

No. 888,107.

PATENTED MAY 19, 1908.

G. E. MELLEN.  
CLASP FOR GARMENT SUPPORTERS.  
APPLICATION FILED JULY 27, 1907.

Fig. 1.

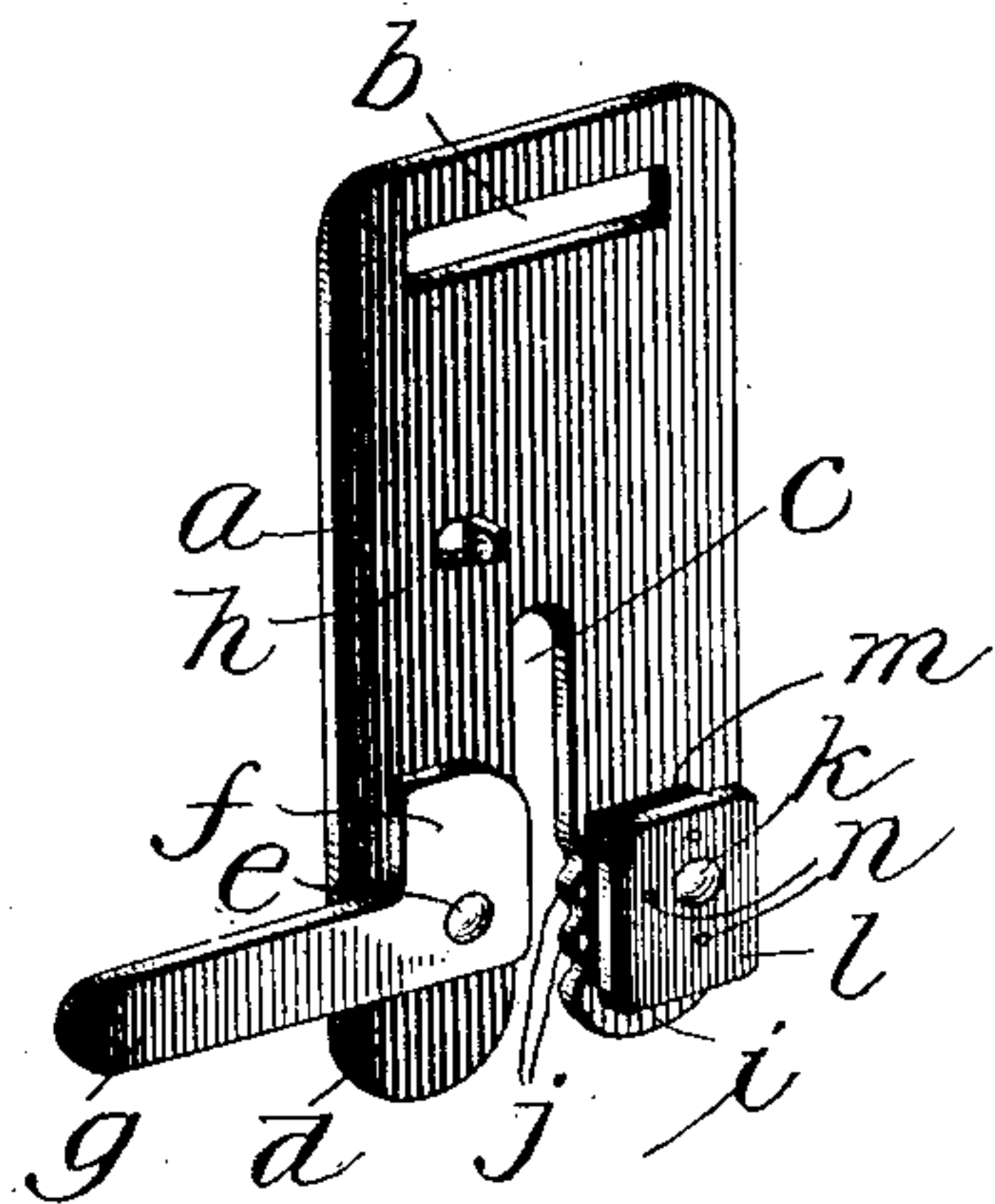


Fig. 2.

