(No Model.)

B. McGOVERN.

CLASP FOR SUPPORTING GARMENTS.

No. 305,621. Patented Sept. 23, 1884.

Fig. 1

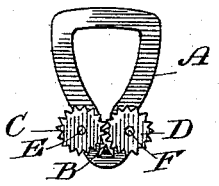


Fig. 2

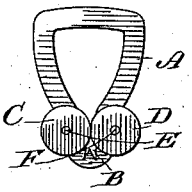
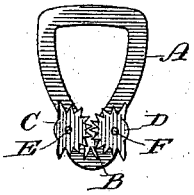


Fig. 3



Witnesses
S. S. Williamson
W. T. Haviland

Inventor
Bernard McGovern
By Smith & Hubbard
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERNARD McGOVERN, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO FRANK ARMSTRONG, OF SAME PLACE.

CLASP FOR SUPPORTING GARMENTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 305,621, dated September 23, 1884.

Application filed February 8, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERNARD McGOVERN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clasps for Supporting Garments; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain novel and useful improvements in clasps for supporting garments, and has for its object to provide a device simple in its construction and operation whereby the garment desired to be held may be quickly adjusted to the clasp, having been so adjusted may be securely held, and when desired may be easily and quickly released; and with these ends in view my invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter fully and in detail explained, and then specifically designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may more fully understand the construction and operation of my improvement, I will proceed to describe it in detail, referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improvement, showing the disks attached to the frame and provided upon their peripheries with teeth or serrations; Fig. 2, a plan view showing the disks circular in shape, but smooth as to their circumferences; and Fig. 3, also a plan view of my improved clasp, showing the disks semicircular in shape and at their ends provided with stops to prevent the disks from passing out of engagement one with the other.

Similar letters denote like parts in the several figures of the drawings.

A is a frame, which I preferably construct by stamping from thin sheet metal, and which is provided with a stop end, B, formed integral therewith and pointed upward, for the purpose presently explained.

C and D are circular disks, made from any desired material, but which I preferably make by stamping from sheet metal, and are either smooth as to their circumferences or provided upon their peripheries with teeth or serrations adapted to give them a firm hold on the fabric of the garment. These disks are pivotally attached to the frame A by means of the rivets or screws E F.

In Fig. 3 I have shown a construction of my improvement having the disks semicircular in outline, and provided at each end of the arcs of circles which form their gripping-edges with a stop, which prevents the said disks from passing out of engagement with each other.

The operation of my improvement is as follows: The space between the gripping-edges of the disks is such that any portion of the fabric of a garment placed between them and drawn downward causes the disks to rotate on their axes, and by this rotation to draw the fabric farther between the disks, which grasp it more firmly as it enters between their peripheries until it rests against the stop end B, which furnishes an additional hold upon the fabric.

I am well aware that clasps have been made in which the garment was held by its friction with the sides of a V-shaped slot, and I do not wish to be understood as claiming any such construction; neither do I wish to be regarded as claiming merely the exact construction of the clasp or the shape of the disks, as shown in the drawings, the gist of my invention resting in the broad idea of a clasp adapted to hold the garment by means of rotating disks, between whose peripheries the fabric is tightly confined.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, the frame provided with rotary disks, as described, adapted to grasp the fabric between their peripheries.

2. In a clasp for supporting garments and the like, the frame A, in combination with disks C D, pivotally secured thereto by rivets E F, substantially as shown and described.

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

BERNARD McGOVERN.

Witnesses:

S. S. WILLIAMSON,

WILLIAM J. HAVILAND.