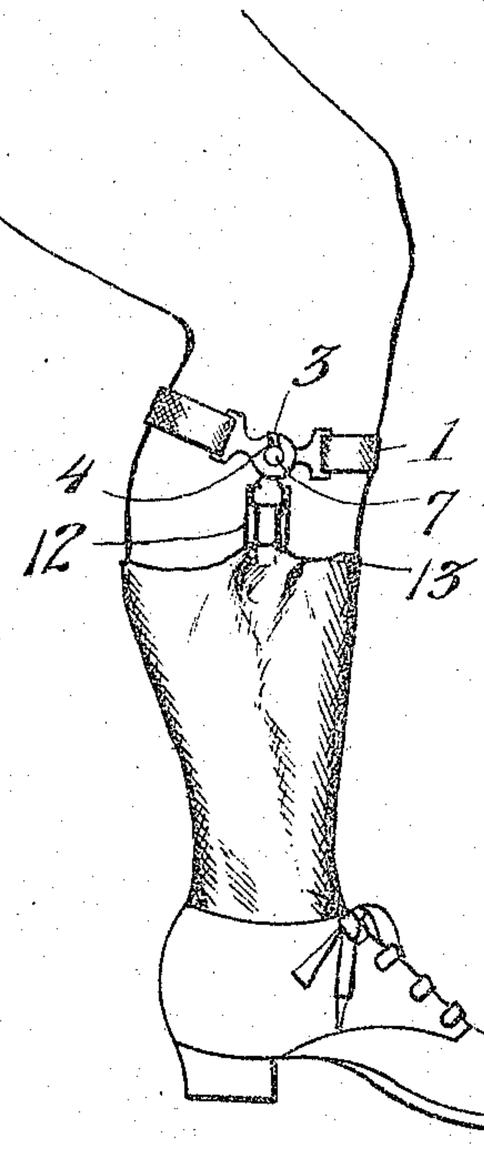


Fig. 3.

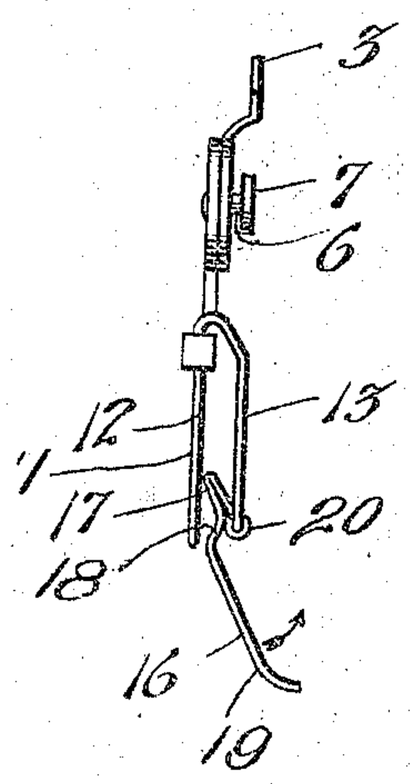


Fig. 4.