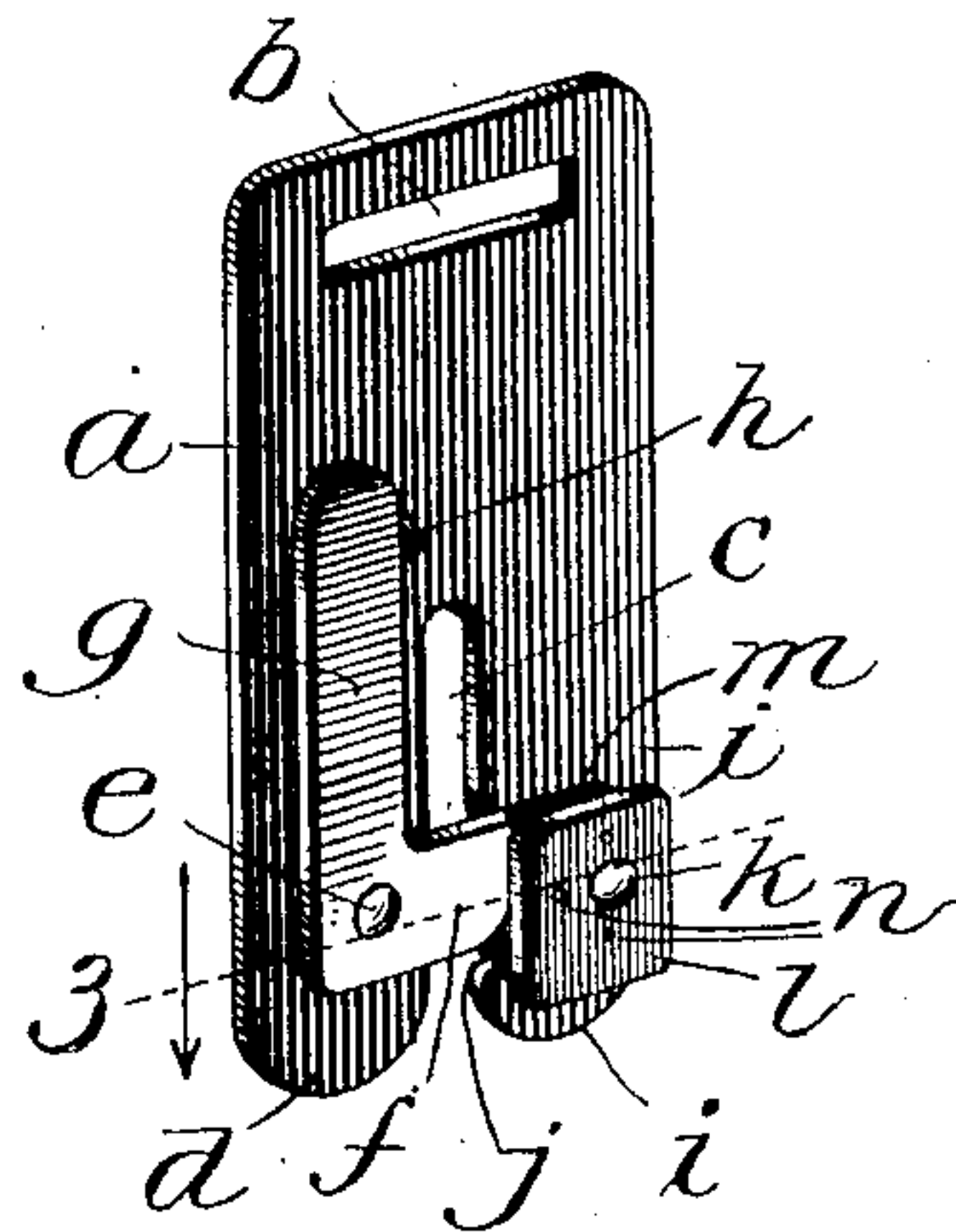


Fig. 3.

