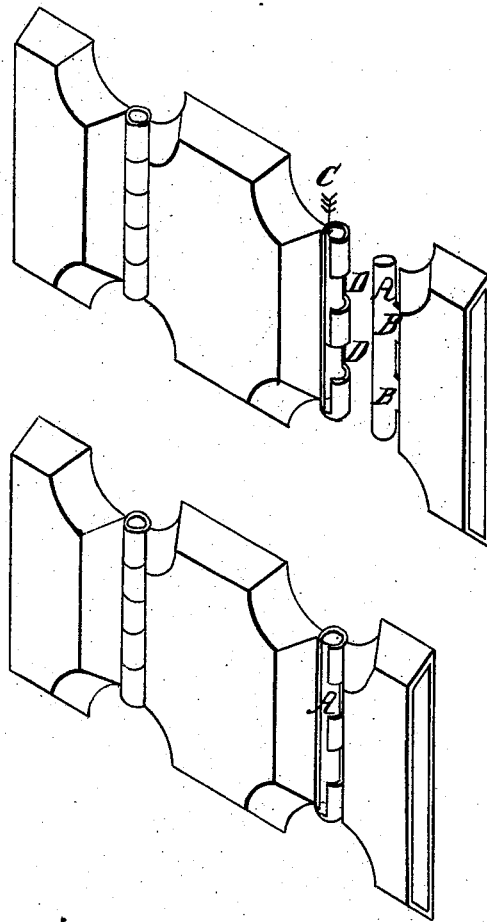


J. Bingham,
Clasp,
No. 5,285, Patented Sept. 11, 1847.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES BINGHAM, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

CATCH FOR CLASPS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 5,285, dated September 11, 1847.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES BINGHAM, of the city and county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new
5 and Improved Catch or Coupling-Joint for Clasps, Lockets, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description.

The nature of my invention consists in
10 constructing the catch, or coupling joint, in the form of a hinge; the pin or wire by which the male and female portions of the hinge are connected being firmly fastened to the male portion of the hinge, the female
15 side being furnished with a slot in the upper part of the connecting portions of the joint through which the male part of the joint can slide laterally, when thrown back over the female side of the catch, carrying the pin with it. To enable others
20 skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

I form the male part of the joint of the
25 catch, by fastening the pin or connecting wire A, firmly to one or more joints B B, as will be seen by the accompanying drawings. The female part of the catch is made with a longitudinal slot C, cut through
30 from the outside of the joint down into the socket in which the pin A of the male part

plays; this slot permits the male portion, B B, of the hinge or joint to move freely through the female portion, in a lateral direction, the male portion being elevated
35 at right angles to the female portion of the joint, thus allowing the catch to be connected or disconnected at pleasure. When the male side of the catch is thrown backward and drawn laterally through the fe-
40 male side, I likewise cut one or more openings, D D, in the female side of the joint perpendicular or at right angles with the socket in which the pin A moves to receive the joints B B of the male part of the catch,
45 and to allow them to move freely; thereby forming a firm and secure catch or fastening, that can not readily be thrown backward, and at the same time laterally, without the aid of concerted manipulation. 50

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

Fastening the pin or wire of the hinge catch or coupling-joint firmly to the male
55 side of the hinge, in combination with the longitudinal slot through the female portion of the joint, in the manner above described.

JAMES BINGHAM.

Witnesses:

THOMAS D. SMITH,
MASON NAYLOR.