C. L. ROBINSON.

GARMENT CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 22, 1909.

981,946. Patented Jan. 17, 1911.

Fig. 1.

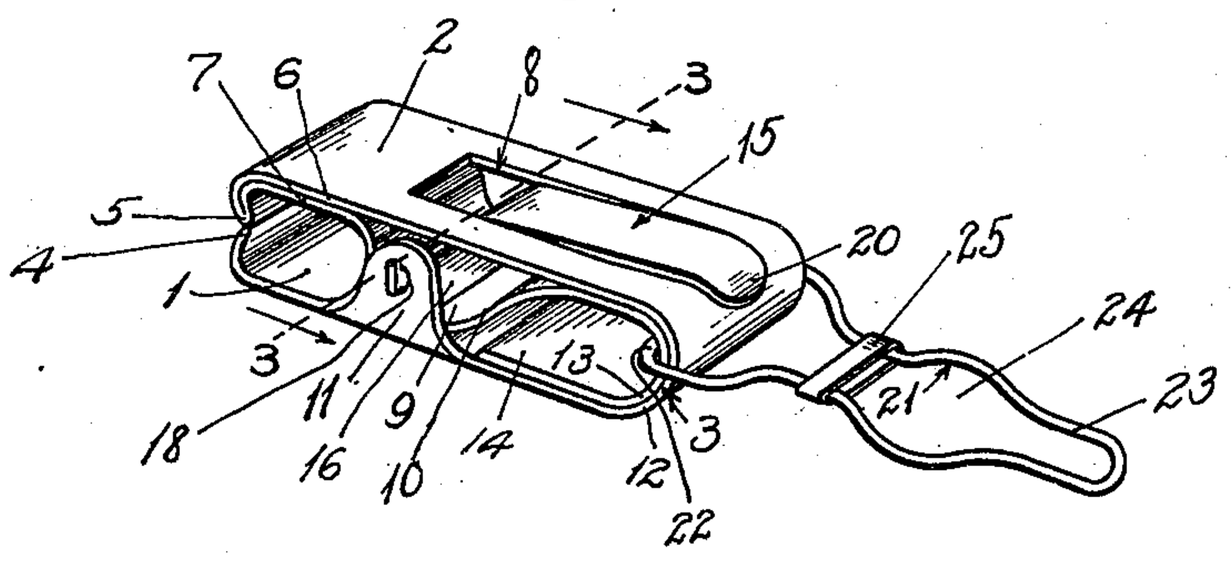


Fig. 2.

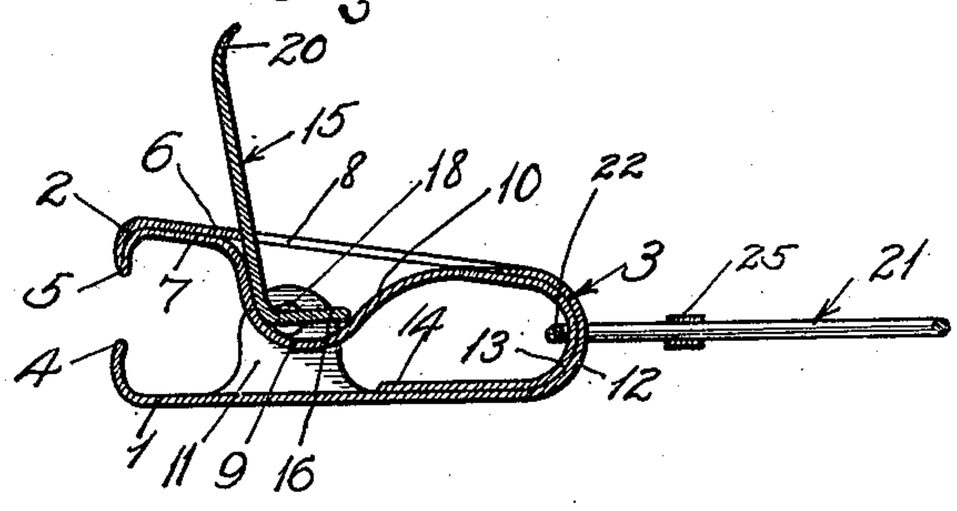
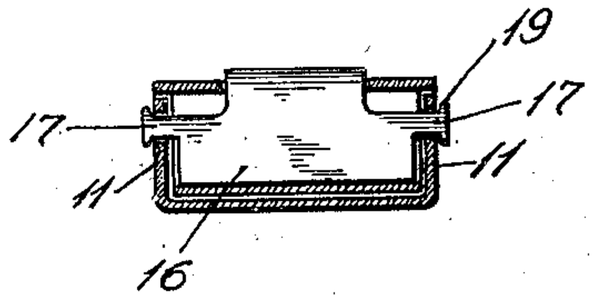


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES L. ROBINSON, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

GARMENT-CLASP.