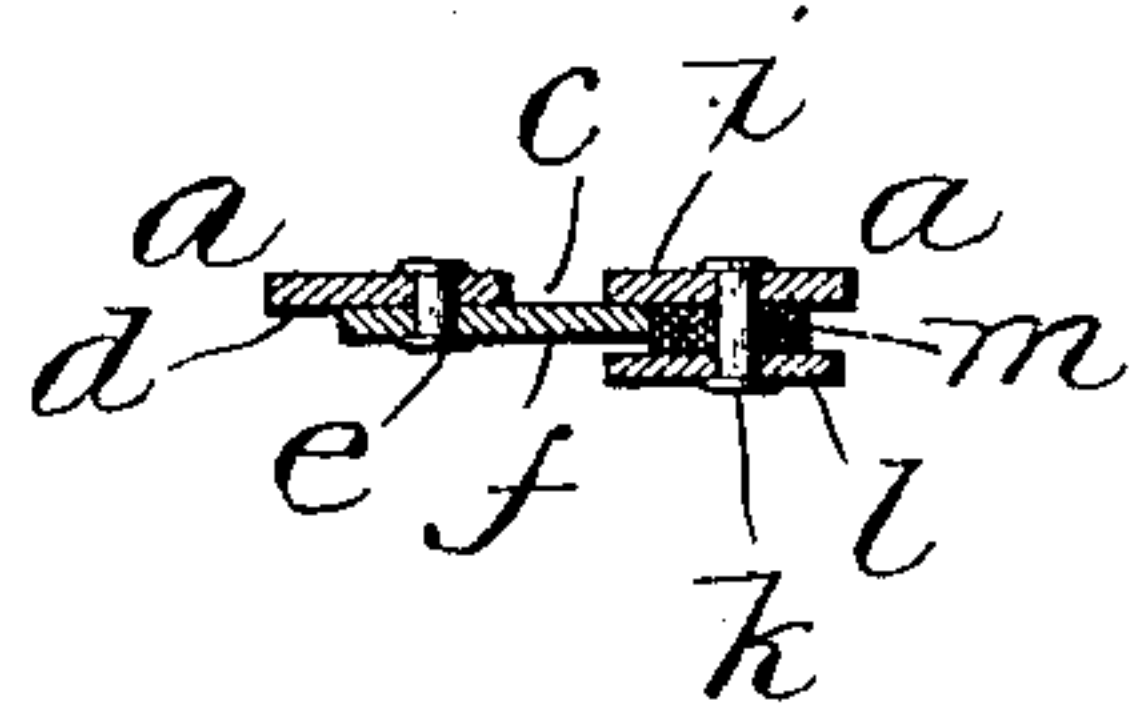
