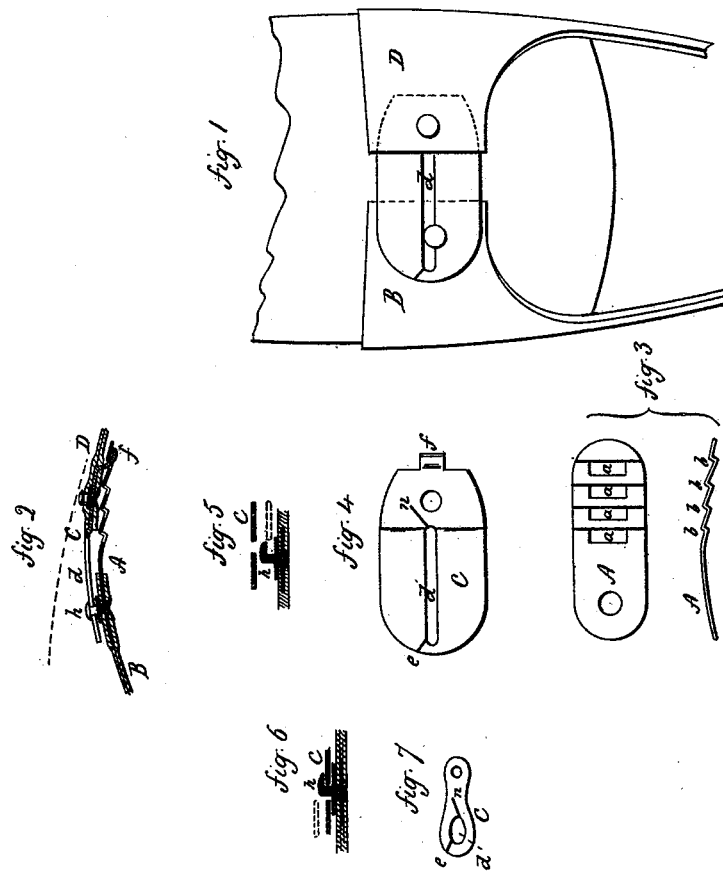


J. L. JOYCE.  
Clasp for Shoes.

No. 221,572.

Patented Nov. 11, 1879.



Witnesses.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN CLASPS FOR SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 221,572, dated November 11, 1879; application filed October 15, 1879.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOS. L. JOYCE, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Clasps for Shoes and other purposes; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, top view of the complete fastening as applied to the shoe; Fig. 2, vertical section of the same; Fig. 3, top and side view of one part; Fig. 4, top view of the second part; Figs. 5 and 6, detached views; Fig. 7, modification.

This invention relates to an improvement in a clasp or fastening device applicable to shoes, gloves, belts, and similar purposes; and the invention consists in the construction, as hereinafter described, and particularly recited in the claims.

A is one part, made from sheet metal, with one or more perforations, *a*, and transversely at each perforation a shoulder, *b*, is formed by a short bend in the metal, as seen in Fig. 3. The part A is attached to the end of one strap, B, at one side of the opening in the glove, or whatever it may be desired to clasp, as seen in Fig. 2.

C is the other part, and is also made from sheet metal, and preferably from such as has considerable elasticity. It is constructed with a longitudinal slot, *d*, and at the end a slit, *e*, is made from the edge into the slot, so as to separate one side from the other. This part is attached to the other side, D, and in rear of the point of attachment is a hook-shaped projection, *f*, corresponding to the perforations *a* in the other part, and so as to be engaged with either of said perforations.

On the opposite side, B, is a hook, *h*, the head of which is broader than the slot in the part C, but so that when the slot is placed over the hook, as seen in Fig. 5, one side may be pressed down into line of the hook, as seen in broken lines, Fig. 5, while the other part rests on the top of the hook, the slit *e* permitting such operation, and so that when the depressed part comes into line with the mouth of the hook it will pass therein; then the other part will come down upon the outside, as seen in Fig. 6, and make secure engagement.

The operation is as follows: The part C is turned upward, as indicated in broken lines, until the projection *f* is entered in one of the perforations; then the part C is turned down, acting as a lever upon the part A to draw the two parts toward each other until the slot *d* of the part C is engaged with the hook *h*, as seen in Fig. 2.

To release the clasp reverse the operation—that is to say, raise that side of the part C which is opposite or on the back of the hook above the head, as seen in broken lines, Fig. 6, then turn the other side from beneath the hook, and the part C is free to be turned upward and be disengaged from the other part.

Several perforations enable a considerable degree of adjustment in the clasp, and for such adjustment the length of the slot *d* in the part C must be according to the extent of the perforations in the other part.

The part C, however, may be used without the part A, its engagement with the hook *h* being sufficient to hold, but would lack the adjustment which would be given by the perforations in the other part.

For gloves the part C would usually be sufficient. In that case the slot could be made very short, as seen in Fig. 7. In either case it is advisable to make a slot, *n*, at the end of the slot opposite the slit *e*, in order that the requisite elasticity may be given to allow the slot to pass over the hook.

The part A, with the hook *f*, may be used with some other device than the plate C.

I claim—

1. The elastic slotted plate C, with a slit, *e*, from said slot, attached to one part, combined with the hook-shaped stud *h* on the other part, substantially as described.

2. The elastic plate C, constructed with a slot, *d*, and hooked projection *f*, attached to one side, combined with the perforated plate A and hook-shaped stud *h*, attached to the other side, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the perforated plate A, attached to one side, with hooked projection *f*, attached to the other side, and a clasp-ing device to hold said hooked projection to engage with the plate A, substantially as described.

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