981,946. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Jan. 17, 1911.**

Application filed November 22, 1909. Serial No. 529,278.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES L. ROBINSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Garment-Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to garment clasps, and the object of this invention is to produce a clasp of simple construction which can be readily opened or closed, and which will present a substantially smooth or unobstructed outer face. In this way a device is produced without projections which can produce discomfort in the person wearing the clasp or which could produce undesirable wear in adjacent parts of the wearing apparel.

A further object of the invention is to construct the device so that it can be formed substantially in two pieces.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of parts to be more fully described hereinafter and particularly set forth in the claim.

Figure 1 is a perspective of the device. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section through the device showing it in its open position. Fig. 3 is a transverse section through the device in its closed position and taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Referring more particularly to the parts, 1 and 2 represent respectively the lower and upper jaws of the device. These jaws are formed of a plate of resilient material bent so as to form a bow 3 connecting the jaws, the said jaws being substantially flat and presenting lips 4, 5, at their forward ends which project toward each other and grasp the material to which the clasp is applied. The jaw 2 is formed of an outer plate 6 and an inner plate 7, and these plates are integrally connected at the lip 5, which is a folded edge, as indicated. This outer plate 6 is formed with a substantially rectangular opening 8, and beneath this opening the inner plate 7 is offset downwardly so as to form a rounded pocket or socket 9; this socket presents an inclined or curved cheek on the side adjacent to the bow 3. The jaw 1 just below this socket 9 is provided with upwardly projecting integral ears 11, and these ears lie adjacent to the side edges of the inner plate 7, which is of reduced width at this point, as indicated in Fig. 3.

The inner end of the inner plate 7 forms a bow shaped extension so that the material at the bow 3 is doubled. In other words at this point there is formed an outer resilient bow 12 and an inner resilient bow 13. The material of the inner bow 13 has an extension 14 lying on the inner side of the lower jaw, as indicated. It should be understood that in opening and closing the clasp, the bow 3 is bent or flexed and by doubling the material at this point the strength and durability of the clasp are greatly increased.

I provide a lever 15, the body of which is in the form of a plate of reduced width; at one end this plate is bent substantially at right angles to form a toe 16 of increased width. As shown in Fig. 3 the width of this toe is such that its side edges lie adjacent to the ears 11. At its upper edge the sides of this toe are formed with integral extensions or gudgeons 17. These gudgeons 17 project through eyes 18, which are formed in the ears 11, and beyond these eyes the ends of the gudgeons are riveted so as to form enlarged heads 19, which retain the gudgeons in the eyes and tend to prevent the lever from shifting laterally.

When the clasp is in its open position the lever 15 extends upwardly and inclines forwardly and the toe 16 projects toward the bow 3, as indicated in Fig. 2. In this position of the toe the lips 4, 5, will be disposed apart so as to permit the material to be introduced into the clasp. When the lever 15 is folded down on the upper jaw 2, into the position in which it is indicated in Fig. 1 the toe 16 will slide down on the cheek 10 and will come to rest in the position projecting downwardly toward the jaw 1 as indicated in Fig. 3, the lower edge of the toe will then hold the bottom of socket 9 near the jaw 1. The free end of the lever 15 is formed with a slight bend or hook 20, which lies on the outer side of the bow 3 when the clasp is closed, as indicated.

A clasp constructed as described may be used conveniently with a fastening device 21 such as that shown, and in the form of a tongue constructed of wire and having a wrist 22 passing along the bow 3 on the inner side. This fastening device is of a common form and presents a bill 23 formed of wire and adapted to engage a button or a portion of the material of a garment. Near its middle point the device 21 presents an enlarged opening 24, at which the ma-

terial or a button may be introduced, and beyond this point the device is strengthened by a reinforcing band 25.

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

A clasp of the class described having a pair of oppositely disposed jaws connected by an integral bow, the material of one of said jaws being doubled so as to present an inner plate and a flat outer plate lying against the outer side thereof, said inner plate being offset inwardly to form a socket, a lever pivotally mounted on one of said jaws having a toe disposed in said socket and adapted to force said jaws together when said lever is rotated, said outer plate having an opening through which said lever extends, said lever being adapted to fold flat upon said outer plate when said jaws are forced together.

In witness that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto subscribed my name this 16th day of November, 1909.

CHAS. L. ROBINSON.

Witnesses:

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ETHEL COLEMAN.