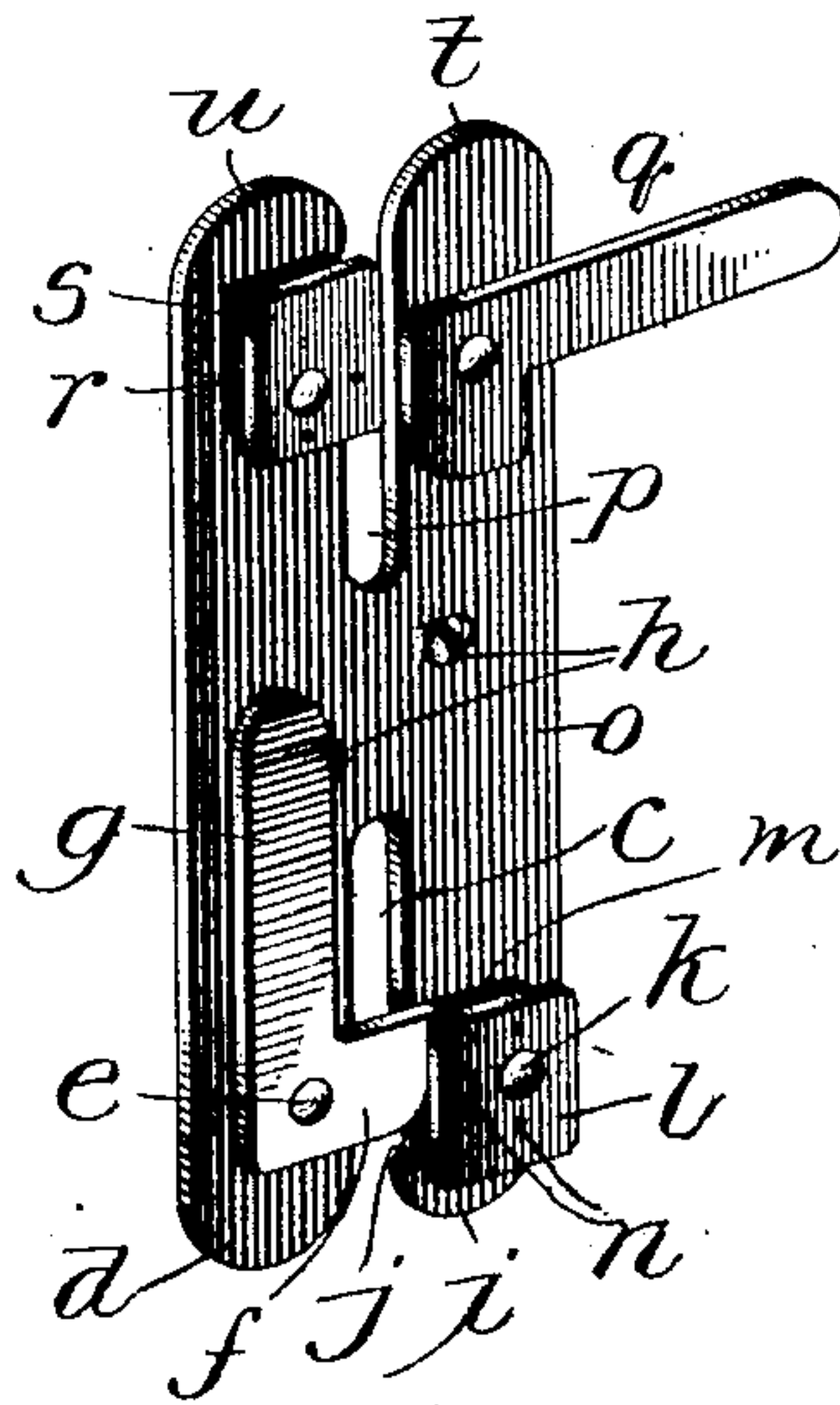