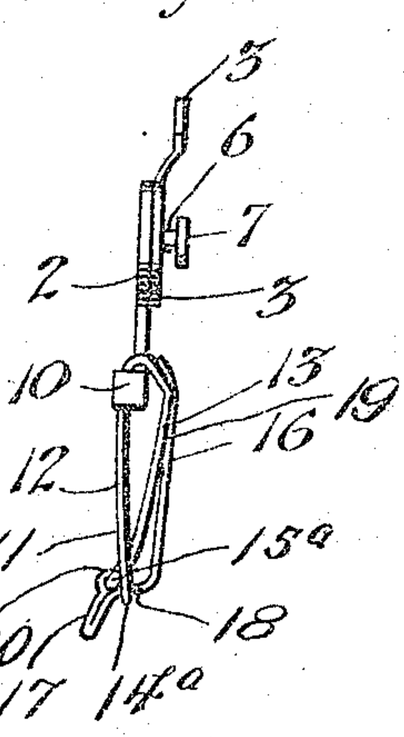
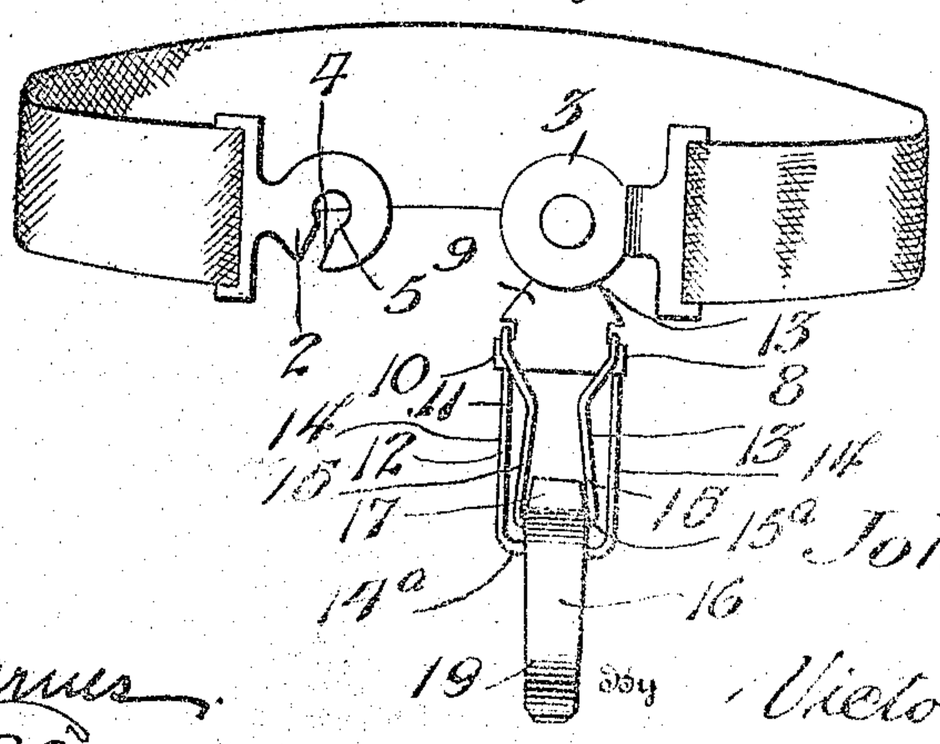


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN M. SINER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, OF ONE-HALF TO ALBERT HERBERT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., AND ONE-HALF TO THE VENUS MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

CLASP FOR GARMENT-SUPPORTERS.

No. 885,188. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 21, 1908.

Application filed December 11, 1906. Serial No. 347,327.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN M. SINER, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Clasps for Garment-Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to clasps for garment supporters, such as garters, and has for its objects to produce a comparatively simple, inexpensive device of this character which may be readily applied for use, and one wherein the hose engaging member will securely clamp the hose, but may be readily manipulated for releasing the latter.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of this character having a pair of coöperating spring jaws composed of a single piece of material and a clamping member carried by one of said jaws for coöperation with the other to securely engage the garment.

To these ends the invention comprises the novel features of construction and combination of parts more fully hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a side elevation of a garter embodying the invention and showing the same applied for use. Fig. 2 is an enlarged side elevation of the garter removed. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the hose engaging device showing the spring jaws in releasing position. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the jaws in clamping position.

Referring to the drawing, 1 designates a garter composed of elastic material and provided at its ends with engaging members or heads 2 and 3, of which the member 2 has an outwardly opening radial slot 4 communicating with a central circular opening 5 to receive the shank 6 of a headed pin or stud 7, by means of which the clasp or engaging device 8 is pivotally connected with the head 3. When the garter is applied the shank 6 is entered through the slot 4 into the opening 5 for buckling the garter in position, and the engaging device 8 depends vertically therefrom, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

The clasp or engaging device 8 comprises a supporting plate 9 recessed at its opposite edges to produce projecting tongues 10 for engagement with the upper portion of a spring member 11 formed from a single length of spring wire bent to provide a primary spring jaw 12 and a secondary spring jaw 13, the said jaws being of approximately equal length, the jaw 12, however, being of greater width than the jaw 13 to permit the free end of the latter to swing therethrough for a purpose hereinafter described. The jaw 12, which is of substantially U-shape, comprises parallel side arms or portions 14 and an end portion 14^a, while the jaw 13, which is generally of U-form, comprises side arms or portions 15 and an end portion 15^a, the tongues 10 being folded around the upper ends of the side arms of the jaw 12 to connect the spring member 11 at or adjacent the point of juncture of the two jaws to the plate 9, the joining portions of the wire of said member being seated within the said recesses in the supporting plate.