Fig. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CLASP FOR GARMENT-SUPPORTERS.

No. 888,107.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 19, 1908.

Application filed July 27, 1907. Serial No. 385,835.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. MELLEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps for Garment-Supporters, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which corresponding letters of reference in the different figures indicate like parts.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and effective clasp for garment supporters, more especially adapted for supporting hose, which shall be so constructed as to enable it to be readily manipulated for the purpose of inserting and removing the fabric while at the same time it may be adjusted to fabrics of varying thicknesses so as to grip them with firmness and certainty.

To these ends my invention consists in the combination of elements hereinafter more particularly described and definitely pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device embodying the features of my invention in which a single clamp is shown, the clamping lever being open, Fig. 2, is a like view showing the parts as they would appear when in a locked position, Fig. 3, is a transverse sectional view taken upon the line 3—, Fig. 2, viewed in the direction of the arrow there shown, and Fig. 4, is a perspective view of a modified form of support showing a clamping mechanism at each end.

Referring to the drawings, *a*, Figs. 1, 2 and 3, represents a sheet-metal plate having a slot *b* therein for the purpose of attaching a tape thereto for connecting the plate to and suspending it from the person or clothing of the wearer. Formed in the plate and extending upwardly from the lower end thereof, is a notch *c* of sufficient width to receive a fold of cloth of the thickest material which the user would be likely to wear. Near the lower end of the limb *d* of the plate is pivotally attached by means of a rivet *e*, an elbow-shaped locking-lever, the short arm of which forms a jaw *f*, while the long arm *g* is adapted to abut against a stop *h*, cut and bent outwardly from the face of the plate *a*. That portion of the limb *i* upon the lower end of the plate is preferably roughened or serrated within the notch *c* as shown at *j*, Figs. 1 and

2, and upon the outer face of said limb is secured by means of a rivet *k*, a plate *l* adapted to slightly overlap the jaw *f* when the latter is in a locked position as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The plate *l* is preferably made of metal and between it and the limb *i* of the plate *a*, is interposed a block *m* preferably formed from rubber, cork or other slightly yielding material having a frictional surface. The block *m* is rigidly attached to the plate *l* by means of pins *n* or in any other approved way by which it may be so secured and the rivet *k* is so connected as to permit the parts *m*, *l*, to be rotated and adjusted to any desired position in which they may be held by frictional action. The rivet *k* is eccentrically located with reference to the plate *l* and block *m*, so that the edges of the latter, respectively, are at varying distances from the axis, as more clearly shown in Fig. 3.

The object of this construction is to render the clamping mechanism adjustable so as to adapt it to varying thicknesses of cloth. If a garment of thin material is to be supported, the arm *g* is moved into the position shown in Fig. 1, when a fold of the fabric to be clamped is drawn into the notch *c*. Said arm is then moved against the stop *h*, as shown in Fig. 2, when the jaw *f* is caused to abut against or stand in close proximity to the block or abutment *m* and between the parts *l* and *i*—the block *m* being made thicker than the jaw *f* to prevent the latter from cutting the intervening fabric. Should the latter be thin, the block *m* may be turned upon its axis so as to present the face of greatest eccentricity towards the jaw as shown in the drawings or if thick, said block may be adjusted accordingly to conform to the varying thickness of the fabric to be clamped. From the foregoing, it will be seen that when a downward stress is placed upon the fabric, it tends to pull the jaw downwardly and as this movement is resisted by the stop *h*, it follows that the fabric will remain firmly clamped in place until released by moving the arm *g* away from the stop.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a modification in which the lower portion of the plate *o* with its clamping mechanism, is identical with that shown in the other figures and is, therefore, correspondingly lettered, but, instead of the slot *b* at the top, a notch *p* is substituted with clamping members generally designated by *q*, *r* and *s*, mounted upon the limbs *t*, *u*,—said clamping members being identical



in construction and arrangement with those upon the other end of the plate.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

5 1. A garment support of the class described, comprising a plate having a notch extending inwardly from one edge thereof for the reception of a fabric, a clamping jaw pivoted upon one side of said notch and arranged to extend  
10 across the same and an adjustable abutment eccentrically pivoted upon the opposite side of said notch.

2. A garment support in which is combined a plate having a notch for the reception of a fabric, means for connecting said  
15 plate to a point of support, a clamping jaw

pivoted upon one side of said support, means for limiting its movement, an abutment having different working faces upon its edge to engage said jaw, said faces being at different  
20 distances from a pivotal support and means for pivotally supporting the same upon the plate with a frictional contact to cause said abutment to remain in any position to which  
25 it may be arbitrarily adjusted.

In testimony whereof, I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 22d day of July 1907.

GEORGE E. MELLEN.

Witnesses:

D. H. FLETCHER,  
CARRIE E. JORDAN.