An operating member or lever 16, formed from a single length of material, has an engaging portion or end 17, an offset portion or shoulder 18 projecting from the relatively inner end of the engaging portion, and a handle portion 19 projecting from the relatively outer end of the offset portion. The engaging portion 17 of the lever is preferably formed of double thickness, by bending the material, as shown, the relatively lower leaf or portion of this double formation being extended in rear of the offset portion 18 and rolled, as at 20, to receive the end bar 15^a of the jaw 13, to pivotally support said lever upon said jaw.

In practice assuming the parts to be in the position illustrated in Figs. 2 and 4, the jaw 13 will stand in spaced relation to and in advance of the jaw 12, while the lever 16 will hang downward with its engaging portion 17 projecting upward and at a slight rearward inclination between the jaws. With the parts in this position, the edge of the hose or other garment is entered between the jaw 12 and the engaging portion 17 of the lever 16, which latter is thereafter swung upwardly to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 3, whereupon the portion 17 will ride upon and engage in rear of the bar 14^a, thus clamping the garment securely between the latter and the lever. In this operation the portion 17 of the lever acts in the nature of a cam to contract and bow the jaw 13 and pull the free end of said jaw through the jaw 12, whereby the cross bar 14^a of the jaw 12 will rest di-

rectly against the offset portion or shoulder 18 of the lever, while the cross bar 15^a of the jaw 13 will be disposed beyond the said end 14^a of the jaw 12. This position of the parts, which is primarily due to the approximately equal length of the jaws and the specific construction of the engaging lever and its mode of connection with the jaw 13, whereby the secondary jaw is bowed to pass through the primary jaw, insures a spring tension on said lever from the end bar 14^a of the jaw 12, and, as a result of this tension and the fact that the end bar 14^a bears against the offset portion 18, such tension is directly exerted toward maintaining the lever in clamping or engaging position, establishing a self-locking action of said lever without the use of auxiliary locking means.

Having thus fully described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

1. A garment clasp comprising primary and secondary spring jaws having juxtaposed relatively fixed and movable ends, said jaws being approximately of equal length, and means carried by the secondary jaw and adapted for coöperation with the primary jaw, said means serving in operation to force the movable end of the secondary jaw through and beyond the movable end of the primary jaw, the approximately equal lengths of said jaws serving to hold the jaws in such operative positions.

2. A garment clasp comprising primary and secondary jaws, a lever carried by the secondary jaw and having a portion arranged to engage the primary jaw, said lever in operation serving to force one end of the secondary jaw through and beyond the proximate end of the primary jaw, the respective jaws being approximately of equal lengths so that in operative position the proximate ends of the respective jaws are held against return movement.

3. A garment clasp comprising a primary and a secondary jaw having relatively movable proximate ends, the movable end of each jaw including a transversely disposed bar, and a lever movably connected with the bar of the secondary jaw and formed with an offset portion to engage the bar of the primary jaw, said lever in operation serving to force the bar of the secondary jaw through the primary jaw and beyond the bar thereof, the respective lengths of the primary and secondary jaws being approximately equal, whereby in operative position the bar of the secondary jaw is prevented from return movement through the primary jaw.

4. A garment clasp comprising primary and secondary spring jaws having relatively movable proximate ends, and cam means carried by one jaw and operative on the other jaw for forcing the movable end of the secondary jaw through and beyond the movable end of the primary jaw, the jaws being of approximately equal length, whereby in operative position the secondary jaw is retained from return movement through the primary jaw.

5. A garment clasp comprising primary and secondary spring jaws having relatively movable proximate ends, said jaws being of approximately equal length, the movable end of the secondary jaw being normally arranged on one side of the primary jaw and adapted to be passed through said primary jaw to lie upon the opposite side thereof, whereby through the approximately equal length of the jaws the ends of the jaws will be retained in such positions, and operating means carried by the movable end of one jaw and adapted to engage the coacting end of the other jaw for relatively adjusting said jaws.

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

JOHN M. SINER.

Witnesses:
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